



March 2020

NCFI Region hosts  
conference for Next  
Generation nurses

NCFI

*connections*



Photo: Young nurses at the  
NG Conference in Nepal

## Next Generation Nurses Meet in Nepal



### Young Nurses Leading the Future

was the theme of a conference organised by the NCFI SAME Regional Committee for next generation nurses. The conference held in October 2019 at Dhulikhel Village Resort, Nepal brought together 47 young nurses and nursing students from Nepal, Bangladesh, India and Pakistan. Its aim was to encourage and equip young nurses to be future nurse leaders, and help educators and current leaders to be part of that process. From the Bible verses in 2 Peter 3:13 "Grow in the grace and knowledge of our Lord Jesus Christ" the attendees were encouraged and given tools in the morning Bible and Key-note sessions to help them grow spiritually, emotionally and professionally.

The opening ceremony was a wonderful time of being welcomed, learning more about the NCFI Next Generation Forum, and getting to know each other. NG members from the four countries were given opportunity to parade with their country flags and lighted candles. Ms. Roshani Khatri, President of NCF Nepal and her team was welcomed and applauded by leaders and participants.

Each day began with worship led by one of the country teams followed by a Bible Study related to the day's theme, led by Nepali nurse leaders, Chadni Ghale, Bhavana, and Shakuntala Thanju respectively. Two of the keynote sessions, 'Growing Spiritually' and 'Growing Emotionally',

were led by Dr. Amy Rex-Smith, Professor of Nursing at Belhaven University, USA, NCFI Board Member, and author of the NCFI course, 'The Art and Science of Spiritual Care'. Further Keynotes sessions on "Growing Professionally" were led by Dr. Tove Giske, President of NCFI.

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Workshops in the afternoons included, 'Growing Spiritually'; Stress Management; Pros and Cons of Going Abroad to work; Love and Marriage; and Finding a Mentor, were led by Ms. Mabel Kuruvilla, (India);



## Next Generation Conference Cont.

Mr. Sarfraz Masih (Pakistan), Ms. Shakuntala Thanju (Nepal); Anne Pottkamp (Bangladesh); and Ms. Bethsaba Subba (Nepal). These topics were selected based on relevancy to young nurses. On the third day a panel discussion was led by Sarfraz Masih (Pakistan), SAME Region Chair, on "Career paths in nursing".



Cultural nights in the evenings were fun times of dances, singing and games. On the first evening the Nepali team led the program, followed by India, Bangladesh and Pakistan. These times were enjoyed by all. On the final afternoon, the SAME Region Next Generation Coordinator, Ms. Sudha, a BSC Nursing student, led the group in a discussion on 'Where do we go from here?' The group explored ways to keep in touch, continue to learn from each other and pray for one another.



At the end of the session Sudha asked for a volunteer from each country to be the Next Generation focal person for his/her country. Please pray for these amazing young students and graduate nurses as they lead this important work in their respective countries



NCFI President, Tove Giske & NCF country presidents (behind), praying for the Next Generation leaders



### NEW NCFI APPOINTMENT

In February 2020, NCFI appointed Dr Susan Elliott, PhD, MSN, RNC, APRN-BC, PHN as Director of the International Institute of Christian Nursing (IICN). The Director will work alongside nurses from across the world. The position is voluntary. To learn more, visit the IICN website: <http://iicn.ncfi.org/>

## NCFI European Leaders' Conference



Thirty-three delegates from Christian nursing fellowships and groups in Spain, Norway, Finland, Armenia, Romania, Germany, England and Scotland gathered in Hertfordshire for three days training in early October. There was a representation of the countries of Europe where NCF has groups, and other countries with Christian nurses interested in being part of the group.

The aim was to get the pooled but different experiences of the leaders of different movements of Christian nurses across Europe shared between different fellowships and to bring together young, emerging and potential leaders with established leaders. The programme was deliberately interactive, getting country groups to meet and discuss issues together, but then having room for larger group discussions, as well as plenty of time for feedback and fellowship in between. There was also time for each fellowship to share a bit about their own situation, struggles, and items for prayer with the wider group.

We reflected on the characteristics of leadership based on Jesus' model and working in groups on personal values and priorities. Another topic discussed was mentoring as a valuable tool to transmit knowledge skills and attitude to the mentee. With a deep Biblical foundation, that is of mutual help and spiritual growth, with the aim of being a witness of Christ in the workplace; discern God's plan for our life.

The overall feedback was positive, and the links and fellowship between individuals in different nations was especially positive. We have been strengthened as a group and have worked together and enjoyed the fellowship. For nurses who were for the first time at a conference outside their own borders it has opened a large window and the global vision of the group and the ministry of Christian nurses.

Thanks to the Lord the conference has fulfilled its objectives and I consider it a privilege to have participated in it. We move forward with our eyes on Christ and trusting in God who sustains our lives every day, whatever our circumstances.



From a report by Steve Fouch and Rosa M López. See the full report on the NCFI website at: <https://ncfi.org/ncfi-regions/europe/>

**NCFI WORLD CONGRESS 2020 has been postponed** due to the spread of the Corona Virus. Please go to the NCFI website for more details. <https://ncfi.org/congress-2020-at-a-glance/>