Karen Baptist Convention
(KBC)
2015
Brief Report

396 - Bogyoke Road
Lanmadaw Township
Yangon, Myanmar

Tel: 095-01-214899; 095-01-229647
E.mail: kbcoffice1913@gmail.com
Conclusion:

- The Karen Baptist Convention tries to carry out its Mission to accomplish its Vision and Purpose.
- There are many challenges and obstacles due to current situations. Eg. Many young people and even children have to quit school because the families are not able to support them. This can surely affect KBC in having future qualified leaders.
- We pray that God will guide us through these circumstances and give us success.
- We would like to express our heartfelt thanks and gratitude to all well wishers, partners and co-workers for their kindness, concern and effort.

We are thankful to God for guiding us throughout the year 2015. We also would like to give our thanks to all of our friends for their support and all of our KBC staffs for their cooperation.
15. 21st Century Mission Project (Phase II)
   • The duration for phase II is from 2011 to 2020.
   • The theme of 21st Century Mission Project is “The Karen Baptist Churches for Mission”.
   • The purpose of Phase II project is “Perfecting the Church”

16. Governing Board for Social Ministry
   A. This board is a standing body coordinating body for KBC between KBC and partner organizations, INGOs, NGOs which are doing social development programs.
   B. Partner Organizations
      a. INGOs Partners are:
         (1) Norwegian Church Aid (NCA)
         (2) Christian Aid (UK)
         (3) Dan Church Aid (DCA)
         (4) Diakonia (Sweden)
         (5) Tearfund (UK)
         (6) Medical Team International (MTI)
         (7) Search For Common Ground
         (8) Global Fund
         (9) Community Partner International
         (10) Medical Action Myanmar (MAM)
         (11) Swiss Development Cooperation (SDC)
         (12) Consortium of Dutch NGOs (CDN)
         (13) Help Aged International
         (14) Myanmar Education Consortium (MEC)
         (15) Uncharted International (USA)
         (16) Open Society

      b. Partner inside the country
         (1) Myanmar Baptist Convention (MBC)

17. Church Affairs and Peace Commission
   • Deals with matters among churches & Associations.
   • Monitor on the Country’s process of peacebuilding
   • Held seminars and meetings to have better understanding on the peacebuilding process.
   • Delegates were sent to peacebuilding events
   • Build capacity of KBC staff on Peacebuilding
     – Training on “Spiritual/Personal Transformation”
     – Awareness raising on Perfecting the Church through Peacebuilding
     – Education Churches on Peacebuilding
     – Seminar on Christian Perspective on Karen Affairs
“For this God is our God forever and ever, he will be our guide even to the end” (Psalm 48:14).

The Karen Baptist Convention (KBC) is the co-operation and co-ordination body of all The Karen Baptist Churches in Myanmar.

KBC Leaders (2014-2016)

13. Men’s Department

To help the men to know more about their values, give thought and care for their duties and responsibilities, and to know and treasure themselves in all aspects of life.

Programs are
a. Monsoon lay-men Training
b. Produced Article Vol. 3
c. Fellowship with Churches

14. Karen Baptist Theological Seminary (KBTS)

KBTS is seminary of KBC. It provides two programs.

Theological Study Program and Liberal Arts Program

- The enrollment of 2015–2016 academic year is 840 students.
- Started M.Th in Academic year of 2015-2016
- Starting from 2008 March, Doctor of Divinity (D.D) is awarded to outstanding and dedicated Church Leaders.
- Starting from March 2010, Member of Outstanding Christian Service (MOCS) is awarded to the prominent alumina of over thirty years services.

Programs and Theological Students

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<th>No</th>
<th>Study Program</th>
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TOTAL 271 255 530

Liberal Arts Programs & Students

1. Graduation for 2015-2016 was on 17th September.
2. 67 Students graduated from Liberal Arts Program this year.
**A. Brief Historical Background**

- Phu Tha Byu - The first Karen Baptist convert through the ministry of the American Baptist pioneer missionary Adoniram Judson.
- Baptized at Dawei by George Dana Boardman, on May 16, 1828, at the age of 50.
- Turned to a flaming evangelist.
- Died - September 9, 1840, at age 62.
- 1270 Baptized members among the Karens.
- Was given title of “The Karen Apostle”
- Local Karen Baptist Churches were organized as Association.
- In 1913, 12 Regional Associations organized & established KBC.
- Now KBC has 20 Regional Associations and 1793 churches.
**Strength and Staff of KBC (2015)**

- **Associations**: 20
- **Church Group**: 121
- **Churches**: 1,793
- **Church Branch**: 185
- **Mission Field**: 582
- **Full Time Minister**: 4,117
- **Baptized Members**: 293,292
- **123 staff serving in KBC office, Yangon.**

