



Evangelical  
Fellowship of India



EVANGELICAL FELLOWSHIP OF INDIA  
**ANNUAL REPORT**  
**2020-2021**



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## Greetings from the Chairman

Dear Brothers and Sisters in Christ,

As the family of EFI, it's a privilege to be able to deeply connect with you. Lord has led us through a difficult but blessed year.

Let us remember the words of Apostle Paul mentioned in Timothy – 2 Timothy 1:7, ***“For the Spirit God gave us does not make us timid, but gives us power, love and self-discipline”.***

Please continue to be in prayer for the ministry and leaders of EFI. Please don't hesitate to contact us if we can be of any help.

We are committed to run the race with unity, love, courage and boldness.

Your co-worker in Christ,



**Dr. Ajai Lall**  
*Chairman, EFI*

## Greetings from the General Secretary

### *"To God be the glory"*

The year 2020 taught us to be grateful to God for his abundant mercies and providence during these difficult times of the pandemic.

While the Covid19 pandemic impacted our work greatly, we praise God that EFI acted as a channel to spread hope and care for the poor, needy and marginalized in these challenging times. EFI stands grateful to its members and partners who came forward and became 'Super Spreaders of Hope'.

Despite the lockdown and travel restrictions, God opened digital avenues through which we continued functioning and carried out the activities. We are humbled to present to you our annual report for the year 2020 on how God has used EFI and its various wings to reach out and serve the nation.

We hope and pray that you are blessed and challenged as you read this.

Your prayers and support are of utmost importance for the Evangelical movement in India.

With prayers,



**Rev. Vijayesh Lal**  
General Secretary



## INTRODUCTION

Evangelical Fellowship of India was founded in **1951** and is the national alliance of evangelical Christians. As the central network of evangelicals and a service organization, EFI is the **custodian of Evangelical faith**, movement and values in India, representing the **Evangelical voice, building capacity and promoting participation in nation building**. EFI is a charter member of the World Evangelical Alliance and its membership includes 5 protestant denominations and related congregations, over 150 Church related mission agencies and organizations and thousands of individual members. It is the most inclusive fellowship with membership from most Protestant denominations and organizations of India.

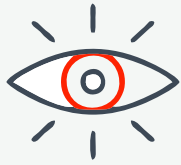
The primary calling of EFI is to serve churches, institutions and individuals through strategic initiatives, capacity building and forging solidarity, thus facilitating the mission of witnessing to the good news of Jesus Christ in word and deed, and nation building. Through its various initiatives, EFI **promotes and strengthens unity** and unified action, **renews the Church** for mission and evangelism, **safeguards**, shapes, **promotes the evangelical faith** and also **ensures that Indian Christian voice is heard** nationally and internationally.

EFI has been **building capacity** of the churches, organisations and individuals through various training programs, workshops, consultations and social development projects. We have facilitated research so that our constituency is supported by strategic information and statistics. EFI **forges solidarity** by bringing people together, as uniting people towards a common purpose is our passion.

EFI has been instrumental in laying the foundation of some of the key organisations in India. In the year 1953, the **Union Biblical Seminary** at Yavatmal was constituted as a project of EFI. The Christian Education Department (**CEEFI**), which is famous for its Sunday school study materials was formed in the year 1962, and the same year saw the launch of Evangelical Theological Commission. The **Indian Evangelical Mission (IEM)** came into being in the year 1965. In the year 1968, **Evangelical Trust Association of North India (ETANI)** was formed which takes care of the church and mission properties.

In the year 1968, EFI decided to concentrate on one city to address the issues faced and therefore, **Festival of Peace** now known as **Together** initiative, was launched. It became a necessity to reach out to the Christian community and the pastors and hence, in the year 1970, **AIM - the monthly magazine** of EFI was launched. In order to reach out to the social community and come forward in times of need, the **EFI Commission on Relief (EFICOR)** was formed in the year 1970. The mission wing of EFI, **India Missions Association (IMA)** was formed in the year 1977. With the onslaught of religious persecution, there emerged a greater need to form a commission to focus on religious liberty issues and with this in mind, the **Religious Liberty Commission (RLC)** was formed in the year 1998. While churches were being trained and equipped to stand strong amidst persecution, there was a need of providing a legal support system, and the year 2003 saw the formation of **Christian Legal Association (CLA)**. The **Evangelical Financial Accountability Council (EFAC)**, an accreditation body was launched in the year 2006.

To make the Evangelical voice heard on issues of importance to the community and the nation, the **EFI Center for Public Policy, Public Affairs and Research** was launched in 2018.



## VISION

We see evangelical Churches, institutions and individuals effectively witnessing the good news of Jesus Christ in word and deed, and transforming nation.



## MISSION

We are an evangelical alliance called to serve churches, institutions and individuals by strategic initiatives, capacity building and forging solidarity, thus facilitating the mission of witnessing to the good news of Jesus Christ in word and deed, and nation building.



## CORE VALUES

- ❖ Decisiveness of Christ.
- ❖ Authority of the Bible for faith and work.
- ❖ Centrality of the Church in God's redemptive plan.
- ❖ Necessity to witness the gospel of the kingdom of God in word and deed.
- ❖ Working towards peace and wholeness between individuals, communities and the environment.
- ❖ Solidarity through strategic alliances for collaboration between organisations.
- ❖ Aiming for excellence in all our work with integrity and accountability

## OUR FOCUS AREAS

### Advocacy

- Presenting Biblical perspectives on key issues affecting the Church and the Nation.
- Assisting Church leaders and public figures understand the beliefs, values and vision of evangelicals.
- Being a proactive and prophetic voice to the Church, to help to shape it under God's direction, into a movement for transformation.
- Representing the Indian evangelical voice in the Public Square, with the Government as well as Internationally.



### Networking

- Focusing on United Prayer as a top priority.
- Encouraging collaboration among Churches, Organizations, and Individuals.
- Bringing people together for common reflection and action on important issues.
- Connecting and Assisting Churches to effect changes in society based on biblical values.
- Encouraging and equipping evangelicals to play catalytic roles in nation building & transformation.



### Capacity Building

- Conducting relevant programs to build capacity.
- Encouraging research to ensure that interventions are supported by strategic information and data.
- Compiling resources for the Church and Nation on matters of theology, public affairs and public policy.
- A monthly magazine "AIM".



## OUR INITIATIVES

### Advocacy

- EFI Religious Liberty Commission (EFIRLC)
- EFI Children @ Risk (EFIC@R)
- EFI Center for Public Affairs, Public Policy and Research
- Training on Social Impact of Media



### Networking

- EFI Revival and Prayer Commission
- EFI Theological Commission
- EFI Youth Commission
- EFI Women Commission
- All India Congress on Church in Mission (AICOCIM)



### Capacity Building

- Christian Education of Evangelical Fellowship of India (CEEFI)
- EFI National Center for Urban Transformation (EFI-NCUT)
- EFI Mobile Bible Training (EFI-MBT)
- EFI Social Transformation (EFI-ST)





# Our response to Covid19 pandemic

## Super spreaders of Hope!

2020 has been a year of disruption and heartache. The world perhaps will never be the same because of the changes brought on by the COVID-19 pandemic.

