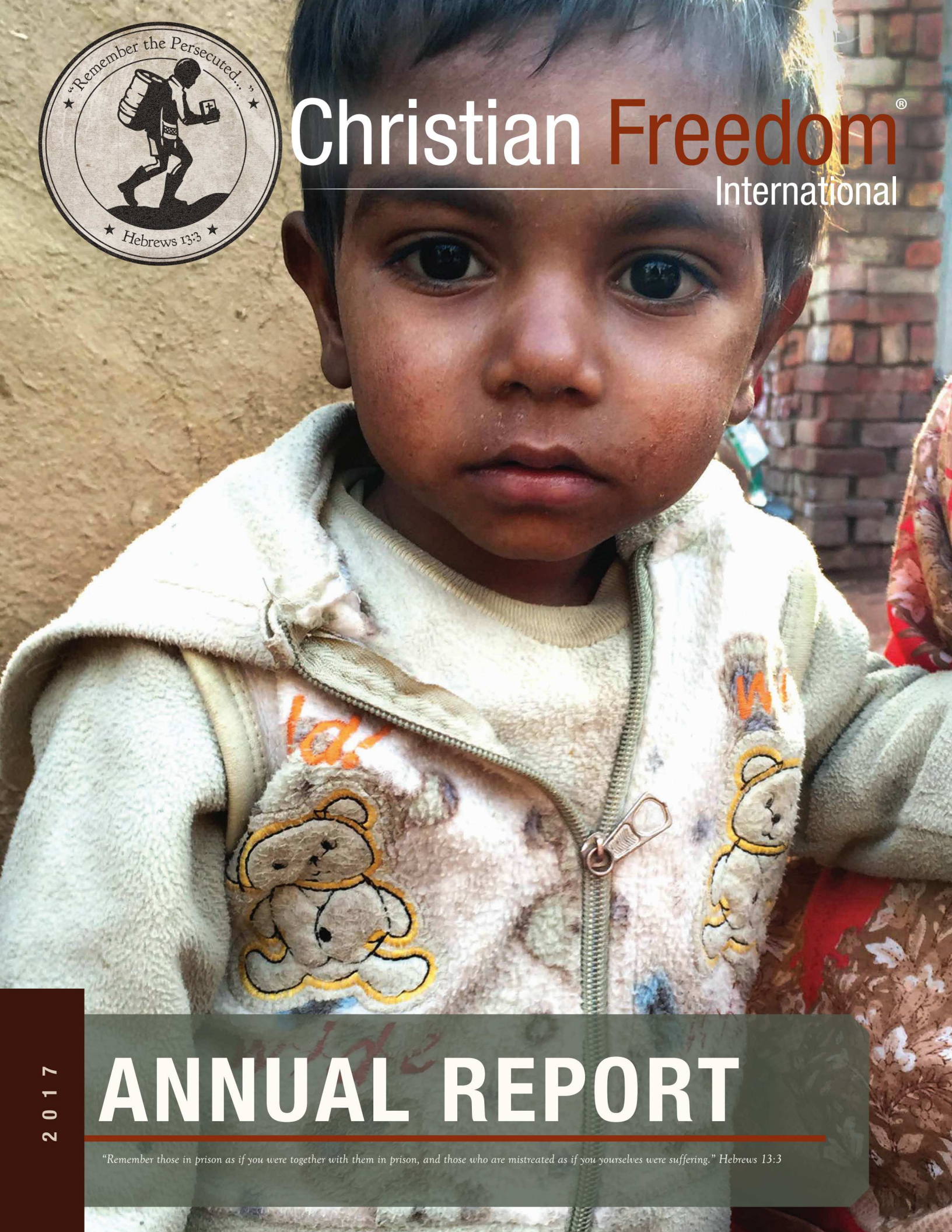




# Christian Freedom<sup>®</sup> International



2017

## ANNUAL REPORT

*"Remember those in prison as if you were together with them in prison, and those who are mistreated as if you yourselves were suffering." Hebrews 13:3*

# BANGLADESH

It is hard to be a Christian in Bangladesh. It is worse to be a convert to Christ. New converts are rejected by their families, beaten, and persecuted. Neighbors take their land. Yet many choose Christ over Islam. And they are brave.

