

Oct - Dec
2018



Quarterly News Letter



Diocese Of Jabalpur
Church Of North India
Jabalpur




**Diocese Of Jabalpur
Church Of North India**

“माननीय मॉडरेटर सर को समर्पित”



क्या कहें, कुछ कह न पाएं हम,
कैसे परिभाषित करें? निःशब्द खुद को पाए हम ।
जैसे हैं आकाश के तारे नभ में समाए,
वैसे ही वे हैं हमारे चित में समाए ।
व्यक्तित्व के धनी 'प्रेम' हैं जिनका नाम,
सिर्फ नाम ही नहीं, कार्य में भी निहित है उनका यह नाम ।
जैसी काया पाई, वैसे ही सलोना मन पाया,
जिसे देखकर सबका हृदय हरषाया
है जो सबके रहमत के रखवाले,
पाया है हमने उनको, कर्मठ स्वभाव रखने वाले ।
'मैडम जी' भी किस्मत वाली,
जिन्होंने उनका साथ निभाया ।
दोनों की छत्र-छाया में लवने वाली,
बेटा-बेटी का बचपन है बढ़ पाया ।
ये था पारिवारिक व्यक्तित्व उनका,
गौर से दृष्टि करे तो पाया है चौड़ा कद उनका ।
स्वयं बढ़कर ही है जीवन के थपेड़ों को हराया,
उनके आगे दिल्ली ने भी खुद को नतमस्तक है पाया ।
न जाने असंख्य दिग्गजों को पीछे छोड़
फिर जीत का उन्होंने परचम लहराया ।
एक पायदान भी कम पड़ जाए जिनको,
नहीं है पीछे मुड़ना, आगे बढ़ने का है जुनून जिनको ।
अब और क्या कहें, कैसे कहें ऐसा ही है व्यक्तित्व उनका,
नभ में भी न समाया, उकाब समान हैं उन्नतांश उनका ।
आकाश के तारे तोड़, आपने स्वयं को सक्षम बनाया,
फिर भी नम्र हो प्रेम, एकता एवं गवाही का सबक सिखाया ।
खुद को सफलता के पथ पर कर अग्रसर,
औरों को भी चलना सिखलाया ।
ऐसी चलाई आँधी हर्ष की सर-सर,
सबके प्रिय "सर" हैं बन कर ।
रोज़गार का ज़रिया बन फिर सबका है घर बसाकर ।।
दुआ करते हैं हम मिल कर,
सलामत रखे, खुदा आपका हमसाया बनकर ।
कर हिफाजत सदा आपकी,
यूँ बढ़ाते जाएँ सफलता की रपतार आपकी

 श्रीमती एस. कुमार



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में दीन-हीन

The Star Was The Sign

Thought

God with us. Immanuel. Jesus Christ lived as a human being only for a short period. He ascended into heaven. Is he still "God with us"? It is our faith that he sent to us the Holy Spirit. Is the Holy Spirit a substitute for "God with us"? When Jesus said, "Abide in me; I will abide in you", it also meant that when we abide in Jesus Christ, we will become his presence in this world, "God with us" for all those who long for his presence.



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Ipe Joseph
(Editor)

Editorial

This quarter started with a big youth event, Barkhat ki Barish - Showers of blessings. In this festival hosted by our diocese 19 dioceses of CNI participated along with their 400 participants. This was not just an occasion which reflected the strength of CNI youth, but an orchestrated gathering of young people who sent out the message to the whole nation that the Church is safe in the hands of the young generation. Another significant observation is that our Pastors are enriched spiritually by the monthly one-day prayer meetings. Our Bishop is to be much appreciated for creating this habit in the pastors. In all meetings our Bishop himself gave the leadership. This makes pastoral relationship intimate and common planning easier. Vikas Asha Kendra had its yearly fete and festival bringing together the whole diocese, children and staff of our schools, parents and well wishers from the city. VAK stands out as a symbol of our diakonia and our concern for the physically and mentally challenged children.