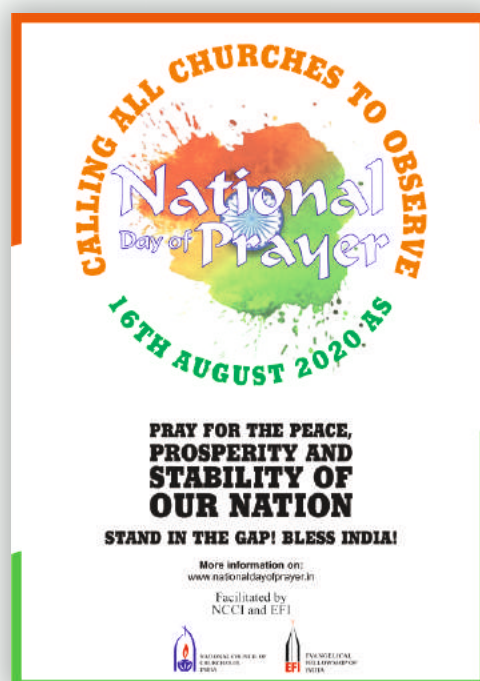
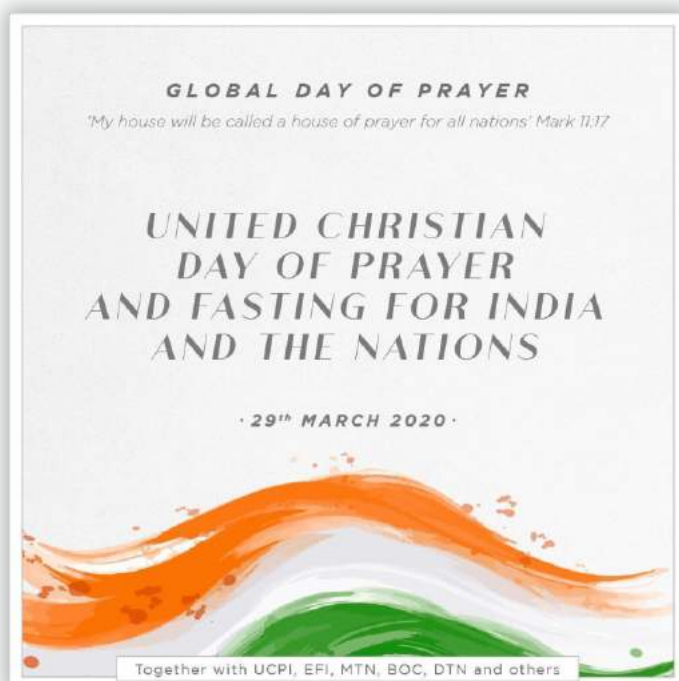
Being the central network of Evangelicals in India, EFI not only recognized the threat of the pandemic but also took steps so that Evangelicals could respond to the same effectively through various initiatives. We believe that God has called the Church to be super spreaders of hope and to be a community that radiates hope especially in these times when the world is reeling under the COVID-19 pandemic.

**EFI responded to the challenge of COVID-19 through**

- Mobilizing prayer,
- Mobilizing help, and
- Fostering community.

## Mobilizing Prayer

EFI along with various Christian bodies in India has been mobilizing prayer. Our first nationwide collaborative prayer effort was on 29th March 2020 as the Church in India was called for a *corporate day of prayer and fasting*. Thousands of Churches across India joined in the “*United Christian Day of Prayer and Fasting for India and the Nations*”. The National Council of Churches (NCCI) in India and the Catholic Bishops Conference of India (CBCI) endorsed the event and joined in.





On Pentecost Sunday, 31st May 2020, the entire Church in India joined together in the *“One Sound, One Hope”* event, praying and interceding for our nation and the world. EFI was part of the Advisory Forum and one of the bodies promoting this prayer event.

Since 2016, EFI has been calling for the *National Day of Prayer* on the Sunday closest to the Independence Day of India. This year the National Day of Prayer on 16th August 2020 was a joint effort by the NCCI and EFI with the CBCI endorsing it.

2020 – 2030 has been declared as the *Decade of Prayer and Revival*. It is a call given by EFI, EFICC and India Missions Association. Every month, many prayer events are taking place under this campaign with the prayer of a revival across our land.



## Mobilizing Help

God has called His people not only to pray for our world during this COVID-19 pandemic but also to act in generous ways so that the poor, needy and marginalized would be cared for. Even though EFI is not a relief agency, yet the need was so huge that we had to pitch in alongside our relief arm, EFICOR (Evangelical Fellowship of India Commission on Relief).



Since the launch of our relief efforts, EFI has been able to help over **30000 individuals** with dry ration kits and direct cash transfers with which they were able to sustain themselves for close to a month. Our **dry ration kit** contained all necessary food items that a family of five needs to keep it going for a month. We reached out in over **16 states** of India during this time to some of the poorest and needy families who were not on the radar of the government or other relief agencies.







During this pandemic, India saw a huge exodus of migrant workers from the cities. As employment was no more and money dried up, millions of migrants made their way back home on foot, since public transportation was no longer available. We reached out to migrant workers during this time and served them through the distribution of provisions for their journey.



We also provided hygiene kits consisting of sanitizers, masks and other necessary items at this time. Along with others, we also distributed this help to police departments, relief workers, and volunteers helping the government at this time.



### *The Guardians of Ludhiana City Women's Marshals Squad*

Voluntary Girl Police Marshals are playing a key role in fighting Covid19 in the city of Ludhiana. EFI thought it best to do little for these frontline warriors who have been giving their best to city without getting any benefits or salary from the government. After interviewing some of them, the relief team came to know that many of them do not have good financial background and some of them too struggling to meet the daily needs like ration (groceries). EFI Relief Team distributed ration kits as a token of love and appreciation for the selfless work being done by them.

## Mobilizing help through the network

We are so thankful to God that we have seen our member Churches, Organizations and Individuals respond to the needs of our fellow citizens in a tremendous manner during this pandemic. If one were to gather data from all our members who are engaged in relief activity and in spreading hope, the figure would cross millions.

EFICOR, our relief arm, is a specialized agency for relief and rehabilitation and they reached out to over 3 Lakh beneficiaries through the distribution of relief kits, cash transfers, and awareness messages. Emmanuel Hospital our member of the Christian Together, they government more to meet the present Evangelical Church of nation through its 12 to help the poor and North Bank Baptist provided relief to people in Assam and Arunachal Pradesh and has catered to literally thousands of people in the area. There are many such examples in the constituency of EFI.



Association, one of associations, is part Coalition for health. offered up to the than 1000 hospitals challenge. The India is serving the dioceses across India vulnerable. The Association has

Spontaneous networks have come up during this time comprising of members and friends of EFI that have been helping migrants as they make their way home. One such network was reported by the national media as well. Just one initiative in Varanasi was able to cater to more than 70000 migrants. Another network was busy helping migrants by guiding them to buses and trains for their journey home, helping as much as 10000 a day. We praise God for all such initiatives and hope that these would continue reaching out in love and compassion.



## Some Stories of thankfulness

**SAJAN RAJIK**, a migrant, doing work of laundry is the sole breadwinner for a family of four. His daily earnings help him to fend for his family which has taken a hit due to the lockdown, as people have stopped giving clothes for ironing. No one came forward to help him during these difficult times. He even submitted his Aadhar card at many places to avail free ration services, but no help came.

During one of the enquiries, the EFI relief team approached him & enquired about his situation. He was provided with a dry ration kit. He and his family are joyful that they have food to suffice them for 3-4 weeks.



**ASHOK KUMAR** lives in Karnal, Haryana with his wife, mother, father and a 9 yr-old daughter. He is involved in community service and has repeatedly faced opposition and persecution from anti-social elements in the past. As his only source of earning was through social & community work, this lockdown has affected his family severely. He and his family survived without food for days.

On learning about the relief activity of EFI, he reached out to our coordinator and an immediate cash relief was transferred to him to enable him to buy ration which should last for 15 days for the family and clear some of his previous dues to the shopkeeper. Ashok expressed his heartfelt gratitude for the relief provided by EFI.



A security guard by profession, **SURESH GODSE** heads a family of five. His wife works as a maid and son works as a daily wage labour. The Covid 19 pandemic and the lockdown has left all of them without work, as the maids are not allowed to go for work and since there is no work, the son is also at home without any work. While they had a roof above their head, their stomachs were empty. The unemployment and lockdown situation added to their misery by leaving them with no grocery.

Through our sources, we got to know about them, and the family was provided with a ration kit that will last them for 15-20 days.



**SHANTUNA THAPA**, ethnically a Bengali, married Munna Thapa, a Nepali man and now both live with their family in Guwahati, Assam. Munna is employed as an auto goods carrying driver and is a daily wage laborer. Since the lockdown was imposed on 25th March, Munna had no work. Their money and food reserves soon ran out. Shantuna was very worried when someone told her that EFI's COVID-19 Relief Distribution was going to take place in her neighborhood. The EFI distribution team was able to give her a dry ration kit which will last her for at least 3 weeks.

Feeling extremely relieved, she said, "I was very much disturbed during lockdown because our ration was finished. I was thinking what will happen next and what we will eat. I was very worried. My husband had no income. I am happy today because I don't have to think about food for three to four weeks. I thank EFI for giving us food items. God bless them."





