

Gospel For Asia faced staff exodus amid negative publicity

[Mark Woods](#) MANAGING EDITOR 25 May 2016 Christianity Today



GFA's Texas headquarters.

Around 50 staff – half of the total – left the embattled Gospel for Asia (GFA) mission organisation in 2015, according to an activist group.

The second largest mission group in the US, GFA and its founder KP Yohannan have faced a storm of negative publicity following revelations by blogger [Warren Throckmorton](#) of financial mismanagement. It was found to have kept vast reserves in Indian bank accounts while pleading for urgent funds from donors in the US and was expelled from the Evangelical Council for Financial Accountability after an investigation. It was also criticised for its practice of getting students to carry large amounts in cash from the US to India. GFA has been accused of treated staff poorly and is facing a lawsuit for fraud and misuse of charitable donations.

[DonorBeWise.com](#), run by former GFA workers, says its purpose is to "help individuals understand the issues surrounding GFA". It says: "The 2015 staff exodus was not your normal attrition...If you look at how long so many of these staff had served and how much they personally invested in the work, in

terms of time and commitment, these weren't the type of people to leave over a little misunderstanding."

DonorBeWise says: "What people do leave over is repeat offenses that are born out of abusive patterns, they leave over a lack of trust."

Senior staff who left included the communications leader, the church relations department leader, and the leaders of the IT, ministry parters and web departments. The leader of the IT department, whose wife also left her role as writer/editor, had served for 29 years.