



 **Caritas
Pakistan**

Together We Proceed...



REPORT JUBILEE YEAR 2025

**CENTRAL ASIA
SUB-REGIONAL MEETING**
20-21 February 2024,
Almaty, Kazakhstan



Jubilee Year 2025 “Pilgrims of Hope”

The Jubilee Year 2025 officially proclaimed by Pope Francis as a special Holy Year ran from 24 December 2024 until 6 January 2026 under the theme “Pilgrims of Hope.” This theme called the global Catholic community to spiritual renewal, reconciliation, charity, and a deeper engagement with creation and global challenges in hope-filled action. The “Pilgrims of Hope” remained the central theme of the Jubilee Year 2025, proclaimed by Pope Francis. This theme summarizes a message of renewal, faith, and a global invitation to journey with hope both spiritually and practically toward a more sympathetic and just world. During Jubilee Year 2025, *Caritas Asia* engaged its members across Asia around the **global Turn Debt into Hope campaign**, anchored in the Jubilee’s message of mercy, justice, and transformative action. This campaign was developed by the *Caritas Internationalis* confederation as part of Jubilee initiatives to address the structural links between indebtedness, poverty, climate vulnerability, and ecological injustice issues

In South Asia, South East Asia and Central Asia, the Jubilee was marked primarily through faith communities, Church groups, and local initiatives were implemented across the region



emphasizing hope, charity, and solidarity with the poor and marginalized. **Mr. Anjad Gulzar**, during Caritas Asia Regional Meeting in 2025, gave a detailed briefing to all members and highlighted plans of member countries at Asia regional level. According to the updates and reports from different parts of Asia, it is realized that all the activities have been successfully completed.





Integration with thematic areas:

The Jubilee activities at the regional and Catholic church level in respective countries integrated or incorporated sectoral development goals and creation care activities that resonated strongly with key thematic priorities such as DRR, climate change, agriculture, food security, and WASH. Across Asia in 2025, Caritas member organizations together with other civil society and UN Organizations mobilized climate-action initiatives

such as climate-resilient agriculture support aimed at strengthening rural income security under conditions of intensifying climate risk. Although not directly under Jubilee branding, these initiatives reflect the spirit of *Pilgrims of Hope* by promoting sustainable adaptation, resilience building, and community empowerment in the

face of climate uncertainty. **Regional SAFBIN Program** (Smallholder Adaptive Farming & Biodiversity Network) is one example of such integration and collaboration between Caritas Member Organizations in



Pakistan, Bangladesh, India, Pakistan and Sri Lanka.

In **South Asia**, the Jubilee Year 2025 “Pilgrims of Hope” was celebrated by Caritas member organizations through a mix of spiritual, social, and community-oriented initiatives. **Caritas Pakistan** supported diocesan Jubilee liturgies and community outreach in flood-affected areas, emphasizing hope and solidarity; completion of 60 years of Caritas in Pakistan was also linked with jubilee celebration by engaging youth and volunteers. **Caritas India** linked Jubilee celebrations with youth engagement, social service, and disaster preparedness programs; **Caritas Sri Lanka** organized prayer services and community events highlighting reconciliation and care for the marginalized; **Caritas Nepal** combined Jubilee reflections with advocacy for climate resilience and rural development; and **Caritas Bangladesh** integrated the Jubilee message into parish-level pilgrimages and social programs for vulnerable communities. Together, these initiatives translated the Jubilee’s themes of mercy, hope, and social justice into concrete actions addressing spiritual, humanitarian, and ecological needs across the region.

The celebration of **60 years of Caritas Pakistan’s service** was held with admiration and joy on 8–9 November 2025 at the Renewal Center, Youhanabad, with the participation of all Catholic bishops, general body members, and



Caritas staff from across the country. The event marked six decades of committed service to the poor and marginalized and was meaningfully linked with the Jubilee Year 2025, highlighting themes of thanksgiving, renewal, and hope. During the celebration, the bishops unveiled a special commemorative logo prepared for the 60th anniversary, symbolizing Caritas Pakistan’s enduring mission of compassion and justice.

Across different countries of Asia and specifically in South Asia region, humanitarian planning and response included prioritization of water and sanitation services, support for food items, shelter and medical services particularly in areas affected by floods and drought. This showed how disaster relief and recovery initiatives protected the health and dignity of most vulnerable groups like children, women, elderly and in challenging environments. In Bangladesh, Pakistan, Sri Lanka, India, Nepal, Thailand, Cambodia, Philippines, Indonesia, Mongolia, Singapore and Tajikistan local Catholic dioceses and communities hosted liturgical celebrations, pilgrimages, prayer services, educational workshops, and community outreach events reflective of the Jubilee’s spiritual dimensions. Activities often emphasized hope, charity, and solidarity with the poor and marginalized.