# Some glimpses of our work



**रात के सियाह घुप अँधेरे में खामोशी के साथ गरीब बुनकरों के घर राशन पहुंचाती एक संस्था इवैजलिकल फैलोशिप ऑफ़ इंडिया**

काशी

काशी, उत्तरांचल के पहाड़ी क्षेत्र में रात दिपन घड़ी की मन्दीरी के काशीवासी श्री. आर्य अन्वयन सहायक गुप्त काशी की 'कॉन्सिल ऑफ़ इंडिया' के अन्वयन में रात के सियाह घुप अँधेरे में खामोशी के साथ गरीब बुनकरों के घर राशन पहुंचाती एक संस्था इवैजलिकल फैलोशिप ऑफ़ इंडिया काशी के द्वारा शुरू की गई है।

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**सिटी हीरोज** सामाजिक, वार्षिक सम्मेलन संकट में जरूरतमंदों का दे रहे साथ

**मुसीबत में हर तरफ से मदद को बढ़ रहे हाथ**

600 जरूरतमंदों को मेहनत वांचा पुनिरा कर्मियों को रोज, केने, कंरो टिप वॉर्ड में सख्त सेवा

काशी, उत्तरांचल के पहाड़ी क्षेत्र में रात दिपन घड़ी की मन्दीरी के काशीवासी श्री. आर्य अन्वयन सहायक गुप्त काशी की 'कॉन्सिल ऑफ़ इंडिया' के अन्वयन में रात के सियाह घुप अँधेरे में खामोशी के साथ गरीब बुनकरों के घर राशन पहुंचाती एक संस्था इवैजलिकल फैलोशिप ऑफ़ इंडिया काशी के द्वारा शुरू की गई है।



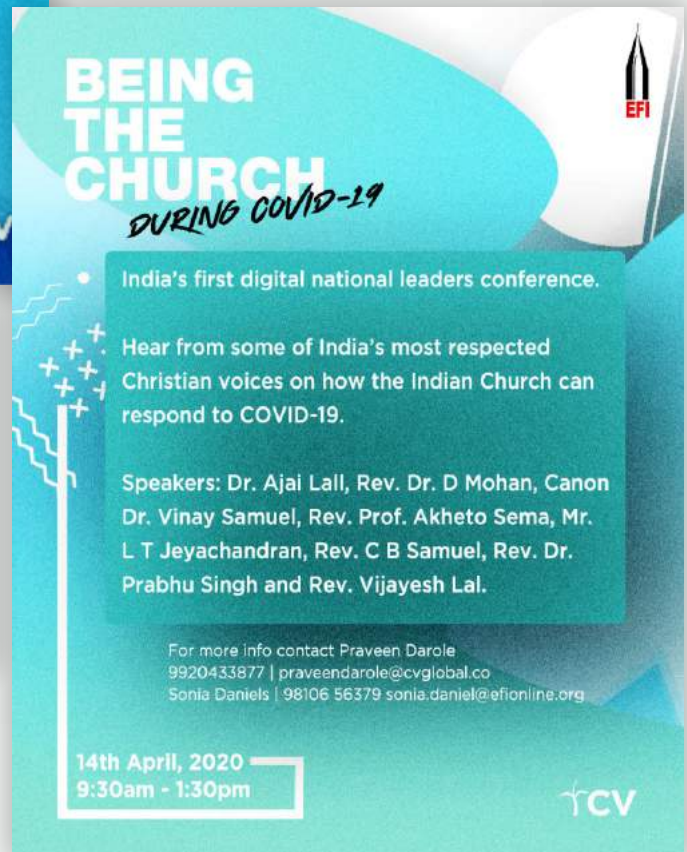
# Fostering Community

## Bringing the community closer through digital platform

### Webinars on Creative Church Online

The lockdown restricted the local Church, as people could not gather anymore and many Churches especially in rural and semi-urban areas were struggling on how to take their services online. In this circumstance, EFI teamed up with CV Global and offered insight and knowhow thereby helping them to make best use of digital platforms for church services.

Special trainings were organized which helped hundreds of Churches especially in small towns and rural areas to go online using simple tools. We are grateful that we could come alongside and help Churches in reaching out during this critical time.





## Digital National Leaders Conference

A National Leaders Conference was organized in early April 2020 and more than 600 leaders signed up for the same from all parts of the country. The theme was: "Being the Church during COVID-19". National leaders like Dr. Ajai Lall, Bishop P. K. Samantaroy, Pastor D. Mohan, Canon Dr. Vinay Samuel, Rev. C. B. Samuel, Dr. Akheto Sema and Dr. Prabhu Singh addressed the participants among others.

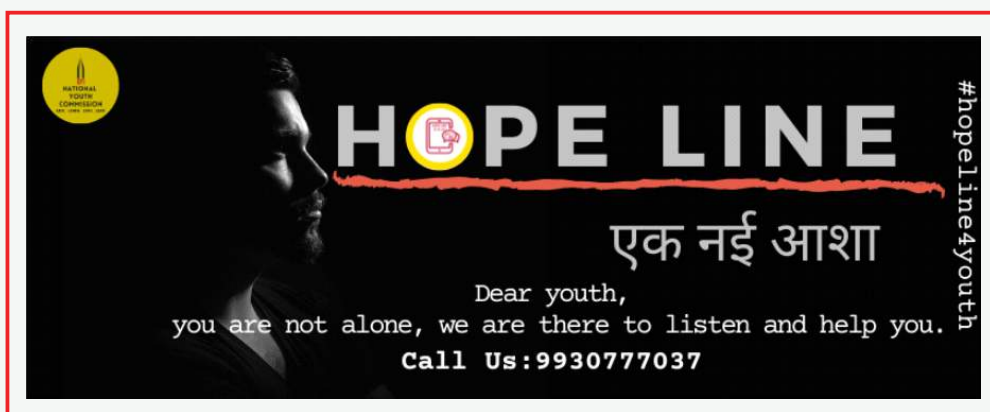
Some of the topics that were addressed were: Making sense of God in this Pandemic, Mission and Witness during COVID-19, Leadership Challenges during the COVID-19 Pandemic, Digital Missions in the present context etc. There was also a panel discussion wherein questions from the participants were addressed by the panel.



## Helpline on Mental Health for Youth

The pandemic also resulted in a major emotional health crisis as people did not know how to deal with the sickness or the lockdown. The youth were confined to their homes during the lockdown and not being able to socialise with friends, affected their mental health adversely.

EFI National Youth Commission in partnership with the YMCA in Mumbai responded to this and launched a mental health helpline for young people. They received scores of calls each day, as the lines were open to all and trained counsellors were able to help many navigate through their challenges. The campaigns can be accessed on our Facebook page.



## Advisories and Awareness on COVID-19 through website and social media

EFI came up with the first advisory on COVID-19 on March 14th, 2020 and the latest advisory was concerning the re-opening of Churches after the lifting of the lockdown which is slowly taking place. You may read the advisory on the EFI website.

The EFI website also features an entire COVID-19 section where advisories, articles and other resources could be found that have helped many people thrive even during this challenging time.

## Series on Statutory Compliances

A three series of webinars was held on the new FCRA amendment and its impact with wide participation from many.



The image displays three promotional posters for a webinar series. The left poster is for the '8th October 2020' webinar on 'THE FOREIGN CONTRIBUTION (REGULATION) AMENDMENT ACT, 2020'. The middle poster is for the '11th December 2020' webinar on 'Statutory Compliances - Income Tax, Labour Laws and Financial Management'. The right poster is for the '7th, 11th, 14th and 17th December 2020' webinar series on 'Statutory Compliances'. Each poster includes the EFI logo, the India Missions Association logo, and the EFAC logo. The posters also list resource persons and provide registration links.

The webinars were helpful not only for Churches and organizations but for the nonprofit sector in general, in the light of the new regulations. The participants gained deeper understanding of the amendment in the FCRA act and its implications on their work. The webinars educated them on the statutory requirements and the related Labour Laws that are to be followed without any laxity.

