

barnabas gifts

Gifts of Love for the Persecuted Church



Contents

Welcome	3
How we help	4
Disaster relief	5
Feeding	6
Medical care	7
Water	8
Church buildings	9
Christian literature	10
Gift form	i-iii
Gift cards	iv
Victims of violence	11
Convert care	12
School-place sponsorship	13
Small business	14
Pastors and evangelists	15
Leadership training	16
About Barnabas Fund	17
Commendations	18



Barnabas Gifts: Gifts of Love for the Persecuted Church

WELCOME TO THE 2011-2012 BARNABAS FUND GIFT CATALOGUE!

This booklet highlights twelve key areas in which Barnabas Fund brings hope and aid to persecuted Christians around the world. It offers a window on the wide range of projects that we support in over 60 different countries. These include relieving distress following natural disasters, supplying basic needs, helping converts and victims of violence, sponsoring education and small businesses, providing Christian literature and other resources, and training and supporting church leaders.

Practical ways to help

Our funding for these projects is made possible only by the love and generosity of our supporters. It is your prayers and gifts that transform the lives and conditions of our suffering brothers and sisters. Every gift, however small or large, can make a big difference to Christians living under pressure and in contexts where churches struggle to grow or even survive.

This catalogue offers many options for gifts that you, your small group and your church can make to support these vital ministries. The gifts listed on each page of the catalogue are examples of what can be bought with donations of specific amounts made to the designated projects.

Single “one-off” gifts make great alternative presents for your loved ones. You could give a Barnabas Gift as a birthday or Christmas present or as a wedding gift.

Regular gifts help us to minimise our overheads (so we can maximise the amounts we send to support Christians in need) and respond quickly to new requests. Knowing that a certain amount will be available each month also makes it easier for us to plan ahead.

Gift card

If you choose to support a ministry as an alternative gift for a friend or relative, we will supply you with an attractive “thank-you” card, which you can send to the person on whose behalf you have made the donation. Please turn to page iv of the pull-out gift form for further details.

The suffering Christians who receive help through your gift will be greatly blessed, and yet the Lord Jesus tells us that it is more blessed to give than to receive (Acts 20:35). So please give what you can, and encourage others in your church to do the same.

And please pray as you read.

Dr Patrick Sookhdeo, International Director



How We Help



In the past year Barnabas Fund has responded with support for Christians in 12 countries where there have been natural disasters (earthquake, tsunami, drought, cyclone, floods and famine) and has sent emergency aid to over 18,000 Christian families in these areas.



EMERGENCY AID IN TIMES OF NEED



Christians in Benin receive food aid from Barnabas Fund after flooding left families struggling to survive

\$19

provided a 25kg sack of wheat flour that can feed a family in Ethiopia for a month

\$27

supplied a tarpaulin sheet for immediate shelter for a family who lost their home in an earthquake in Burma (Myanmar)

\$40

provided emergency food aid (maize and beans) and mosquito nets for families affected by flooding in Uganda

“The gift goes beyond our understanding. It fills our mouths. We are very moved.” A Christian father of six from Benin, West Africa

When natural disaster strikes, Christians can often fall through the gaps in aid distribution, especially where they are despised and discriminated against. In these contexts, Barnabas

Fund seeks to ensure that our Christian family receive food, medicine, shelter and support to rebuild their lives alongside the majority population.

Floods, famine and drought have left millions of Africans struggling to survive in the last year. In November 2010 Barnabas sent money for food packages, school supplies and medicines for

needy Christian families affected by flooding in Benin. In 2011 we have funded maize, rice, beans and cooking oil for families as well as nutritious food and medical care for under-fives in north-east Kenya and have also supported Christians in Ethiopia and Uganda as the drought and resulting famine intensified in East Africa.



FOOD PARCELS BRING SURVIVAL



Feeding programmes for Christians in Zimbabwe have greatly improved lives in that country

\$11

per month provides emergency food packets containing rice, pasta, tuna, jam, oil and flour for one Christian family in Egypt

\$30

per month provides a family of Iraqi Christian refugees in Syria with food and medical needs

\$60

per month supported a Christian family in Armenia with emergency feeding during the abnormally cold summer of 2011

“Thanks to this support we are surviving!” a Pakistan Christian woman, close to tears, told Barnabas Fund. Her husband died last year, leaving her in a state of extreme poverty. Thanks to monthly food parcels from Barnabas, she and her young son can eat and he is able to stay in school.