CFI-sponsored pastors have moved to Muslim villages to start house churches and small schools. CFI co-workers distribute Gospel tracts in railway stations, bus stations, factories, in front of mosques and other places where large crowds gather.

The CFI Center for Blind and Disabled provides support and training for those rejected by society. And a temporary safe place, if needed, for converts to stay.



This man, who is blind, says he “now sees the light.” He converted to Christianity and receives help at CFI’s Center for the Blind and Disabled.



## FLOODING IN BANGLADESH

Exceptionally heavy rain in India and Nepal caused massive flooding in Bangladesh.

Millions of homes were destroyed.

CFI co-workers jumped into action to deliver aid to Christian families. As religious outcasts, they do not receive any aid pouring into the country – aid that is controlled by the government and its Muslim leaders.



## UPDATE ON BANGLADESH PASTOR'S FAMILY



Each year in Bangladesh, for every 100,000 babies born, 176 women die from pregnancy and childbirth.

Thankfully, Ratna, the young wife of Tipu, a pastor and convert from Islam, and her newborn did not join that statistic.

In October, CFI asked for urgent prayer for Ratna and their newborn. Tipu and Ratna had prayed since their marriage for a baby. After giving birth, both mother and baby suffered multiple complications. Doctors declined to discharge them from the hospital, warning that both could die before reaching home.

But Tipu had no money after selling everything for the mounting hospital bills. Then he faced a choice: Ratna told him to take her home. She urged him to do everything to save their baby, and she would be happy to die if their baby would live.

“What can I do except pray to Lord Christ, sir!” Tipu told CFI.

CFI sent an urgent email to supporters, who also prayed. And they gave. Within days, the medical bills were covered as Ratna and baby gradually improved. By the end of the week, they left the hospital, healthy and praising God.



# HUAI KALOK BIBLE INSTITUTE (HBI)

HBI challenged the students – Karen refugees – to grow from being persecuted to serving the persecuted.

- Monthly testing to evaluate tutoring needs and giftings.
- Bible Classes expanded into evening discipleship times.
- The large back yard is now a thriving garden with vegetables to eat, coffee beans for possible sale, and composting. Cooking classes cover health and safe food handling – and related Bible studies.
- Teachers are honing their skills from a training course in March, making classes interactive and fun. Internship, a new class, connects students with professionals to practice skills to build tent-making businesses upon graduation – journalist, baker, musician, nurse, graphic artist.
- HBI hosted a Worship Night for the local village that the students designed and ran, including promotions, audio and video, and a food market. Other villages invited HBI's students to do similar events.
- Students led mission trips to a refugee camp and into Burma, where hostilities have heated up. At times, opposing forces could be seen and heard exchanging fire.



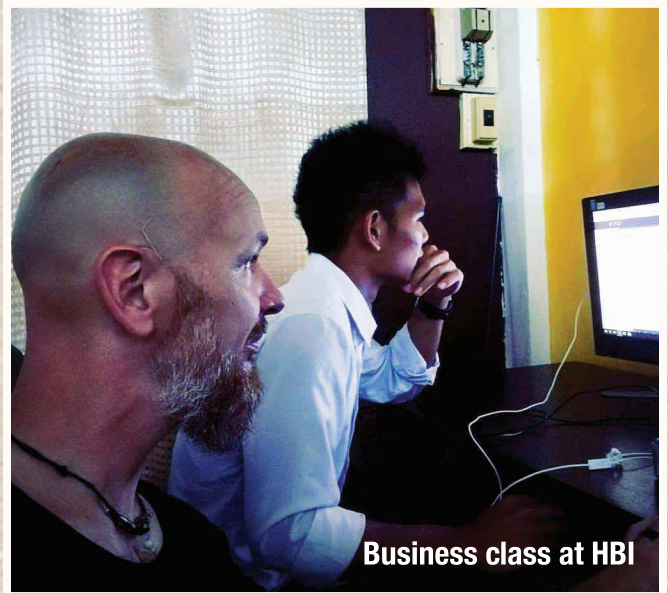
HBI students ministering to the students at P'Yang Dang School



# “ENTER TO LEARN. LEAVE TO SERVE.”



▲ HBI students excited to receive new mattresses.