Our Bishop celebrated his Birthday on 12th December. The whole Diocesan family, civic leaders from the city, bank people and hundreds of well wishers gathered to wish him a happy birthday. The News letter team also was also present on this solemn occasion. We pray that he will have many more years of fruitful ministry touching lives and transforming them. Another good news is that the youngest in the News Letter team Nikhil S. Lall got married to beautiful Eneid Sonia Martin on 17th October 2018. We wish them a blessed family life.

In addition to the above mentioned items, this issue has covered several other matters such as a reflection on the naming of Jesus, Christmas celebrations, sports day and founders day of schools and the news about the installation of the new General Secretary of National Council of Churches in India Rev. Asir Ebenezer.. The Most Rev. Dr. P.C. Singh, President of NCCI, gave leadership in the installation service. We wish all the best to the new General Secretary and gratefully remember the ministry of the outgoing General Secretary Rev. Dr. Roger Gaikwad. We have chosen Pachmari Church as the parish of the quarter.

The members of News Letter team - Malcolm, Nikhil and Ipe wish all the readers a wonderful New Year. Life is a journey. Enjoy the beautiful scenes and experiences on the way as much as you enjoy the expectation of the arrival of the destination!



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BISHOP'S MESSAGE

Dearly Beloved in Jesus Christ

This issue of the News Letter covers the last quarter of 2018. At the same time, it will reach you in the new year. So I need to start by wishing you a Blessed Christmas as well as a purpose-driven New Year!

This year, for the Christmas message I emphasized on two points namely, the Manger Baby and the Baby in the Manger transforming the whole world. When God selected the human body, mind and spirit for his son's incarnation it transformed the nature of human life by giving new dignity to human body, mind and spirit, and the life process as a whole. We see that the baby in the manger transformed family life also. His family surrendered itself fully to the will and purpose of God. Jesus lived as an obedient child respecting parents and helping them in their carpenter's shop. We have to surrender ourselves and our children to the will of God.

Child in the Manger Transformed the our Relationship with God. Jesus gave visibility to the unseen God. He was "Immanuel", "God is with us". He walked with people, ate with people and shared his life with the people. In Jesus we see the human face of God. His eyes were sensitive to the sufferings and needs of fellow human beings. His miracle touch healed the lepers, the blind, the deaf, the lame, the crippled, the bleeding and the mentally derailed. He had power over death even to raise people from death as in the case of his close friend Lazarus who was dead for three days.

The Child in the Manger transformed Relationships among People. Jesus was able to transcend boundaries of caste, creed, gender and age in his relationship with people. He transformed the ethics of Life. We know that ethics refers to rules and norms which govern a community or society. Jesus brought out a new ethical system. He preached and practiced it. He did not bring a new set of rules; he interpreted the old rules in a new way. First of all, he said that loving God is possible only by loving our neighbour or fellow human being. This is the key to his new ethics. The old law says, "an eye for an eye and a tooth for a tooth". That is, if someone plucks your eye, or tooth you have the right to pluck his eye or tooth. The ethics of Jesus says, "Love your enemies and pray for them who hate you" "If someone slaps you on one cheek, show him the other". "Win evil through goodness".

My New Year message is directly related to my Christmas message. That is. let us make an ardent effort to be true disciples of the Baby in the Manger in transforming the world. Many good things happened during the quarter. There were regular monthly prayer meetings of the pastors. The most recent ones were in Satna and in the Bible Society. This year also the youth celebrated their inter-diocesan get together, Barkhat ki Barish. I congratulate all our young people. The fete and sale of Vikas Asha Kendra took place with much festivity as usual. We are grateful to Mrs. Nora Singh and team for their hard work. The women's fellowship celebrated Christmas with their music competitions. We uphold in prayer Rt. Rev. Manoj Charan who was consecrated as the new Bishop of our sister Diocese of Bhopal.

On December 12th I entered into a new year of my life. God has been gracious to me and to whatever I do. I request your prayers for me and my family in the new year also.

Most Rev. Dr. P.C. Singh, Moderator CNI and Bishop of the CNI Diocese of Jabalpur.



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Rev. Bruce Thangadurai

THE NAME OF JESUS: SERMON NOTES

Every child of God is born to be a wonder to the world. According to John 3:8, everyone born of the spirit is born a living wonder.

The name of Jesus is so full of wonders and engaging that name 'Jesus' is one way to evoke signs and wonders to flow in our life. Let us draw our attention to the following aspects of the name of Jesus.

