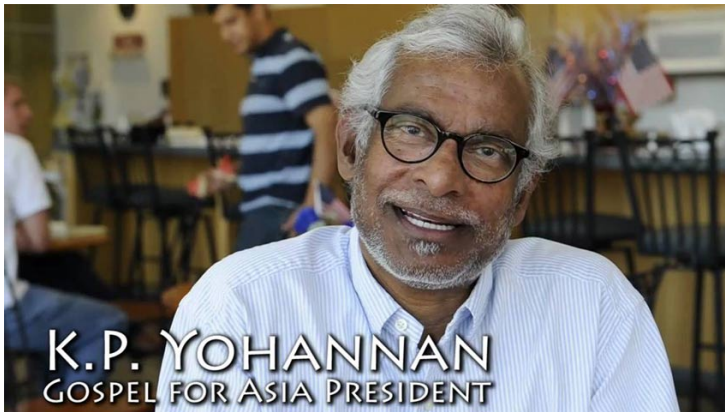


## Gospel for Asia Alleged Fraudulently Solicited Hundreds of Millions in Donations



By [Leonardo Blair](#), Christian Post]

Gospel for Asia, one of the largest missions agencies based in the U.S., was named in a class action lawsuit Monday alleging that it and several affiliates fraudulently solicited hundreds of millions of dollars in charitable donations, and misdirected the money into the personal empire of the organization's leader, K.P. Yohannan.

The lawsuit initiated in the United States District Court for the Western District of Arkansas by the Dallas-based Stanley Law Group, comes just four months after the Evangelical Council for Financial Accountability cut ties with the organization last October for [violating five](#) of the ECFA's seven core standards.

In the 108-page document acquired by The Christian Post on Tuesday, plaintiffs allege that Gospel for Asia, Yohannan, and other GFA officials misrepresented to donors how, when, and where charitable donations would be spent, and funneled vast amounts of the hundreds of millions of dollars the organization has collected into for-profit businesses and an expensive headquarters.

Listed as defendants along with Yohannan are: his wife, Gisela, a member of the Board of Directors of GFA; his son Daniel Punnose, also a member of the Board of Directors of GFA and a vice president; David Carroll, who serves GFA in multiple capacities, including Chief Financial Officer; and Pat Emerick. Emerick, according to the suit, is a United States citizen who resides in Ontario, Canada. He serves as the director of the Canadian affiliate of GFA.

The Christian Post reached out to GFA officials on several occasions Tuesday about the lawsuit and was directed to Taun Cortado, director of GFA's U.S. Broadcast and Media Relations Department.

This reporter reached out to Cortado via email about the lawsuit and asked if GFA would like to respond and he replied: "Don't worry ? I won't."

When asked if his reply should be taken as a general "no comment" he responded: "Oh sorry brother. That was meant for someone else ?"

When asked if he would like to respond a third time, Cortado provided no further response.

Gospel for Asia according to the lawsuit is a global missionary organization that operates in South Asia, primarily within India.

The organization tells potential donors that it supplies the "poorest of the poor" with food, provisions, and a Christian message, but lead attorney Marc R. Stanley said in a statement that GFA has been exploiting the goodwill of Christians.

"K.P. Yohannan and his Gospel for Asia inner circle have been exploiting the goodwill and generosity of devout Christians around the country for years. Gospel for Asia should return all the money it's taken from donors who thought they were contributing to charity," said Stanley.

According to the lawsuit: "Between 2007 and 2013, GFA solicited over \$450,000,000 in donations from the United States alone, where the majority of GFA's donors reside. Well over one million unique donations are made to GFA each year from tens of thousands of donors who give one time or on a recurring, sponsorship basis. However, despite repeated, explicit guarantees from GFA to donors, only a fraction of the donated money supports the people and causes for which it was donated, as Defendants redirect it for their own purposes."

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