

Every household to receive the Bible in their own language in Vanuatu.

June 29, 2013

Healthcare Christian Fellowship Outreach to Vanuatu

Over 1200 patients were treated in the first week of June during the Healthcare Christian Fellowship Medical outreach in Vanuatu in conjunction with the Vanuatu Ministry of Health on the [Island of Vanua Lava](#) in the most isolated [Torba Province](#) group of Islands North of [Espiritu Santo](#) "The Southland of the Holy Spirit". Torba Province has a population of nine thousand which actually was over one hundred thousand a century or two ago. Several medical specialists were in the team including a paediatrician, ophthalmologist, cardiologist, physician, obstetrician & gynaecologist, GP's as well as several nurses, counselling and children's ministry members.

The dental team consisted of four treating patients along with a dental hygienist who gave oral health instruction and scaling. Over two hundred were treated with as many extractions along with temporary restorations. Over six hundred tooth brushes along with tooth past (Colgate of course!) were distributed including the main provincial school whose Principal is also the local Assemblies of God pastor.

During the outreach to the community the first of the Bislama Bibles to be placed in each home, was presented to the Pastor's Association formed the previous day. The major contributors was Healthcare Christian Fellowship Canada Gideons and Island Mission Partners.

Dr Padmini Gnanaharan (Ophthalmologist) presenting Torba Province Church leader with the nation's first of forty thousand Bislama bibles for home distribution. Padmini's husband Dr Chelliah (Cardiologist) leader of the HCF team looks on. Another forty thousand Bislama New Testaments have also been printed for free distribution.



Shem Tema from Vanuatu Council of Churches handling the first language Bislama Bible from the shipment.



Two containers of Bibles stored on Michael McLennan's Island Mission Partners property in Port Vila.



Eleven [Global Recordings Network](#) MP3 players costing over \$150 each with colourful flip charts depicting the story of the Bible from Creation to Revelation and the Gospel in their own languages were distributed throughout the province. During the HCF outreach over 400 people accepted Christ or made re commitments.

My wife and I visited the province nine years ago to find the healthcare in the province abysmal, neglected by both the Vanuatu and other governments including Australia. Rotary, the Fred Hollows Foundation as well as Christian yacht and plane ministries are now servicing these islands and a new [YWAM Marine Reach](#) ship will be outfitted shortly to service the region with two surgeries mainly to treat eyes & teeth.

For further pics [go here...](#)