



## **PERSONAL COVENANT & LIABILITY RELEASE FORM**

I recognize and accept the following conditions in order to further the purpose and safety of the mission trip for which I am applying. If accepted as a member of this Reaching and Teaching International Ministries team, I agree to:

1. Release and discharge the organizations and individuals which helped make these arrangements, including Reaching and Teaching International Ministries, their agents, employees, officers and volunteers from all claims, demands, actions, judgments, or executions that I have ever had, or now have or may have, or which my heirs, executors, administrators, or assigns may have or claim to have, against these organizations their agents, employees, officers, and volunteers, and their successors or assigns for all personal injuries known or unknown, and injuries to property, real or personal, caused by or arising out of this journey. I intend to be legally bound by this statement.
2. Adopt an attitude that I am on this team to try to understand the host culture, not to convince them of my own viewpoint or style. I go knowing that there are many different ways to accomplish the same objective, and know that my way is not necessarily the best.
3. Abstain from making derogatory comments or engaging in arguments regarding people, politics, sports, religion, race, or traditions.
4. Go as a servant-disciple of Jesus Christ and will adopt that attitude when dealing with my fellow team members and the people I meet during the trip.
5. Accept and submit to the leadership role and authority of the team leader and promise to abide by his or her decisions as they concern this mission trip.
6. Acknowledge that by engaging in this journey, I am subjecting myself to certain risks voluntarily, including and in addition to those risks that I normally face in my personal and business life, including, but not limited to such things as health hazards due to poor food and water, diseases, pests, and poor sanitation; potential danger from lack of control over local population; potential injury while working, and inadequate medical facilities.
7. Understand that our team's work is but a tiny speck on the bigger picture that our mission partners are trying to accomplish. I promise not to be overly demanding, to do my best not to offend or cause embarrassment for the local mission host, and to do my best to help them attain their long term goals.
8. Attend all team meetings possible, both prior to departure and during the mission trip.
9. Expediently follow up on all trip requirements.
10. Refrain from meddling, complaining, and obscene or insensitive humor. I realize that others on my team, during the journey, and while onsite will look at me for an example of how a Christian acts, and will not treat that responsibility lightly. I understand that travel, especially to remote

locations, can be difficult, and I promise to adopt a flexible attitude and be supportive as plans may need to be changed.

11. Regard the differing styles of worshiping with respect. I promise that where I see the need, I will witness my faith, but without a superior, colonial attitude.

12. I promise not to initiate or seek new romantic relationships with team members during the trip.

13. Avoid any actions which might be perceived as amorous attentions toward indigenous people I meet.

14. Refrain from using tobacco or alcoholic beverages while in the host country. Abstain from any illegal drugs or prohibited activity while on this trip.

15. Remember we are Christians from another culture and will be watched very closely. I will not take lightly this important responsibility of setting an example.

16. Refrain from giving gifts, such as money, clothes, jewelry, electronics, etc. Although the intent of the giver is good, the result after we leave has caused problems for our host, and jealousy and bitterness amongst those locals who received no such largesse. If I feel compelled to give a gift to someone I have met, I will consult first with the team leader before I promise or give the gift, and I promise to let him make the final decision on this matter.

17. Act as a servant-disciple of the local ministry. I will respect the advice I am given concerning attire, eating, and drinking, and other such traditions that will help me to assimilate into the local community.

18. Understand that every member of this group is expected to share freely from their particular blessings and talents. I agree to participate in these ways as fully as possible.

19. I agree that in the event my conduct is considered so unsatisfactory that it jeopardizes the success of the trip, and that mediation during the trip has failed to correct my behavior, that my services in connection with this mission shall end and I shall return home immediately at my own expense.

20. Commit to conduct all aspects of my service in accordance with and not contrary to the Reaching & Teaching statements of belief, The Abstract of Principles and Baptist Faith & Message (2000).