

## April 2023 Pakistan Report

Following a highly successful and spiritually enriching visit by our leaders, Brother Felix Panganayi and Brother Onias Chitanda, a renewed sense of energy and power was evident among the brethren and saints in Pakistan. The leaders shared their experiences and knowledge with the local believers for spiritual growth. Many people received blessings including salvation, sanctification, and physical healings during the visit. The saints in Pakistan had long desired to meet and hear the word of God from our Apostolic Faith Church leaders, and although they still wish to meet Sister Marjorie Reid in person, they were overjoyed to welcome leaders from Zimbabwe. Due to time constraints, some areas could not be visited during this trip, but plans for a second visit are underway if Jesus tarries. Brother Panganayi and Brother Chitanda experienced exceptional hospitality, love, and kindness from the people of Pakistan, and felt safe while exploring local streets, markets, and immersing themselves in the country's culture. Numerous doubts, thoughts, and questions were addressed during their visit. We have also observed a significant increase in the number of saints who attend regular prayer services following our leaders' first visit.

**Good Friday Service, Faisalabad:** On April 7, 2023, a Good Friday service was held in Faisalabad city in the same rented hall used during our leaders' visit. The prayer service began at 1:00 p.m., with 87 men and women in attendance. Sister Muskan and Sister Sumbal led worship, while Bro. Sharoon led the prayer. Testimonies were shared, including one from Sister Sajida who received healing from muscle swelling after being prayed for by the visiting ministers. She no longer requires medical treatment, attributing her healing to repentance and receiving salvation. The message centered on Luke 23. Fellowship was shared, and many saints participated in the altar call and received blessings.

**Easter Service, Toba Tek Singh:** On April 9, 2023, an Easter service took place in Toba Tek Singh, starting at 10:30 a.m. with 123 saints in attendance. Sister Warisha, Sister Zanica, and Brother Zaigham led worship, while Sister Sara led the opening prayer. A beautiful congregational song, "I Hear Thy Voice," was led by Sister Warisha, and several powerful testimonies were shared by the saints, including those of Sister Nargis and Brother Tariq, who both experienced life-changing transformations after receiving salvation. An Easter cake ceremony was held for the children who attended the service.

**Visit to Lahore City:** On April 12, 2023, a visit to Lahore city was made to meet friends and introduce the Apostolic Faith to the area, as Lahore has a significantly larger Christian population than Faisalabad. In this trip, it was decided to add this city into our visit plans and to teach about Apostolic Faith to brethren there, guiding them and teaching them so they can help us start prayer gatherings there in the near future. In this meeting, I met with a brother and sister who had lived in Toba Tek Singh before. I shared with them about Salvation and its importance. We hope to hear a testimony from them so we can start work there with them.

**Door-to-door visit, Faisalabad:** On April 15, 2023, a door-to-door visit was conducted in Faisalabad to check on the wellbeing of the saints, hear their testimonies, and further preach the Gospel message of salvation. The saints expressed their joy and happiness at learning the truth about salvation, which many had never heard before. They also expressed a desire to have a camp meeting in Pakistan in the future.

**New Families Joined:** On April 16, 2023, several more families joyfully joined the Apostolic Faith Church in Pakistan, with four new souls testifying to their experience of salvation.

**Meeting with Brethren:** On April 22, 2023, a meeting was held with brethren at our home to provide encouragement. The meeting began at 4:00 p.m., and discussions focused on areas and topics that require more attention and effort. Reports on the progress of spreading the Gospel were shared and

participants contributed their thoughts and ideas for the betterment of the work. Among those attending were Brothers Zaigham, Nadeem, Mubsher, Sharoon, Irfan, and myself, as well as Sisters Warisha, Muskan, Sumbal, Saira, and Victoria.

The participants' agreements for the betterment of work are as follows:

1. Invite more young brethren; teach them about salvation, sanctification, and the baptism of the Holy Ghost.
2. As they experience these foundational experiences, we arrange meetings, seminars to guide them, involve them in our services so they learn about Apostolic Faith doctrines and teachings.
3. Engage mature people as well in this work, after making sure they are saved.
4. Increase children activities.
5. Meetings with women of communities to invite them to support in any way they can.
6. It was discussed to give positions to brethren regarding where they stand in this work so everyone will become clear regarding their roles.
7. Visit new areas, invite brethren from these areas to join Apostolic Faith Church to spread the Gospel.
8. Strengthen and unite the church community and help needy people (food, etc.).

