



The Society of Asian Biblical Studies

To foster Biblical scholarship in Asia

27 September 2020

Dear Colleagues,

I write on behalf of the Executive Committee of the Society of Asian Biblical studies. It is with deep disappointment that we announce the **cancellation** of our meeting in 2021. We had hoped that the crisis we are in would abate by this time and that we would be able to pick up on our plans and gather in June 2021 in Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia.

Most locations in Asia are going through a second wave of infections and quarantine restrictions are still very much in place in several countries. The venue, the Wisma Methodist, in KL, where we were to meet is not taking reservations for the foreseeable future. International travel during this time is complicated for most of us.

The committee considered holding a virtual meeting, but we have several things to consider - time, costs, and personnel besides people's access to the web and bandwidth. We are a small society without an office or paid staff. Collecting even a small registration fee to cover costs is challenging for us. We have to hold the meeting over several days and we do not have the personnel or skill to oversee this, given that those of us on the committee volunteer our time.

We are counting on being able to meet as per schedule in 2022. The venue will be announced as soon as we are able to confirm country and venue.

We hope that you will continue to be supportive of SABS, its vision and mission. We think of all of you during these strange and troubling times and pray that you and your families are safe. We hope to see you in 2022.

Take care and stay well everyone and be kind to one another. We will be in touch again soon.

Warm regards,

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