

Link2Uth

February 2007

Volume 12 Issue 2

Meet Taiwan

327 days till
Impact Taiwan



Area: 36,000 square kilometers

Population: 23 million

Capital: Taipei City

Language : Mandarin/Taiwanese/Hakka

Religion : Buddhism/Taoism/Christian/Islam/Catholicism

President : Chen Shui-bian

Taiwan's total land area is only about 3,600 square kilometers. It lies off the southeastern coast of mainland Asia, across the Taiwan Straits from Mainland China. To the north lies Japan and Okinawa, to the south is the

Philippines. Many airlines fly to Taiwan, helping make it the perfect travel destination.

Taiwan lies on the western edge of the Pacific "rim of fire," and continuous tectonic movements have created majestic peaks, rolling hills and plains, basins, coastlines, and other wonders. Taiwan sees climates of many types: tropical, sub-tropical, and temperate, providing clear differentiation between the different seasons. There are about 18,400 species of wildlife on the island, with more than 20% belonging to rare or endangered species; among these are the land-locked salmon, Taiwan mountain goat, Formosan rock monkey, Formosan black bear, blue magpie, Mikado pheasant, Hsuehshan grass lizard, and many more.

The government has established 6 national parks and 13 national scenic areas to preserve Taiwan's best natural ecological environment and cultural sites. It's FUN in capital letters as well as an awesome journey of natural discovery!

The cultural aspects are also not to be missed. The blending of Hakka, Taiwanese, and mainland Chinese cultures has produced a rich plethora of cultural and social color. Whether it is religion, architecture, language, living habits, or food, it's just one big exciting melting pot! Food is the best representative of this cultural mixing and matching. Aside from cuisines from different parts of the mainland; there is also the local Taiwanese cuisine as well as the local delicacies of each area. Come and join us as we gather together on December 24 to share God's love through meaningful community service, as we build relationship with other Adventist youth, as we strengthen our relationship with God.



Link2Uth

Is the official newsletter of the General Conference of Seventh-day Adventists Youth Ministries Department

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Youth and Renewal: Some DO'S and DON'TS

2007 has been set aside in the Youth Ministries Department as a year for Youth Renewal. It is a year that we will challenge youth to love the Lord and make serious commitments to walk with Him.

Our worship, that is our discipleship programs must address the needs of the young people we minister to. This generation that we are working with is very challenging. As we serve these youth one needs to understand the characteristics that make this group tick. Business as usual cannot go on in youth ministry. These youth may behave differently but in each one of them there is a desire to love God. Inside each one of them there is a spiritual vacuum that needs to be filled by God's stuff.

The other day I came across an article written by G. Co-drington (1997), "Generation X and discipleship; some simple do's and don'ts. I thought of all of us who work with these young people and wanted to share with you what I found. Expand the points in this list. Read the points prayerfully and seek God's guidance and apply them in your youth ministry during this year of Renewal.

- The youth we minister to are very much interested in spirituality. They are interested in God but not interested in Church. They are looking for an individual expression of spirituality, and are open to trying a Christianity that appears to be accepting of different expressions and not rigid in its beliefs. In other words when you talk to youth you need to be open to discussion on issues, rather than asking people to blindly and thoughtlessly accept what is taught to them.

- They do not just respect any one because is a leader. Authority must be accompanied by a worthy lifestyle.

- Today's youth have a very low degree of commitment. They have been let down for too many and too long in their lives. Share with them your definition of their involvement. Let them know what they are in for.

- Emphasize the process more than the product. Make sure that your discipleship structure emphasizes the process. They love debating and arguing. They always end up with the question, "What difference does it make?"

- Youth like changes. If you do not change regularly, they will leave.

- They are committed to relationships. Every program must take into consideration the importance of relationships. Allow empty times in your youth programs.

- Use a lot of technology. These are children of high tech. The other day I read somewhere that children today are introduced to high tech as young as nine months young.

- Be vulnerable while you work with youth. They respect leaders that make mistakes, and admit them.

These are just some of the points we should remember as we launch this year of Renewal. I will complete the list in the next issue of Link2Yth.

God bless you and have a wonder time as you challenge youth to renew their lives in 2007.



by Baraka G. Muganda

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leader's quote

A leader's success is largely determined by the ability to motivate others.

- Anonymous (quoted in Leadership 101, by John C. Maxwell)

THE TWELFTH GATE

When I was younger, one of my dreams was to visit Australia. I've always thought that it was an impossible dream. But on January 9 - 14, 2007 this dream became a reality. After a 30-hour flight, I had the honor to attend to the 1st South Pacific Pathfinder Camporee, in Stuarts Point, NSW, Australia. Approximately 7,000 Pathfinders came from all the different paradisiacal islands of this colorful division. I spent almost one week meeting and talking with people, enjoying the different activities and discovering different and interesting cultures.

I had the privilege to participate in the opening ceremony, the morning devotionals, the investiture, the Sabbath morning service and also the closing ceremony. The theme for the Camporee was attractive, The 12th Gate, based on the book of Revelation. It was an excellent idea! The stage was well-prepared, the speaker, Jose Rojas, was truly a daily inspiration, and the team in this Camporee was incredible.