**Special Children's Service:** On April 23, 2023, a special children's service was held at Village 228 in Toba Tek Singh. Approximately sixty children from the village and surrounding areas participated. Sister Warisha and Sister Muskan led worship, while Sister Sumbal led the prayer. A short sermon was shared with the children from Jeremiah 29:11, and several children testified about believing in Jesus and receiving salvation. Before the service, Brother Zaigham and Brother Sharoon conducted a Sunday school class for the children. The first lesson, titled, "A Wonderful Place," was from the *Primary Pals* curriculum. This was the first Sunday school class in that area. The Scriptures read were Revelation 21:10-12, 18-23, and 22:1-2. The children learned the memory verse from John 14:2, "In my Father's house are many mansions: if it were not so, would I have told you. I go to prepare a place for you." The activity given to the children was titled "What Is Our Goal?" Even before giving them the activity sheets, the children knew the answer—our goal is Heaven.

**Combined Zoom Service:** On April 29, 2023, a combined Zoom service was held, attended by saints from Faisalabad and Toba Tek Singh. This marked the first-ever combined Zoom service with our Country Director, Felix Panganayi. The prayer service started at 4:00 p.m. despite heavy rains in Toba Tek Singh. Sister Warisha and Sister Muskan led worship from Faisalabad. Sister Warisha led the congregational song, "What a Friend We Have in Jesus," followed by Sister Muskan leading the opening prayer. A sister testified that her husband, who had attended Sunday service at Apostolic Faith Church Toba Tek Singh, was saved the previous Sunday after repenting, confessing, and seeking forgiveness. He has since changed his ways, giving up smoking and alcohol. Brother Panganayi preached on sanctification and took his Scripture from John 17:17. He explained the need for sanctification, quoting from 1 Peter 1:15-16. He said that sanctification creates the image of God in us, and that we do not "grow" into holiness but rather, sanctification is an instantaneous work of grace that causes a deep spiritual transformation. It makes us love God deeply and it fosters unity among believers. He further explained that while the devil may in some instances fake salvation, the devil cannot fake sanctification. He also stated that the best way to stay saved is to get sanctified, as this removes the Adamic sin nature. This explanation on sanctification cleared doubts and helped the saints understand its importance.

Following the sermon, the choir led the closing song and Brother Zaigham, who was in Faisalabad, led the closing prayer. In Toba Tek Singh, fifty men and women attended, while more than eighty saints

attended in Faisalabad, filling the seating area and leaving some standing outside. After the service, a man named Tariq requested prayer for a disease he had been suffering from since 2016. Passage in Luke 8:43-48 of the woman with the issue of blood was shared before I prayed for him.

**Number of Saints Receiving Salvation:** Our team visited communities in Faisalabad, Toba Tek Singh, Shorkot, and surrounding areas to gather figures on the number of saints saved and sanctified. This visit was made in the third week of April on different dates by the brethren.

- **Faisalabad:** 183 people have received salvation in this city, with 30-35 receiving salvation during and after the leaders' visit. 41 testified of being sanctified. These figures were gathered only from the city area.
- **Toba Tek Singh:** Over 400 saints have received salvation, and many are sanctified in Toba Tek Singh city and its nearby areas.
- **Shorkot:** In this city, 104 saints have received salvation and 29 are sanctified.
- **Sahiwal:** In this area, 45 saints have received salvation thus far. In a meeting with the brethren, it was discussed that a small building in Faisalabad city should be rented for use as a church, with the aim of establishing the city as our headquarters. The building will be rented through our own means.

**Looking Ahead:** As we reflect on the recent spiritual growth and successes in Pakistan, we continue to make plans for further outreach and support to the local communities. We aim to expand our efforts in spreading the message of salvation and sanctification to new cities, as well as deepen our relationships with existing saints.

Future Activities and Goals:

1. Organize additional visits to unexplored areas, so as to reach even more people with the message of the Gospel.
2. Establish regular meetings and fellowship gatherings to encourage spiritual growth and community building among the saints.
3. Develop educational and training programs to equip local brethren with the skills and knowledge necessary to serve within the church to support our growth agenda.
4. Strengthen our connections with local Christian communities, so that we can preach the true Gospel to them.
5. Implement initiatives to evangelize and provide support and resources for the most vulnerable members of our communities, such as those in slavery in brick kilns, orphans, widows, and the elderly.

As we move forward, we remain committed to spreading the message of salvation, sanctification, and healing in Pakistan. With the continued guidance and blessings of the Lord, we are confident that our efforts will bear fruit and transform the lives of many.

We extend our gratitude to all who have prayed for and supported our work in Pakistan, and we ask for your continued prayers as we strive to serve the Lord and His people in this nation. May the Lord bless and guide us all on this journey of faith and service.

In Christ,  
Shabeeb Nadeem  
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