



RCA Missionary Update

from the Tadesses

Abdi Tadesse Mulat began ministry as a volunteer leader in his home church. Soon after, a communist revolution swept through Ethiopia. Abdi was arrested and tortured repeatedly. Though no Bibles or prayer were allowed in prison, he witnessed to his fellow prisoners, confirming and refining his faith and his gifts as an evangelist. After his release from prison the government assigned him to Bale, a predominantly Muslim area. Initially resistant to moving to an area with no churches and few Christians, Abdi came to see this placement as an opportunity to share the news of God's love for all people. Abdi now teaches in the Christian-Muslim Relations program at Mekane Yesus Seminary. He is married to Sumaye and they have three children.

Ethiopia facts:

- Population: 65 million
- Size: 704,000 square miles (about twice the size of Texas)
- Major religions: 48 percent Ethiopian Orthodox Christianity; 35-40 percent Islam; 12 percent Evangelical Christianity



MINISTRY

Christian-Muslim Relations

LOCATION

Addis Ababa, Ethiopia

PARTNER

Ethiopian Evangelical Church
Mekane Yesus

CONTACT

Mekane Yesus Seminary

P.O. Box 1247

Addis Ababa, Ethiopia

Email: abditad@yahoo.com

LEARN MORE AT

www.rca.org/tadesse

2010 Yearly Report to Supporting Churches from the Tadesses

What is your ministry's primary goal?

Our primary goal is equipping God's people for responsible witness to Muslims through proper training and education about Muslims, Islam as a religion, and developing positive attitudes towards Muslims in order to create peaceful coexistence for the betterment of the society.

Over the past year, how have you seen God working in your ministry? Please share both the progress and the setbacks with respect to your ministry goals. Please include your joys, challenges, and/or disappointments.

I saw God's work in our ministry through the testimony of trainees during our discussions. Many gave witness that their outlook toward Islam and Muslims has changed due to the CMR training they received. We also hear from those who graduated that God gives them many fruits in their ministries as many Muslims are converted to Christianity. The challenge that we are facing is that many students are showing an interest in joining the program, but, due to financial shortages, we were not able to give all the scholarships we wished to give.

Share any physical or spiritual health issues that have impacted your ministry during this past year.

Spiritually we are in good state. But physically there are challenges most of the time. My wife, Sumaye, suffers from back pain. She visited doctors several times but there is no improvement. I am also struggling with a gastric ulcer and sometimes with back pain, too. This affects my teaching many times.

Briefly discuss your goals, your dreams, and/or any changes you anticipate in your ministry during the coming year.

- In the coming year, I would like to train more ministers in different areas, both at the seminary and local levels.
- God willing, I would like to start searching for institutions to pursue studies for my PhD.
- Our seminary starts an MA program in September 2011 but needs more manpower at the doctoral level.

Share some specific project-related needs and other ways supporting churches might be able to assist you.

In my previous letter, I mentioned that I am preparing a training manual for the ministers. The preparation is completed, but we do not have budget for printing costs. Any assistance with this is appreciated.

As I mentioned above, more students showed an interest in joining the CMR program, but they do not have the financial resources. They are applying for scholarships, but we do not have enough funds for all who are applying. We wish to get more support to meet this need. If you desire to provide scholarships for CMR students, please send funds to the Reformed Church in America, PO Box 19381, Newark, NJ 07195-1938. Please indicate *"MYS Scholarships"* in the memo portion of your check.

Please tell us about ongoing as well as special prayer needs you have at this time.

Pray for our well-being. The cost of living is a challenge these years as the price of everything is rising (food items, school fees for our children, cost of transportation from home to work area, etc).



Please visit www.rca.org/tadesse for more information about us, prayer items for our ministry, and donation information.

To order prayer cards for us and our ministry, please contact Nancy Ellens at (800) 968-3943 or nellens@rca.org.