

to see women read the Scriptures for the first time in their lives!" Many return to Afghanistan because they find life in Delhi very expensive and they are not able to immigrate to another country. **Pray** that the Lord will provide for, and work through the ethnic Christians who return to Afghanistan.

HL and Keiko are also involved with work in an orphanage and among poor Indians in the slum areas of Delhi. Keiko helps HL with his Chronic Disease Prevention work among Christian workers and middle class Indians because many suffer from diabetes and heart disease.

Japan Mission has supported and partnered with HL and Keiko over many years to reach people for Christ in Pakistan and India. **Pray** that the Lord would continue to bless, lead and protect them in this vital ministry.

PRAISE & PRAYER

1. An English Barbecue Outreach is planned for October 12. A number of special meetings are also being planned during this time. **Pray** that many would come to a true knowledge of the Savior.
2. David and Sue Verwey will be visiting JM contacts and churches in South Africa from mid-September to November 2015. **Pray** for protection and that the Lord would help them to be a blessing to the people they come in contact with.
3. JM is in need of one more English evangelism teacher to join by January 2016. **Pray** that the Lord would provide dedicated and well-qualified workers.

JAPANORAMA - SKY HIGH FOOD PRICES

High prices are the norm for the opening auction of the season and reflect buyers' desire for prestige. In 2014, a pair of coveted Yubari cantaloupe melons sold for a record ¥2.5 million (US\$20,800)! The amounts paid are the equivalent of a brand new car.

This year, Ruby Roman grapes fetched the highest prices. A single cluster of Ruby Roman grapes, which were selectively bred to emphasize sweetness and low acidity, sold for ¥1 million (US\$8,300) at a wholesale auction in July 2015. Each cluster contained about 26 individual grapes, which works out to ¥38,400 (US\$320) per grape!

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Sept / Oct 2015

A PERSISTENT FRIEND

Keiko Hamano grew up in Osaka in a family of 4 girls. She remembers how they would often quarrel and her father scolding her for being so stubborn. She tried to change, but found that she often failed, no matter how hard she tried. This experience left her frustrated and empty, feeling that there had to be something more to life.

Keiko did not think much about God, but remembers receiving a Gideon Bible in High School. She did not read it, but kept it because she liked to collect books.

As she became older and pursued her studies, she felt a strong desire to improve herself inwardly. She tried, but realized that she could not change on her own. She visited a number of temples, and became interested in the teachings of a prominent Japanese Buddhist monk, *Shinran*, who lived in the 12th century.

A Japanese friend then told her that he had found God and was now a Christian. Keiko thought that this was good for him, but that it was not for her. If she considered anything, it would not be a foreign religion, but rather the teaching of *Shinran*.

A little while later, Keiko's flower arrangement teacher encouraged her to go overseas to participate in various exhibitions. She soon found herself living in London for a year to improve her skills in the art of flower arrangement.

Her Japanese friend, who had found God sent her a Japanese Bible, but she was not interested. She did not read it and eventually gave it away.



Keiko Wyatt

This friend later wrote her a couple of letters with a few Bible verses. Keiko was quite impressed and especially remembers Matthew 6:25-34: ***Do not worry about your life, what you eat or drink or your body, what you will wear.***

It was at this time that she met a family whose friendship changed her entire outlook. It was a 'chance' meeting on a street in London when she was asking for directions.

They started to chat and before the conversation ended, she was invited to their home for a meal. This was the first of many pleasant visits; even though they could barely communicate without a dictionary!

Their home had an atmosphere which she found difficult to describe, but it made her feel at peace. She felt at home with them, despite their differences. She was impressed by the love and unity of a God-centered family and began to wonder who their God really was.

Until that time she had no concept of one God, but only of different spirits. This family's kindness to her, a total stranger, impressed her very much. She became curious about Christianity and accompanied them to church.

When Keiko returned to Japan, her Japanese friend, who had sent her a Bible, sent her the information of a church in her home town. Upon attending church, her thoughts were immediately stirred and she felt compelled to continue.

At first, Keiko was not conscious of the need to surrender her life

to God. She had always thought that only weak people needed religion. As she learned more about Christianity, she realized that Jesus offered forgiveness from sin and the assurance of heaven. She searched the writings of the Buddhist monk, ***Shinran***, and realized that he did not have such assurances.

Her curiosity about Christianity caused her to buy a big Bible. She learned for the first time that everyone needed a Savior because of their sin. ***For all have sinned and come short of the glory of God*** (Romans 3:23). The stark realization that it was also her sin that put Jesus Christ on the cross finally brought her to true repentance.

She had often felt a profound need to be cleansed from sin and live a good life. Tears filled her eyes as she became convinced that Jesus could deliver her from sin and this old life. She prayed to accept the Lord as Savior in 1975.

She was overwhelmed by a sense of peace as she was assured that her sins were forgiven and that she would go to heaven. She did not have to try to be good in her own strength anymore! She had no more anxiety over her future success. She was assured that the Lord would lead her each step of the way.

During this time, Keiko was still going to the temple on Saturdays to continue training in the art of flower arranging and then to church on Sundays. The Lord clearly showed her that she must choose between the temple and church. Soon after,

she gave up her flower arranging career and started to work with the church.

She quickly developed an interest in missions and worked with Japan Mission from 1977 to 1979 to help write many letters to those seeking spiritual help. She rejoiced in the

many opportunities she had to tell others of how a trip to London changed her life.

Who knew what a casual meeting with a stranger would result in! May the Lord help us to be more conscious of the needs of those around us. □

CALLED TO SERVE THE POOR

While serving with Japan Mission, Keiko was clearly guided to minister to the poor and decided to attend seminary. One month before graduation, a team of Christian workers visited Japan, while on their way to the USA from Pakistan. When they heard of Keiko's calling, they discussed the matter and decided to make plans to send Keiko as part of a team to Pakistan.



HL (Horace) & Keiko Wyatt

After receiving more training, she entered Pakistan in 1988. She studied the Urdu language while teaching flower arranging at the Japanese Consulate. She formed good relationships with many of the Baloch people, and started teaching English in a village. As a single woman, she faced many difficulties in this Islamic country, but she was able to share Christ and pray with many.

It was in Karachi where Keiko first met Horace (HL) and some coworkers who were reaching out to the Baloch people. HL was a dedicated and well qualified Christian worker from the USA, with a background in cardiovascular physiology. He first entered Pakistan in 1984 and was a professor of physiology at a medical college in Karachi. Three years after they first met, God led HL and Keiko to commit to one another in marriage in February 1992. HL and Keiko then shifted their work to Quetta for 19 years, where they were able to reach many for Christ.

In 2010, it became more dangerous to work in Pakistan, and thus the Lord led HL and Keiko to move to Delhi, India. As they made this change, they sensed a continuity in their ministry, since they were soon working with Afghan refugees as they had in Pakistan. The Afghan refugees have been very responsive to the Gospel.

HL discipled the believers and teaches them the Bible. Keiko teaches the women Bible and literacy. Most of the women are illiterate, because the Muslim influence prohibits the education of women. Keiko says, "It is exciting