**Map of KBC’s Associations**

- Upper Myanmar KBA
- Mro Baptist Association
- Pyi Thayarwaddy KBA
- Hinthada KBA
- Pathein Myaungmya KBA
- Myaungmya KBA
- Yangon HMKBA
- Bago Yangon KBA
- Nyaunglebin KBA
- Shwegyin Kyauk Kyi (Hsaw Hti) KBA
- Kayah Hpoo BA
- Kayah Mobwa BA
- Taungoo Paku KBA
- Taungoo Bwe Mobwa
- Mutraw (Hpa Pun) KBA
- Hpaan Mawlamyaing KBA
- Kyar Inn KBA
- Dawei Myeik KBA
- Myeik KBA

**11. Literature and Culture Department**

We have four sub-committees

1. **Program Research Committee**
   - b. Researching hidden words and new words
   - c. Interviewing Karen Old Leaders
   - d. Researching Karen History and Traditions

2. **Publishing Committee**
   - a. English Karen Dictionary
   - b. Grammar (Level - I)
   - c. Hidden and New Words Books
   - d. Poster
   - e. Famous Pioneer Karen Leaders
   - f. Culture Handbook
   - g. Book on Civics
   - h. Booklets

3. **Program Committee**
   - a. Night Performance of Cultural at the KBC annual mass meeting
   - b. Campaign to Thayarwaddy Association
   - c. Hidden and Karen New Words Examination
   - d. TOT Training for Karen Teacher
   - e. Karen Summer Course Training in Naypyidaw

4. **Updating Sagaw –Karen Literacy**
   - a. Pilot Class at ParetChaung Village
10. Theological Department

We also have the programs are as follow,
(1) Scholarship Programme
(2) Campaign to Myeik Association
(3) Text Book Workshop
(4) Published Text Book for Bible School

21 Century 2nd Phase Program
(1) Organization Management Training
(2) Published Daily Prayer Book
9. Ministers’ Department

Programmes of Ministers’ Department are:

(1) Training and Developing Programs
   (a) Creative Bible Study Training
   (b) Revival Worship Program
   (c) Christian Home Program
   (d) Leadership Promotion Training
   (e) Campaign of Planting Church Program

(2) 3rd Ministers’ Congress
(3) 24th Ministers’ Consultation Program
(4) Ministers’ Day

(5) Publication
   (a) Church Administration
   (b) Pulpit Massage
   (c) Sermon- Illustrations
   (d) Church Manual
   (e) How Bible Teach Us
   (f) Certificate of Marriage for the Baptists Christian
   (g) Certificate of Baptism
   (h) Church Letter
8. Women’s Department

Our aim and purpose is to lift up women’s reputation with a better understanding among themselves and give more services to the communities.

A. Training Programs
   (1) Internship Program
   (2) Consultation for Women Ministers
   (3) Guide for Selecting Education and Job Opportunity
   (4) Management Training for Association Women Secretary

B. Development Programs
   (1) Making Men’s Fashionable Design Training
   (2) Starting Small Business Management Training
   (3) Published women Fashionable Design Book with Wall Sheet

C. Women Care and Protection Program
   (1) Fellowship Program
   (2) Basic Sewing Training
   (3) Empowerment Training
   (4) Net Working Training

D. Silver Care Center
   (1) Fellowship program
   (2) Medical Check-Up by KBC Hospital
   (3) Communion program
   (4) Fun Fete Program

E. Literature Program
   (1) Published weekly topic for women worship service
   (2) Published Bible study lesson for women
   (3) Published snow drop Magazine
   (5) Published Karen Traditional story

F. Mission Field
   (1) Bio Fertilizer Training
   (2) Development Concept Awareness Training

G. KBC Women’s Day
Annual Meeting

- Celebrated annual Meeting for 2015, at Taungoo Pa-ku Association from 30th Dec, 2015 till 3rd Jan, 2016.
- Annual meeting of 2016 will be celebrated in Kayah Moh Bwa Association.

7. Department for Youth Work

Our main purpose is for the youth to develop their will and way in holistic approach.

Programs are:

(1) Publication
   a. Endeavor Magazine (Quarterly)

(2) Competitions
   a. Group Song, Quartet
   b. Sports (Volleyball)

(3) Trainings

(4) Visiting to Associations and Churches for Youth Work.

(5) KBC DYW’s Day

(6) Campaign
6. **Christian Social Service and Development Department (CSSDD)**

We have our own programs as well as joint projects with Myanmar Baptist Convention (MBC), Norwegian Church Aid (NCA), Diakonia, Christian Aid and Dan Church Aid (DCA).

1. **Social Service programs**
   a. Emergency Relief (Flood)
   b. Support Cash grant for landslide Disaster.
   c. Support from drinking water.