## Series on Relationship Matters

The Covid 19 pandemic has taught us to understand the value and importance of families and the need for support during these trial times. The EFI Gujarat State Core Committee conducted a series of five webinars to equip families in handling various relationships.



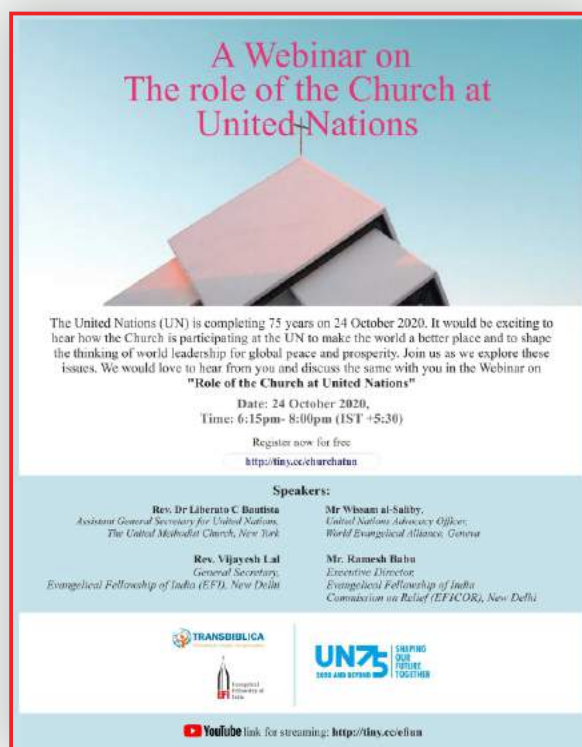
### The following topics were covered :

- ❖ Relationship Awareness Matters
- ❖ Marriage Matters
- ❖ Parenting Matters
- ❖ Family Matters
- ❖ Interpersonal Relationship Matters

Through these webinars, the participants shared that they understood the value of relationships in one's life and how as a person, we should understand each other, stand and support each other, and take care of each other in every possible way, especially during the trying times of Covid19 pandemic.

## Webinar on UN and the Church

The Evangelical Fellowship of India, along with Transbiblea organised a webinar on the theme of "The role of the Church in the United Nations". The Church has been instrumental in shaping the thinking of the world community since 2000 years ago. As a 'salt and light' the Church provided Biblical solutions to the worlds pressing problems affecting the societies. Even today, the Church is actively engaged with 'United Nations' and other global bodies in working towards a just and a peaceful world. We as Church need to pray for the world leaders to make just decisions to promote peace and justice.



### The Webinar had the following resource persons:

**Mr. Wissam al-Saliby,**  
World Evangelical Alliance, Geneva

**Rev. Dr. Liberato C Bautista,**  
The United Methodist Church

**Rev. Vijayesh Lal,**  
General Secretary, EFI, India

**Mr. Ramesh Babu,**  
Executive Director, EFICOR, India

*Having briefly looked at the response to the pandemic, let us also look at what some of EFI's commissions, networks and departments are doing below.*

## THEOLOGICAL COMMISSION

Testing and painful times raise pertinent and sometimes difficult questions and Covid-19 especially, triggered a lot of them.


Theological reflection, conversation, articulation and response about how the Church can faithfully respond to this global challenge was a necessity and the EFI Theological Commission rose to the occasion to address these, aided by some of the best minds in India.

The Commission conducted a series of five webinars on COVID and the Theological Response to it. The range of topics covered were –

1. *“God's Providence and Human Agency”* by Canon Dr. Vinay Samuel,
2. *“Theology of Blessing”* by Dr. Ken Gnanakan,
3. *“Being Church during the Pandemic”* by Dr. Takatemjen Ao,
4. *“Exploring Biblical Resources in approaching Pandemics”* by Dr. Finny Philip,
5. *A Christian Perspective on Death and Bereavement.*


The resource persons presented papers on the themes and responded to the questions as well. These webinars were very well received and according to feedback from Church leaders, have been a blessing.


Now, the commission is preparing for a second series and is engaging with young theologians in the process.





EVANGELICAL FELLOWSHIP OF INDIA  
THEOLOGICAL COMMISSION


**CORONAVIRUS**  
HOW CAN WE RESPOND  
THEOLOGICALLY?

  
CANON DR VINAY SAMUEL

  
DR KEN GNANAKAN

  
DR LELA MANASSEH


  
DR TAKATEMJEN AO

  
DR FINNY PHILIP

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A 5-SERIES WEBINAR:  
6 Aug | 13 Aug | 20 Aug | 27 Aug | 3 Sep

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## RELIGIOUS LIBERTY COMMISSION (RLC)

The RLC has been working to provide aid (practical and legal) and is engaged in advocacy efforts at all levels. Our yearly and half yearly reports are credible documents from India that have been quoted and used by national and international groups. The RLC is engaging with various government voices to strengthen religious freedom for all in the nation.

We have also been able to provide support and timely help to hundreds of victims of persecution all over the nation. Both practical and legal help have been extended through our dedicated volunteers on the ground without whom it would be impossible to reach out.

The RLC, through its panel of advocates and activists has also been providing training to leaders both at the grassroots and at the state and national level so that the movement for religious freedom for all can be strengthened.

The RLC was also able to present a statement on India at the UN Human Rights Council meeting in Geneva in partnership with WEA office in Geneva.

### Incidents and Documentation

RLC has documented, through detailed research and analysis, 327 incidents of hate and targeted violence against the Christian minority in India during 2020. The RLC was able to intervene in more than 300 incidents in various ways to help provide assistance to the victims. RLC's involvement depended on the dynamics of the situation and to what extent victims wanted to pursue the matter.

A lot of the incidents that take place, go unreported due to which the victims of those incidents stay without relief.

### RLC's Interventions in 2020

The RLC was able to intervene in the following ways with the help of its dedicated volunteer network throughout the country:

- ❖ Extending practical aid including urgent medical aid to victims of religious persecution. The RLC was able to assist, through urgent aid and relief in more than 50 cases.
- ❖ Assisting the victims of hate and targeted violence by advising them legally and helping them file complaints at the local police station. In some of the incidents, complaints filed were a direct result of the RLC's intervention with the local administration, police, and local councils.
- ❖ Documenting the incidents of hate and targeted violence against the Christian minority through thorough research and analysis. Releasing half yearly and yearly reports. Disseminating the same to like-minded organizations, Church leaders, human rights activists, and to government dignitaries.
- ❖ Approaching the Ministry of Home Affairs, the Prime Minister's office and other government bodies like the NHRC and NMC and presenting them with the documentation. Recommendations were also given to these bodies to ensure the security of the victims.
- ❖ Helping Churches and congregations whose worship services were disrupted or stopped resume their Sundays and other weekly prayer meetings after speaking with relevant local authorities.
- ❖ Countering false complaints filed by religious extremists against Christians by speaking to the relevant authorities and through guiding the action of local leadership so that the victims of false

complaints were saved from unnecessary harassment.

- ❖ Advising and making the victims aware of their legal fundamental rights as Indian citizens and as religious minority on a real-time basis. The same has been appreciated greatly by the victims who were able to use this knowledge.
- ❖ Coordinating with and appealing to the law enforcement authorities to enforce rule of law so that situations could be normalized. In some cases, after RLC advocated on behalf of victims, higher law enforcement officers helped protect them after the local personnel did not act impartially.
- ❖ Deploying rapid response teams on the field so that the victims of religious persecution could be taken care of.
- ❖ Advocating nationally and globally to promote religious freedom and the fundamental and constitutional rights of victims.
- ❖ Training grass root leaders as well as national Church leaders on issues of religious freedom. Holding regional and state level consultations to address local realities.

## An example of Practical Assistance

Attackers had broken the house of three Christian families in Chhattisgarh. The families were targeted because of their faith as confirmed by local leaders.

They attackers had indulged in vandalism and had removed the roof and the belongings from the house and had also used abusive language against the Christians when they refused to renounce their faith. These three families consist of 15 members who all work on daily wages. After their houses were broken, the families took shelter under the trees. The men of the family fled from the village and took refuge at a pastor's place. One of our local volunteers visited them at that time and provided grocery to these three families for their sustenance.

After a few days, the families requested us to help them to reconstruct their houses and even during COVID-19 times, with the help of our local volunteers, we were able to help the families construct their houses.

