

### PRAYER NEWSLETTER

#### A CALL TO PRAY FOR MALAYSIA

**Prayer United** was formed in the Year of Jubilee to mobilise Christians to pray non-stop for *the revival of the Church, and the transformation in the Nation.*

We ask that all intercessors will persevere in prayer, that God will open the heavens, reveal His glory and pour His power upon our nation. Let us claim His promise that “if my people who are called by My Name, will humble themselves, and pray, and seek my face and turn from their wicked ways, then I will hear from heaven and will forgive their sin and heal their land” (2 Chronicles 7:14). Let us beseech God earnestly to answer our prayers for the following:

- **A Holy and Righteous Church** – Pray that the Malaysian church will stand out as a prophetic community, impacting society, and live out authentic and vibrant Christian lives that will be salt and light in the nation, for then only can the Church act and speak with credibility and moral authority, and be taken seriously by the nation's leaders.
- **A United Church Reflecting a Malaysian Identity** - Pray that Christians will make every effort to keep the unity of the Spirit, embracing reconciliation and restoration, shaking off encultured blockages and being an example in bringing together all races, languages and cultures, uniting them under the Lordship of Christ, modelling ethnic reconciliation powerfully in our nation.
- **Pursuing True Discipleship** - Pray that Christians will understand what true discipleship means, and be willing to take up their cross daily and suffer for Christ. Pray that many Christian professionals and countless university students studying abroad will return with a clear vision to build both the church and nation.
- **An Empowered and Growing Bumiputera Church** - Pray for the increasing emergence of strong and growing churches in Sabah, Sarawak and among the Orang Asli community in our land, and the rising up of bold and God-fearing leaders among them.
- **Economic Recovery** - Pray that God will continue to bless our nation by giving our national leaders the wisdom to steer our nation during this time of global economic turmoil and falling commodity prices. Pray for the equitable sharing of the wealth of this nation among all races and the fair treatment of foreign workers and refugees. Pray for improved policy making and careful expenditure. Pray against the blight of corruption, creeping Islamisation and abuse of power.
- **Independence of Government Institutions** – Pray for protection of the independence of institutions such as the Central Bank (BNM), the Anti-Corruption Commission (MACC), the National Audit Department (JAN) and the judiciary against underhanded political manoeuvring to undermine the supremacy of the Federal Constitution, fundamental human liberties, the principles of democracy and the rule of law in our country. Pray for godly and upright civil servants who are able to work boldly without fear or favour. Pray for upright and clean leaders who will uphold democratic processes and institutions and revitalise good incorruptible

- **A Return to National Righteousness** – Pray for a powerful transformation that will result in a return to justice and righteousness in Malaysia. Pray for a recovery from a scandal-driven year. Pray that all evil in high places be exposed, and that justice will prevail.

## ITEMS FOR PRAYER THIS MONTH:

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### 1. Sarawak State Elections

- a. The outcome of the election is vital for the preservation and upholding of the rights of the people of Sarawak according to the Malaysian Agreement. It is important to see that new leaders elected will uphold justice, truth and righteousness, and defend the state against unhelpful interference from the Federal Government.
- b. After much anticipation, the Election Commission (EC) announced on April 14 that nomination, advanced voting and polling dates would be April 25, May 3 and May 7 respectively. Total voters as of April 10, 2016, stand at 1,138,650.
- c. Let us pray:
  - i. For the Voters: that each citizen will be convicted to vote for the man and woman of righteousness, the person of God's choosing. Pray that God's Spirit will overshadow each one as he or she makes a decision when casting the vote. Pray that voters will not succumb to threats or bribes.
  - ii. For the Candidates: for men and women of righteousness to be nominated and elected who will uphold the rights of all races, and care for migrants and refugees. Pray against the nomination and election of any extremists of any kind who incite hatred and mischief and all forms of racial and religious divide.
  - iii. For the Church: that God will energize and empower His people to call out to him day and night. Pray for repentance, humble hearts and a deep desire to pursue holiness, that God's people will seek His purposes and His will first. The Bible reminds us that 'we do not wrestle against flesh and blood, but against ... the cosmic powers over this present darkness, against the spiritual forces of evil in heavenly places' (Eph 6:12)." With the many reports of politicians going for cultural-religious ceremonies to call on spiritual powers for help, the Church must unite to pray so that the powers of Satan would be vanquished, and the prevailing spiritual darkness over Sarawak will be lifted by the light of Christ!

- iv. For Christian candidates: to be sensitive to the leading of the Holy Spirit especially with regard to campaigning. Pray that they will not succumb to temptations to use of money politics or mud slinging, but instead walk close to God by spending time in prayer and the reading of the Word like Daniel, Ezra and Nehemiah.
- v. For the Election Process: that every official involved in the election process – including the election officials, appointees, police, RELA and army - will serve with honesty and integrity of heart. Pray also for polling and counting agents, as well as election observers, to serve diligently and honourably, ensuring accuracy and integrity in the entire election process.
- vi. For harmony: Pray for harmony and peace during and after elections, and for the safety of all candidates, officials and voters during the entire elections. Pray that the plots of Pray that God's plans and purposes for our nation will be established during this state election, that we will be a nation that follows God and is a blessing to the nations of the earth
- vii. For the Media: Pray for the media space that those working in the media will uphold their professional ethics and integrity to report truth. Pray that the government will ensure that all its laws, existing and future, fully respect freedom of expression, including the free flow of ideas on the internet.

## **2. Protection Against Threats Of Terrorism And Insurgency**

- a. Pray that the authorities will be vigilant and alert in protecting the nation against threats of terrorists in cities such as Kuala Lumpur, Putrajaya, Penang and in the state of Sabah, as ISIS threatens to create a caliphate in the South East Asian region. Pray for greater vigilance over the borders of ASEAN. Pray that plots to undermine the South East Asian nations will fail.
- b. Pray for the Muslim youth, that they will be protected from being radicalised by extremist ideologies taking them captive through hate, fear, disillusionment, enticement and a wrong theological interpretation of their faith.

## **3. El-Nino phenomenon and Water Crisis situations**

- a. The recent El-Nino Phenomenon has resulted in numerous areas in Malaysia facing water shortage. Let us pray for better weather conditions, for God to provide rain in season. Pray also for the relevant authorities including the government to be proactive in providing clean water to affected areas and to come up with a comprehensive and permanent solution to allow for clean water access especially in the interiors.

- b. Pray that the church will be proactive, compassionate and loving, becoming an answer to prayer by themselves mobilizing resources and manpower in helping areas badly hit, uniting as a whole to empower those in need.

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