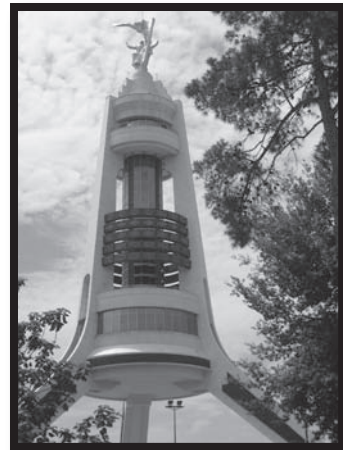


## TURKMENBASHI IS DEAD

Saparmurat Niyazov, the **President for Life** of Turkmenistan, a Central Asian country formerly a part of the old Czarist Russian Empire and later of the Soviet Union, died December 21st 2006 reportedly of "natural causes" (cardiac arrest).

The same trip that had David Lee, Charles Davidson, Doug Williams and Mike Compton in Mongolia last June had actually begun in Ashgabat, Turkmenistan in May. We saw and experienced the effects of the most highly-developed personality cult in the world (excepting only that



**Father of All Turkmen.**

The number of Christian workers in Turkmenistan is

in North Korea). The **spirit of fear** in that country was unlike anything I've ever known...not my own personal fear, but an all-pervading *atmosphere of fear* that was choking and tangible.

A gold-plated statue of Niyazov, atop a 73-foot pedestal and mounted on a platform that revolved so that it always faced the sun, set the tone for public life. Even religion became an Islamic-cult centered around the self-styled **Turkmenbashi** or

perhaps numbered at 2-3, with only 5000 or so followers of Jesus in a country of 4 million people, a country which contains many of the world's largest natural gas fields.

*"Do not put your trust in princes, in mortal men, who cannot save. When their spirit departs, they return to the dust; on that very day their plans come to nothing" (Psalm 146:3-4).*

What a glorious opportunity exists now for the gospel to be released in Central Asia...freedom for the captives and release from darkness for the prisoners!! Please begin this New Year by **praying** and **proclaiming** that **2007** will be **the year of the Lord's favor for the peoples of Turkmenistan**. Amen, Lord Jesus. May it be so, to Your eternal glory.



Volume 13  
Issue 1  
January 2007



## THE "PERSPECTIVE" ON MONGOLIA

DAVID LEE



**David In Mongolia**

David Lee, 20, of Fayetteville AR is a sophomore at Missouri State University in Springfield MO. In Spring 2006 he took a course titled **Perspectives on the World Christian Movement** (see links on back page). **His story of knowledge+action+life-change=eternal results** follows:

I had heard about the course since becoming a Christian seven years ago, and ashamedly confess that I personally exempted myself from it, thinking that I was informed enough about what God was doing in all the earth, and how He was doing it. However, I took the course anyway. It turns out that I didn't know so much. God

humbles the proud.

It was about the twelfth week of class that Brian Hogan came to speak to us. He was in Mongolia soon after the fall of Soviet Union, and endeavored from 1993-1996 with two other couples

to plant the first Mongolian church in hundreds of years. From his experience in these three years he taught us many things I am sure, but what struck me the most was the determination and tenacity of the Mongolian church.

Before venturing too far let me tell you a bit about Mongolian history. In 1206 Genghis Khan rose to power by uniting the tribes of Mongolia through strategic marriage alliances. He then proceeded to conquer the world from Southeastern China to portions of Siberia,

and from the Arabian Peninsula to Eastern Europe. Not bad for a few days on a horse. Then, from the late 1200s until the Soviet Union usurped power, Mongolia was oppressed by the demonic religion of Tibetan Buddhism. After 1924 the Tibetans could no longer practice their traditional Buddhism; instead, they were forced to give their allegiance to the philosophies of the Communist Party. However, Communism also failed to fill the void in the souls of the Mongolian people. They were a people without God, and without hope in the world. In 1991 when the U.S.S.R. crumbled there were at most **four Christians in Mongolia**. [In 2000, according to *Operation World*, there were

## THE PERSPECTIVES COURSE

**PERSPECTIVES**  
on the WORLD  
CHRISTIAN  
Movement  
*is sponsored by the U.S. Center for World Mission*

**PERSPECTIVES**  
ON LINE  
REGISTRATION  
www.arperspectives.org

**class**  
**Locations**

**Ft. Smith**  
Monday Evenings 6:30-9:30pm  
Central Christian Church  
400 N. Waldron Road  
Contact | Jesse Crawford | 479.561.0316  
jesse@centralchristianfs.org

**JBU - Siloam Springs**  
Tuesday Evenings 6:30-9:30pm  
Walton Lifetime Health Complex  
Bynum Theater  
2000 W. University Street  
Contact | Dr. Ed Klotz | 479.524.7396  
eklotz@jbu.edu

**Rogers**  
Wednesday Evenings 6:30-9:30pm  
Fellowship Bible Church NWA  
The Training Center  
1051 W. Pleasant Grove Rd.  
Contact | Dick Nelson | 479.659.3622  
dinelson@fellowshipnwa.org

**Fayetteville**  
Thursday Evenings 6:30-9:30pm  
Convent Presbyterian Church PCA  
4511 Wedington Drive  
Contact | Matt Fries | 479.409.9769  
mmfries@yahoo.com

VISIT:

[www.arperspectives.org](http://www.arperspectives.org) (for more information on the Northwest Arkansas courses listed above and to register on-line)

[www.perspectives.org](http://www.perspectives.org) (for information on courses offered in other parts of the country)

**Remember: Classes begin the week of 15 January!**

P.O. Box 9911 Fayetteville, AR 72703; Office: 479-444-7331, Fax: 479-444-6470  
Website: [www.lightbearersministries.org](http://www.lightbearersministries.org) Email: [comptonmichael@msn.com](mailto:comptonmichael@msn.com)