Business class at HBI

“Business class means a lot of prayer, a lot of planning and stretching beyond your comfort zone. It looks different for each student. Sometimes it means spending a bunch of time in the kitchen, sometimes it's spent with a guitar in your hand, sometimes it's at a computer.” - Joe Scott



HBI students learn self-sustaining skills, such as cooking, business marketing, silk-screening, so they can be tent-makers as Paul was.



# EGYPT

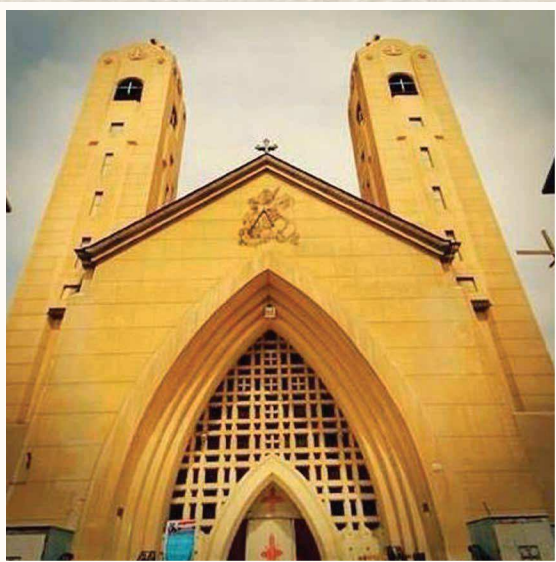
After the beheadings and terrorist attacks, after the world turns to the next breaking news, what happens to the families of Christians killed by ISIS?

In May, masked gunmen fired on Christians traveling on a desert road to a monastery. Dozens were killed when, one by one, they refused to recite an Islamic creed but instead said, "I am a Christian, and will die a Christian."

Several families are desperately poor. Thanks to your support, CFI is providing aid to the widow and children (pictured above) whose husband was killed by ISIS, and other families whose loved ones were killed for being Christians.



**NEW GOAT PROGRAM:** These families live in a farming village. Goats are a sustainable source of income. A small herd is able to help a family with milk and breeding.



Two deadly suicide bombings on Palm Sunday killed 46 people and injured 100 others. ISIS claimed responsibility for killing the Christians.

CFI sent emergency funds to the families of the wounded and martyred for medical expenses, and for metal detectors and security devices to safeguard churches from future attacks. CFI sent notes of encouragement from caring believers to the surviving victims.

“If one part suffers, every part suffers with it; if one part is honored, every part rejoices with it.” 1 Corinthians 12:26

A security guard rushed to pull a suicide bomber out of a crowded service at St. Peter and St. Paul Church in Cairo. He died in the blast.

At first, the guard's young Christian widow blamed God.

Then “God said this will build my faith. He comforted me. What happened to my husband has made my faith stronger,” she told CFI.

Now she prays and comforts other Christian families whose loved ones were martyred by terrorists.



Atef, the boy in the middle, lives in Garbage City, where Christians in Cairo live.

An orphan – his father died and his mother abandoned him – Atef lives with his elderly grandmother. This 10 year old is the breadwinner in the family, working with his uncle sorting garbage.

But Atef says he is blessed. He sings Christian songs and prays. His grandmother loves him. And he has a sponsor through CFI whose monthly support assists the small family and helps him go to school.



# IRAQ

The Kurdish Army in Northern Iraq brings refugees – who fled their homes in terror from ISIS – to mobile clinics supported by CFI. They work in areas recently reclaimed from ISIS, where medical aid is non-existent.







## YOUR SUPPORT IS MAKING A LIFESAVING DIFFERENCE

▼ A mobile clinic in Northern Iraq supplied by CFI



▲ Students at an elementary school for refugees are grateful for supplies – and the hope in knowing they are not forgotten.

CFI helps Christians in the Middle East who in the crossfire of persecution and neglected by the UN and other aid agencies.



Whole families are enslaved by debt to work in brickyards. CFI's child sponsorships provide aid and education for children trapped in the brickyards.