There are a lot of youth leaders well-trained, and the Division youth leaders are interested in training and preparing new leaders for the future. An investiture took place on Sabbath afternoon. A group of leaders are still receiving instruction to finish our mission: to preach the Second Coming of Jesus.

My soul was rejoicing when at 6:30 Sabbath morning a group of young people gave their life to Jesus through baptism. The ceremony, which took place at the beach, was beautiful and moving.

I believe that this is the most important moment during a Camporee when young people expressing their desire to belong to Jesus.

Many thanks to the Division leaders, Gilbert Cangy and Nick Kross, and the rest of the team for the tremendous work they do for our Pathfinders, thank you because we feel the same and we preach the same, **Jesus is coming and we have to be ready.**

by **Jonatán Tejel**
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Travel Plans for January

Baraka Muganda:	1 - 28: Office
Hiskia Missah:	1 - 28: Office
Jonatán Tejel:	16 - 19: Pathfinder Camporee Puerto Rico



PF
CORNER

A Song to Remember

*We are the Pathfinders Strong
The Servants of God Are We
Faithful as We March Along
In Kindness, Truth, and Purity
A Message to Tell to the World
A Truth that Will Set Us Free
King Jesus the Savior's Coming Back
For You and Me*

Many times we sing without thinking about what we are singing. I learned the Pathfinder song many years ago, and today it still makes my heart pound, just like the first time I sang.

We are the Pathfinders strong, we really want to be the Servants of God to give the Message to the World. Jesus is Coming Back!

Never forget these words. With them in mind we will never forget our Mission.

jonatán



1st North American Division World Youth Prayer Conference

Experiencing the power of prayer
Claiming communities for Christ

JUST CLAIM IT 2007

Dallas, TX
February 28th - March 4th, 2007

Registration Information
You can enjoy the Just CLAIM IT Youth Prayer Congress in a variety of ways! Join us for the whole experience with a "Package A" registration or drive in for the day with one of the other options.

Early Bird Registration
January 1 - July 31, 2006

Regular Registration
August 1 - November 30, 2006

Late Registration
December 1, 2006 - January 15, 2007

for more information visit
WWW.JUSTCLAIMIT.ORG



AY CORNER

I am so impressed with Joshua's commitment recorded in Joshua 24:15, "As for me and my household, we will serve the Lord." This is a genuine commitment I would say a commitment of all true servants of God.

By the way, what is a commitment? This single word means a lot: an obligation, a promise, or a pledge. And if we expand or elaborate the word 'pledge', it is even more broadened and widen. Pledge is a swear or an agreement, an engagement, or a contract you have made - if ever.

So what is the contract and pledge you have made so far? What is my promise and obligation? What is our commitment as Youth Leaders? As I ponder upon the charge Joshua gave to the Israelites, "Choose you today whom you want to serve, whom you will minister to, whom you will care for?" I believe that the charge was also addressed to us.

What was the cost of Jesus' commitment? He suffered a great deal, then He died with agony for the burden of the sins of the world which had been piled up upon His shoulders. What a commitment!

Today I examine myself, "Have I made such commitment to my God and His young people? Am I willing to suffer and die just to protect and safeguard my young people? If it is so, that is 'The Cost of Commitment.' I quote Martin Luther's statement: "Nevertheless, here I stand. I can do no other."

My dear Youth Leaders,

What is your commitment? This is mine, "Here I stand Lord, I can do no other than to serve Thee and Thy young people." We rely on the Spirit of God to draw us to the fulfillment of our commitment.

Keep smiling, keep kneeling, keep praying!

hiskia

 for information about
Impact Taiwan, go to
www.wcyes.org

a winner every day

The 3rd National Youth Congress for Chilean Union was held in Arica, Chile on January 4-8, 2007. Arica is a city located in the border of Chile and Peru and Bolivia. It is a city surrounded by desert, but the city itself is green and beautiful. It is a tourist resort where local tourists as well as tourists from abroad come to this city for having fun in the summer holiday.



More than 1,000 delegates attended the congress. At the opening night, it was attended by Sen. Reinaldo Cordoba, Governor of the Province and Arica City Mayor, Sen. Carlos Balcarce and his wife. In his remarks, the City Mayor commended the work of the SDA Church particularly the SDA youth. The activities done by the youth were: conducting many community service projects such as collecting food from the people and then distributing those foods to the needy, donating blood, city cleaning, distributing tracts and Adventist literatures during the city parade, also building a Ten Commandment Monument in the center of the city. On Sabbath, 6 January, 24 people were baptized. Hiskia Missah from the General Conference Youth Department was the main speaker for the Sabbath and all evenings, along with Pastor Magdiel Perez as the translator. This congress was fully supported by the Chilean Union Administration and Staff in the presence of Elder Guido Quinteros, President and Mr. Samuel Rojo Bishop, Treasurer plus other Departmental Directors. One Youth Director from one of the Missions in Peru came as a special guest. Thumbs up for Pastor Leonardo Gajardo,

Chilean Union Youth Director for this very successful Youth Congress.

by **Hiskia Missah**

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**2ND WORLD CONFERENCE ON
YOUTH AND COMMUNITY SERVICE**
Taipei, Taiwan
December 24, 2007 - January 5, 2008
Contact your local conference