



Baher and the Together Network

Update from the Edges 1 | November 2025



Location: The Together Network operates across the Middle East and North Africa



What we do: Supporting and equipping the local church in the Middle East and North Africa to multiply disciples through evangelism, discipleship and leadership training



Equipping where followers of Jesus are in a minority

Dear friends,

As I hear stories from other CMS partners equipping people in places where followers of Jesus are in a minority, my faith is strengthened. I hope that as you read my update from working with the Together Network in Egypt that you are also inspired to read about the creativity of pastors in northern India who are taking church on the move and trekking into the hills to meet with other leaders. And, in the Middle East, where women are leading other women from Muslim backgrounds to faith in Jesus. I hope that you are encouraged by this update and by the stories from the wider work of CMS too.



Tens of thousands of people have fled the horrific war in Sudan, crossing into Egypt in search of safety. When they arrive, they often face another harsh reality: life in overcrowded slums and impoverished neighbourhoods, struggling to find housing, work and acceptance. Many experience discrimination and harassment; young people lose hope, turn to addiction, or abandon their dreams of education and a future.

Football academies create spaces for children to play and encounter God's love

God has called us to follow Jesus to the edges, to reach these neglected and vulnerable communities – Sudanese refugees, street children and families living in Cairo's garbage city. As the numbers of refugees grow, we are partnering with Sudanese pastors and church leaders in the poorest districts of Cairo. We train these leaders to walk the journey of discipleship and to bring transformation to their own people.

Through our sports ministry, we have launched football academies creating spaces for children to play, belong and encounter God's love. We teach principles of generosity and giving, helping families discover how sharing and serving one another can bring hope to entire communities. Our teams visit homes alongside local churches, providing food packages and spiritual care for families.

Ministry in these neighbourhoods is not easy. The wounds of tribal conflict still run deep, and tensions often erupt into violence. One story stands out among many...

A family arrived in Egypt about a year ago with three teenage sons. They had fled Sudan's war – exhausted, dehydrated, and traumatised after crossing mountains and desert mostly on foot. At the border, the authorities detained the father and one of the boys, while the mother and the other two sons managed

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**With Jesus
 With each other
 To the edges**



to enter Egypt. They were in desperate condition and were first received by the church in Aswan before moving to Cairo to join distant relatives. The church in Cairo supported them, offering shelter, clothing and food.

Our partner churches connected us with this family. Through our sports ministry, we began engaging the boys. Every Friday, we held sports events that became a safe and joyful space for them. As relationships grew, we shared the message of Christ through an evangelistic sports day – and the boys gave their lives to Jesus.

A few months later, the father was released from prison. We invited the parents to a family fun day event where they too encountered the love of Christ and surrendered their lives to him. Today, the entire family is part of our weekly discipleship home group. They are walking faithfully with God – living a transformed life.

Every month, we host family fun sports days, which bring together Sudanese families from different backgrounds. These gatherings are far more than times of entertainment; they are intentional outreach to a forgotten and persecuted community longing for hope. As parents witness the joy and transformation in their children's lives, many are moved to seek the same source of love. Their hearts are ready to accept this journey of restoration.

Without this journey, this family could easily have fallen apart – the boys lost to the streets, caught in addiction or despair. But God intervened. He restored their lives, gave them purpose, and turned them into a living testimony of His transforming grace.

Through this ministry, we continue to witness many such stories of healed hearts, families restored, and communities being transformed. Kingdom values are taking root where division and despair once reigned. We thank God for the fruit we see and for allowing us to be part of his redemptive work among the Sudanese refugees and the most vulnerable in Egypt.

Please join us in prayer:

- ▶ Pray that God would raise more Sudanese men and women to walk alongside their own people to serve, lead, disciple and care for them compassionately.
- ▶ Pray for a powerful multiplying discipleship movement to grow – that people who have been helped and healed would share their hearts with their extended families and communities, leading others to God.
- ▶ Pray for God's emotional, spiritual and physical healing to families and youth who are suffering the wounds of trauma from war, displacement, and loss.
- ▶ Pray for our field staff who see the overwhelming needs to remain passionate, following God's calling. And that God would strengthen them. Pray that God would connect us with like-minded ministry partners who share the same calling and Kingdom values.

Peace and Grace,
Baher,
Together Network



Photos from top to bottom: Sudanese youth sports event; Sudanese youth praying and learning together



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I've been encouraged to hear from others who are part of my wider area of work. In India, growing hostility towards Christians leads church pastors to trek into the hills to meet with and disciple one another. And in the Middle East, women are leading other women from Muslim backgrounds to faith in Jesus. Read more at churchmissionsociety.org/equip

Please note that opinions expressed in updates are those of mission partners, not necessarily of Church Mission Society.

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