In South-East Asia, the Jubilee Year 2025 “Pilgrims of Hope” was celebrated across Caritas member organizations through a combination of spiritual reflection, community outreach, and advocacy initiatives. For example, **Caritas Philippines** organized the *Alay Kapwa Pilgrimage of Hope*, combining prayer, solidarity, and service to marginalized communities; **Caritas Singapore** highlighted the Jubilee theme during Charities Week, encouraging engagement with vulnerable groups; **Caritas Indonesia** held a national meeting emphasizing creation care and ecological stewardship; **while Caritas Thailand and Caritas Vietnam** participated in regional campaigns like *Turn Debt into Hope*, promoting justice and ecological responsibility; Caritas Cambodia supported local church Jubilee liturgies and community prayers. Collectively, these activities integrated the Jubilee spirit of hope, mercy, and solidarity with practical action in social service, advocacy, and ecological care.



During the Jubilee Year 2025, Catholic communities in **Tajikistan, Kazakhstan, and Mongolia** marked the holy year through a variety of spiritual, pastoral, and social activities centered on hope, renewal, and solidarity. Special Jubilee Masses, prayer services, and pilgrimages were organized in parishes and mission centers, bringing together clergy, religious, and lay faithful to deepen their faith and unity.

Church-led youth groups and community development committees connected Jubilee themes with action on ecology, social justice, and community development often aligning with Sustainable Development Goals and relevant sectors like environment and food security. **Caritas Plantation campaign of Caritas Pakistan (2024-2027)** and tree plantation drives in other countries is an evident example of action for ecology.

Country wise events:

<u>Country</u>	<u>Events</u>	<u>Country</u>	<u>Events</u>	<u>Country</u>	<u>Events</u>
Bangladesh	05	Thailand	02	Singapore	02
India	04	Myanmar	01	Kazakhstan	01
Nepal	03	Vietnam	01	Mongolia	02
Pakistan	05	Indonesia	01	Tajikistan	01
Sri Lanka	04	Malaysia	01	Cambodia	02
		Philippines	03		

Key Achievements:

Turn Debt into Hope (Jubilee Campaign)

- A major justice and advocacy campaign anchored in the Jubilee 2025 process, promoted globally and actively engaged by Caritas Asia and its member organizations.
- It addresses unsustainable debt, ecological injustice, and systemic inequality linking debt burden to climate vulnerability and development challenges.
- Dozens of Caritas members across South Asia, Southeast Asia and Central Asia formally signed onto the campaign, broadening regional engagement and solidarity for debt justice.
- The campaign also drew grassroots and institutional support including political figures and environmental advocates, and was promoted through different events at country level. This campaign represented a collective voice of Caritas Asia for structural change and justice rooted in Catholic social teaching.

Pilgrims of Hope Theme in Jubilee Celebrations

- Many Caritas member organizations adopted the Jubilee motto “**Pilgrims of Hope**”, integrating spiritual reflection with action for justice and service.
- This deepened spiritual renewal and solidarity across national and cultural contexts, embracing hope as a force for service to the poor, ecological stewardship, and community empowerment.
- Regional events, prayers, and reflections tied to this theme helped unify activities across Asia for Jubilee 2025.

Strengthened Regional Cooperation & Strategic Dialogue:

- In **October 2025**, representatives from South Asia, Southeast Asia, East Asia and Central Asia gathered to present progress and discuss implementation of common strategies, including new frameworks for cooperation beyond 2025.
- The meeting finalized the **Caritas Asia Strategic Framework (2026–2030)**, aiming to deepen regional coordination, capacity strengthening and community accompaniment.
- Specific South Asia achievements were showcased, such as collaborative efforts in disaster recovery (Nepal), climate resilience (Pakistan, India, Bangladesh), peacebuilding (Sri Lanka), and community preparedness (Pakistan and India) demonstrating real impact on vulnerable communities.

Conclusion:

The activities of Jubilee year 2025 addressed pressing social issues such as disaster risk reduction, climate resilience, food security, water and sanitation, and ecological stewardship. Regional collaborations including campaigns like *Turn Debt into Hope* and participation in regional events demonstrated the capacity of Caritas and Church networks to integrate Jubilee spirituality with concrete development, humanitarian, and advocacy efforts. Overall, the Jubilee Year 2025 strengthened regional solidarity, inspired hope among communities, and translated the Church’s vision of mercy and justice into tangible actions across Asia.