2. **Development programs**
   Income generation activities both training and projects.
   (1) Self-Initiative Sustainable Development Program
   (2) Endowment Fund Program
   (3) Loan Program

3. **Projects**
   (1) Rural Integrated Development Project (RIDP)
   (2) Empowering Community Initiated Development Program (ECIDP)
   (3) CCMP-EDEN Scale Up Program
   (4) Christian Integrated Social Service Project
   (5) Internally Displaced People Project (Phase II)
   (6) DEEP- Disaster Emergency Preparedness Project

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**Executive Committee**

- Executive Committee (EC) is responsible for Management Committee and oversees all KBC's activities.
- EC has 46 members comprising Secretaries of 20 Associations.
Activities and Programs of the Departments

1. Evangelism and Mission Department
(1) Program for Phu Tha Byu Day.
(2) Bible Correspondence
(3) Urban Mission
   - Training for workers from industries
   - Awareness Training
(4) Training program
   - Plus One Training
   - 21st Century 2nd Phase Training for Evangelists.
   - Holistic Mission Training
   - Revival Training
   - Creative Bible Study

2. Scholarship Programs
   a. Scholarship Support for University Students,
   b. Scholarship Support for Seminary Students

3. Fellowship Programs
   a. University Students Fellowship Program
   b. Old-University Students Fellowship Program

4. Publication
   a. “Spring” daily devotional booklet
   b. Christian Leadership book

5. Other Programs
   a. Honorarium to the outstanding students who matriculated with 4 Distinction and above.
   b. Seeking foundation and memorial funds for scholarship program

University Students Fellowship Program and Leadership training in 2015
2. Publication Department.

We have a printing press and these kind of books are published and among them some regular magazines are

- (1) Go forward magazine, monthly
- (2) Endeavors magazine, quarterly
- (3) Sunday School Lessons, quarterly
- (4) “Spring” magazine, quarterly
- (5) Day by day with Christ
- (6) KBC calendar
- (7) Worship Hymn books
- (8) Daily Bread, quarterly
- (9) KBC worship book
- (10) Church Manual book
- (11) Certificate of Baptism
- (12) Church Letter head
- (13) Leadership ABC
- (14) The Rising of World Religion
- (15) Theological Books
- (16) Snow Drop Magazine
- (17) CE Topic and Women Topic
- (18) Association minutes and Report

5. Leadership Promotion Department

Our purpose is to develop the skillful leaders in Convention, Associations and Churches.

1. We conducted the following trainings with other departments for the 21st Century 2nd phase
   a. Focus Leadership Training for Ministers, Evangelists and Pastors
   b. Management and Administration trainings for Association leaders, women leaders, youth leaders and Bible School teachers and staffs.
   c. Refresher Course training for those attended trainings level I,II,III
   d. Practical training for those who are working newly in Convention, Associations and Churches.
3. Christian Education Department

Our Vision is everyone to acknowledge both physical and spiritual maturity in Christ and rejoice in the service of the Lord.

We have finished the programs and training as follow:

1. Publication and Teaching Aid
   a. Primary Sunday School Lesson Plan for the whole year
   b. Adults Sunday School Lesson Plan (1st – 4th Quarter)
   c. Daily Vocation Bible School Lesson Plan for KG, Primary, Junior
   d. Special Day songs Karaoke for Junior
   e. Coloring Books Named “The Words of God”
   f. Lesson Plan for ECCD Center

2. Training and Program
   a. Parental Education Training for (8) Associations
   b. ECCD Management Committee Refresher Training for (4) Association
   c. Education in Emergency Training for ECCD Director and Coordinator
   d. ECCD Teacher One Month Training for (1) Association
   e. Community Mobilization Training for ECCD Field Monitors
   f. Refresher Training for ECCD Teachers from (4) Association
   g. ECCD Teacher Conference

Special Program

- Director Seminar
- Refresher Training of Trainer for Church School Teacher
- Monitoring Trip to (155) Villages from (13) Associations
- Disaster Risk Training

For ECCD, we have Project and work together with Partners Organization as follow;

(a) Open Society Foundation
(b) Myanmar Education Consortium

4. Care and Counseling Department

To take care of those who are in need mentally, physically and spiritually.

(a) We have 5 sub-committees in this department.

1. Health Care Sub-committee
   It has a 70 bedded Hospital at Seminary Hill, Insein.

2. Prisoners care Sub-committee
   Whenever chance permits we visit the prisoners and have fellowship with their family members.

3. Orphanage Care Sub-Committee
   a. Opportunity to help and support 353 children in (10) Associations.
   b. Orphanage gathering program once in two year
   c. Orphanage Supervisor training
   d. Child Protection Policy Training
   e. Education support to orphanage university students

4. Overseas and in country Worker Care Sub-Committee
   a. Health care to workers
   b. Net-working to legal groups for workers
   c. Produced pamphlet and distributed to workers who are in Malaysia and Singapore

5. Counseling Sub-Committee
   a. Training to promote the understanding and practices of counseling
   b. Grief and Trauma counseling and Management Hostel training
   c. Pastoral counseling training to youth and churches