1. The Uniqueness of the Name of Jesus Phil 2: 9 - 11

In our text, we are told of a name that does have great significance. The name of Jesus stands out as a name above all other names. Why is it a name above every other name?

- i. It is a name picked by the Father Matt. 1:21.*
- ii. It is a name that points back to the Father 1 John 4:8; 16.*
- iii. It is a name that reveals God's purpose (Luke 19:10)*
- iv. It is a stainless name: 1 John 3.5*
- v. It is a saving name (Acts 4:12, Rom. 10:13).*

2. The Power of the Name of Jesus. Mathew 28: 18.

This is one of the most exciting statements in the Bible, where Jesus gave a personal testimony about the dimension, magnitude, and extent of his power. No other man or power has ever dared to claim or pretended either falsely or rightly that He is Lord of Heaven and Earth. Jesus Christ is saying that He is more powerful than all the powers of this world. He is the only genuine source of all divine solutions to human problems.

1. We have healing in His name (John 21:25; Luke 11:14; Mark 16:18)

The Gospels mention at least 17 unique healing miracles Jesus performed. A large number are not even recorded.

His miracles weren't limited to physical healing. Certain healing miracles involved deliverance from demonic oppression.

His power is capable of penetrating our body mind and spirit. Not only you have the same healing He has given you but also the same power to heal others through His name.

2. We have authority in His name Luke 4:41; Acts 7:55; 16:16-18

Jesus cast out many demons while He was on earth. Demons fled because they recognized His authority.

He has ascended to heaven and is seated at God's right hand side now. It means Jesus has the same authority as God in heaven and earth.

He has given you the same authority today. You must exercise that authority in Jesus' name.



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3. *We have victory in His name
Romans 10:13; 1 Corinthians 15:55; Romans 8:37*

The Bible says that Jesus raised many people from the dead. Finally He defeated His own death.

His resurrection makes us more than conquerors. In His name we can conquer the problems of life.

4. *We have life in His name. John 10:10*

We have new life to walk in righteousness here on earth and eternal life to live with Him forever in heaven.

5. *Salvation comes in his name (Acts 4:12, Rom. 10:13).*

6. *We are justified in his name (1 Cor. 6:11).*

Jesus has given every believer unlimited and general power of attorney in all matters and with the right to use His name in every situation. Jesus' authority rested with His submission to the Father, so our authority rests with our submission to Him at all times and in all matters.

Jesus is an All-powerful God that has power to solve all problems. He can overcome and destroy all powers that have been oppressing your life, stagnating your finances, and wasting your opportunities, or that has been confronting your marriage, your business, your academics, your family, and your destiny. As we entered 2019 let us proclaim the name of Jesus let us with full authority proclaim His name !



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CNI Youth Fest 2018 - "Barkat-Ki-Baarish"

The CNI Youth Fest 2018 - "Barkat-ki-Baarish" was jointly organised by the CNI Synod, Synodical Youth Fellowship Committee (SYFC), DYFC of the Diocese of Jabalpur and all participating Dioceses and hosted by Diocese of Jabalpur from 17th to 20th October 2018 in Christ Church Boys' Senior Secondary School, Jabalpur [M.P.] under the theme "Seek ye first the kingdom of God and His righteousness; and all these things shall be added unto you" - Matthew 6:33. A total of 19 Dioceses participated resulting in more than 400 delegates. A total of 125 local volunteers from Jabalpur also took part in the programme.

The Moderator of CNI Synod, The Most Rev. Dr. P. C. Singh, The General Secretary CNI Synod, Mr. AlwanMasih, Mr. Joshua Rathnam, Chief Functionary SBHS, Mrs. Nora Singh, Director of Vikas Asha Kendra, Heads of the Institutions and Pastors of the Diocese of Jabalpur, CNI and all the other dignitaries were welcomed by the members of SYFC and DYFC.

Followed by the lighting of Fest Torch declaring the CNI Youth Fest open along with the raising of the CNI flag by Ms. Shikha Massey (President, CNI SYFC) and March past led by SYFC and followed by all the participating Diocese under the names of four Teams i.e., Unity, Witness, Service and Faith.

