

## OA Deanery Ministry in Perak

### 1. Brief history of OA Deanery in Perak

The ministry of OA (Orang Asli) started in St Peter's Church on 1 January 1995. That was the first BM service in St. Peter's Church, Ipoh with East Malaysians and orang asli brothers and sisters from Kem Ulu Kinta. They came when Alex Chuah was invited to visit their villages. They were able to attend the BM Service at St. Peter's Church, Ipoh as transport was provided for them. Later a group of asli brothers from Gopeng met with Bishop Ng Moon Hing, the parish priest then and with Dr. Teoh Soong Kee.

Gereja Shalom, Gopeng was then formed with Pastor Japalus as their first pastor. The ministry extended to Simpang Pulai and the nearby villages - Kg. Sinju, Kg. Pergom and Kg. Kerawat. Rev. Jack Mongdugal later took over the leadership of Gereja Shalom from Pastor Japalus. Gereja Shalom is now under the leadership of Deaconess Elisabeth Wah Kiah. In the meantime, Alex Chuah also visited Bukit Terang, Emmanuel Church, Tapah and the villages of Kg. Pawong, Simpang Pulai and at Pengkalan Daun at the invitation of the congregation there.

Later, OA ministry was extended to Kg. Telimau and Kg. Terisu in Cameron Highlands. We started ministry in Kg. Bindu, Chendering and in Kg. Dusun Seratus in 2009 and in Kg. Landor, Chenderiang in 2022.

Today, ministry in all the above congregations is continuing involving many OA evangelists and lay members of the church.

On 1<sup>st</sup> Jan 2023, Bishop Steven Abbarow formed a mission Deanery specially for OA ministry in Perak under the leadership of Rev Canon Dr Jacob Bau. The purpose of this deanery is to further develop the ministry of OA in Perak and beyond Perak in near future.

### 2. Current situation of OA ministry in the 32 kampungs in Perak

The usual church activities carried out are home visitation and prayers, home cell groups, Bible Studies, discipleship classes, children ministry, youth and ladies ministry, overnight prayers and revival meetings. Worship is either on Saturday evenings or on Sundays.

#### (a) Under supervision of St. Peter's Church, Ipoh.

- a. Ministry at Kg. Sinju, Kg. Kerawat, Kg. Landor, Kg. Bindu and at St. Peter's Church, Ipoh. Total weekly attendance: 120 +-
- b. Simpang Pulai Anglican Church was planted in May 2023 to do BM and OA ministry.

#### (b) Under supervision of Gereja Shalom, Gopeng.

Ministry at Kg. Jelintoh, Kg. Ulu Geruntum, Kg. Poh, Gereja Halleluyah, Ulu Kampar, Kg. Ulu Groh, Kg. Sinju, Kg. Pergom, Kg. Pos Raya and Kg. Pawong and at Gereja Shalom.

Total weekly attendance: 300 +-

(c) Under the supervision of Emmanuel Praise Centre (EPAC), Kampar.

- a. Ministry at Kg. Badak Berendam, Kampar, Kg. Bukit Terang, Kg. Kurug, Mambang DiAwan, Kg. Dusun Seratus, Chenderiang, Kg. Sungai Tapah, Kg. Choh, Ulu Kinta, Air Denak, Tronoh, Kg. Cengral, Air Kuning, Kg. Sungai Peria, Sahom, Kg. Batu 18, Tapah, at Slim River, Kg. Sungai Cincin, Chenderiang, at Tapah Road, Tapah, Kg. Batu 8, Jalan Pahang, Kg. Sungai Odak, Tapah and at EPAC. Total weekly attendance: 350+-
- b. New church planted in Tapah. The service started in March 2024.

(d) Under the supervision of St. Luke's Church, Teluk Intan.

- a. Ministry at Gereja St. Matius, Pengkalan Daun.

(e) Under the supervision of Emmanuel Church, Tapah.

- a. Ministry at Emmanuel Church, Tapah. (Up to Oct 2023)
- b. This ministry was shifted to Bidor to start Bidor OA Church under supervision of St Luke's Church Teluk Intan beginning from Nov 2023.

(f) Full time clergy and Evangelists: Dss. Elizabeth, Rev. Bah Rino, Rev. Bah Pian and Ev Julih Aew, Rev Bah Pani, Ev. Zambri.

(g) Part time Evangelists: Ev James Friedolin, Ev Riboni, Ev Alang, Ev Isa, Ev Kassim, Ev Haniza, Ev Ben.

### **3. Programs for the OA Deanery in 2023.**

(a) Monthly leadership course for all OA evangelists on every 3<sup>rd</sup> Tuesday of the month. Time : 10.00 am – 1.00 pm.

- i. Topics to be taught and discussed at these meetings are Building Up A Strong Inner Life, Fear of God, Personal Integrity, Personal Economic Planning, Management of Ministry Funds, Effective Ministry.
- ii. Group prayer and lunch fellowship was held after the course.

