

ACBM eNews

Preaching the Word - Caring for the Brotherhood

Pakistan 24 April 2025

From One Household to Many: How the Gospel spreads in Pakistan

I was fortunate to visit 37 ecclesias and new preaching locations during my two week stay in the Punjab region of Pakistan in March 2025. With now close to 80 ecclesias in Punjab, my aim wasn't to visit them all, but to focus on places I hadn't been to on previous trips.

One of the key takeaways was seeing firsthand that most of our brothers and sisters across the ecclesias have a solid grasp of the one true gospel and are keen to deepen their understanding of Scripture. The number of baptised members continues to grow, and encouragingly, many are also maturing spiritually. This is largely due to the tireless efforts of local brethren, supported by regular weekly Bible classes via Zoom and WhatsApp, which around 20 ecclesias in Australia are providing.



Outside the ecclesial hall at Qiampur, Toba Tek Singh



Inside the ecclesial hall at Qiampur, Toba Tek Singh

On this occasion, most of the new ecclesias and preaching locations I visited were in small rural towns. In Pakistan, where more than 90% of the population is Muslim, there is usually a 'Christian' section in each rural town, tucked away in a back corner. It's in these areas that the truth takes root - often beginning with one Christian family, and then spreading to neighbouring homes on either side, who are typically relatives or long-time friends.

A clear example of how the truth spreads - and why baptisms in Pakistan often involve many people at once - is what's currently happening in Manwala, a rural village on the outskirts of Faisalabad (Pakistan's 3rd largest city). Around 20 contacts gathered to hear my talk on the promise to Abraham and the hope of the resurrection, translated by Bro Basil Feroze. These contacts comprise an extended family living nearby one another in very humble circumstances, including three brothers and their households, along with other neighbours who are close friends.

They were originally Catholics and first encountered Christadelphians 18 months ago during a visit to Mariamabad ('City of Mary'), home to one of Pakistan's well-known Catholic churches. There they met Bro Basil, who began sharing the true gospel with them. Since then, he's made regular 1.5-hour trips to Manwala to continue teaching. As the entire extended family has been working through Christadelphian first principles together for 18 months, it's likely that most of the adults will be baptised in the near future at the same time.

Bro Matthew Jamieson. For information, email pakistan@acbm.org.au.



Preaching to 20 contacts in Manwala, a small rural town



Bro Safraz and his family travel 12km in a loader rickshaw weekly to conduct classes to 30+ contacts in Chichawatni