

# The HFA BULLETIN

...FOR  
THOSE  
BEYOND  
REACH

April 2016

## From fear to faith

At a recent funeral, as some rejoiced in the life of a sister who is now in heaven with Christ, other family members were torn apart by grief, believing death was the end. They could not comprehend that God 'has given us victory through our Lord Jesus Christ' (1 Cor. 15:57) and taken away the sting of death.

For us Westerners, we have ready access to the Gospel if we will but look. There are, however numerous isolated groups in the world who still have no way to hear the Good News of Christ.

In recent years, the Dao tribe of West Papua have heard this Good News for the first time. The book '**Prophecies of Pale Skin**' tells of their journey to faith. The Dao, like many around them were a people who lived in fear. Fear of the earthquake: a giant snake slithering under the ground. Fear of washing, for water was associated with evil spirits. Fear that just looking at the rainbow would bring bad luck. Living in daily fear of the spirits that are always seeking to harm them. Fear of death itself, afraid

that when they died, they would go to the place of demons and become evil spirits.

The Dao were in desperate need of hearing about the God who came to earth to set them free from fear. A young **pale-skinned** couple trekked many days through deep jungles to meet these isolated people. Years later they learned that their own coming had been expected by the tribe, and had been predicted in dreams, passed down as oral history, for generations before they arrived. This was part of God's amazing plan.

After years of learning their language and culture, these pale-skinned missionaries were able to share the message from **the Creator's 'leaf book'** (The Bible) with the Dao people for the first time. **Many Dao responded, turning from their fear to faith in Christ.**

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## In this issue:

### HFA Network Approach

Our emphasis on partnering with organisations explained.

### A new partnership

Meet DAO Ministries



"From fear to faith" continued:

## Did you know that there are still tribes who live in fear today?

That's why we assist missionaries with aviation and technology, to reach isolated people groups who live in bondage, so they too can be free in Christ Jesus.

On behalf of our team, thank you for standing with us!

- Carol

Note: Read on to find out how we have since partnered with the couple mentioned in this story!



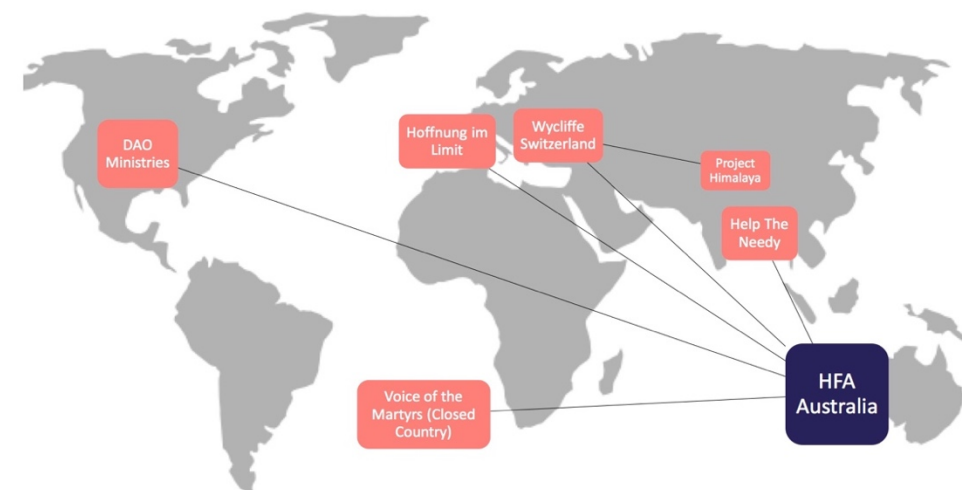
# The Network Approach

Our purpose is to bring the gospel to unreached people groups that live in isolated places. This task could take decades if we were to do this by ourselves. That's why our approach is unique and different;

**we work predominantly through partnerships. We partner with established organisations and local experts who know the country, the culture, the language, as well as the barriers to reach a certain people group.**

At HFA we have expertise in aviation and technology, which we provide to these local experts in missions, enabling them to bring the gospel to the isolated people. It can be difficult to describe, but the underlying vision is simple - to make it possible for them to bring the gospel to difficult places.

After operating for more than 2 years, we are seeing this approach bear fruit. We have partnered with several different organisations and the Good News is going out! At the same time things are kept simple, effective and most of all flexible. This allows us to work in places so sensitive and difficult, that we



can't even openly share about our work, locations, or testimonies due to safety reasons. But the Lord has opened doors beyond our expectations, sometimes

even using those who actually oppose us, in our favour. We can only be grateful!

In previous Bulletins we have shared about our partnership with Voice of the Martyrs. By supporting their work with technology, we have assisted in delivering 30,000 Bibles into a closed nation with more to come... We have also introduced you to T&C who are working in the Himalayas in partnership with Wycliffe. Both these projects have the specific focus of using aviation and technology to bring the gospel to isolated people groups.

Another important aspect of our work is to mobilise Christians for missions, while raising awareness of the unreached. Christians often tell us that they have never heard of unreached people and do not know of people groups who don't have access to the Gospel. As a result today's missionary efforts focus primarily on good social causes. Of 30 missionaries sent overseas today, only 1 works amongst those who have never heard of Jesus and do not know whether He is a brand name, a person, a leader or let alone God. This is why we formed a partnership with DAO Ministries .