The General Secretary, Mr. AlwanMasih explained that the purpose of this programme is - (i) Getting to know the church, (ii) Understanding the energy of the youth, (iii) To experience the Barkat-ki-Baarish and (iv) To understand the God's word and plan. These events will in turn assist us to fulfil the objective of the church.

The CNI Moderator, The Most Rev. Dr. P. C. Singh thanked the gathering for their continuous prayers and active participation in laying out the ground work for this fest. He congratulated Mr. Alwan Masih, General Secretary CNI Synod, all the office bearers and executive members of SYFC and DYFC for their hard work in conducting this programme and also welcomed all the delegates from different dioceses for their spirited and lively involvement.



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This 1st session was led by Mr. Alwan Masih, General Secretary CNI synod. He informed that the Church of North India is an Indian, united and uniting together, witnessing, ecumenical worshipping, episcopal, Presbyterian and congregational persecuted and dalit and tribal church. He explained the mission statement of CNI .He also emphasized about the new initiatives taken under the CNI like providing coaching for students who aspire to get into civil services like IAS, providing training for untrained and willing pastors, abroad scholarships for Doctorate in Theology etc.

Later in the evening we had best of best performances which was a theme based event between Team Service and Team Faith. Dioceses of Chandigarh was the winner of this event. The day ended by the cultural/traditional programme in which Diocese of Jabalpur and Diocese of Calcutta performed exceptionally and both were declared as the winners.

The programme started with praise and worship led by the choir of the Diocese of Jabalpur followed by the bible study led by the Rt. Rev. Dr. P. K. Dutta, Deputy Moderator, CNI Synod. He focused towards the theme of this youth fest which is to seek the kingdom of God first. He explained that in Matthew chapter 6, Jesus Christ is talking about the kingdom which is a unit and he wants us to be the part of it to get the blessing of God (Barkat-ki-Baarish), a place where there is no fear, no anger, no power instead a life in abundance and everyone is equal before him. He also emphasized that each one of us should try to obey the commandments of God, put everything in God's hand and live for his glory.

The delegates reflected on their understanding towards the kingdom of God and deliberated on how can we as a church be a part of this kingdom in heaven.

This session was led by Mr. AlwanMasih in which he emphasized on the fact that every youth should have a dream and encouraged us to dream with open eyes, to have a dream passionate enough to not let you sleep. In order to bring change, we need to be passionate about church and should be willing to take responsibilities as an individual.He gave the example of Moses and relate the leadership qualities from the characteristics of Moses. This session left us all with the thought of dreaming about better tomorrow and to actually succeed in building that future for our Christian community.



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The next session was taken by Mr. Soumya Ranjan Mohanty, Chief coordinator SBSS. He threw light on the Justice and development ministry undertaken by the Synodical Board of Social Services, CNI. He informed that SBSS through different dioceses and their congregations, works with the marginalised and deprived communities especially with the Dalits, Adivasis, Women and Children. He expressed that Church is beyond the boundaries and some people has destroyed the image of God and emphasized on the second part of CNI mission statement i.e., it is a continuous struggle against demonic powers by breaking down the barriers of caste, class, gender, economic inequality and exploitation of the nature.

The vision of SBSS is to establish a society based on equality, justice, and peace in harmony with nature. CNI SBSS covers a population of 2 million through 15 Diocesan Board of Social Services spread across six states of India.

Mr. C. Joshua Rathnam, Chief Coordinator SBHS led us all through this session. He informed us about the Synodical Board of Health Services, CNI is promoting and carrying out various medical services and training, community health work and the diffusion of useful medical knowledge. It has a wide network of health care institutions in India with 60 hospitals and several health-related programmes that are functioning through the eight Regional Boards of Health services. The main programmes of the SBHS are (i) the Community Health programme (ii) Nursing programme – currently there are 60 mission hospitals, 20 colleges for B.Sc. Nursing, 1 college for M.Sc. Nursing, 1 college for Post Basic B.Sc. Nursing, 18 General Nursing Midwifery Courses and 4 Auxiliary Nursing Midwifery Courses, and (iii) Nurturing, Sponsorship and Scholarship programme – he informed that currently SBHS is providing scholarships to 10 para-medical students from CNI congregations of backward section.

