Bible says, "Behold, children are a heritage from the LORD (Psalms 127:3). Jesus said, "Let the children come to me; do not hinder them, for to such belongs the kingdom of God and he took them in his arms and blessed them, laying his hands on them" (Mark 10: 13-16). "Train up a child in the way he should go; even when he is old, he will not depart from it" (Prov 22:6).



Summit Facilitating Team

Tushar Manna (Kolkata) Kollol Shee (Haldia), Alok Arick (Kharagpur), Biplab Sarkar (Jalpaiguri), Mursad Ali Mondal (Mursidabad), Alok Nag (Kochbihar), Dhananjoy Bose (Balasore), Menoka Manna (South Dinajpur), Subrata Gayen (East Medinipur), Shalini Arick (Kharagpur), Shankar Oraon (Malda), Badal Saren (West Medinipur), Sarathi Saren (West Medinipur), Subrata Manna (South 24 Parganas), Gabriel Kerketta (Darjeeling)

Dear Brother/Sister in Christ,

We want to say thank you for your prayer for 4/14 Window West Bengal Summit on Holistic Child Development, which was organized by Indigenous Followers of Christ Network (IFCN) in Kolkata on January 30-31, 2019. Thanks to Dr. Dan Brewster, Dr. Luis Bush and Revd. Canon Mark Oxbrow for egreetings to the summit participants and those who helped to make this summit a success. All the participants are blessed and touched; encouraged and envisioned; renewed and refreshed. Such a grand successful summit was possible only by God's grace and through his guidance.

Out of 115 registrations, 98 participants arrived on time. All the participants were given a Bengali Holy Bible free of cost as a token of appreciation for their interest to attend this summit. The guidelines implemented- no mobile use at conference hall, no attention to social media during the sessions, and no photo/videography etc.



Program started with children musical choreography. It was exciting to see how these orphan children prepared as professional performers with Christian songs. They travelled from Sundarbans to present this musical dance at the inaugural session. Prayer offered for each of these children and small gifts were given to them.



Special welcome was given to Aashima Samuel (EFI, New Delhi), Das Suryawanshi (Ex-Commissioner: Persons with Disabilities, Government of Karnataka), Rev. Vizotuo Kiewhuo (Principal, Kohima Bible College and Pastor of Koinonia Baptist Church, Nagaland), Rajesh Tiwari (Leadership Development), Prabhat Narjinary (Children CHE), and to Tushar Manna (Vision Development).



The summit was also full of children action songs in between sessions by the children ministry team and participants learnt and enjoyed these children action songs thoroughly both days. There were also some of the video clips presentations in between sessions to keep us alive and informed.



The first session was on 4/14 Window HCD led by Tushar Manna. The session started with 4/14 Video clip. Most of the participants heard about global 4/14 Window and HCD for the first time - background and its impact in the part years throughout the world. In fact, this is our third WB 4/14 Window Summit after 2011 and 2012. This time the summit focused on reaching to the children with holistic child development approach. Tushar reminded that there are 2 billion children in the world below 15 years. They constitute 26% of world population. In India, there are 363 million children below 15 years and in West Bengal there are 274 lakh (27.4 million) children below 15 years. This young generation must be impacted with the power of the gospel. They are our future youth; they are the future of the nations and they are the future of the church.

Some of the areas of Holistic Child Development highlighted:

- 1. Ministry to the Children with Passion
- 2. Significance of Children Education
 - 3. Role of Parents & Family
 - Children, Bible and the Church
 Children in Exploitation
- 6. Prevention of Children Trafficking
 - 7. Children with Disabilities
 - 8. Street/Homeless Children
 - 9. Child Labour
 - 10. Gender Equality
 - 11. Orphan Children
 - 12. Children in Poverty
 - 13. Health and Nutrition
 - 14. Children and Environment
 - 15. Skills Development
- 16. Children, Internet and Social Media
- 17. Care Givers (Those who serve children)
 - 18. Muslim Neighbour Children



Aashima Samuel took three sessions: (i) Children in Exploitation (Rescue and Release) (ii) Care Givers who serve children (iii) Prevention of Child Trafficking. These were very practical, challenging and eyeopening sessions. It was sad to know West Bengal has the highest rate of children trafficking. Children are facing exploitation in many ways. It is a tremendous responsibility of each care givers to serve the children in a better and effective way. It was also exciting to hear what and how EFICAR is doing in this field.



In one of the sessions a very simple ordinary man came to the stage and all the eyes were fixed on him as he spoke one and half hour on 'Persons with Disabilities' (PWD). He is none other than Mr. Das Suryawanshi (Ex-Commissioner: Persons with Disabilities, Government of Karnataka). Out of his vast experience and long-time involvement in this field, his sharing moved the audience. 'Persons with Disabilities' must be reached out and church must do it. Mr. Das's testimony and many examples were so attractive and motivating.



Session on Children CHE by Prabhat Narjinary was fascinating. Children CHE is a very strategic and challenging ministry. He explained what children CHE is- the training, program and the ministry and the outcome of children CHE. Children CHE addresses the needs of each child- physical, spiritual, emotional, and social and how they can grow in many ways. Unfortunately, very few in West Bengal are aware of CHE. IFCN strongly feel for CHE training and CHE ministry in West Bengal.



This year we had two special sessions for the pastors and leaders. The first evening session speaker was Rev. Vizotuo Kiewhuo (Principal of Kohima Bible College and Pastor of Koinonia Baptist Church, Nagaland). Session started with lively worship, led by our worship team and special song in Hindi sung by a youth from Nagaland. Rev. Vizotuo spoke and challenge the pastors and leaders about prayer life. Prayer life is the base for the successful ministry among the today's young generation. The session was a time of dedication and recommitment to reach out to the young generation.



The second special session was on (i) Leadership Building and it's Dynamics (ii) Organizational Development. The speaker for these two sessions was Mr. Rajesh Tiwari. Along with the summit participants, 20 other pastors and leaders attended these two special sessions. Several deep insights about leadership building and organizational development were shared by Mr. Rajesh. It was a time of learning to move forward.



All sessions stated in time and finished in time both days. So well planned! Everyone paid registration fees including the facilitators and IFCN leaders. A colourful conference booklet was given to all the participants. Facilitators looked after everything so efficiently on food, accommodation, registration, and travel arrangements. IFCN have 200 official members. During the conference all the 98 participants also became official members of IFCN by filling the membership application and giving membership fees. All the new members were given a Bible as a gift (Total 2 Bibles to each participants). They should give this Bible to a new believer they won or to a house church member. All are happy to be a part of IFCN. Praise God for this network.

Summit Highlight Pictures





It was indeed a grand success for Indigenous Followers of Christ Network to organize 4/14 Window West Bengal Summit on Holistic Child Development for mission workers, pastors and leaders. This is the second conference in West Bengal where all the participants differently experienced the meaningful time together. Last year IFCN organized 'West Bengal Vision Development Conference'. There is so much enthusiasm to sharpen the call and vision for the kingdom of God. They are truly encouraged and united in the Spirit of the Lord to work together for God's glory.

Praise God for all provision for the summit. In IFCN, vision first, money is the last. Some may not think this way. IFCN thinks this way. All glory to God.

Pray for all the individual participants, participatory churches and organizations as they plan to reach out to 27.4 million children in West Bengal with wholistic child development strategies and with a renewed commitment.

Please uphold the participants and Indigenous Followers of Christ Network in prayer.



Tushar Manna and IFCN West Bengal Team Email: indigenousfcnetwork@gmail.com Whatsapp: 91-8583892036