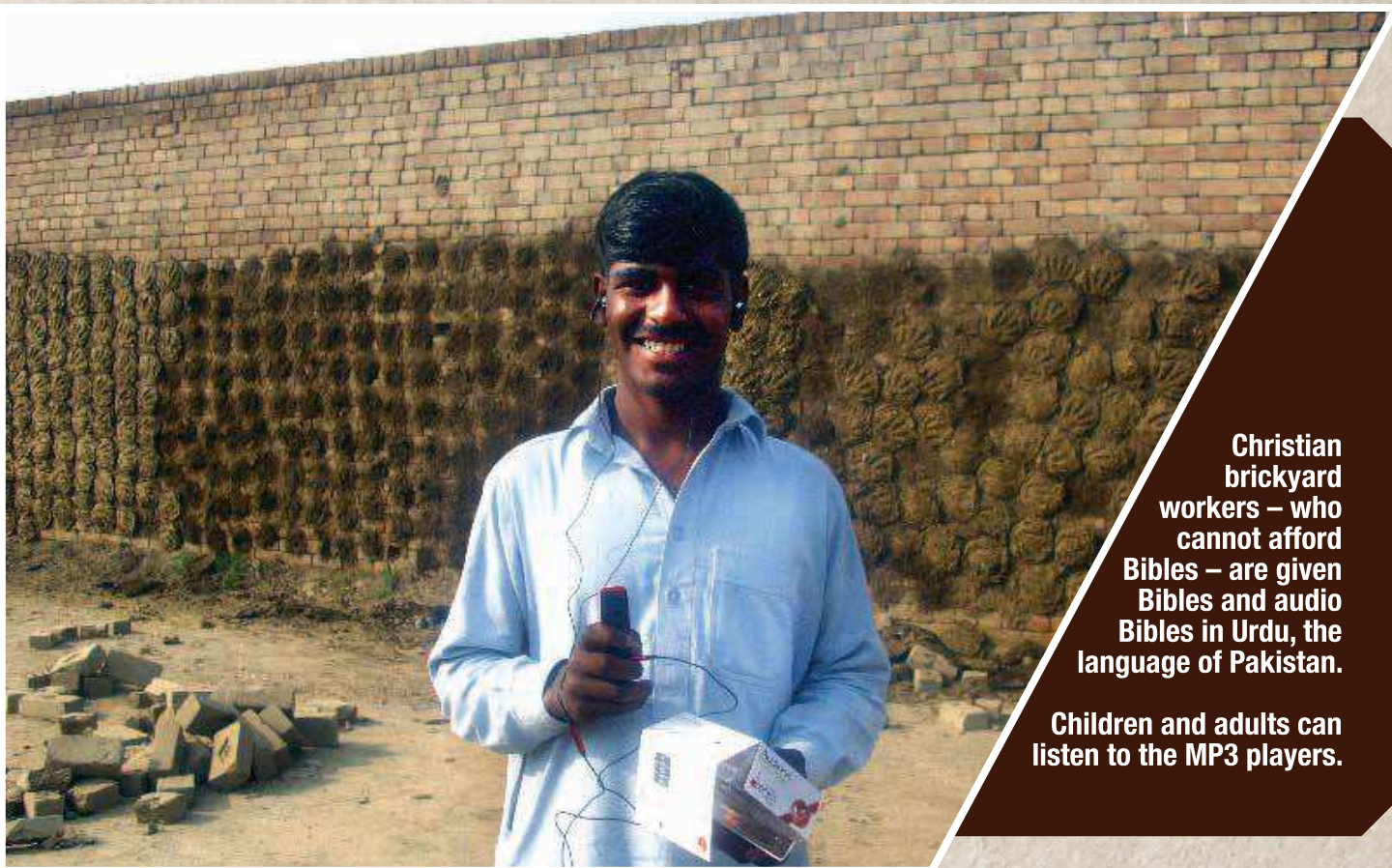
# PAKISTAN

Christians in the brickyards of Pakistan dream of a better life. They want to worship God as free people.

At great risk, CFI's co-workers go to the brickyards to deliver food, distribute medicine and clothes, and provide Bibles and education. They teach Bible lessons and pray with families.

CFI's child sponsorships provide aid to Christians who would otherwise have no hope for a better future.