The next programme was the best of best performances, a theme-based event between Team Unity and Team Witness. Dioceses of Chhattisgarh and Diocese of Barrackpore were the winners of this event followed by the last programme i.e., cultural/traditional programme in which Diocese of Chota Nagpur was declared as the winner.



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On the last day of the youth fest and started with the praise and worship led by Diocese of Chandigarh and followed by the devotion taken by Rev. Manoj Charan, Moderator's Commissary Diocese of Bhopal, also the member of Finance Committee, CNI Synod and Member of Law and Procedure Committee, CNI Synod.

He took a passage from Deuteronomy 28- 1:14 and explained that if you hear the voice of the Lord and keep all his commandments, then he will make you higher than all the nations. Thus, if we want to succeed in our life, we must first seek his kingdom. He encouraged us to remember the word of God during our youth (Joshua 1: 9). Youngsters get inspired by many famous people and make them their role models but he motivated us to be like Jesus Christ and make him our role model. Extremist people target youngsters because they know their potential and can be easily moulded towards negative path, therefore if we walk in the light of God, he will guide us throughout the way. We need to set our priorities and seek his kingdom. 1 Timothy 4:12 says that let no one despise your youth, but set the believers an example in speech, in conduct, in love, in faith, in purity. He motivated us to be optimistic, grab the opportunity, and make the world a better place. Youth are the assets of the Church, leaders of today!

This last session was taken by Mr. Jayant Agarwal, Treasurer CNI Synod. He explained that how it is important for everyone to contribute financially to promote the work of God. The first step to prosperity is recognizing that you are a steward of God's finances. God has a plan for your life, start from a position of stewardship, let him be the owner and he will bless us all abundantly. In Psalm 34:10, the Lord said, those who trust in him would not lack any good things and in Malachi 3:10, says the Lord that bring the whole tithe into the storehouse, that there may be food in my house and he will open the floodgates of heaven and pour his blessings in abundance. He gave four ways of financial stewardship i.e., offerings, Time, Gifts, and Gospel.

The debate competition between all the four teams. The topic for team unity and witness was "Depression a common problem in youth or not" and for team service and team faith was Me Too is a reality or a publicity stunt and the topic for finale was Section 377 should be amended or scrapped. Team service won the competition and Mr. Prince (Male) and Ms. Tanya Shroff (female) was rewarded as the best speakers of this competition.



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The games and sports event finale where we had the Girls Basketball, Throw ball match and Tug of War and Boys Football match, Cricket match and Tug of war.

Basketball Match, Team Unity won all the three matches. While Football match was won by Team witness. The winners of Tug of war Girls and boys both was won by Team Unity.

The finale of Best of Best performance was between Dioceses of Calcutta and Diocese of Barrackpore and Dioceses of Calcutta won. And the winner of Cultural night was Chota Nagpur Diocese.

After the completion of all the events, Mr. Runi Issac (Secretary, SYFC) pronounced the vote of thanks followed by the prize and certificate distribution to the participants.

It was truly a great experience for all the participating youth to meet people from various parts of the country and encountered Jesus through worship, teaching and by building relationships with believers. We conclude that in order to have a life full of abundance we must first seek the kingdom of God and the youth leaders should contribute in these strong and energized ministries undertaken by the Church of North India.

A special thanks to all the four Office Bearers of the CNI Synod, Members of the CNI Synod Executive Committee, All the Resource Persons, Local Volunteers, Diocese of Jabalpur and its Executive Committee for all the support, prayers for the success of the CNI Youth Fest 2018 - "Barkat-ki-Baarish".

*Mr. Shitij Cyril Jacob
Diocesan Youth Director*





DWFECS Carol Competition





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FOUNDERS DAY: SALIWADA SCHOOL

The Founders Day of Christ Church Boys School Unit II ,Saliwada falls on the same day as the Birthday of the founder, the Most Rev. Dr. P.C.Singh on 12th December . The thanksgiving service was held under the leadership of the Most Rev. Dr. P.C. Singh assisted by the Diocesan Secretary Rev. Bruce Thangadurai , Pastors, The Principal Mrs. L. M. Sath and Mr Suresh C Jacob, Manager . Staff and students of the School as well as Principals and staff of other schools also attended the service.

