

**LATEST NEWS # 523, June 24, 2008**

**The following news concerns Chad.**

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## Bible Society of Chad on television and radio during Bible Week

**CHAD** — The western media continues to report bad news from Chad, in particular from the east of this majority Muslim country, where rebel troops remain very active. There is good news from the Bible Society of Chad, however. The Bible Week it held from May 12 to 18 was very successful, even providing opportunities to publicise its work on radio and television.



The Bible Society also held special conferences which raised its profile throughout the country. "Some participants decided to become members of the Bible Society; others said they would spread the word about our work from now on and others came to the Bible Society bookstall and bought Scriptures", writes Tchang Dahande, Program Officer at the Bible Society.

At each of these conferences, there was a mobile bookstall run by distributors of the Bible Society, giving visitors the opportunity to buy Bibles and other Christian literature. During this particular Bible Week, the Bible Society recorded an increase of 40 percent in sales compared to previous years.

During the ceremony held in N'Djamena to launch Bible Week, Pastor Jérôme Altana, General Secretary of the Bible Society, said he was sad to see that most of the Christians who came out of church

meetings were empty-handed, having come without a Bible. He urged Church leaders to encourage their congregations to purchase the Word of God: "When you have your own Bible, you can read it and meditate on it whenever you need to."

"As a result, many churches made a concerted effort to distribute Scriptures among their parishioners", adds Mr Dahande.



Representatives from some 100 churches came to the Bible Society offices in the capital, N'Djamena, to buy

Scriptures. They also went to the depots in the provinces of Moundou in the South, Sarh in the South-West, and Abéché in the North of the country. This direct church involvement in Scripture distribution is partly responsible for the improved results recorded this year.

Bible Sunday, which is the last Sunday of Bible Week, was also well attended. A large number of Church leaders had responded to the Bible Society's appeal, and "the sermons all focused on the importance of owning, listening to, putting into practice, and sharing the Word of God," Mr Dahande emphasises.

Bible Week was brought to a close with a ceremony held in N'Djamena, during which an offering was taken up for Bible work.

*This report refers to project 87609.*

*Photos (Bible Society of Chad):*

*TCH08DJ-6: The mobile bookstall set up by Bible Society of Chad distributors during Bible Week, from May 12 to 18, 2008. N'Djamena, Chad.*

*TCH08DJ-7: A Bible Society distributor (right) welcomes customers to the stand set up during Bible Week, from May 12 to 18, 2008. N'Djamena, Chad.*

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