Barnabas Fund is supporting hundreds of needy Christian families with food in countries where they are persecuted and living in poverty. In Zimbabwe, food parcels have greatly impacted the lives of orphans, widows and those suffering from illness and disability.

Recent grants have also enabled local churches in Iraq, Syria, Jordan and Lebanon to provide food aid for Iraqi Christians, whether in their homeland or those who have fled to neighbouring countries as refugees.



Barnabas Fund has helped to build and support a care centre in Lebanon in the past year, as well as providing support for persecuted Christians who required urgent medical attention in 6 countries including Azerbaijan, India, Niger, Pakistan and Russia.

HEALTH PROVISION FOR THE NEEDY



Barnabas paid for two operations for the young son of two Muslim-background believers in Central Asia

\$4

provided anti-malarial protection for an impoverished Christian family in Niger

\$2,040

for surgery for a young child of Christian converts from Islam in Central Asia

The son of two Christian converts from Islam in a Central Asian country was born with several fingers and toes missing. The boy's Muslim grandparents blamed the parents for his condition, saying that it was a divine punishment for their apostasy. The father is a pastor and the mother a church worker,

and they were unable to afford the surgery that their son needed. Barnabas Fund paid for him to have two operations in another country, and also for travel and accommodation costs for the boy, now aged four, and his mother.

Needy Christians who struggle to survive

day to day because of discrimination or oppression are often unable to afford to see a doctor, buy medicine or have surgery. Donations to our Medical Fund are used to provide care for them, and also for larger projects such as clinics that provide healthcare free or at very low cost.



In the past year Barnabas Fund has provided 20 new wells and supported other water projects in 3 countries: Bangladesh, Burma (Myanmar) and Niger.

A MOUTHFUL OF CLEAN WATER



Christians in Bangladesh now have access to clean drinking water

\$110

paid for a well to provide clean water to persecuted Christians in Bangladesh

\$1,755

paid for the building of a deep well and water tank for a Christian orphanage in Burma

We take it for granted that clean water gushes out of our taps at the flick of our wrists. But for many people in developing countries this kind of availability is just a dream. Many Christians, especially in rural sub-Saharan Africa, have to walk for miles to fetch drinking water. Others have to make

do with a supply that is dirty and can spread disease.

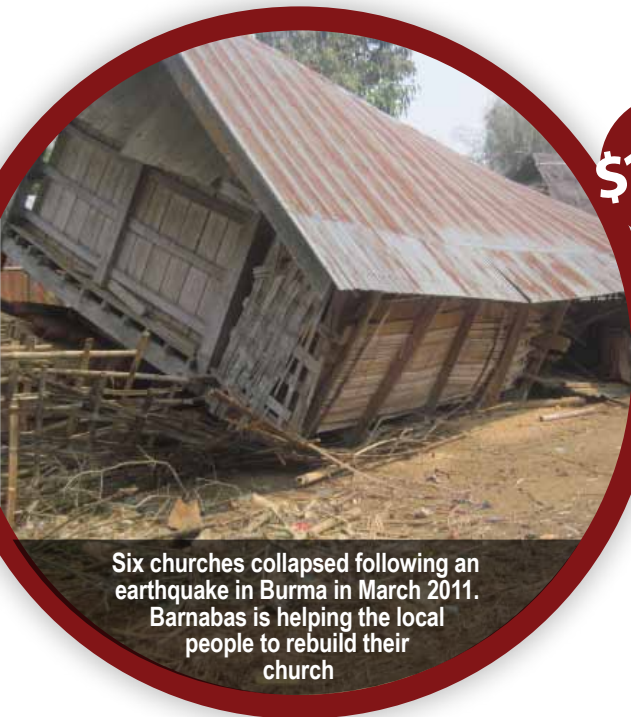
In contexts where Christians are persecuted, this most basic of physical needs is sometimes denied to them. Christians in Bangladesh from a Muslim background are often blocked by their Muslim neighbours from

drawing water from the communal wells simply because of their faith in Christ, leaving those who cannot afford their own water source in a desperate state. In the past year Barnabas provided needy believers with 20 wells, most of which are built on the properties of Christians or at churches.