The families expressed their gratitude for helping them get their homes repaired.



# EFI MOBILE BIBLE TRAINING (MBT)

EFI Mobile Bible Training is a program initiated in the year 2012 to address the need of churches in the northern Indian region. While the churches are experiencing growth, there is a lack of teaching of the Word of God. There are around 2000 Christian workers / Pastors in Punjab, around 80% of whom have a literacy level below 10th grade with no formal Bible training to equip them to understand the word of God and to fulfil Pastoral responsibilities. EFI MBT aims to address this issue by providing systematic Bible training to these pastors and grass-roots leaders.

As part of the EFI MBT programs, leaders from the grassroots who had not received any theological education were equipped through systematic and regular training programs and mentoring. Leaders were trained in different parts of the state as cohorts that met twice a month.

In each program, around 40 grass root leaders participated. These leaders mainly came from independent unaffiliated congregations and were without any formal Bible training.

The books of Hebrews Part I, 1 Timothy, Philippians, Colossians, and Hebrews Part II were covered during this time.

- **Conducted 31 Mobile Bible Trainings**
- **In 11 stations of Punjab**
- **Attended by around 440 grassroot leaders**

The grass-roots workers have found these programs to be hugely beneficial for their spiritual development and practically helpful as they lead their respective congregations. The training has helped them to understand God's word in a better way and is helping them to share this word with the church members in the right context.



*Amritsar*



*Nawanshahr*



*Kharar*



*Mehtapur*





## **Some pastors who attended the Mobile Bible Trainings speak of the impact these trainings have had in their lives :**

### **Pastor George Masih, Asian Calvary Church, Kapurthala**

When I was appointed as a Pastor, I did not have any formal Bible college training. EFI-MBT made up for the same and provided me with good learning of the word of God. Earlier, I could not understand a lot of things when I used to read the Bible, but now I have started to understand the meaning and the context, well. It has helped me to understand the incidents that took place in the Bible in accordance with the biblical history, geography and political scenarios.

EFI-MBT has also helped me to protect myself and the church from false teachings. The Pastoral writings have made me aware of the kind of personal life, role and responsibilities, character, behaviour and identity of the pastor.

I am spiritually excited and have gained self-confidence to learn and then teach the members of the church also. EFI-MBT has helped me to learn the word of God in my mother-tongue and also without any charges.

Truly, EFI-MBT has brought about a change in my personal and spiritual life. I pray that the Lord bless the entire team of EFI-MBT.

### **Pastor Makka Atwal, People of God Church NawanShahr. Punjab**

I want to share my personal experience of the impact of EFI Mobile Bible Training in my life and ministry. EFI-MBT indeed has been a great blessing in my life and ministry. I thank God that I got the privilege to join EFI-MBT's regular classes. Here, we were taught about the different books of the Bible through equipped teachers. We learnt about minor prophets, New testament background, New testament reviews, Inter-testament period and NT religious background, Paul's missionary journeys (1st- 3rd), Paul's Epistles - Romans, 1&2, Corinthians, Galatians, Ephesians, Philippines, Colossians, Philemon etc.

I was so blessed by attending and learning through EFI-MBT classes and they have helped me to implement the same in my life and church. Personally, I experienced great spiritual growth by understanding the word of God, and my faith has been established more effectively upon the word of God. Whatever I learned during the classes I was also able to teach the same to my church members. My church members experienced more growth in their understanding the word of God and they were challenged by the truth of God's word. Our church experience has grown in quality and quantity as I taught the same teaching. I must say that EFI-MBT brought up such wonderful ministry on teaching the pastors and leaders who have never been to Bible college. Coming to our homes and teaching the word of God, they have beautifully served us.

So, I appreciate all the leaders of EFI-MBT and wish that this ministry continues to teach us more so that the Church will be edified by the true knowledge of the word of God. I and the church have been praying for EFI-MBT's ministry.

*\*Serving Him till He calls us Home\**



**Pastor Kuldeep Singh, Heboval Kala, Ludhiana**

I want to share my personal experiences of the impact of EFI-MBT in my life and ministry. EFI-MBT has truly been a blessing to my life, my family and in my ministry. I did not get an opportunity to attend a Bible College and have been privileged to study the word of God through EFI-MBT. Initially, the pastors were hesitant to come and attend the classes, but gradually they started coming and learning the word of God. Upon learning, they found it to be truly beneficial in their life and experienced blessing & spiritual growth in the congregation. The classes now witness an attendance of 60-70 pastors in each district.

The studies are conducted with the anointing of the Holy Spirit, and are very practical and honest. Various books of the Bible have been taught during these classes. Both me and my wife have been participating regularly in these classes and are blessed through the word which we are applying in our lives, family and our congregation. Personally, I experienced great spiritual growth by understanding God's Word, my faith is more effectively established on God's Word.

Now, the members of my church are experiencing greater growth in understanding God's Word. They were challenged by the truth of God's Word. I am very happy to be a part of the EFI-MBT Bible Study class that came to our house and served us by teaching the Word of God very beautifully in our own language.

So, I appreciate all the team members of EFI-MBT and pray for them. I want the EFI-MBT Bible Study class to continue to teach families of all God's servants and the church, the real knowledge of God's Word for the growth of God's kingdom.

*\* Until I come, be patient in reading and teaching and teaching. \**





# EFI NATIONAL CENTER FOR URBAN TRANSFORMATION (EFI NCUT)



## From the National Director of EFI-NCUT

Dear friends and prayer partners,

Greetings in Jesus' name from the National Center for Urban Transformation, Bangalore.

We do realise that this newsletter has been due for a long time, but the emergence and the spread of COVID-19 has affected a lot of our pre-planned ministry activities. However, we thank the Lord for His protection and provision for all of us thus far. We were really hoping that this COVID-19 period would soon be over and that we would be able to resume our regular ministries, but on contrary India has been experiencing spikes after spikes, making it difficult even to survive.

We are aware that thousands of people have been affected by this deadly virus and some have lost their lives. The Indian government imposed a nationwide lockdown from late March till June that has drastically affected us all in numerous ways. All religious institutions including Churches and Christian ministry organisations have to close down till now. To a large extent, this has deeply affected the regular functioning of our ministries as we had to cancel or postpone nine of our planned ministries. Although we have tried to reschedule some of our training programs online it required lots of effort to plan and implement these programs. Most of us found it challenging to prepare and present out teaching materials online. However, with the help of an additional set of equipment, we finally managed to conduct a series of training programs online successfully. Our NCUT staff is now exploring ways to do some of our training programs online for a select number of urban pastors of North India. However, we are waiting on the Lord to intervene and lead us for further.

During these past three months of lockdown period, millions of rural workers who had gone to various cities of India were suddenly affected by the lockdown as factories, institutions, hotels and other industries had to shut down. Having lost their jobs and sources of income, most of them had no choice but to return to their native places. But the government had to shut down all modes of public and private transportation that forced these millions of migrant workers to take their homeward journey on foot. It caused them immense hardship as they had to walk thousands of miles, taking with them their families, children, and whatever

**WE NEED TO BE OPEN TO  
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belonging they could carry. Numerous Christian organizations and churches came to their aid in various ways that eased their pain, stress, and exhaustion to some extent. Evangelical Fellowship of India, our umbrella organisation-through its various subsidiary projects, assisted these internal migrants in different parts of India. Some of our NCUT staff also got involved in similar relief work in partnership with local churches and relief agencies. Most of these workers have reached their hometowns but now left without any work or income, and perhaps without hope for any immediate means of survival. We need to seek God's guidance as to how to get involved in a huge ministry of relief and rehabilitation of these workers in the midst of Corona pandemic.

Please pray for us even as we explore fresh ways of continuing our ministries in the ongoing pandemic situation. We need to be open to the leading of the Lord as we think outside the box to cope with this new situation and make the best use of it. Let us also pray with us for the provision of the sustainability of NCUT ministry, especially as we gear up to use new technology, gadgets, tools, and appropriate training for our staff in such a changing situation.

We appreciate your prayers and partnership in carrying out our vision to equip and mobilize God's people to transform cities of India.



