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Dear Friends, PLEASE READ THIS CAREFULLY TILL THE END: THIS IS ABOUT THE RECENT DISASTER IN KERALA

Greetings from Intercession India!

Thank you so much for your prayers and support towards the ministries of Intercession India in the past.

I write a quick note to make you aware of the situation here in Kerala for the last 2 –3 weeks.

DISASTER RELIEF

Here in Kerala things are changing too fast and that is even in the nature, climate and weather all alike. You must have seen disasters in many forms, but here it is in the form of heavy rain and flood. By now, number of people died in landslides, collapsed houses, road accidents, boat-wreck during this natural calamity. The damages of vehicles, properties, paddy fields, cultivation, live stocks, fish farms, and duck farms have made the poor poorer. The farmers are flooded with tears as well. The loss of commodities in the flooded business places, loss of business, lack of jobs, and lack of transportation affected the lives of common people adversely for the last two weeks. The people are scared of over flowing dams and old dams. It is said that no such flood has been seen in the history of Kerala for the last 60 years. In coastal areas, people are frustrated due to lack of seawall; destroyed huts of fishermen, lack of work or money due to the restriction of fishing along with dreadful waves. Due to broken roads, and flood, movement of goods like food articles, and human transportation by roads has been disrupted. Many people have left their homes and taken asylums in temporary shelter in schools, and buildings on higher places for the time being. The Govt. and the NGOs are trying to rehabilitate such people providing shelter, food and urgently needed clothes.

DISASTER RELIEF BY INTERCESSION INDIA



By God's grace the volunteers of INTERCESSION INDIA being a registered NGO could also visit some places and distribute food articles, and clothing. The team of volunteers visited a slum totally flooded for over two weeks. Most of them were in temporary shelters and trying to clean up their houses on returning to their shattered homes after two weeks. Everywhere it is still nasty and dirty, and with knee level to thigh level water in the surroundings. The people shared their nightmares and woes of these days with fear and tears in their eyes. ***Having supplied food kits and clothes in the settlement colony we could supply clothes to a relief camp nearby where hundreds of people are still waiting to get back to their homes.*** The supply of clothes to relief camp was on request of local authorities like Panchayat members and politicians. They have really appreciated our efforts to help these needy people. It was so great to see some smile in their faces while we were with them, praying, comforting and distributing stuffs; but they were seen sad while we were leaving them by evening.



Although “**water water everywhere there is no drop of water to drink**” has been a rhyme for kids, but it was so true here. In many places, the water supply system has been damaged, and the existing pipe water is polluted due to broken pipes in many places, and people are forced to use polluted water from river and ponds. The only supplies in most of the relief camps are the limited bottled water supplied by the Govt. and NGOs. This is not available in all other places like slums and interior villages. The condition of toilets is alike everywhere as it overflows with water. People were in queue for hours before the few toilets usable in higher places.

Poisonous Snakes, scorpions, and dreadful creatures are real threat to these poor people living in a very sad situation. These creatures are now safely hiding on the house tops, trees, cupboards, even under mattresses, blankets, and pillows stored up while leaving for shelters and camp centers. Many have been affected with scratching, itching, swollen legs, fever and various other diseases and ravages caused by dirty water in which they spend most of their times even inside the houses.

We are preparing to make another trip to other more affected locations with more stuff according to the need of the people. It may take another one or two weeks to clear the water. Here it is still raining several times a day. Many have lost their small huts, and are helpless, requesting **us to help them rebuild the broken houses**. Many are craving for good food as they are getting simple and same food every day. The aftermath of flood usually is epidemics which will be the next problem. However, the Central Govt. and the State Govts, and NGOs are trying their best to handle the situation. Still there are places where there is no easy access for vehicles, or boats to provide supplies as much as they need.



Please pray for God's intervention in this situation, that everyone might know God in a very special way.

In fact, my heart was literally broken seeing all the miseries they are going through; and it should be an eye opener to everyone everywhere that how blessed are the exempted ones like us and how we take things for granted; the blessings and privileges that we are enjoying day by day, by God's grace. **Cozy rooms with AC,**



warm beds, shower and bathtub, hot and cold water, soft drink, hard drink, & drinking water, tableful of meals three to four times, visiting restaurants and hotels of choice, joining tours and picnics as per our wish and likes, enjoying prayers, fellowships, Bible studies, churching, fasting, feasting, jogging, trimming, swimming, removing excess fat, celebrating various occasions throughout the year. It would be wise to visit such people in needs or see the pictures attached to realize how blessed we are and to think of alleviating the pains and sorrows of such underprivileged folks. They are also part and parcel of this society.



If I had one million dollars with me I would have built hundreds of small houses for such people. We all need to be the practical believers adopting the doctrines of Apostle James at this point carrying the gospel of faith & work simultaneously. As Jesus did and said, we, the followers also are to be doers of the word and not the hearers only. You are all in our prayers. Thank you for your prayerful cooperation always. God bless you.



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God bless you all.

John K. Chacko