Barnabas Fund provided the resources for construction and repair of 28 church buildings in 16 countries in the past year including Bangladesh, Burma (Myanmar), Burundi, Georgia, Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, Niger, Romania, Sierra Leone, Sri Lanka and Syria.

BUILDING FOR THE LORD'S KINGDOM



\$1,685

paid for a church to be rebuilt following an earthquake in Burma

\$2,350

paid for the roofing of an existing partly-built church in Burundi

Six churches collapsed following an earthquake in Burma in March 2011. Barnabas is helping the local people to rebuild their church

In many countries where Christians are persecuted, congregations are thriving and growing, but they have no buildings of their own.

Poverty and/or restrictions can prevent a Christian community from buying, constructing, repairing or extending their church, while violence or forced closure can hinder their meeting in other locations. Their lack of adequate meeting

places intensifies their other sufferings and makes worship and ministry difficult.

A church building can also bring respect and dignity to a despised Christian minority, and make it easier to bring in non-Christians. A Central Asian congregation that received a grant from Barnabas to enable them to complete their building said, "In our context it is very

important to have a church building so that people don't think we're a sect."

An earthquake on 24 March 2011 destroyed six churches in Burma (Myanmar). Church members and local volunteers are providing the labour to rebuild the churches, and a grant from Barnabas Fund is covering the costs of the rebuild.



In total 3,673 Bibles and Scriptures plus 347,344 pieces of Christian literature were provided by Barnabas Fund in more than 13 languages to 16 countries in the past year including Bangladesh, Chad, Ethiopia, Holy Land, Kazakhstan, Kenya, Kyrgyzstan, Niger, Pakistan, Romania, Russia and Sierra Leone.

REFRESHED BY THE WRITTEN WORD



Christians in Central Asia look at *Stories of Jesus*, which they can take for free

\$2.90

could print 10 copies of *He Died for You*, an evangelistic book in the Uzbek language for believers in Russia

\$15

could provide a “Talking Bible”, a box resembling a Bible with speakers that plays a reading of the text, in Sierra Leone

“I like the stories about Jesus in this book. They are very clear and understandable. Many things from the Bible, which I didn’t understand till now, I could understand by reading this book.” Eleven-year-old Saule from Central Asia was speaking about *Stories of Jesus*, an illustrated children’s book that was

printed thanks to a grant from Barnabas Fund. Good Christian literature can greatly help us grow in our faith. It is also a huge encouragement to Christians living in contexts where they are despised and discriminated against.

Our Literature Funds provide for the translation, printing and distribution of Bibles

and other Christian books, booklets and magazines in various languages and in countries where Christians are persecuted, making good Christian books available where they are most needed. Our partners on the ground are able to get literature into the hands of those who need it, even where government restrictions are in place.

Gift Form

To make a Gift of Love to Barnabas Fund, please use the following forms.

You can either set up a regular donation, or make a single donation to the General Fund or to one or more of the projects listed throughout the booklet*. Simply fill out your **contact details** below and then fill out p. ii for **donations**. If you would like us to send you a **gift card(s)** following your donation, please also complete p. iii with details of the wording required.

When complete, please pull the form out of the catalogue and send it to your nearest Barnabas Fund office (addresses on the back cover).

.....

I / We would like to help the persecuted Church:

(Mr / Mrs / Miss / Ms / Rev / Dr)

Name

Address

.....

.....

Postcode

Telephone

Email

Donation Options

I / We would like to help the persecuted Church:

Here is my/our gift of \$

Please use it:

where it is most needed (General Fund)

or for _____ (give reference number of project to be supported)*.

I enclose a cheque payable to "Barnabas Fund"

Please debit my Visa Mastercard

Amount \$ _____

Number / / /

Expiry date / Cardholders Name _____

I will donate thorough internet banking (Barnabas Fund Account #02 0562 0046270 97)

I would like to give regularly through my bank. Please send me an Automatic Payment bank form

Please send me a gift card for this donation (see p. iii of this booklet for details).

To make a credit card donation please phone the BFNZ office on 09 280 4385 or visit www.barnabasfund.org

Please return this form to your nearest Barnabas Fund office (addresses on the back cover).

*If the project chosen is already sufficiently funded, we reserve the right to use designated gifts for another project of a similar type.