# Introducing DAO ministries

Scott and Jennie's journey with the DAO people started when they both attended Bible college. A lecturer introduced them to the reality of unreached and isolated tribes, people who were living in fear of death but found true freedom once they heard the Gospel. As Scott put it, "It was when a New Tribes representative named Dun Gordy came and taught a one-week course on "Evangelism in Unreached Areas" that I realised what I needed to direct my life towards." Scott and Jennie quickly realised that they were not exempt from Jesus' command to *Go into all the world*. They felt a deep sense of conviction that they needed to bring the story of Jesus to tribes and people groups in this world that had no access to the truth. It became their passion and their cause. It became something that they were willing to live for, and deep down they knew it was something they were even willing to die for.

After training, they went to South East Asia, and having learned about the Dao tribe, settled there to live amongst these people. As described in our opening article, Scott and Jennie had the opportunity to share the Gospel with this tribe after learning their language and living with them for three years. They then continued to live with this tribe for several more years, discipling these new Christians and translating the New Testament into their native tongue.

Scott and Jennie, with their children, are now back in the United States and have a heart to share about the unreached in Churches and Bible colleges, in the same way Dun Gordy taught them years

ago at the Bible school. They are also continuing with the translation of the Old Testament of "the Creator's leaf book" into the Dao language, one section at a time, until they have the entirety of God's Word available for the now established Dao Church.



In the US they recently started a new organisation called DAO (Desiring Advancement Overseas) Ministries. Scott and Jennie, representing this new HFA Partner organisation, are now on a speaking tour throughout the US sharing their journey with the DAO people. It's a story exactly like the one that convicted them when they were in Bible college, and includes the undeniable truth that we are all called to share the Good News. DAO ministries, with Scott and Jennie, now represent HFA in the US, our common aim being to raise awareness about the unreached and isolated people groups in our world. They are mobilising Christians to pray and consider their role in God's call to reach the lost.

Find out more about DAO Ministries at [www.daoministries.org](http://www.daoministries.org).

## Prophecies of Pale Skin



Read the whole account of Scott and Jennie's journey in their book; *Prophecies of Pale Skin*.

To buy the book, go to: [www.propheciesofpaleskin.org](http://www.propheciesofpaleskin.org)



## Unreached and Remote

*An update from the Himalayas*

When we arrived 6 months ago, we were told that during the first two weeks we had just one responsibility: to survive. Well, as you know, we have survived. However, it could be quite difficult to manage different things like flushing water (for the toilet), tap water (which you aren't allowed to use for brushing teeth), drinking water (which you aren't allowed to drink), filtered drinking water (for which you need clean bottles - but how to clean?), distilled water (for the battery backup system - but how to get the water into the battery?), applying switches to

the different pumps (if there is electricity available) - and these are only some water specific issues. We also had to organise the work for the house helper and language teachers, handle SIM cards, internet, medication, bills, all kind of food - and all of this as illiterates in their language and often helpless in understanding even their gestures and culture. It isn't always easy - but here we are!

Learning a country's language and culture isn't very effective when there are a lot of disruptions and other issues like a huge amount of dust, very cold or hot and humid working conditions. So we are excited to be staying outside of the capital for the next 4 weeks, in a pleasant hilly region - a 9 to 10 hour bus ride to the west. Our view now includes mountains spreading out over hundreds of kilometres, and sometimes we can even see some of the highest mountains in the world. What a difference!

It is said that for this region, it is as if time has stood still. Sixty years ago women would carry heavy loads of wood, or people would walk for days to get to their destination. This is still a reality today. Even here in the district's capital with 30,000 people you can see dozens of women carrying loads of wood, and research tells us that the main mode of transport is still by foot. We have been told that within Asia, no other country has to rely on their feet like in this nation. In some regions they still have to walk for 4, 7 or even 10 days to the nearest civilisation. In such remote areas, life is usually very hard, not only for men who are used to dealing with long-range travelling, but also for the women who stay all of their lives in the same village. The women take care of the house, children and animals, often without any contact with the outside world. Especially in the winter, when they are in a dark hut in the thin and icy air without the usual news communicated by traders or an occasionally passing trekking group. At such times their only influence comes from the local witch doctor or priest. **Will they have the opportunity to receive the Good News that will change their lives?**

- T&C



*"Be joyful in hope, patient in affliction, faithful in prayer." - Romans 12:12*

- Give thanks for the Dao Tribe, and the freedom they found in Christ. Pray for the unreached and isolated people groups who still live in fear today.
- Pray for DAO Ministries, and for Scott and Jennie as they share about Christ's call in our lives on their speaking tour.
- Give thanks for Jesus, and His atoning sacrifice.
- Pray for HFA, and the ongoing provision of our daily bread.

We send out prayer updates every couple of weeks with more specific prayer and praise points. If you would like to receive these let us know at [info@hfa.org.au](mailto:info@hfa.org.au), or you can find them on [www.hfa.org.au](http://www.hfa.org.au).

**PRAYER**

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