In Christ,  
**Dr. Atul Aghamkar**



## Western Zone Urban Transformation Conference

The Urban Transformation Conference held at The Pastoral Care Center, St. Xavier's School Campus, Indira Bridge Crossroads, Hansol, Ahmedabad, on 4-6 February 2020 was the third zonal conference conducted by EFI-NCUT. The theme of the Conference was: **“Seeking the Peace and Prosperity of the City”** (Jer. 29:7). The Conference was attended by a total of 110 Pastors, and Christian leaders from Punjab, Rajasthan, Western Maharashtra and Gujarat states. These participants represented several urban churches, para-churches, independent ministries, NGOs and mission organizations. This conference was organized in response to the expressed and urgent need of equipping Christian leaders from west zone to engage with cities strategically. The plenary sessions were followed by a Q&A session wherein the participants' questions on various missional/ministry related issues and challenges that revealed their interest in exploring practical ways to put into practices some of the insights from the plenary sessions.

The participants gained in-depth knowledge and skills through these the sessions for effective ministry in urban settings, particularly in the western zone. Many participants committed themselves to start using these insights to strengthen their ministries in their cities and start partnering with the like-minded churches and mission organizations.





## North India Urban Initiatives

Although we are hoping to continue with physically conducting several of our seminars and conferences in North India and beyond, we have slowly started to explore other alternative forms of conducting these programs online with the help of zoom and google. While praying for God's direction and resources we started to adapt to this new normal reality.

NCUT is now working on compiling all presentations at the West Zone Urban Transformation Conference and translating them in Hindi as a resource for all the participants so that these resources may be used by the participants to enhance their ministries. Further to take forward our online urban training programs, several efforts were made to contact the North Indian urban leaders. The response was overwhelming as most urban leaders in North India are deprived of such input for their ministries. Eventually, after several rounds of discussions, prayers, preparations, God helped us to organize Webinars for several cities of North Indian states in the months of August and September.

## WEBINARS

We managed to club together with a select number of cities from the north Indian regions for conducting a series of seminars online with the help of zoom. We accordingly arranged sessions on Biblical Perspectives of Cities and their Relevance for Urban Ministry in India, Ways of doing effective Urban Ministry in Cities of North India and Utilizing Urban Youth Potential to Enhance the Ministry. Keeping the reality in mind that many urban leaders that are serving in a small set up have been facing financial set back due to Corona related lockdown, we also have decided to add a session on sustainability for ministry.

### Bihar and Jharkhand

Our first Urban Awareness Webinar was organized on 5th August 2020 for the state of Bihar. With the help of several local coordinators and pastors' fellowship, we were able to get over 140 participants registered though we could only accommodate 100 of them. The webinar proved to be very useful as leaders from various cities of Bihar state such as Patna, Gaya, Purnia, Bhagalpur, Bihar Sharif, Madhubani and Motihar enthusiastically participated and received new insights to minister in their cities. Along with Bihar webinar, we also focused on Jharkhand state and urban leaders from the cities of Ranchi, Jamshedpur, Bokaro, Dhanbad, and Madhupur benefited through our sessions.

### Madhya Pradesh

The next Urban Awareness Webinar was planned for Madhya Pradesh on 13th August 2020. Here, we focused on cities of Jabalpur, Indore, Bhopal, Indore, Gwalior, Ujjain, Sagar, Satna, Ratlam, and Devas. Several Pastors Fellowship leaders from Jabalpur and other cities assisted us in local co-ordination. For this webinar, we had tremendous responses however, some of the participants were from smaller



towns. Due to our limited capacity of 100 participants, we could not accommodate more participants. Several participants shared their experience and requested to arrange more similar seminars.

## Uttarakhand and Uttar Pradesh

On 4th September 2020, we had an Urban Awareness webinar for the state of Uttarakhand. Major cities focused were Dehradun, Mussoorie, Haridwar, Nainital, Haldvani, Rishikesh, and Roorkee again with the help of various local leaders and local coordinators. Since we had already conducted seminars in Lucknow, Agra, Kanpur, and Ghaziabad of Uttar Pradesh for urban pastors and Christian professionals, this time we focused on other cities of Uttar Pradesh such as Prayagraj-Allahabad, Meerut, Varanasi, Bareilly, Saharanpur, Bulandshahr, Bijnor and Noida. During the above Webinars, we received an exceptionally good response both in terms of participation as well as requests for reconducting similar seminars again in Bihar, Uttarakhand, and Uttar Pradesh.

Altogether, more than 260 urban pastors, leaders, and missionaries were able to participate in these three seminars. We also received invitations from a few local mission organizations such as GEMS in Bihar and Pastors Fellowship of Patna and Jharkhand to specifically organize webinars for select pastors and leaders, specifically addressing their urban issues and needs. We are hoping to customize our sessions and work towards serving the North Indian community at large. We are now working on developing resources in Hindi while developing NCUTs virtual ministry both in English and Hindi. We want to make these resources available specifically in Hindi for urban pastors, leaders, Christian professionals, and mission practitioners that are serving in North Indian cities.

## Research and Publication

Our Research, Writing and Publication department is keenly working on various projects as part of our commitment to producing urban resources for the church at large in India. Apart from two major manuscripts that are in the pipeline, we have six booklets that we hope to publish for the benefit of equipping urban Christian leadership in India. Please pray that these projects would be completed on time and be made available soon.

## Urban Youth Ministries

Rev. Ashish Hirday continued to coordinate for youth ministries and other programs in North India. The recently held zonal conference in Ahmedabad focused on *“Urban Youth: Trends and Prospects”* which was well received. The topic *“Urban Youth: Challenges and Opportunities, Gospelize Series: Youth Ministry to & through Youth”* was also dealt with in the conference. These practical sessions were packed with tips and practical insights that the participants could use in their ministry contexts.

Besides working on booklets on relevant topics for urban youth ministers, the EFI National Youth Commission is also striving to set up a centre for urban youth studies, as part of NCUT-Urban Youth Ministry wing, which will be first of its kind in India.







## EFI CHILDREN AT RISK (EFIC@R)



### From the National Director of EFIC@R

I would like to extend my greetings to you all. What a year 2020 has been!

The COVID pandemic turned our homes into our office and working from home became the new normal. It was a year that tested our resolve and resourcefulness as we faced many challenges due to the pandemic.

BUT that did not discourage us from doing our work. Instead, it made us put more effort and come out with new ways to reach out to leaders and the communities. Today, I thank God with a heart full of gratitude that EFIC@R continued to work for the marginalized even in the midst of the pandemic through advocacy, providing education & healthcare, empowering women, building capacities, networking on the grassroots level and conducting rescues operations.