Barnabas Fund NZ Charities Commission Reg. No CC37773

A Lasting Legacy to the Persecuted Church

Many people have savings and assets which for good practical reasons they cannot share during their lifetime. A bequest to help the persecuted Church in your will enables you to express a desire to be generous that you may not have been able to put into practice in any other way.

Please consider remembering Barnabas Fund in your will.

A booklet entitled *A Christian Guide to Making and Changing Your Will* is available free of charge.

Simply tick this box to receive a copy

Gift Cards

If you choose to support a Barnabas Fund project as an alternative gift for a friend or relative, we can supply you with an attractive “Thank you” card, which you can send to the person on whose behalf you have made the donation.

Please fill in the details as you would like them to appear on the card and please complete your name and address on p. i. Please write clearly.

“Dear _____

A gift of \$ _____ has been received on your behalf from _____

This gift will assist Christians who are persecuted for their faith.

With many thanks on behalf of the persecuted Church”

Please state your preferred card choice (see below): _____

Tick here if you **do not** want the amount to be stated on the card

Tick here if you **do** wish details about the project to be included on the card



If you would like to have the card sent directly to the recipient, or if you would prefer to receive blank cards and fill them out yourself, please contact your national office ([address details on back cover](#)).

If you would like more cards, please photocopy this page or attach a separate piece of paper with the details for extra cards and send it with your donation. You can also call your nearest Barnabas Fund office with the details and pay by credit card over the phone.

*If the project chosen is already sufficiently funded, we reserve the right to use designated gifts for another project of a similar type.

Barnabas Fund NZ Charities Commission Reg. No CC37773

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Barnabas supported around 400 Christian victims of violence and their families in the past year and more than 5,000 Christians who suffered community violence in 21 countries in Africa, Central Asia, the Former Soviet Union and Europe, the Middle East, South and East Asia. Barnabas also funded 4 safe houses in different locations.

RESTORING LIVES BROKEN BY BRUTALITY



Thousands of Ethiopian Christians were displaced from their homes in anti-Christian violence in March 2011. Barnabas sent aid to the victims

\$4

provided an emergency shelter for a displaced Christian family in Ethiopia

\$40

provided food, medicine and school enrollment fees for a Christian child victim of violence in Burma

Aynalem Asrat and her husband, Christian farmers in Jimma Zone, Ethiopia, lost their home and livelihood in March 2011 when a Muslim mob attacked the local Christian minority and set fire to their sheep and chicken farm. Barnabas Fund sent a grant to help provide emergency aid for 10,000 Christians made

homeless in the violence. Aynalem says, "Praise the Lord, through the support of Christian brothers and sisters, we are in a better condition now. The support saved the lives of many victims."

Christians in many countries suffer violence and injustice. Their property may be looted and their churches

and homes torched; they may be turned out of their villages, injured or killed. In some places they can be arrested, imprisoned and even executed. Barnabas supports victims and their families with practical help, including safe houses, funds for medical treatment, and assistance to rebuild shattered lives.



THE COSTLY CHOICE TO FOLLOW CHRIST



\$10

helps with one month's education for a child from an Afghan convert family who have sought refuge in another country

\$158

paid one month's rent for a safe house for Christian converts in a Middle Eastern country

These two Christian converts from Islam were able to complete their studies with help from Barnabas Fund

“They had tears flowing on their cheeks because of their endless thanks to Barnabas Fund for giving them such a great support.” A Barnabas partner in Burundi wrote these words about two young Christian women, both converts from Islam, whom we supported through the final year of their studies. With our grant they

could also buy food, clothing and furniture for their home. They had been thrown out of the house of their Muslim guardian when he learned of their decision to follow Christ.

