#### MRCALERTS 69 DEC 23/20

### A SHOCKING CASE OF PERSECUTION IN INDIA AN ELDERLY LADY RESCUES A CAPTURED PASTOR

Pastor Shelton Vishwanathan was sharing his faith in the village of Tiryani on October 5th when six Hindu militants demanded that he stop. He agreed and was about to leave the area when they grabbed the keys to his scooter, along with his cell phone, and began to beat him. The last thing he remembered was the threat to offer him as a sacrifice to their god. When he regained consciousness, he found himself locked in a dark room.

For several days, Pastor Shelton shouted for help, but no one answered. He was left without food and water throughout this time. Finally, an elderly woman living nearby heard his cries. She agreed to unbolt the door on the condition that he would not disclose her identity to anyone. The kind lady then let him out and gave him needed food and water.

After returning to his home in Sheohar, he learned that his family had searched extensively for him; yet, in fear for their lives, sold some furniture and fled to his wife's hometown in Nepal. Neighbours offered him food and a meagre offering of money, along with an old cell phone through which he was unable to reach his wife for weeks. Finally, with the help of other Christians, the couple finally made contact, and Pastor Shelton was able to pay for his family to return home on November 28th.

When the situation came to light, legal advocates encouraged him to file charges against his attackers. However, he has chosen not to pursue the case since he has faced opposition several times in the past. He has also been forced to leave his home, as the landlord is concerned of reprisal. Through the assistance of fellow Christians, he has been able to rent another home. It is his intent to continue distributing evangelistic tracts among India's spiritually destitute.

"I am overjoyed to see the Lord's hand in every situation over the past two months," Pastor Shelton exclaims. "My family, who thought I must have been lost and died, returned to see me alive. We give thanks and praises to the Lord." Additional reports on the persecution of Christians in India are available at our country report.

Join us in thanking God for the kindness of the dear elderly woman who courageously released Pastor Shelton from captivity, and for all those who provided assistance to him so he could be reunited with his loved ones. Pray that full restoration will be experienced by this targeted family, sheltering and protecting them as they continue to faithfully extend the love of Christ to others in their community and the surrounding areas. May their ministry yield much fruit,

leading many to the faith for the glory of God and the furtherance of His Kingdom. - International Christian Concern

### **30,000 QUAKES IN 4 MONTHS IN ANTARCTICA!**

If Antarctic Ice Shelves Start Melting Rapidly, It Will Create A Planetary Disaster Of Epic Proportions.

December 18, 2020. by Michael Snyder

18 Dec 2020. Under the continent of Antarctica, there is a "mantle plume producing almost as much heat as Yellowstone supervolcano", and this has been melting ice plates from underneath at a staggering pace. If that superheated rock were to move even closer to the surface, that would potentially greatly accelerate the melting of Antarctic ice, and the consequences for the entire planet would be quite dramatic. As you will see below, if all Antarctic ice were to melt, the entire eastern seaboard of the United States would vanish. In other words, there would be no more New York, no more Washington D.C. and no more state of Florida. That is why what is happening in Antarctica right now is deeply alarming many experts. According to the University of Chile, there have been over 30,000 earthquakes in Antarctica since the end of the month of August, and this is extremely unusual.

### **US UNEMPLOYMENT**

The US job market continues to suffer, and Thursday brought more bad news. Another 885,000 people filed for first-time unemployment benefits last week — an increase from the week prior and higher than the 800,000 claims that economists were expecting. Dec 2020

# THE NUMBER OF AMERICANS THAT ARE DEPRESSED OR CONSIDERING SUICIDE HAS SOARED BECAUSE OF THE COVID LOCKDOWNS

## 48% OF U.S. SMALL BUSINESSES FEAR THAT THEY MAY BE FORCED TO "SHUT DOWN PERMANENTLY" SOON

What would the United States look like if we lost half of our small businesses? The reason I ask that question is because approximately half of all small business owners in the entire country believe that they may soon be forced to close down for good. Not even during the Great Depression of the 1930s did we see anything like this.

### **ISRAEL & BHUTAN ESTABLISH DIPLOMATIC TIES**

Bhutan is a small landlocked kingdom in the Himalayas, between India and China. Monday, 14 December 2020 | In yet another historic first, Israel and Bhutan on Saturday inked an agreement to establish full diplomatic ties. The deal is no small feat

for Jerusalem. The tiny Buddhist-majority kingdom, nestled in the Himalayas and flanked by India and China, has diplomatic relations with just 53 countries, including Canada, Germany, Denmark, Japan and now Israel. The list notably excludes the US, the UK and Russia. Saturday's agreement comes on the heels of landmark normalization agreements as part of the US-brokered Abraham Accords with the United Arab Emirates, Bahrain, Sudan and Morocco.

However, unlike Israel's Arab neighbours, Bhutan's historic absence of relations with the Jewish state was not linked to its solidarity with the Palestinians. Rather, it is ascribed to Thimphu's strict isolation policies that seeks to insulate the nation's cultural heritage and protect its tiny population of just over 770,000 people from foreign influences. The agreement is reportedly the fruit of secret talks between the two countries' foreign ministries aimed at forging a relationship conducted over the past year. According to Ron Malka, Israel's ambassador to India, who inked the deal alongside his Bhutanese counterpart, the Bhutanese government reached out to Israel. "They have been impressed by Israel's abilities for many years, and their prime minister wanted relations," Malka told the Jerusalem Post. "We advise them on topics that are important to them, like water management, agriculture and technology...education and professional training as well. They're very interested in the topic of medicine." Israel's Foreign Minister Gabi Ashkenazi hailed the agreement and thanked the Kingdom of Bhutan, inviting his friend and Bhutanese counterpart Thandi Dorji "to visit Israel to promote co-operation between the countries. I hope that next year we will welcome the king of Bhutan in Jerusalem for his official visit to the Jewish state."

### JIGMI NAMGYEL WANGCHUK, the very popular KING OF BHUTAN.



King Jigme Khesar Namgyel Wangchuck of Bhutan at his residence.

### PHOTO CREDIT:

https://commons.wikimedia.org/wiki/File:King\_Jigme\_Khesar\_Namgyel\_Wangchuck\_(edit).jpg



Around Kyanjin Valley, Langtang National Park, Rasuwa, Nepal

### PHOTO CREDIT:

User: Pnepalensis

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The religion, languages and customs of Bhutan are closely related to Tibet. There are a number of Christian Bhutanese churches, but not full freedom.

Please pray for Bhutan which is closely related to Tibet.