PRAYERUNITED

OCTOBER 2016

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:

1. October Parliamentary Sitting

a. The 3rd meeting of the 4th Session of the Thirteenth Parliament 2016 will begin on 17th October. The house of representative will meet for 6 weeks (25 days) till 25th November while the senate will meet for 3 weeks (10 days) from 5th November to 21 December.

b. **PAS MP for Marang YB Dato' Seri Hadi Awang's Private Member's Bill.**

i. This was permitted to be tabled for debate during the last parliamentary sitting and seeks to primarily remove safeguards which we refer to as the "3-6-5 Safeguards" from the Syariah Courts (Criminal Jurisdiction) Act 1965, otherwise known as Act 355, which 'will confer Syariah courts in PAS-led Kelantan with "unlimited power to impose all other hudud punishments" except death.' If passed, 'the new law would seem to allow the Syariah courts to impose a punishment of between 40 and 100 lashes for offences such as zina (adultery), qazaf (false accusation of committing zina), syrub (alcohol consumption) and irtidad or riddah (apostasy) as defined as hudud offences under Section 5 of the Syariah Criminal Code (II) (1993) 2015 Enactment (Kelantan).'steven thiru, June 2016

ii. As mentioned by Kelantan Deputy Chief Minister, Mr Mohd Amar, the Bill tabled recently seeks to elevate and streamline the powers of the country's entire Syariah justice system in the whole of Malaysia, with the plan to control the Syariah courts, not just for Kelantan but for the whole country. Pray against covert plans to implement Syariah law via the various state administrations with the intention to eventually Islamise the Federal Constitution and harmonise all laws under hudud.

iii. Pray for Muslims and non-Muslims alike, that each will be aware of the potential consequences of such bills and not to be confused by people wishing to use religion for their own political gain. Pray that God will bring about a widespread response against the implementation of Hudud, and that God will grant even the Royalty to speak up. Pray that Malaysia will remain a nation where the Freedom of Religion is upheld.

c. **Proposed amendments to the Communications and Multimedia Act (CMA).**

i. This seeks to 'give the internet regulatory body – the Malaysian Communications and Multimedia Commission (MCMC) – more powers to take down online content without proper oversight. These changes, if introduced and passed by Parliament, together with the amendments to restrict bail for all offences under Section 124 of the Criminal Procedure Code, which has been used against activists and the media.'APC, May2016

ii. 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.

d. **Proposed amendments to the Legal Profession Act 1976 (LPA)**.

i. Suggested amendments include a stringent quorum requirement for all general meetings of the Malaysian Bar and state Bars to be increased to 25 per cent of the membership; the minister in charge of legal affairs to be empowered to determine the electoral rules and regulations of the Malaysian Bar and other amendments that affect the independence of the Malaysian Bar and Legal Profession.

ii. This brings much concern because this is seen as a way to restrict the effectiveness and independence of its work. Pray that this bill will not be passed or amended so that there will continue to be effectiveness and independence of the Council.

e. Pray for the speaker Tan Sri Datuk Seri Panglima Pandikar Amin Haji Mulia who will chair the parliamentary sitting as well as all members of parliament. Pray that parliamentary democracy will be upheld during the proceedings, that bills will be allowed to be debated fairly, and MP's given the proper amount of time and notice. Pray for righteous men and women in the Parliament and Government to speak up for justice and uphold human rights.

f. Pray for sizable amount of pressure from Non-Governmental Organisations (NGO's) and other foreign bodies with regard to bills that violate fundamental human rights. Pray for the independence of the parliament and for members of parliament to be able to vote and speak without fear or favour.

2. The Election Commission Proposed Re-Delineation of Constituencies

a. Pray for the independence of the Election Commission, and that any discrepancies will continue to be highlighted, and the methodology used to carry out the re-delineation exercise re-examined and corrected if wrong. Pray

that various parties and organisations will act upon their conviction toward justice, fairness and the independence of an important regulating body.

b. Let us claim the promise in proverbs 19:21 'Many are the plans in the mind of a man, but it is the purpose of the Lord that will stand.' Pray that Malaysians, especially Christians, will not be apathetic, critical or discouraged in their response, but instead have the wisdom to understand the times and know what to do.

3. Hostage Situation and Protection Against Threats Of Terrorism And Insurgency

a. Pray for our Malaysian hostages being held captive by militants and for a wise and uncompromising solution to this issue. Pray for greater initiative and cooperation between Philippines and Malaysia and for the safe return of the hostages. Pray that God will intervene.

b. 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.

c. Following reports of shooting and crime, pray for security and safety in the nation, against crime and gang fighting. Pray for protection over Malaysia's borders. Pray for improved coordination between the police, army, coastguards and navy in their defence of the waters and borders of Sabah and against any form of compromise by these armed forces.

4. 1MDB

a. Pray for justice in the nation and for truth to continue to be revealed with regard to the mismanagement of funds in the various government sectors, and for recovery of missing funds. Pray that God will work through national and international agencies, mounting the necessary pressure and bringing about the whole truth of the matter, that justice may prevail in our land.

b. Pray for righteous leaders who are full of integrity to be raised up and for accountability of elected leaders to support legislation that reflects truth, justice and mercy. Pray for a quick and just resolution to this issue.

For PU Secretariat:

Chrisanne Chin
Rev Andy Chi

Contact us: prayerunited.my@gmail.com