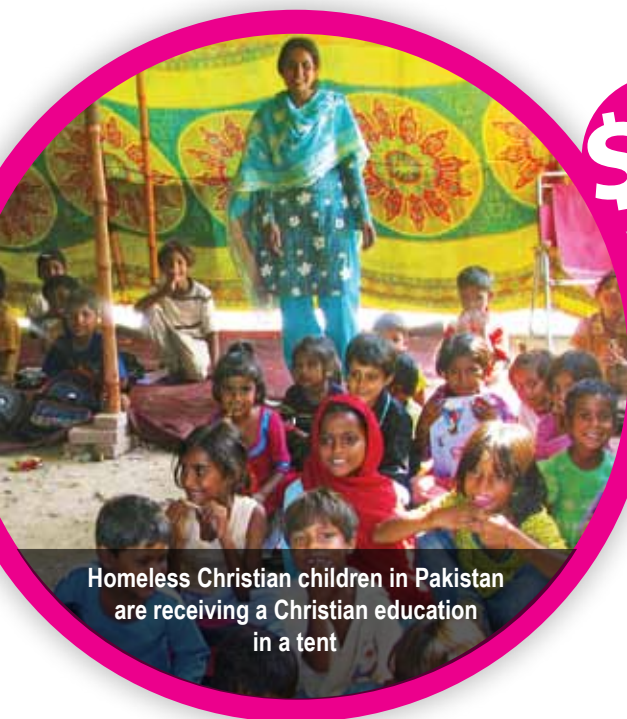
Christian converts from other religions, especially Islam, often face harsh persecution from their families and communities,

and sometimes from the authorities. They may lose their jobs and homes, suffer threats and violence, and be thrown into prison or forced to flee their homeland. Our Convert Fund provides them with practical and spiritual support, including safe accommodation, vocational skills training and business start-up costs, education and discipleship training.



Barnabas Fund is supporting 6,584 children in 37 schools/educational programmes in 11 countries including Bangladesh, Egypt, Ethiopia, Holy Land, India, Indonesia, Iraq, Kenya, Pakistan and Sudan. (Figures correct at June 2011)

LEARNING IN A SAFE, CHRISTIAN ENVIRONMENT



Homeless Christian children in Pakistan are receiving a Christian education in a tent

\$23

can pay for a homeless Christian child in Pakistan to receive a Christian education in a tent school for one year

\$108

can sponsor a child in Northern Sudan for one year

“This school is a symbol of hope and light for our future generations,” a local leader told us. Last year local Christians set up a primary school in two tents for 110 Christian children whose homeless families are living in makeshift tents in Pakistan. Before, the children, aged 4-11, were not getting any education at all. Barnabas Fund is paying the

salaries of three teachers and a watchman. And all the children received a school bag, books and stationery.

In some countries such as Pakistan where Christians have been marginalised for centuries, many impoverished Christian parents do not have the means to pay the fees for sending their children

to school. In some other countries Christian children suffer severe harassment and hostility at mainstream schools because of their faith.

Barnabas Fund sponsors school places for children from poor Christian families to enable them to get an education in a Christian environment.



Over 1,200 Christians with small-business and income generation projects received support from Barnabas Fund in 13 countries in the past year including Burundi, Egypt, Kenya, Niger, Pakistan, Russia, Sierra Leone, Sri Lanka, Sudan and Uganda.

WORKING FOR GOD'S PROVISION



Cows, chickens and lambs are bred at this farming enterprise in Egypt, which is now self-sufficient

\$35

provides a goat for a Christian family in Pakistan

\$171

covers the purchase of a sewing machine in Northern Sudan for a Christian woman who has completed a course in tailoring

\$964

could provide the start-up costs for a Kenyan Christian to support himself as a welder

Dressed in clothes they had made themselves, Christian women in Northern Sudan celebrated as they graduated from their tailoring training course and joyfully proclaimed the grace of the Lord. One woman testified, "I did not only learn how to sew but ... the Lord encouraged and taught me how to trust Him amid hard times."

Christians in Egypt often find it hard to get work because of discrimination. Barnabas has funded an income-generation project that has transformed 80 acres of desert into green farmland where the Christians breed chickens, cows and sheep and grow fruit trees. The enterprise is now self-sufficient.

Enabling Christians to support themselves where they face discrimination or hostility is an important part of the ministry of Barnabas Fund in many countries. When they can generate the income to cover rent, food and other basic necessities, their suffering is alleviated, and they gain greater self-respect and dignity. Families are also able to support their local churches.



Barnabas Fund is supporting 439 evangelists and 264 pastors in 24 countries including Angola, Burundi, Chad, China, DR Congo, Ethiopia, Georgia, Germany, India, Indonesia, Ivory Coast, Kenya, Nigeria, Pakistan, Rwanda, Senegal, Sri Lanka and Ukraine. (Figures correct at June 2011)

PERSEVERING IN THEIR CALL



This missionary couple in Central Asia are seeing the Gospel bear fruit in their country, despite much resistance from neighbours and local authorities

\$13

could contribute to the monthly upkeep of a missionary couple in Chad

\$42

could help an evangelist in Ethiopia for one month

Immediately after moving to a rural, poverty-stricken area of their Central Asian country, a missionary couple from a Muslim background began witnessing to their Muslim neighbours about their newborn faith in Jesus Christ. Twenty-four people responded to the message and gave their lives to Jesus, among them a mullah's family.

