

THE GARUNA FOUNDATION PHOENIX, ARIZONA



Garuna means
grace, mercy
& compassion
in the Thai & Khmer languages

Garuna's Vision

By God's grace and blessing we will see healthy and vibrant indigenous Christian (Lutheran) Church bodies in several Southeast Asian nations. Each country's church body will be actively planting new congregations and will be involved in mission, theological training, education, and outreach. We will see a strong and effective training ministry through the Luther Institute Southeast Asia (LISA) with a goal of training pastors, deaconesses, teachers, and lay leaders to serve and lead this growing and lively church. We will see a network of Christian (Lutheran) schools providing excellent educational opportunities to hundreds of local children (Garuna Kids) with a strong base of qualified teachers, operating with close connections to the local congregations. We will see a ministry utilizing self-sustainable revenue generating projects to help provide jobs and resources to improve the quality of life while also providing funding for the realization of this overall vision.

Garuna's Mission

The mission of The Garuna Foundation is to support and encourage, through financial assistance, the proclamation of the grace, mercy, and compassion (Garuna) of Jesus Christ to the people(s) of Thailand, Cambodia, and surrounding countries.

Garuna's Key Impact Points

I. Luther Institute – Southeast Asia (LISA): Indigenous Bible and Leadership Training Ministry

- ✓ The purpose of LISA is to help provide the Bible and leadership training requested by the indigenous national church (Lutheran) for its pastors, deaconesses, teachers, and lay leaders.
- ✓ This 20-course training curriculum helps prepare indigenous leaders who will develop their own national church, train their own leaders, and plant additional congregations and schools in their respective countries.
- ✓ LISA provides excellent Bible, teaching, and leadership training materials in the local languages.

II. Garuna Christian Schools & Garuna Kids: Ministry for Children and Families

- ✓ Garuna Christian Schools provide an educational opportunity for children from rural Cambodia.
- ✓ Garuna Kids is a child-scholarship ministry that enables children from impoverished families to attend a Garuna School.
- ✓ Garuna School facilities will be used for worship services, vocational and health training events, and for community development activities.

III. Self-Sustainability Ministry: Revenue Generating & Ministry Self-Supporting Projects

- ✓ The Garuna Foundation is committed to developing revenue generating projects that are culturally appropriate, fair, beneficial, and locally designed that will help sustain the congregations and schools that are being served.
- ✓ These projects will be primarily agriculturally based, and designed to provide local benefit including ministry support, employment, and community development.

Garuna's Values

WE BELIEVE THAT:

- The Lord is merciful and gracious, slow to anger and abounding in steadfast love. He is good to all, and his compassion is over all that he has made. (Psalm 145:8,9; see also Ex. 34:6, Numbers 14:18, Nehemiah 9:17; Psalm 86:15; Jeremiah 32: 18; Joel 2:13; Jonah 4:2; and Nahum 1:3.)
- Human sin has separated us from this good and gracious God, necessitating the rescue mission of God to save us sinners and draw us back into relationship with him (Isaiah 59:2).
- Jesus Christ embodied God's grace in personal form (John 1:16,17), responding with compassion (Matthew 9:36; 14:14) to the cries of people for his mercy (Matt. 9:27; 15:22; 20:30) and went the way of the cross to provide forgiveness for all people (Titus 2:11-14).
- Due to our sin, no one deserves the grace of God but receives it solely as a gift flowing from God's generosity (Ephesians 2: 1-10).
- Those who receive God's grace by faith are now called to share that gift with others in word and deed, seeking to imitate the compassion of Jesus Christ (Ephesians 4:32 – 5:2; Colossians 3:12-14).
- All that we have is actually owned by God, which we are privileged to manage for him, understanding this stewardship as a means of demonstrating Christ's compassion to others (Psalm 24:1).

AS AN EXTENSION OF THESE CORE VALUES, WE AFFIRM THAT:

- The primary purpose of the Garuna Foundation is the financial support of Lutheran mission, pastoral training, church planting, and the development of the indigenous church in Southeast Asia.
- The highest ethical standards of fund development and fiscal stewardship are to be practiced.
- Volunteers should be involved and play a major role in fund development.
- The continuing education of volunteers should be pursued to improve the overall program.
- Th Garuna Foundation has the obligation to review all gifts to ensure that they are in the best interests of the donor, the receiving organization, and the Foundation.
- Donors have the right to designate gifts, and we are committed to carry out their intent.
- Raising funds should be done in a cost- effective manner and all financial information should be presented in a clear and timely manner.
- The assets of the Garuna Foundation must be managed to earn competitive returns and safeguard the funds for the long term.