

Insider's Alert

July, 2018

A Publication of Key Communications by Lee Turner

The Power of Compassion

Not long after IDES (International Disaster Emergency Services) was founded by brother Milton Bates, I was asked to serve on that board. It was a privilege to work with brother Milton and his close colleague, Richard Sprague (along with many others), for eighteen years. I was deeply impacted by Milton's deep compassion. Many times I saw him weep in our board meetings because we couldn't do more to relieve horrendous human suffering. Another man in that category is brother Virgil Severns in Fairbanks, Alaska, who has delivered meals on wheels for decades to the elderly and needy in the rural Fairbanks area. That ministry has certainly been a testimony to his heart of compassion. Recently, brother Virgil and his wife, Anne, read a news bulletin from John Musser of Gospel Revival Ministries about the slavery of nominal Christians in the brick kilns in Pakistan. The experience of Sajjad and Shama is typical of conditions for brick-makers in that country. Sajjad and Shama were born and raised in the brick-kiln "prison" and consigned to a life at the lowest level of an indentured servant, fated to make bricks the rest of their lives.

Those dear people are doomed (as the photo shows) to press wet, sandy clay into brick molds by hand, all day long, day after day, for just enough money to buy the most meager and unpalatable food items. Only 33 miles

from Lahore at Bhai Pheru, a group of those indentured laborers who love Jesus wanted to build a church building where they could have proper mutual worship. A local Muslim compassionately let them

build on a piece of his land. They had just gotten a couple of the walls up when their benefactor decided to sell the land. Since it was reasonably priced, brother Saleem Bhatti, Key Communications' representative in Lahore, acting as our agent, bought that land and holds the deed until that local group who loves Jesus can jump through the legal intricacies of Pakistani law in order to corporately hold title to that piece of property. Pray for them and for us as we try to guide them successfully to that goal.



Pakistan's Election

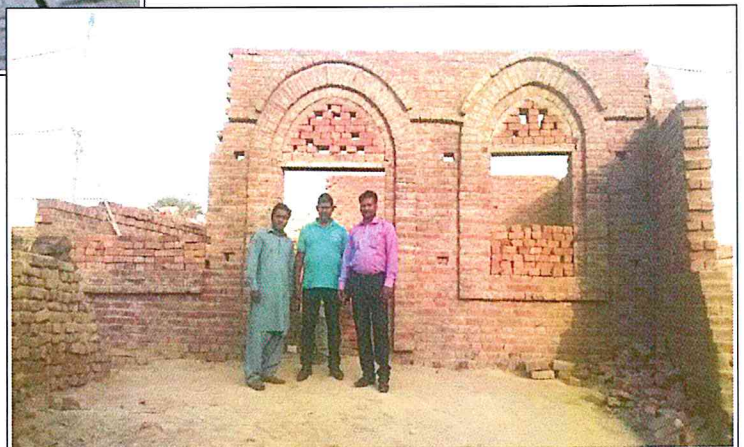
On July 25, Pakistani's voted in "elections for the country's federal and provincial assemblies. The outcome will determine how the troubled country addresses a number of issues, including a worsening trade imbalance, domestic terrorism, energy shortages and water scarcity. The elections will also influence the balance of power between the civilian government and Pakistan's politically powerful army. This is something that will heavily affect Islamabad's deteriorating relationship with its once-staunch ally, the United States, and determine how Pakistan pursues its competition with arch-rival India."¹

Major Election Contender Judged Guilty

A Pakistani court "found former Prime Minister Nawaz Sharif guilty of corruption in a verdict that likely will affect the country's election, in which his party is a strong contender. Mr. Sharif, who was prime minister until last year, was sentenced to 10 years in prison and ordered to pay a fine of \$10.6 million.

"Mr. Sharif says the judiciary is acting with the military in unison against him, an allegation both institutions deny. As prime minister, he had clashed repeatedly with the armed forces over policy, including his desire to make peace with India."²

Former Prime Minister Nawaz Sharif undoubtedly has seen the reality of the extreme Hindu revival currently going on in India. He probably knows that unless courageous steps are taken to make political peace with India, millions of Muslims will perish in a radical Hindu vendetta.



