

A Successful Coalition!

Time for some really Good News...

A flourishing and exciting partnership has sprung up just recently, through a strong mutual desire to bring South Asians in the UK to the Lord Jesus. Two organisations are working together, aiming to galvanise churches into mission amongst South Asians by encouraging, equipping and instilling confidence to Church leaders and individual Christians.

The **Jewels in His Crown** movement has been around for some twelve years now, running a weekend conference every two years, with this same aim in mind, with speakers chosen because of their expertise in drawing others to Christ and with knowledge of what it is like to be South Asian in Britain today. It has run workshops and discussions on relevant issues and generally endeavoured to bring a fresh challenge and teaching to encourage mission amongst South Asians, as well as to give a forum for networking and learning from each other, with a particular emphasis on encouraging Asian pastors and Church leaders.

When in late 2010 the **South Asian Forum** of the Evangelical Alliance was formed with some overlapping aims and some different ones, working in partnership was an obvious next step, in the areas in which Jewels had built up some valuable experience to share.

Together, we have run some Saturday (daytime) conferences aimed at all churches and anyone who wants to be equipped to work amongst South Asians in the UK. The events which were well supported, looked at models of good practice, introduced some training, advice and relevant resources and encouraged further working together, as we shared in fellowship for a day. Clearly there are the beginnings of a movement of Asian churches and mainstream churches working in partnership around Britain. The main speaker at each event so far has been Steve Uppal, Senior Leader at All Nations Christian Centre in Wolverhampton.

The South Asian Forum has recently produced a booklet 'Jesus Through Asian Eyes - 15 frequently asked questions' which has been welcomed by Asians and non-Asians alike, for use amongst those new to Christianity or just exploring the Christian Faith. At the same time South Asian Concern has developed a discipleship book, 'Notes for the Journey.' both these resources have been presented at the day conferences, along with training in how to use them, all aimed at bringing greater confidence to those who desire to reach out with the Gospel. More events are being planned for next year across the UK; so look out for details!

Do book to join us at Forest Gate, East London on 25 February 2012 – booking is via www.globalconnections.co.uk/amp1202 and full details are now available on www.jewelsinhiscrown.co.uk and www.eauk.org/saf/.

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