

Prayer request for June 8, 2008

Thank you to all who prayed for the continued relief effort in Burma, that the Burmese government will reconsider and allow the foreign ships to dock and provide the aid that they are carrying.

After 15 failed attempts to convince the regime to let them in, the U.S. navy said it would withdraw the four ships, carrying helicopters and landing craft.

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Cyclone Nargis left more than 133,000 people dead or missing and the UN estimates that 2.4 million people are in need of food, shelter or medical care, and more than a million have yet to receive foreign aid. We must continue to pray for these people who have lost everything in this disaster and because of the Burmese regime continue to live with out basic needs.

International relief agencies still say there is an urgent need for better access, despite the promise of full co-operation given by the ruling generals to UN Secretary-General Ban Ki-moon during a recent visit.

With aid agencies reporting continued difficulties in operating inside the affected delta region, correspondents say the 22 heavy-lift helicopters on board the US ships could have made a real difference. We Christians can make a difference by asking for God's intervention in this situation. Through our prayer, we can ask that the Holy Spirit will change the hearts of the men in charge, to allow the needed relief to enter their country. Just as Jesus and the apostles crossed the land and borders, our prayers too can cross borders.

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