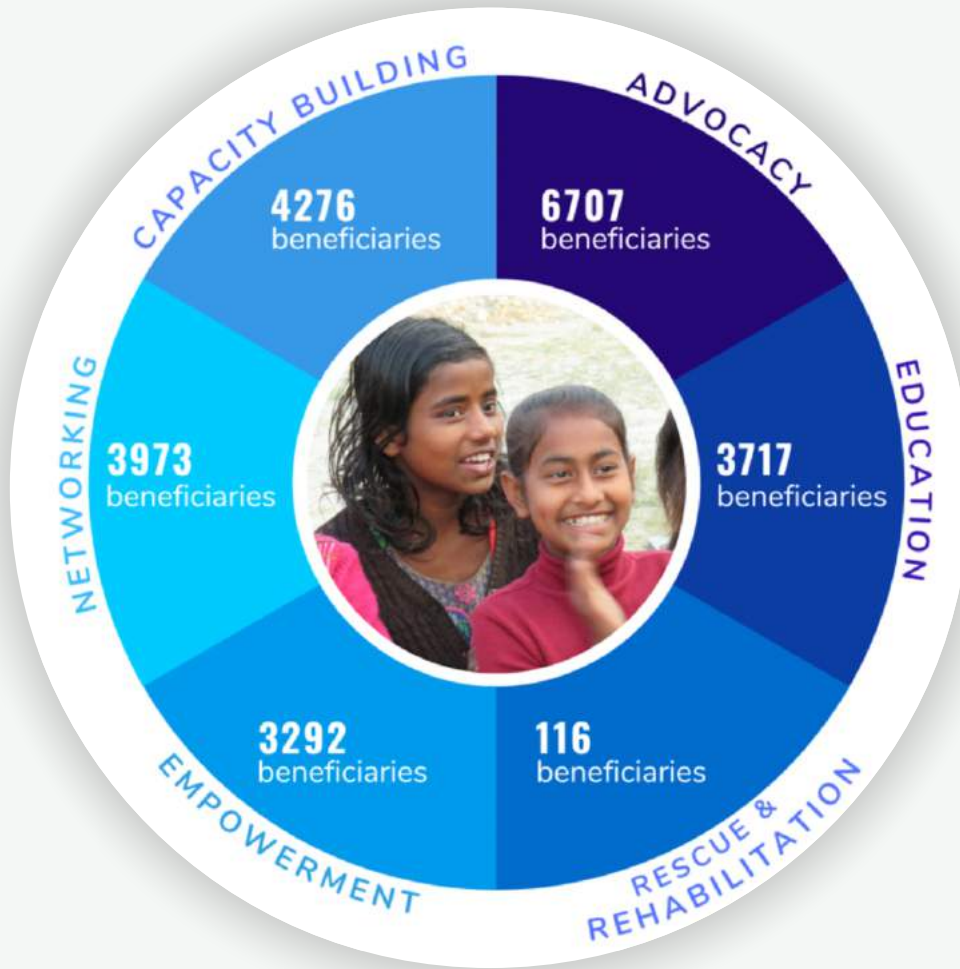
In 2020, we were able to successfully impact more than 22,000 lives. By not allowing our voices to go unheard in the so called “Culture of Silence”, we through EFIC@R have made a remarkable impact by being able to speak and help break the corrupt practices that are prevalent in our society. Just as God desired, we continue our efforts to Arise and Restore the exploited and discriminated lives.

On behalf of the EFIC@R team, I extend our gratitude to all our well-wishers for their continued support and prayers.

With Warm Regards,



**Aashima Samuel**  
*National Director*  
*EFI - Children @ Risk.*



*Let us not be silent but **stand together** for the upliftment of the weak the poor and the oppressed. Let us **Arise and Restore** Humanity!*





## CAPACITY BUILDING

Capacity Building is a key part of EFIC@R's protection program. Through our legal trainings and workshops, EFIC@R has been able to strengthen the involvement of churches and civil society in promoting and securing the rights of children from the Tribal and Dalit communities.

### EQUIPPING COMMUNITIES TO FORM WATCH-GROUPS AGAINST HUMAN TRAFFICKING

The Kanhore Watch Group was formed as a result of a training organised in Kanhore, Bihar by EFIC@R. After being trained on how to deal with traffickers and victims of Human Trafficking, the villagers selected some people and created a Watch Group. The watch group have, since then, been keeping a track of the children and any new person in the village who could be an agent.



## ADVOCACY

Advocacy programs conducted by EFIC@R have created awareness of the extent of the negligence, exploitation and discrimination towards children in India through awareness campaigns, speaking tours, interventions with schools, colleges, panchayats and communities, forming vigilant committees, peace building efforts and building child advocates.

### BUILDING CHILD ADVOCATES THROUGH SPEAKING TOURS

Soma Khatun, a class 11 student of Sadikhansdiar Vidya Niketon, became an advocate of child marriage after attending an EFIC@R organised speaking tour. Soma had attended the speaking tour at Bilaspur, West Bengal where she learned about Human Trafficking. So, when she heard that a minor girl from her village was getting married, she immediately called the EFIC@R hotline number.



Our team, along with Soma, went to meet the girl's family and gently made them understand why it was harmful for their daughter to get married at such a young age. After some few days, the girl's father informed that their family had changed their mind and will not marry off their daughter until she reaches adulthood.

We hope to build many more Soma Khatun who can advocate for justice for others.

## NETWORKING

EFIC@R lobbied and networked in a collaborative way to build and strengthen strong networks with churches, like-minded NGOs and government agencies for improved action in prevention, protection and rehabilitation of the trafficked persons. EFIC@R conducted networking programs with churches, government officials and like-minded organizations in order to reach out and sensitized the people on human trafficking, as well as to develop effective and innovative programs and projects.

### JOINING HANDS AGAINST TRAFFICKING

EFIC@R regularly holds network meeting with churches, government bodies and other organisations.

In one of our network meeting at Bihar with leaders from all major religions on the topic of Human Trafficking, a consensus emerged to form a network of faith leaders from all major religion and put up a joint effort to curb the menace of trafficking in Bihar.



## EDUCATION

EFIC@R education programs provided strategic interventions by opening children clubs, children literacy centres, schools, adult literacy centres to transform and develop the lives of children and adults. The most common reason of trafficking is illiteracy, and many women and young girls are lured with good jobs or schooling by the traffickers. EFIC@R's adult literacy centre is helping the women to develop their reading and learning skill which is also helping them to start self-help groups.

### LITERACY TO THE RESCUE !

Salomi (name changed), a 36-year-old woman, is a student of the EFIC@R Adult Literacy center in Murshidabad since last two years. Salomi shares that the basic education she has received in these two years has equipped her to maintain the records of her Self-Help Group (SHG) group and to open up bank accounts.

She has become more confident and is able to safeguard herself and her daughter, when she travels by public transport because she can now read the destination written on the bus!



## EMPOWERMENT

EFIC@R builds resilient communities by empowering them with a means of livelihood and equipping the church leaders to mobilize the community on addressing issues of poverty alleviation which will facilitate to stop trafficking and peace building.

### BUILDING A STRONG AND SECURE ENVIRONMENT

Prema comes from a village in Gumla district of Jharkhand where exploitation of women and children is high due to lack of opportunities and poor financial conditions of the families. Through a women's meet conducted by EFIC@R, our team came in contact with Prema who requested for training on shawl weaving technique and steps to form an SHG so that the women will be self-dependent.



After the training, Prema formed the Social Mahila Mandal SHG.

This SHG has been successfully selling their products in the markets which include shawls, bed sheets, hand kerchieves and door mats.

## RESCUE & REHABILITATION

### MINOR RESCUED FROM TRAFFICKING

A 12-year-boy, who had just lost his father, was emotionally manipulated into trafficking. The young boy had lost his father, the only breadwinner in the family. Taking advantage of this situation, a trafficking agent manipulated the minor emotionally by telling him that he knows a place where he can revive his father through some puja. The innocent boy, believing the lies, went along with the trafficker, not knowing he was about to be trafficked into prostitution.



As the minor was being taken to Nepal, information reached EFIC@R's team, who alerted the local authorities and caught both the trafficker and the minor on the border. The swift action of the informers, EFIC@R and SSB, made it successful for rescuing the minor, and in catching the trafficker, who had been tricking and trafficking children to Nepal for some time.

## HEALTHCARE

To respond and invest in the health and well-being of the poor, the needy and the marginalized victims, EFIC@R conducts regular medical camps providing free medical aid to people in target areas.

### FREE MEDICAL CAMP

With attempts to provide a better quality of life, EFIC@R organised a medical camp in Bharri village at Katihar where free treatment and medicines was provided to 135 villagers. Majority of them had high blood pressure. But due to superstitious beliefs, they thought that their illness was because of some evil spirit and would often call upon the local "witch doctors" to use black magic to cure their sicknesses.

Through the medical camp, the villagers learnt about their sickness and were made aware of the importance of health and hygiene.



## PROSECUTION

EFIC@R provides pro-bono legal aid to victims of trafficking. Many traffickers who have been caught red-handed while trafficking young boys and girls often get bailed easily and they go back to their old trade without any fear of punishment. EFIC@R continues to work towards ensuring such traffickers are kept behind bars for the safety of the children. EFIC@R is also dealing with cases that includes false implication especially in the Christian community.

EFIC@R has filed 30 legal cases against Human Traffickers.

## RELIEF WORK

***Total 240 people were provided with ration kits and 1000 masks distributed.***



## Being the Change | Production and Distribution of Masks

**A story of the impact of our work** Sonu\*, a rickshaw puller from Dandkhora village in Bihar, was caned and chased away by the police twice for coming to work without a face mask. Manav\*, a daily wage earner from Pakaria village, lost his job due to the lockdown. Since he needed money to provide food for his family, he needed to go out to work. However, stepping out without a mask was not only endangering him and his family, but it was also considered as a punishable offence.