Mr. Joshua Ratnam, the chief functionary of the Synodical Board of Health Services gave the Founders Day message. He spoke about:

- The importance of education in transforming individuals and communities*
- The unique role of Christian education in making effective changes in society*
- The role of the Church and Christian communities in rendering effective service not only in the field of education but also in the areas of medical services and the care of the less privileged in the society.*





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BISHOP'S BIRTHDAY CELEBRATIONS

On 12th of December the Birthday of our dear Bishop was celebrated by Diocesan staff, heads of institutions and well wishers. The venue was the fully decorated Shamiyana in the Vikas Asha Kendra compound. Rev. Bruce Thangadurai along with the pastors of the Diocese and Mrs. Nora Singh gave leadership to the thanksgiving service. Bishop cut the Birthday cake and shared with all. Mr. Joshua Ratnam who is in charge of the Synodical Board for Health Services gave felicitations. Sumptuous lunch was served to all participants at the Bishop's House. Throughout the day groups of visitors from all schools, institutions, banks and various offices in the city and members of the churches in the city came to wish our Bishop happy birthday and long life. We pray that our Bishop will be blessed with many more years of fruitful ministry.



Vikas Asha Fete 2018





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VIKAS ASHA KENDRA FETE

The 11th annual fete and sale of Vikas Asha Kendra was held on 15th December 2018 at the Christ Church Boys School grounds. Most of the Pastors of the Diocese, Principals of all schools, teachers, students, parents and well wishers from churches and from the city made it a memorable day. People whole heartedly supported this unique event held to raise funds for the care of the less privileged children of the Vikas Asha Kendra. Our Bishop Most Rev. Dr. P.C. Singh presided over the events and Mrs. Nora Singh, Director of Vikas Asha Kendra along with her team took care of the total organization of all activities. As usual there was sale of coupons and lucky draw.

Other attractions of the day included release of the colourful Diocesan calendar prepared by the Communication Department, stalls run by schools, hostels and institutions serving a variety of menu such as Chinese delicacies, all kinds of chicken preparations, Biryani, south Indian specialties of Idli, dosa and vada. There were plenty of game stalls of car race, horse race, wheel of fortune, pyramids, hoopla and shooting.



Vikas Asha Christmas Programme





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Installation of Rev. Asir Ebenezer as the new the General Secretary

The installation of Rev. Asir Ebenezer as the new the General Secretary took place on 3 January 2019. The program began with a worship service in which the Office bearers of NCCI, members of Working Committee, Finance Committee, Executive Secretaries and Staff were present. The President Most Rev. Dr. P.C. Singh handed over a copy of The Holy Bible and Constitution of NCCI to the new General Secretary. Rev. Dr. Roger Gaikwad, the outgoing General Secretary handed over the charge. Rev. Asir Ebenezer was felicitated by the Church dignitaries who graced the occasion. After the installation service Rev. Asir Ebenezer was led to the General Secretary's room where he was seated in the general secretary's chair. Rt. Rev. Dr. J. George Stephen, Bishop of Madras Diocese dedicated him in prayer .

Rev. Asir Ebenezer is an ordained minister of the Church of South India (CSI). He has been in ministry since 1992 and has served in various positions in national and global ecumenical forums.

Prior to this, he was serving as Director of Social Empowerment: Vision in Action (CSI_SEVA) at the CSI Synod. He had earlier served the NCCI in various positions, including Officiating General Secretary of NCCI in between 2004 and 2010. A well-known figure in ecumenical circles, theologian, community-enabler and finance expert, the multiple competencies of Rev. Asir Ebenezer will go a long way to strengthen the council.

The office Bearers, Secretaries, and the Staff of the NCCI welcome Rev. Asir Ebenezer and wish him well in his new responsibility.

The Rev. Dr. Roger Gaikwad moves to another area of work relating to Theological Education. The NCCI acknowledges his contribution to NCCI and wishes him well for his new endeavor.