(b) Anglican School of Discipleship (ASOD) for the OA youths.

- a. Was held from 8<sup>th</sup> April till 5 May 2023.
- b. 8 youths who are completing their STPM and SPM participated.
- c. Venue – St. Peter's Church, Ipoh.
- d. It was a stay-in camp for one month.
- e. Funding from the Diocese of West Malaysia.

(c) OA Students Hostel Project in Kampar.

- a. This is corroboration of three churches, namely, St Peter's Church Ipoh, Gereja EPAC and Korean Church in Los Angeles.
- b. Our plan is to start the first asrama and take in 12 male OA students in 2024 and start another asrama to take in 12 female students in 2026.

(d) DWM OA Bible School in Gopeng.

- a. Started on 4<sup>th</sup> July 2023. We have an opening service conducted by Bishop Steven Abbarow. Number of students for the first semester – 6.
- b. Number of students for the new intake in January 2024 is 3.

- c. Curriculum already planned out in consultation with Dss Dr. Tan Swee Bee from Seminari Theoloji Malaysia.
- d. Aim – to raise up more workers for OA ministry.
- e. Funding from the Diocese of West Malaysia.
- f. The students will come into the school daily from Tuesday till Thursday from their homes. Those coming from far will be accommodated at Gereja Shalom. From Friday till Sunday, the students do ministry in their respective kampung. Monday is off-day for them.
- g. Why do we need to have an OA Bible School? Below are the brief history of OA theological training and the advantages to have full-time theological training for OA
  - i. OA people receive their theological training under SAM (Sekolah Alkitab Malaysia) and it is still going on. SAM has contributed a lot to train the OA leaders, and we are very grateful for the effort of those who have involved in this ministry sacrificially. Without SAM we will not see the growth in OA ministry. We should continue SAM to train the OA laity.
  - ii. However, it is time for us to consider how to move forward beyond SAM especially in the training of full-time OA clergy.
  - iii. To achieve our goal, that is three-self in OA ministry (self-propagation, self-governance and self-financing), the most important thing we must do is to train more OA full-time clergy. This strategy has been proven effective in the history of the Diocese of West Malaysia (DWM). The setting up of KTM and later STM, has totally changed the landscape of DWM from missionary centered to ministry independence. The graduates from STM have successfully replaced the vacant after the missionary left the country. Without STM, we will not achieve three-self in the history.
  - iv. TEE, SAM, AIM etc are meant to train the laity, not full-time pastors. The whole design of the syllabus is to cater the needs of the laity, not the full-time pastor. The requirements, like assignment, reading, and examination, are all design to suit the laity.
  - v. From what we can see now, we have Dss. Elizabeth and Ev. Julie Aew Serving in Gopeng. Lizuan has left us and the late Rev Eduan is with the Lord. Ev. Rino, Ev. Pani and Ev. Pian are going to be ordained as deacons this year. Some other OA pastors are pursuing Diploma in SAM. If we consider the time used to train a clergy, it takes too long and it is not efficient at all. We took 16 years in SAM to train Lizuan, Eduan, Elizabeth, Rino, Pian and Pani, and only four are still serving in the Diocese. If we compare with the needs of the OA ministry (especially in teaching and training), the pace of training OA clergy is very slow. We need to accelerate the pace in training the full-time OA clergy. We need an OA Bible School to provide full-time training which is more suitable to meet our purpose.

- vi. The best strategy to develop OA ministry is to train the OA people to do their own ministry. We can serve this purpose if we have an OA Bible School. They have proven that they can do their own ministry. In terms of self-propagating, they have achieved this goal.
- vii. There are a lot of OA catchment areas in the Southern Peninsular and in the Northern Peninsular. The potential is great and we need more OA clergy and evangelists to reach out to these areas. An OA Bible School can help us to reach out to these areas in ten years' time.
- viii. DWM OA Bible School is crucial in the development of OA ministry. We must spend money in this area. To save money should not be our consideration.