Highlights From Sentence Against Pakistan Former Prime Minister

The court “barred him from holding office for life. ... Mr. Sharif has been Pakistan’s prime minister three times but never completed a term. ... He stands as an exemplar of two of the country’s most central issues: a staunch defender of civilian governance amid military manipulation and as a symbol of a venal Pakistani elite that has alienated much of the public. ... Mr. Sharif has emerged as a powerful voice for civilian rule against the military’s interference in politics. ... There is stark evidence of military pressure on the news media, the PML-N [Mr. Sharif’s political party] and ethnic Pashtun rights and political movement has led rights advocates and others to describe the campaign season as more of a soft military coup than a democratic election.”³

Pakistan Military Meddles in Election

Pakistan’s “powerful military is stifling the media ahead of a July 25 election, part of a power grab that seeks to ensure a pliant government emerges from the polls, say human rights groups, politicians and media personnel. ... In practice, the military contacts many TV channel owners about content it finds troubling, who in turn convey editorial direction to their journalists, say reporters at several channels, adding that the military also exercises influence over some hirings and firings at the stations.

“Cable distribution is also manipulated through its owners. The owners of four cable TV local distribution companies told the Wall Street Journal that they have been told directly by security officials to take particular channels off the air in recent months.”⁴

What’s Happening in China

China “is a phenomenon unlike anything in economic history. The average Chinese consumes 17 times more today than in 1987. This is like the difference between driving a car and riding a bicycle or between indoor plumbing and an outhouse. In an incredibly short

period of time, this formerly backward country has lifted itself into the very first rank of world economies.

“Over the same period, China has moved approximately 600 million people from the countryside to the cities—the equivalent of moving the entire population of Europe from the Ural Mountains to the Atlantic Ocean. To accommodate those people, it built the equivalent of a new London, plus a new Berlin, Rome, Glasgow, Helsinki, Naples, and Lyons. ... In terms of dollars, our economy is still bigger. But the Chinese are gaining on us, and in the next eight to ten years their economy—unlike the economies of our previous competitors—will catch up.”⁵

Feedback

On July 16th, brother Vic Knowles from Joplin, Missouri wrote, I “always appreciate the *Insider’s Alert* – Victor.” Ten days later, on July 26th, Deryl Titus from Anchorage, Alaska wrote, “I am sending [to the congregation] my highlighted earlier edition from Lee Turner (CCA mission worker to the Muslims) with very useful lessons about praying for global turning to Christ.” It’s always encouraging to hear from our readers!

In the bond of Christ,



Lee Turner

“I urge, then, first of all, that requests, prayers, intercession and thanksgiving be made for everyone—for kings and all those in authority, that we may live peaceful and quiet lives in all godliness and holiness.”
~ I Timothy 2:1-2 (NIV)

Thank you for your partnership in making Christ known in the Muslim world!

Your contributions are tax deductible.

1. *Pakistan’s Elections Won’t Dilute the Military’s Influence*, [Stratfor. Worldview](#), Daily Brief: July 24, 2018.
2. Saeed Shah, *Pakistan’s Former Premier Found Guilty of Corruption*, [The Wall Street Journal](#), July 7-8, 2018, p. A6.
3. Adopted from Salman Masood, *Former Leader of Pakistan is Sentenced to 10 Years in Prison in Corruption Case*, [The New York Times](#), July 7, 2018, p. A5.
4. Saeed Shah, *Military, Media Clash in Pakistan*, [The Wall Street Journal](#), June 27, 2018, p. A9.
5. David P. Goldman, *How to Meet the Strategic Challenge Posed by China*, [Imprimis](#), March 2018, pp. 1-2.

Key Communications broadcasts the Gospel in the Urdu language to Pakistan and India via short-wave radio 11 times per week. Our streaming station, ‘Awaz-e-Haq World Radio’ is available all day, every day wherever there is a connection to the Internet. You may download literature in the Urdu language and listen to our programs at www.awazehaq.com.



PO Box 13620, Portland, OR 97213
Phone: (503) 233-7680 Fax: (503) 236-0733
E-mail: feedback@keycom.org Web: www.keycom.org