Due to illiteracy, ignorance, and financial constraint, it is tough for people like Sonu and Manav to afford and maintain the safety protocols against COVID. The Women SHGs groups who are engaged in stitching, supported by EFI - Children @ Risk (EFIC@R) came to know about the hardship faced by the villagers and volunteered to produce masks for free distribution to the marginalized community.

EFIC@R supported them by providing the raw materials required for the production and connected them with El Bethel Church, a local church, which has willingly offered space to the women for setting up their unit for production of masks. EFIC@R connected the SHGs not only with the local churches, but also with the local government administrations, who are placing orders in bulk.

A total of 1000 masks were produced for free distribution which have benefited 9 villages. Today, many of the daily wage earners are going to work and earn their living. They have expressed their gratitude to EFIC@R for providing them with the masks. The women of the sewing centre has also been constantly supporting and teaching other women to become Aatma Nirbhar, meaning Self-reliant, bringing a change in the community.





## EFI NATIONAL YOUTH COMMISSION

EFINYC, the youth ministry wing under EFI is committed to remodelling, rethinking and resourcing the youth ministry. EFINYC seeks to Facilitate, Train and Equip Christian youth pastors, leaders and volunteers to be more competent and as effective as possible in reaching out and impacting the younger generation by the love and message of Lord Jesus Christ, fulfilling the Great Commission amongst youths and motivating them to participate in nation building.

### Sangati Initiative

The aim of the Sangati initiative of the Youth Commission is to creatively engage Urban and Semi-Urban Youth across denominations in fellowship, for the purpose of discipleship and spiritual transformation. Sangati seeks to unite the City youth under a broader City Youth Network that will meet once a month, and so does not replace their local youth fellowship affiliations, but makes the youth dig deeper into the issues of faith and discipleship through fun activities, biblical teaching, mentoring and mission exposures.

Throughout 2019, Sangatis were held regularly in at least four cities of India. However in 2020, due to the pandemic and the lockdown, physical meetings were not possible. However the Youth Commission was able to conduct one physical Sangati in February in Jaipur with nearly 200 young people in attendance. The rest of the Sangati meetings were held online through zoom.

A discipleship curriculum for the Sangati initiative called #Follow has been developed and is being used. There are eight modules like Know Jesus, Growing in Him and Getting Involved in His Mission.

Special online meetings were also held by the EFI Youth Commission on relevant topics such as “Life in an anxious world”, “Youth and Mental Health in Context of Covid-19” and “Christian Response to Pornography.”





The Youth Commission was also able to launch a mental health helpline: Hope-Line. This initiative was launched in partnership with the YMCA in Mumbai. Trained counsellors were recruited to counsel the youth who are going through mental health issues. Many young people from across the country were benefited by this initiative.







# CHRISTIAN EDUCATION DEPARTMENT OF EFI (CEEFI)

CEEFI, established in the year 1962, engages all age groups (children, youth and adults) through systematic training and curriculum development. CEEFI aims to teach the Bible, God's inspired Word, to present Jesus Christ as Savior and the Lord, to relate the Bible to the students' lives, to train and inspire the teachers and to assist in the growth of the Church.

It is a joy to experience God's gratefulness in the ministry of CEEFI and we thank our Lord for His protection during the Covid-19. The lockdown affected the sales drastically however, CEEFI and its ministry was promoted to different churches through telemarketing. The CEEFI books were introduced and the samples were shared using social media.

## CEEFI CURRICULUM

### *Classic Curriculum*

This course presents a balance of teaching on salvation and growth towards maturity in Christ and also encourages spiritual and social concern for others. It covers the entire Bible four times in line with the need and understanding of the Beginner, Primary, Junior, Intermediate and Seniors.

Three years in each department make a total of fifteen years of sound Bible study.

CEEFI is now working with **32 languages and dialects** in India and most of the Churches, fellowships and assemblies are using the CEEFI materials regularly.



In the year 2020, despite the lockdown, many Churches embraced the CEEFI material. Most of the churches, fellowships, and assemblies in India are using the CEEFI materials regularly to give Christian Nurture and systematic Bible teachings to their Sunday school Children.

### *Splash Curriculum* (The new curriculum)

Splash is the new curriculum and has been revised to 30 lessons in each department, methods of the teachings are suggested in the lesson material, suggestions are given for practical application and practice of the teaching in the lives of the students.

Splash Curriculum is available in English, Hindi, Tamil, Malayalam, Odiya, and Kannada languages.





Splash material has been revised to 30 Lessons in each book in each department, and they are being used very well, and are available in English, Hindi, Tamil, Kannada, Malayalam, Oriya and languages.

## Holiday Bible School

We also have materials for children and youth to be used during vacations and holidays and it is called Holiday Bible School.

These materials are available for children and young people with ages from 4 to 18 years of age. CEEFI materials are being used all over India and abroad.



## CAPACITY BUILDING

CEEFI team builds the capacity of the churches to ensure better usage of the Sunday School books and develop the Sunday school teachers to become trainers for new teachers.

- ❖ Trainings to the Sunday School Teachers regarding the usage of the books and involve the children through activities that they may be fully attentive and learn from the word of God from a young age.
- ❖ Conducting meetings with Pastors and Sunday School Teachers to brief them about the curriculum.
- ❖ Developing master trainers for their respective regions through Training of Trainers (ToTs).

## OTHER ACTIVITIES

### EFI Gujarat Regional Committee

The EFI Gujarat Regional Committee is comprised of Key leaders from different regions and denominations from all over Gujarat came to be a part of this event.

The objectives of this Committee are vision sharing, encouraging, motivating and developing strategy to see improved partnerships, and to effectively minister for in Gujarat.

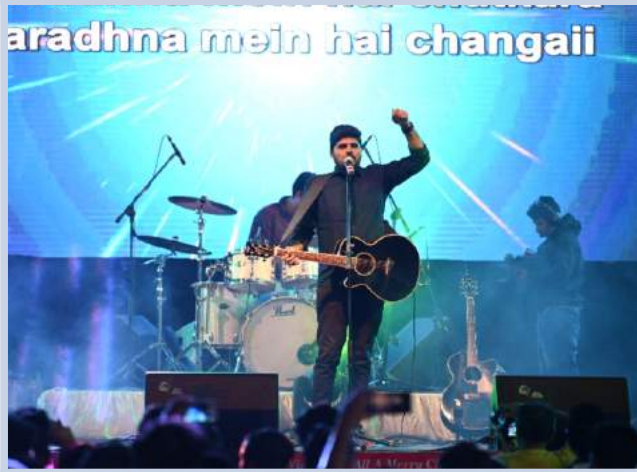
The Gujarat Regional Committee consists of 11 members and guides the work of EFI in the region. The committee has been meeting actively despite the pandemic to strategise and plan for the future.

### EFI Music Concert

EFI organized a Christmas Music Celebration and Concert in Ahmedabad, featuring famed musicians and worship leaders like Pastor Amit Kamble, Brother Roney Maben, and Brother Sam David. The concert witnessed a footfall of over 7000 people.

This Concert was an event to promote Christian unity among Churches in Ahmedabad and to celebrate the birth of Jesus Christ with the city of Ahmedabad. Young people from various churches were especially encouraged because of this initiative.







# EFI'S PRESENCE ACROSS INDIA





## EFI EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE MEMBERS 2020 - 2021

**Rev. Dr. Ajai Lall,**  
*Chairman*

**Bishop Rolly Singh**  
*Vice Chairman*

**Dr. Sanjay Patra**  
*Hon. Treasurer*

**Rev. Dr. A K Lama**  
*Member*

**Rev. Arpan Tarun**  
*Member*

**Rev. Biswajit Pani**  
*Member*

**Rev. Satish S. Meshramkar**  
*Member*

**Rev. Vijay Mohod**  
*Member*

**Rev. Chowaram Daimari**  
*Member*

**Rev. Tar Choya**  
*Member*

**Dr. Finny Philip**  
*Member*

**Rev. Vidush Bhandari**  
*Member*

**Rev. Samuel Hilel Lal**  
*Member*

**Rev. Vijayesh Lal**  
*Ex-officio*



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