

MBC ECCD

The Myanmar Baptist Convention has started child care program activity since 1973. The Early Childhood Development Program has been prioritized by the MBC and its conventions to obtain a holistic development of the children. The MBC has involved in early childhood program for a couple of decades and become an active member of ECD network nationwide. The MBC has a strong partnership with Faith Based Organizations like Kachin Baptist Convention, Kayin Baptist Convention including its 16 Languages and Regional Conventions. Moreover, the MBC has cooperated with National/International NGO like Karuna Myanmar Social Service (KMSS), Metta Foundation, Save the Children, Pyinnyatazaung (PTZA) and World Vision. The MBC has implemented ECD program in partnership with UNICEF, Department of Education Planning and Training (DEPT) and Department of Social Warfare (DSW).

During 2012-2013, UNICEF funded ECD program of MBC to improve access to quality ECD services for children under five from various ethnic groups. The program promotes family care practices and child rights in ethnic area of MBC and its conventions. MBC learned a lot in ECD services particularly targeting center based 3-5 years old children. In addition, parental education and working with ECD committees are some strategies to implement MBC implemented, UNICEF funded program.

The Myanmar Baptist Convention has set up overall aim for Early Childhood Development Program under the Christian Education Department as “increase access to basic education with reduced disparities in early childhood and primary education.

The Results of the program describes as follow;

1. Improved access to and utilization of Early Childhood Development services
2. Enhanced management of ECD centers and accountability to the respective community
3. Increased in capacity development of ECD stakeholders

The activities and Training for ECCD

1. *Parenting Education Training*
2. *ECCD Caregiver One Month Training*
3. *ECCD Refresher Training for ECCD Caregiver*
4. *ECCD Committee Management Training*
5. *Toy Making Training*
6. *Publication of Story Books and Materials*
7. *Health and Nutrition*
8. *ECI Awareness*
9. *ECCD Lecture for Bible School*
10. *Follow-up Program*

1. Organisational Vision / Goal / Objectives

MYANMAR BAPTIST CONVENTION

MOTTO: "Service and Sacrifice"

Vision Statement

Through the preaching and witnessing of the gospel and the holistic development of capacities, the Myanmar Baptist Convention, with a Christ-centered approach, will ensure that His Will be done and His Kingdom extended on earth through the preaching and witnessing of the Gospel, holistic development of capacities of its member churches and the communities in which they live.

Mission Statement

To implement the Great Commission of Jesus among the people (Matt. 28:18-20)

CHRISTIAN EDUCATION DEPARTMENT

Our vision is a world in which people know God deep in their hearts, love God with all their might and walk faithfully in the footsteps of Jesus, and thus live an abundant life and be a blessing to others.

We will Endeavour to impart Christian education effectively reaching out to people across the country and to nurture children and adults to grow in faith and wisdom. In doing so, we will work together with all departments of MBC and L/R conventions, associations and churches/communities.

- We seek guidance from the Holy Spirit.
Pray will be the centre of all we do and we will listen to the voice of our Lord.
- We value people created by God, in His own image.
We will respect people's dignity and treat them equally without any discrimination.
- We are committed to work with honesty.
We will work in a way to gain trust from people.
- We are committed to seek justice.
- We abide by Baptist faith and doctrine.
- We serve with love and respect.
We will show our love to people as shown by Christ and we will treat people with respect.
- We recognize the effectiveness of working together.
God has given us different talents and thus we believe that everyone has his/her own gifts to glorify God. We will try to get genuine participation of people.

