

- Jamaica has the worst murder rate in the world: some 1,700 people were killed in 2005, or 1 every 6 hours (*Jamaica Gleaner*).
- Some 1,200 people die every day in Congo-Zaire from the lingering effects of war, including violence and disease (*UNICEF*).
- Nigeria accounts for 70% of the world's polio cases. (*UNICEF*).
- An African child dies of malaria every 30 seconds. Some 20% of African children die before their 5th birthday (*UNICEF*).
- More than 300,000 children in Ukraine live in orphanages and frequently eat just one meal per day. About 15,000 homeless and unsupervised children live in abandoned buildings, on the streets and in underground city utility tunnels of Kiev (*Ukrainian Children's Fund*).
- The ambition of many fathers in much of Africa is for their family to eat one meal each day. As soon as a meal is finished, the quest begins to provide something for the next day.
- Less than 1 percent of Thailand's population is Christian (*World Christian Database*).
- North Korea has 70 bronze statues (including one valued at \$800 million), 40,000 plaster figures, 250 monuments, 350 memorial halls and 3,500 towers of eternal life—all honoring former leader Kim II Sung.
- Nearly 34,000 Japanese businessmen commit suicide each year because of business losses. Until recently, these self-sufficient, self-reliant and indifferent men were the hardest segment of society to reach with the gospel. Now after 14 years of recession and the loss of jobs, retirement benefits and lifetime employment, many are listening to the message of Christ and the hope He brings.
- Trouble imagining the crowded conditions of Bangladesh? Put it this way: take half the population of the US (150 million) and shove it all into Iowa (56,000 square miles) and you'd have roughly the same population density. Only Bangladesh is far poorer, with terrible health and sanitation conditions.
- In Russia, an opinion poll of 1,600 people living in 46 regions reports that 58 percent say they believe in God. However, 88% don't believe in the resurrection of the dead (*Interfax*).
- Alcohol plays a role in nearly a third of Russian deaths, killing 40,000 Russians each year (*Moscow News*).
- Arabic is the official language of more than 1 billion people in 22 countries and one of the world's top 10 languages (*World Christian Database*).
- Mexico City has about 4,000 barrios. Only 1,000 of them have an evangelical church (*xamissions.com*).

- More than half of Ukraine's Pentecostal pastors have had no formal pastoral training (*Assemblies of God*).
- The Cambodia Child Labour Survey (IPEC-SIMPOC, 2001) estimated there were about 1.5 million children aged 5-14 who can be considered "working children", about 44.8% of children in this age group. More boys than girls in the age groups 5-9 years old, 10-14 years old and 15-17 years old were working children.
- The United Nations labels a nation in crisis when HIV infections reach 1 percent. Nearly 7 percent of Jamaica's population is HIV-positive.
- A Swaziland newspaper reports that a 15-year-old today has only a 20 percent chance of reaching the age of 30.
- More than 1 million children of all ages live on the streets of Russia and never attend school.

## Russia's grim statistics

Homeless children: 2 million  
 Orphaned children: 800,000  
 Illiterate teenagers: 2 million  
 Children in "socially negative conditions": 6 million  
 % of Russian children who are healthy: 32%  
 % who have functional physical problems: 52%  
 % with chronic diseases: 16%  
 Russian teens who have tried/use heavy drugs: 4 million  
 Teenage drug addicts: 1 million  
 Teenager criminals, p.a.: 1 million  
 Number of crimes committed by teens p.a.: 200,000  
 Number of street gangs registered as criminal organizations by Russian police: 150  
 Average male life expectancy: 58  
 Average female life expectancy: 72  
 Number of males: 68 million  
 Number of females: 77 million  
 Source: *Russian Ministry of Education and Science, 2005*

## On Africa

- Approximately 17 percent of Africa's labor force is children.
  - Nearly 25 percent of Africa's children between the ages of 10 and 14 are involved in labor.
  - About 80 percent of the world's children under the age of 15 who are living with HIV are from Africa.
  - More than half of the continent's estimated 15 million refugees and internally displaced people are children. Only about 30 percent of them receive any type of education in refugee camps.
- Source: *United Nations, wire reports*

Our readership:

19,000 page-views in 2005.

58,630 page-views in 2006 by 13,300 readers.

Countries where our readers come from:

Andorra	Malaysia
Argentina	Mexico
Australia	Netherlands
Austria	New Zealand
Belgium	Norway
Brazil	Paraguay
Bulgaria	Papua New Guinea
Cambodia	Philippines
Canada	Poland
Chile	Portugal
China	Oman
Colombia	Qatar
Costa Rica	Romania
Croatia	Russia
Cyprus	Saudi Arabia
Czech Republic	Singapore
Denmark	Slovak Republic
Dominican Republic	Solomon Islands
Egypt	South Africa
Finland	Sri Lanka
Fiji	Sweden
France	Switzerland
Germany	Taiwan
Ghana	Tanzania
Guatemala	Thailand
Hungary	Trinidad & Tobago
India	Turkey
Indonesia	Tuvalu
Ireland	United Arab Emirates
Israel	United Kingdom
Italy	USA
Ivory Coast	Vanuatu
Japan	Vietnam
Lithuania	

### **Contributions**

If you found this magazine to be of use, please consider making a contribution of \$10, \$25 or more to defray the costs of producing *Momentum*. You can make a gift via Paypal at our website: <http://www.momentum-mag.org>

### **Share Momentum**

You may freely pass this article on to others provided you do not alter it in any way and do not charge for it. The article, unaltered, may be reproduced in magazines or newsletters so long as the website address is given.

### **Subscribe to our e-list**

If you want to know when a new issue is published, you can subscribe to our notification list by sending an email to [notify-subscribe@momentum-mag.org](mailto:notify-subscribe@momentum-mag.org).

### **Check out our other publications:**

The AD 2025 Buddhist Monitor

<http://www.momentum-mag.org/buddhist>