(Courtesy : NCCI News)



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Historical Importance Of The Christ Church, Pachmarhi

The very first Round Table Conference for Union of churches was held on 10th and 11th April 1929 at Lalbagh, Lucknow

Various meetings of the round Table Conference, Continuation Committee and Negotiation Committee were held at different places in India from April 1929 to November 1970.

During the course of the negotiation some meetings of the Negotiation Committee were also held at Pachmarhi as per the details given below.

The Negotiation Committee meeting was held on 06th April 1957 at Pachmarhi. (Page 48) The convention of churches of Disciples of Christ Church also joined the Negotiation Committee to be part of the new Church i.e. C.N.I.

Negotiation Committee met at Jabalpur on 2nd to 4th December 1959. Again Negotiation Committee also met on 16th to 19th March 1965 at Pachmarhi.

The fourth plan of the Church Union was presented and accepted by all the participating churches which is the basis of the union formation of Church of North India.

The present CNI Constitution contains all the provisions provided in the plan of the Church Union. The basis of the Church Union is the 4th Edition Plan of Church of North India 1965.

The last and final Negotiation Committee before the Union that took place on 29th November 1970 was also held at this very place from 14th to 17th January 1970 which is a reminder and is always remembered by the members of the entire CNI because of its historical importance.



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The Executive Board of the Methodist Churches in Southern Asia (MCSA) sent a request of Agra Conference for postponement of the date of inauguration. Bishop Lance made a request that Mrs. Agnes Loyall be allowed to make the statement on women's work, but she was not granted the permission by the Secretary of the Negotiation Committee Rev. C. Pandey as her name was not there in the list of invitees in the Nagpur Sub-committee. Then other issues such as endowments of the MCSA was raised and some other obstacles were put. Bishop Lance wanted to record his dissent which was disallowed as the matter was of procedural nature without any intention to oppose or to offend the bishop and the leadership of MCSA. 06th August 1970 Central conference of MCSA at Delhi by 106 to 48 votes rejected the plan to join CNI.

Rest is the history union of the 6 uniting churches went on to take place on 29th November 1970. Today after many years we as united and uniting Church of North India are marching ahead.

Suresh C. Jacob





**Diocese Of Jabalpur
Church Of North India**



रेव्ह. सुहिन्द्र निलेश सिंह

में दीन-हीन

में दीन-हीन दशा तथा सम्पन्नता में भी रहना जानता हूं, हर बात और प्रत्येक परिस्थिति में मैंने तृप्त होना, भूखा रहना, और घटना-बढ़ना सीख लिया है।”

पौलुस ने हर दशा में संतुष्ट रहना सीख लिया था। वह बूढ़ा हो रहा है। उसके पास अब पैसे नहीं हैं - लेकिन एक समय वह अमीर था। उसकी सेहत अब घट रही है - लेकिन एक समय वह बलवान था। वह अब जेल में है - लेकिन एक समय वह स्वतन्त्र था। फिर भी वह कहता है, “मैंने तृप्त होना... सीख लिया है।

“क्या आप अपने आप से, अपने जीवन, अपने परिवार, अपनी आमदनी, अपनी सम्पत्ति से संतुष्ट हैं? परमेश्वर हमें खुश देखना चाहता है, वह हमें तृप्त और संतुष्ट देखना चाहता है। क्या हमें उन सब बातों के लिए जो हमारे पास नहीं हैं, क्रुद्धते रहते हैं?

आज हम विचार करेंगे - संतुष्टि में बाधा।

सबसे पहली बाधा।

इसमें सबसे पहले है। झूठी उम्मीदें

दुनिया के विकास के साथ साथ हमारी *expectations* भी बढ़ रही है। संसार की चकाचौंध में हम सब कुछ पा लेना चाहते हैं वह भी जिसकी हमें ज़रूरत भी नहीं। सरकार और बैंक लोगों की यह कमजोरी जानती है और उन्होंने ऐसा जाल बिछाया है कि आपको जो चाहिए वह कर्ज़ पर ले लो और पूरी ज़िन्दगी कर्ज़ के बोझ में दबे जाओ।