**Christian brickyard workers – who cannot afford Bibles – are given Bibles and audio Bibles in Urdu, the language of Pakistan.**

**Children and adults can listen to the MP3 players.**

## PAKISTANI REFUGEES IN BANGKOK



**Christians escaping persecution in Pakistan have fled to Thailand. But they live in hiding while hoping for asylum through the UN.**

**CFI started a small school for Pakistani Christian asylum-seekers in Bangkok. Held in a safe house, children learn math, science, English, reading comprehension and more.**

**CFI micro-enterprise of sewing t-shirts – that are sold through CFI’s on-line store – provides an income for persecuted refugees. By sponsoring persecuted families, CFI donors provide monthly food and aid packs.**



# THE FREEDOM INN

Two more members of the Karen community reached a milestone of gaining U.S. citizenship this year.

Freedom Inn was developed by CFI to assist Karen refugees who got asylum in the U.S. The motel in Sault Sainte Marie, Michigan was converted into homes for the persecuted Christians.

Today, many are living the American dream. They have purchased homes and are hard-working, productive American citizens who love their new country.

**THE MISSION OF CHRISTIAN FREEDOM INTERNATIONAL** is to help Christians who are persecuted and suffering for their faith in Jesus Christ. We are a non-denominational human rights organization providing real solutions to conditions of oppression and misery caused by religious persecution. It is our privilege to minister to the Persecuted through Bible distribution, medical aid, resettlement assistance, advocacy, asylum case-work, and aid to the disabled; to sponsor schools, vocational training, and self-help initiatives; to provide these services at no charge by CFI staff and volunteers. It is our goal to work together with Christians at home to ease the burdens of our struggling brethren around the world.

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Visual Media Specialist

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The Freedom Inn Director

## CFI CONSULTANTS:

Beecher Bowers,  
Website Manager

Melane Bower,  
Consultant

## CFI INDIGENOUS STAFF ABROAD:

Many dedicated, courageous, competent co-workers deliver Bibles and aid, educate children, and lift up the name of Jesus Christ under dangerous circumstances in countries where CFI works. For their safety, we do not disclose their names.

## CONTACT US!

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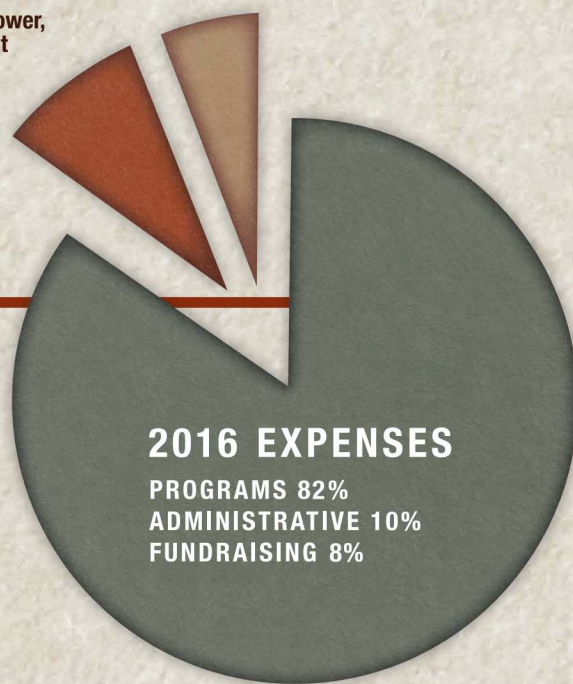
2016 Total Contributions: \$1,009,628  
End of Year Net Assets: \$449,980

82% | Program Expenses: \$810,261

10% | Total Administrative Expenses: \$98,032

8% | Fundraising Expenses: \$74,168

Total Expenses: \$982,461



Christian Freedom<sup>®</sup>  
International



Christian Freedom International is a member of the Evangelical Council for Financial Accountability (ECFA). Members of the ECFA are held to the highest standards of financial responsibility. Gifts are used for the project identified unless our Board of Directors, in good faith, determines that the changing situation in the Persecuted Church requires applying them to another urgent project. Your gift to Christian Freedom International is tax deductible to the extent allowed by law.