2. Organisational History

The Baptist Mission has been started in Myanmar since 1813 by the first American Missionary couple Rev. Adoniram Judson. Adoniram Judson was born in August 9, 1788 in Malden, near Boston in Massachusetts. He earned his B.A degree in 1807 and M.A degree in 1850 from Brown University. After receiving the call of God to be a missionary, he studied theology in Andover Theological Seminary then married to Ann Heseltine at Bradford in February, 1812. He was appointed as an Eastern Missionary by American Board of Commissioners for Foreign Mission of the Congregational Church in September 19, 1811. He was ordained on February 6, 1812 and after 13 days from oration they were sailing for Asia from Salem harbour by a Caravan ship together with Mr. Samural and Mr. Harrier Newell. Finally they embarked at Calcutta, India on 17th June 1812. However, due to rejection of stayed permission by the British authority, they left from India and sailing to Penang, Malaysia and finally embarked at the Yangon harbour on July 13, 1813 by Aschooner Georgiana.

Judson was an educated and committed missionary who had strong faith in God and his wife was a school teacher who was kind to others and sociable to the Burmese community. They stayed with Felix Carey, son of William Carey of India. After one year later, the two couple was sponsored by American Baptist Foreign Mission Society due to stop sponsoring by the congregational Churches of American.

The first thing that they did was learning the Burmese literature and culture to be compatible with local the local people. After three years later, Rev A. Judson wrote a Burmese Grammar (1816), and then he wrote an English-Burmese Dictionary in 1849. Besides, he translated Burmese Bible from the original text in 1837.

Judson's the so call "Zayat" ministry was started on 25th April 1819 near Shwedagon pagoda. After three months of evangelization, the first cover Maung Naw accepted Jesus Christ as his Savior and Lord on 27th June 1819. Ann Judson died in October, 1827 at Kyakkhami and Rev A. Judson died on 12th April 1850 at the age of 62. The present MBC was organized as Burma Baptist Missionary Convention by American Baptist Missionaries on December 15, 1865. The American Baptist Mission carried out the mission works in Burma until 1967. After leaving all foreign missionaries, the local Baptist leaders and Churches have been carrying on the mission works as their best till date. Today, MBC is become the biggest Christian denomination with the total number of 1.5 million members. There are 4,722 local Churches and 9,116 ministers who are serving the lord in various ministries in different places under 18 member conventions and two direct affiliated Churches which are located all over the country.

MBC is also a full active member of WCC, WACC, BWA and APBF and making mission partner with other Christian organizations such as Tearfund, EED, Dikonia, Samaritan pulse and Southern Baptist Convention. Besides, MBC is preparing to sign MOU with new mission partners such as Baptist Union of Denmark, Japan Baptist Union, O.C Resource (Singapore) in the near future. For the Glory of God, MBC has been inviting new mission partners to cooperate with and collaboration in the variety of mission programs and projects. There are 82 full times staff who are labouring tirelessly and enthusiastically for the Lord and His people.

3. Registration

It was established and legalized on 12 September 1951 under the Society Registration Act No. 34.

4. Organisational Governance

Myanmar Baptist Convention (MBC) is a one of the leading Christian Organization in Myanmar. It comprises of 18 Languages and Regional Conversations across the whole country. The General Secretary (GS) is in the highest position and the GS is elected every three year at the annual meeting.

Under each Convention there are “Associations”. The number of “Association” depends on the size/are of each convention. There are churches under each Association. There are twelve Departments under MBC and so are the Language and Regional Conventions and their associations. Christian Education department is one of the departments among the twelve.

MBC has long traditional of working for children through religious education dating back in 1965. Since 1973 summer, the director of Christian Education arranged the Nursery Teachers Training course and started the Model Centre for Preschool children. In those days, the program was running just as a day care centre that there was not related to the child development and proper child care practices. In 1994, a training which associated with ECCD was held for teachers of the Day care centres followed up by Trainers of Trainers organized by World Concern Myanmar in 1997. Most of the trainers were from several churches in different language and regional groups under MBC. The systemic child development and child care practice for future children’s welfare had been introduced since then. According to the Round Table discussion of MBC Committee Members, Some of the department need to focus in advocacy and policy focus because the political situation also shifted to positive. In early 2014, MBC and Association Directors met and discuss to consider the policy and advocacy sectors based on current working programme and projects.