Local authorities and Muslim residents put up much resistance to the couple's work, and their village committee have tried to evict them twice. But the couple are finding innovative ways to persevere in their evangelistic work. They visit the new believers at night to disciple them.

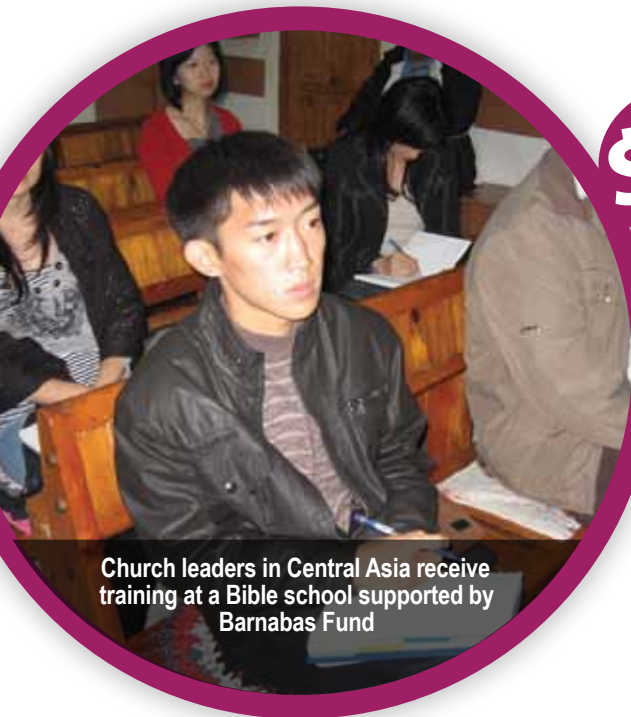
Many full-time Christian workers are following the

call to spread the Gospel and strengthen Christian minority communities in their own countries or people groups, even if this means facing hostility and possibly violence. Many live in very basic conditions and endure daily hardship in their service for the Lord. Barnabas Fund contributes to the monthly upkeep of pastors, evangelists and church planters around the world.



Christian leaders benefited from Barnabas support for leadership training in 26 countries in the past year including Bangladesh, Burundi, Cameroon, DR Congo, Indonesia, Kazakhstan, Kenya, Kyrgyzstan, Mali, Moldova, Nepal, Niger, Pakistan, Russia, Senegal, Sierra Leone, South Africa, Sri Lanka, Sudan, Turkey and Uganda.

EQUIPPING LEADERS TO BUILD UP THE BODY



Church leaders in Central Asia receive training at a Bible school supported by Barnabas Fund

\$11

paid for a Christian to attend an evangelism training event in Niger

\$964

paid for one week's training for more than 60 senior church leaders in Central Asia

“This study is blessing of God for me. It is an answer to my prayer.”

This was the testimony of a senior church leader in Central Asia who attended training sponsored by Barnabas Fund. The 60 leaders who completed the course are serving God in a context of great persecution. They bore witness to the great difference it had made

to their lives and ministry, providing them with vision, purpose and strategies for ministry, and encouraging them in teamwork.

In some countries many dedicated and hard-working church leaders do not have even the basic training and resources that they need to fulfil their ministry. This is a particular problem

in contexts of pressure and persecution, where Christians desperately need good leadership in order to maintain their faith in Christ.

Barnabas Fund supports many projects that train church leaders and Christian workers at all levels, from basic courses to post-graduate, to enable them to strengthen the churches.

ABOUT BARNABAS FUND

As part of the family of God, Barnabas Fund stands with our Christian brothers and sisters around the world, including the West, where they suffer discrimination, oppression or persecution as a result of their faith. In this way we witness to the love of Christ and build His Kingdom.



1. We encourage prayer for the persecuted Church by providing comprehensive prayer materials.

We believe in the power of prayer to change people's lives and circumstances, either through grace to endure or through deliverance from suffering.