**Summer 2006 Mission Trip**  
"Trains, Planes, and Automobiles"

**June 1-10**  
Irkutsk to Ulaanbaatar: Train  
Ulaanbaatar to Meren: Plane  
Meren to Hatgal: Jeep

# THE "PERSPECTIVE" ON MONGOLIA (CONTINUED)



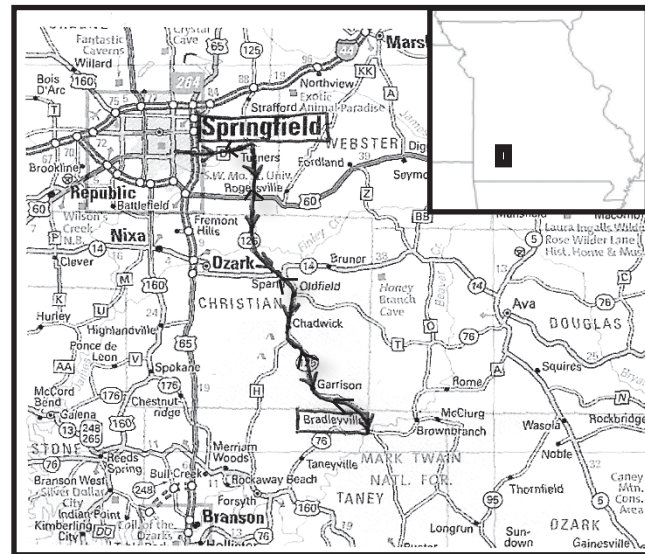
**Biking In The Rain**

an estimated 20,000 followers of Jesus in Mongolia.]

God has been gracious and merciful. From 1993 to 1996 the first church was planted and took root in Mongolia. From the beginning, the members of the Body of Christ in Mongolia have been praying for un-reached people groups of many ethnicities, but God has designed a particular web in the hearts of our Mongolian brethren that drives much of the activity of the Mongolian church, i.e., to take the gospel to un-reached people groups of Mongolian descent who live in the area of the former Mongolian Empire of the 13th and 14th centuries. They want to re-conquer the Mongolian Empire with the gospel of

Jesus Christ.

I thought that this was a pretty cool goal God had given our brothers, and since I knew that **Sunday night** when Brian Hogan spoke that I would be going to Mongolia the coming summer, **I decided that I wanted to do something** to join them in their aims among the nations. I knew that God didn't need me to send Mongolians to their own people, but He *has* graciously chosen me (and all who will submit to Him) to join Him in His work. It weighed on me that night that I needed to do something to unite with the Mongolians with whom I would soon be. **It came to me quickly: I will ride my bike next Saturday to raise money for the Mongolian missionaries. I was going to be riding my bike anyway—might as well go a few**



**Springfield To Bradleyville Round Trip Bike Route**

extra miles.

So, I had a busy week mobilizing individuals to give money for every mile I biked. I spoke to two student groups and many others who supported me and who, in essence, joined the Lord in His work among the nations. The next **Saturday came. It was a cold, wet, and rapturously joyful day. I biked about 125 miles, and on that day about \$2500.00 was raised** to support our brethren in Mongolia. **I was so glad that biking – something that I thought would never be useful for “kingdom work” – was used for that very purpose. There are so many ways that the Lord can use our talents and gifts for His glory.**

The beautiful thing is—the story hasn't ceased. I went to Mongolia last summer, and the Lord made it starkly clear to whom I was to give the money, for I knew that I was not to just give it away to

## David Lee's "Take-Aways" From The Perspectives Class

1. Introduced me to God's plan since the inception of sin in the world, and since before time began, to bring blessing through Christ unto all nations
2. Gave me a basic knowledge of the history of how God has done this through His Church
3. Exposed me to what is now happening and what I can and must do as His chosen vessel of blessing to the nations

get rid of it, but to give it so that it could be most strategically and wisely used. He doesn't want us to bury what He has given us in the ground, but to invest it and multiply it. The first two hundred dollars were used to send a couple to the peoples of Afghanistan, where they are now planting churches. This couple, if memory serves me correctly, had 87 cents to



**Mongolian Believers (With, Top to Bottom: David Lee, Doug Williams, Mike Compton, Charles Davidson)**

their name when the money was given to them. It is still concealed in the heart of God what more will come of the money that was raised, and furthermore, of the prayer support that was raised for the Mongolian church through these efforts.



**Mongolian Countryside**

We can **join God** in what He is doing around the globe. He has **invited us** to do so, but it is **not going to be an easy or convenient road.** The Cross was gruesome; and in our way to the Cross, we ought not expect any less. Entrust your all to Him, and He will use you to glorify His Name. **“Your name and renown, O Lord, are the desire of our hearts”**

(Isaiah 26:8). I will close with a story that was shared by Richard Wurmbbrand in his book titled *In the Face of Surrender*:

“Brother Michael Ershov spent forty-three years in Soviet jails for his faith in Christ. Time and dis-

**tance quench small loves, but increase great ones.** During those years his love for Christ burned ever more brightly as he walked the way of the Cross. Such faith seems overdrawn. Everything exaggerated becomes insignificant. But **there exists no possibility of exaggeration in the mutual love between God and man.** On both sides it is a love with all one's heart, with all one's soul, and with all one's might (Deuteronomy 6:5). In the Hebrew original it is not 'with all thy might,' but *bekol meodha*, which means literally 'with all your very much.'”

We are called to live for the Lord “with all our very much”. **Perspectives** is a class that **can transform the way you live and think and act. I recommend it to each of you.**