#### 4. Yearly Budget of OA Ministry.

DWM OA Ministry in the Deanery of Perak Budget 2023-2027					
	2023	2024	2025	2026	2027
<b>Income</b>					
Bible School Fee - Full time	5,400.00	19,440.00	32,400.00	43,200.00	43,200.00
Fund from St Peter's Church	60,000.00	60,000.00	60,000.00	60,000.00	60,000.00
	<b>65,400.00</b>	<b>79,440.00</b>	<b>92,400.00</b>	<b>103,200.00</b>	<b>103,200.00</b>
<b>Expenditure</b>					
<b>Bible Student Needs</b>					
Allowance for Students	15,000.00	60,000.00	90,000.00	120,000.00	120,000.00
Meals	4,500.00	18,000.00	27,000.00	36,000.00	36,000.00
Stationary and Book Allowance	2,500.00	10,000.00	15,000.00	20,000.00	20,000.00
<b>Bible School Needs</b>					
Administration Staff	6,000.00	6,000.00	6,000.00	6,000.00	6,000.00
Teachers' Allowance	4,250.00	14,000.00	8,500.00	8,500.00	8,500.00
Accreditation Fee	825.00	3,300.00	4,950.00	4,950.00	4,950.00
Electricity and Water	4,800.00	9,600.00	9,600.00	9,600.00	9,600.00
Miscellaneous	3,000.00	6,000.00	6,000.00	6,000.00	6,000.00
Rental	-	18,000.00	18,000.00	18,000.00	18,000.00
Anglican School of Discipleship	5,200.00	6,000.00	8,000.00	8,000.00	8,000.00
Salary (6 Full time and 8 part time)	116,004.00	130,000.00	130,000.00	150,000.00	150,000.00
EPF and Socso	15,420.48	17,100.00	17,100.00	19,500.00	19,500.00
Rental of EPAC Kampar	8,400.00	8,400.00	8,400.00	8,400.00	8,400.00
Rental of Tapah Church (New Church)	1,600.00	9,600.00	9,600.00	9,600.00	9,600.00
Seminar and Training	12,000.00	12,000.00	12,000.00	12,000.00	12,000.00
Vehicles Running Expenses	10,000.00	10,000.00	10,000.00	10,000.00	10,000.00
Renovation - Gopeng	-	50,000.00	-	-	-
Renovation - Tapah (New Church)	-	25,000.00	-	-	-
New Chapels at Kampung	-	-	80,000.00	80,000.00	80,000.00
Hostel Project in Kampar	-	60,000.00	60,000.00	100,000.00	100,000.00
<b>Total Expenditure</b>	<b>209,499.48</b>	<b>473,000.00</b>	<b>520,150.00</b>	<b>626,550.00</b>	<b>626,550.00</b>
<b>Defisit</b>					
<b>Fund We have to raise</b>	<b>(144,099.48)</b>	<b>(393,560.00)</b>	<b>(427,750.00)</b>	<b>(523,350.00)</b>	<b>(523,350.00)</b>

#### 5. Future Challenges and Opportunities:

- (a) Challenges.

- i. OA youths.
  - Very much influenced by their peer-groups and mass-media.
  - Need teaching in their Boy-Girl Relationships so that they will have relationships that will honour God and honour one another.
  - Do not have any concrete plans to utilize their time. Many youths just laze around their homes.
  - No motivation to improve their present situation – no initiative to better themselves.
  - Lack of parental supervision and motivation.
  - Poor academic results. Some younger children and youths cannot read and write.
  
- ii. Parents.
  - Need parenting skills.
  - Need affirmation and teaching from the Word of God as regards to parenting skills, husband-wife relationships, leadership in the homes.
  - Need a change in their attitude. Many are so easily contented and not be motivated to improve.
  - Too dependent on outside help.
  - Opportunities to improve their economic status. They need ideas on what to do, how to do and marketing skills. Often, they lack initiative and courage to venture out on their own. Not much opportunities to carry out “cottage industries” among them.
  - Unstable income for some families because the men are doing odd jobs. The ladies have a lot of time but no opportunities, no motivation, and no idea on what can be done.
  
- iii. Ministry.
  - False teachings and cults are slowly creeping into the villages. Congregation in the kampungs need to be aware of this.
  - A few OA brothers and sisters are often spiritually disturbed from time to time. They need to know Basic Foundation Truths - who they believe in and what they believe. Bible teachings and discipleship classes are needed.
  - Lack of man-power. Many in the church know the needs of the OA Ministry but are not responding because they feel the OA ministry is too demanding and they have no time.
  - Lack of resources. OA Ministry need a lot of financing.
  - Often the villages are situated far from the cities. Not able to spend much time with the congregation. Often church groups visit on a “touch and go” basis. No permanent commitment to grow the church in the villages. Quality ministry is so much needed.

(b) Opportunities.

- i. Some village headmen are open to church groups doing health and social programmes besides the usual church activities.

- ii. Sekolah Alkitab Malaysia, ASOD and the OA Bible School can help to raise more workers amongst the OA brothers and sisters and more leaders for the ministry.

## 6. Appeal for donation.

To further grow this ministry, funds are needed. As the budget we have presented which showed deficit, we appeal to your good self and your church or organization to support this ministry. Your monetary support can be directly transferred into the bank account of St. Peter's Church Ipoh at OCBC Bank, Ipoh. Account Number is 720-1066278. Cheques can also be written out to "St. Peter's Church Ipoh" designated for Orang Asli Ministry. Thank you for your generous and kind support.

Report by  
Pastor Michael Lim and Rev Canon Dr Jacob Bau  
14 March 2024