2. We channel money **from** Christians **through** Christians **to** Christians. Donations from individual Christians and churches are forwarded to local ministries and Christian organisations in contexts of persecution, mainly in Muslim-majority environments, to bring about practical and spiritual transformation in the lives of suffering believers.

We fund projects that have been developed by local Christians in their own communities, countries or regions. Thus we act as equal partners with the persecuted Church, whose leaders often help to shape our overall direction.



3. We tell the untold story about the plight of persecuted Christians and speak out on their behalf, making their needs known to Christians around the world and to governments and international bodies.

We seek to tackle persecution at its root by making known the aspects of religious and secular ideologies that result in injustice and oppression of Christians and others. We also equip Christians in the West to meet the challenge that other religions pose to the Church, its mission and society.

We believe in the clear Biblical teaching that Christians should treat all people of all religions and none with love and compassion, even those who seek to persecute them. We carry out our vision and purpose accordingly, but we will not compromise what we believe the Word of God teaches.

“As we have opportunity, let us do good to all people, especially to those who belong to the family of believers.”
Galatians 6:10, NIV emphasis added


barnabasfund
hope and aid for the persecuted church

Commendations



My impression is that within the growing churches within the evangelical/charismatic spectrum in New Zealand there is an unbalanced emphasis on me, my struggles and my spiritual growth. One of the great strengths of the Barnabas Fund is its literature. We are informed of what is actually happening to Christians around the world. Then we realise what freedom of worship is, and how we are inclined to take our privileges for granted. I heartily commend Barnabas and the energetic way in which it meets so many of the practical needs of so many persecuted Christian communities.

Dr Don Mathieson Q.C.



When I am visiting a country, where Christians are under pressure, quite often a minister or a lay person will ask quietly whether I know about the Barnabas Fund. When I say, "yes", their eyes light up and they tell me how Barnabas has encouraged them with a church building, a school or medical assistance. It is this kind of ministry which needs to be supported by prayers and by generosity so that the situation by our brothers and sisters is eased a little by our love.


Rt Rev Dr Michael Nazir-Ali



Barnabas Fund's financial and prayer support has a marvellous impact on the lives of families through the feeding programme. The financial assistance provided to Christian workers has brought enthusiasm; the churches are growing numerically and in maturity. Children's education has also improved, and there is more outreach to the non-churched communities.


Yunis Lal Din, Brethren leader, Pakistan






I have a very high regard for Dr. Patrick Sookhdeo and the Barnabas Fund. Patrick is a scholar, researcher, and publicist of first rank. Author, government consultant, and international Christian leader, he combines intellect, compassion and justice in equal measure. He leads an organisation that is at the cutting edge of world issues and concern for the weak and persecuted. His writings and publications are accessible, informative, challenging, and often heart-rending. In an age of shallow celebrity culture his is a genuinely prophetic voice of realism and concern.

(Very Rev) Rob Yule, retired Presbyterian minister and former Moderator of the Presbyterian Church of Aotearoa New Zealand



We tend to be sheltered in Australia from the reality of what life is like for so many Christians in some other countries. I am glad that Barnabas Fund exists to provide a great deal of practical help and support to persecuted Christians around the world, and to bring this need before us for our prayer and action.

Peter F Jensen, Archbishop of Sydney



I have followed the work of Barnabas Fund for many years and heartily recommend their vision of bringing hope and practical aid to Christians under persecution around the world. Barnabas Fund has played a key role in bringing home to Christians in Britain the reality of life for brothers and sisters in many other countries. In so doing, Barnabas Fund encourages informed prayer and channels aid to where it is desperately needed. I have always been deeply impressed by the calibre of research which underpins Barnabas Fund's advocacy and ensures the appropriateness of the aid it provides. Also, from my own experience of working with persecuted Christians in many places, I know that their priority request is always for prayer – and I greatly value this emphasis in the work of Barnabas Fund.

Baroness Caroline Cox



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Germany

German supporters may send gifts for Barnabas Fund via Hilfe für Brüder who will provide you with a tax-deductible receipt. Please mention that the donation is for "SPC 20 Barnabas Fund". If you would like your donation to go to a specific project of Barnabas Fund, please inform the Barnabas Fund office in Pewsey, UK.
Account holder: Hilfe für Brüder e.V.
Account number: 415 600
Bank: Evang. Kreditgenossenschaft Stuttgart
Bankcode (BLZ): 520 604 10




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