लोगों की अपने जीवन साथी से बड़ी अपेक्षाएं होती हैं, वह ऐसा होगा, वह ऐसी होगी, लेकिन शादी के कुछ ही समय में सब *crash* हो जाती है। फिर वे सोचते हैं उनका जीवनसाथी सही नहीं है, उन्हें इससे अच्छा चाहिए था। बहुत से लोग काम करने जाते हैं और कहते हैं उनका बॉस सही नहीं है या उनके दोस्त उनके हिसाब से सही नहीं हैं। निराश और असंतुष्ट हो जाते हैं, क्योंकि उनकी उम्मीदें झूठी थीं।

दूसरी बाधा “अनुचित तुलना” है।

जब आप अपनी तुलना किसी और से करते हैं, तो यकीनन आपको कोई ऐसा मिलेगा जो आपसे ज्यादा आकर्षक होगा, या आपसे ज्यादा योग्यता रखता होगा, या उसमें आपसे ज्यादा गुण हैं, ज्यादा जवान हैं, ज्यादा ताकतवाला है। आप अगर उनसे अपनी तुलना करेंगे तो यकीनन आप असंतुष्ट होंगे।

परम्परा बताती है कि पौलुस छोटे कद का व्यक्ति था और उसकी कुब भी निकली हुई थी और वहीं पतरस एक लम्बा चौड़ा व्यक्ति था। अगर वह अपनी तुलना उससे करता तो वह ज़रूर असंतुष्ट होता, निराश होता, लेकिन उसने अपनी तुलना किसी से नहीं की। वह जानता था कि परमेश्वर ने उसे और हर एक व्यक्ति को विशेष बनाया है। ऐसा करना और कुछ नहीं बल्कि हीन भावना, निराशा को लाता है।

तीसरी बाधा है “अपनी आशीषों पर ध्यान नहीं देना”।

हममें से शायद कोई भूखा नहीं सोता, हमारे पास खाने को बहुत है। असल में खाने को इतना है कि हमारी बातों में डाइटिंग प्लान ज़रूर आ जाते हैं। लेकिन अफ्रीका के कुछ देशों में भूखमरी है, वहां औसतन हर 3 सेकंड में भूख से कोई मरता है। पौलुस अपने और आरम्भिक विश्वासियों के बारे में १ तिमू ६:८ में लिखता है : यदि हमारे पास भोजन और वस्त्र हैं तो इन्हीं से हम सन्तुष्ट रहेंगे। प्रभु तो इससे भी ज्यादा हमें आशीषों से भरता है, लेकिन हम “उन आशीषों पर ध्यान नहीं देते।

मैं जब अस्पताल जाता हूँ परमेश्वर का धन्यवाद करता हूँ कि उसने मुझे अब तक स्वस्थ रखा। रोज़ सड़कों पर सैंकड़ों एकसीडेंट होते हैं, हर शाम को मैं प्रभु का धन्यवाद करता हूँ उसने हमें सुरक्षित रखा।

हम सब परमेश्वर से अनेकों आशीष प्राप्त करते हैं

परमेश्वर ने हमें ढेरों आशीष से परिपूर्ण किया है हमें ध्यान करने की आवश्यकता है और अपनी जिंदगी में संतुष्ट रहने की आवश्यकता है

क्योंकि (नीतिवचन 14 14) में लिखा है परंतु भला मनुष्य आप कि आप संतुष्ट रहता है

इसलिए खुश रहे संतुष्ट रहे और खुदा की सेवा करें आने वाला वर्ष आप सबके लिए ढेरों खुशियां लेकर आए और उसकी आशीष में निरंतर आप बढ़ते रहें

नए वर्ष की शुभकामनाओं सहित

रेव्ह. सुहिन्द्र निलेश सिंह



**Diocese Of Jabalpur
Church Of North India**



The Star Was The Sign

***In a small town,
On a pleasant night,
Over a manger shone,
A star, big and bright.***

***The star was the sign
Of the one who will rise.
The one who is the kind,
The one who is wise.***

***Everyone around the manger
Were full of joy,
As they saw the beauty
Of the holy baby boy.***

***The shepherds came.
The kings with gifts kept,
Joured to see the baby,
Who in the manger slept.***

***The angels rejoiced,
The star shone,
As the parents saw,
The boy, as their own.***

*Yashwin Thomas
Class VII A, Christ Church School For Boys & Girls ISC*