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Baptist News

A quarterly news letter of the
Council of Baptist Churches in
North East India (CBCNEI)

The Council comprises Assam
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Baptist Church Council, Manipur
Baptist Convention, Garo Baptist
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Peace in my soul,
Peace in the family,
Peace in the work places,
Peace within my community, tribe, society,
Peace in our state,
Peace in our region,
Peace in our Country,
Peace in our neighboring countries,
Peace in the world.

May the church be the bearer of Peace by listening to what the Prince of Peace said, “Blessed are the peace makers for they shall be called children of God” (Matt 5:9).

May all the readers be blessed again through this fourth and final publication of ‘Baptist News’ for the year 2019. We shall look forward to have more publications in the new year 2020.

Wishing you all a Merry Christmas and a happy new year.

“CHRISTMAS IS A SEASON NOT ONLY OF REJOICING BUT OF REFLECTION”

– Winston Churchill


Yours in Christ
Rev Prof Akheto Sema
General Secretary

any way? They were a group of poor people like Dalits or farmers who work for others slugging out every day for a living. In this case they =look after the sheep meant for temple offerings made every day by the priests. They knew at least some day a Saviour would come who would make a perfect sacrifice for mankind. The story of the birth of Jesus was first brought to the poor and we may say depressed shepherds who were watching their sheep by night near Bethlehem in the cold cold night when the world was already asleep. According to the Gospel narrator Dr. Luke, they were awakened suddenly by the Angel of the Lord and they were naturally shaken by the dazzling light of the Angel who quickly tried to pacify them by saying, 'Alright, do no fear! Listen! I have great news for you. A saviour is born now in Bethlehem! 'A saviour is born! Man will now be free. No more sorrow, No more pain. What great News! The Shepherds no doubts were confused but delighted to hear that *their Saviour*, also known as the Great Shepherd has come finally, the one they had been waiting for so long! While they were trying to get a better view of the Angel, the Angel continued, "Behold, I bring you *glad tidings for all people*; today a Saviour is born in the city of David, which is Christ the Lord. This will be a sign unto you, you will find a baby wrapped in a swaddling cloth' (Luke 2:10-12). The announcement of the Angel was followed by the mighty song of the heavenly host, "*Glory to God in the highest, Peace on earth and goodwill towards men*". Perhaps the entire heavenly host joined together to announce this great news of salvation for mankind. Surely, they want to honour and praise God for His great love and sacrifice. If this event happens today, all the Radio, TV and Newspapers would carry the story all over, because it is such stunning and marvellous news for the whole world! When President Kennedy was killed by a gunman, the whole world got the news within ten minutes! How? Because the news channel always wants to be the first to know and report the big news to the whole world as fast as possible!

The Gospel according to the Angel

Have you ever taken time to analyse the message of the Angel? So, let us try to look at them and try to understand *the meaning* of the message in

St. Edmund. My life was completely changed after I found out this wonderful truth. I wonder if you have discovered this truth for yourself too.

After salvation song of Joy came from above

According to most Bible experts, all creation, the angels, sons of God and the morning star used to sing together before God in adoration and shout of Joy, when God formed the world, that is before the fall of man. (Job 38:7). That must have been a great time of singing, dancing and joy even on the part of the Creator. Alas, that period of innocence was completely destroyed by the Evil one Satan who entered God's holy Garden and played havoc through deception. You know what happened after the fall? Fear, struggles, hatred, murder and all the ugly things showed up and the world became a cursed planet. God of love could not however see man and his creation destroyed by sin and so He made a plan of salvation through Jesus Christ. This is in short, the story of Christmas. When Christ the Saviour landed as it were upon this earth in human form, the first thing we noticed was the restoration of the 'sound of music' as the world began to hear the Angels singing again! Rejoice, the long silence of the Angels is now restored because of Jesus! That is why the Bible said, 'You shall call His name Jesus, because He shall save His people from their sins' (Math 1:21). And that is why Gloria in Excelsis Deo could mean so much to everyone. With the coming of Christ, the sound of the praise and worship offered to God by the heavenly hosts were heard again in the portals of the heavenly realm. Not only that like the good old song said, 'Heaven came down and glory filled my soul'; the earth also became partakers of that glorious praises to God!

The vision of God and the Angels

Many of us are familiar with the vision of Jacob while running away from his brother Esau and stopped at an unknown place to rest for the night. Strangely in his night dream, he saw thousands of angels ascending and descending between heaven and earth as God Jehovah was sitting on top of the ladder and speaking to him, "Jacob, I am the God of Abraham and Isaac, I am also your God, I will give this land to your descendants

means everything became blank. And the next thing I faintly recollect was I was already in ICU under intensive care. Can you imagine, husband and wife in serious condition in the same hospital not knowing what happen to each other! The second day I believe, the Doctors who attended me left I faintly recollect after I regained some sort of consciousness. Then I fell into a deep sleep again and what happened after that was a living dream, I would say. Three light balls came near my bed and divided themselves into three on my left side, another three on my right and one close to my legs. Altogether seven of them. After they took their positions, they all turned into Angels. Amazing! Then they all smiled and bowed their heads towards me which greatly surprised me. But they look so delightful and loving. Then they started singing with such melodious tone something that surpassed any kind of earthly music. I was made to understand (by the spirit) that the song they sang was *Gloria in Excelsis Deo*. As they sang, the sound of their song went up like a smoke slowly going up towards the throne of God. How thrilling! Then after that they started another marvellous tune and this time the sound moves across the world and even shaking me gently. I was made to understand that the song this time around was '*Glory and honour to the Lamb that was slain*' mentioned in Revelation. Again, no other music on earth could ever compare these songs from the Angels. Then after that they lifted me up with their hands upward and showed me the glory of heaven and so many other things. God in His grace allowed me to see the splendour of His Angels, His heaven to me. When I was thinking about God's mercies and His grace I do not deserve, I could not help but shed tears of Joy! After all these events, I was so refreshed by this angelic visitation and praise God for His special messengers that are made available to His children who are in need. Glory be His Holy name!

Eventually me and my wife were released from the hospital and by His grace, we have been healed of cancer. It is true we went through so many ordeals during those years, and yet we found God is always faithful, sufficient and His mercies never fails. In order to honour God's unfailing faithfulness and matchless grace, we wrote a book called NANG I lo awm si (Mizo) meaning "Thou art there" (Psalm 139). So, let's just give



The conversion account of a persecuted preacher

*Yumri Taipodia
Columnist in various Dailies
Shillong-19*

The history of Christianity in the land of the rising sun will remain incomplete without mentioning the name of the earliest Arunachalee student of Bachelor of Science in Agriculture. Being an early learned band almost all his contemporary educated friends absolved in the coveted government job and steadily most of them rose up to the head of departmental offices in the Government of Arunachal Pradesh. Among them few were nominated as UPSC officers. His other Arunachalee school friends studying in West Bengal chose the political field. Later on, some became Ministers, Member of Parliament, Chief Minister and Lieutenant Governor. While his school friends were pursuing for popularity, position and power to serve the people and society, he opted for a unique profession where people rarely joined. Although there seemed to be no better scope, job prospect and scoring personal luxurious life yet he decided to chase the dream he had. On the other hand, there was no desirable facilitates, respectable post and professional work suitable for the aspirant. This vocation does not have any salary, travel allowance, dearness allowance, health insurance, life insurance and retirement policies. He gave up his promising career prospect in the secular world where he probably could have had huge desirable position but instead, he moved

religious practice is totally different from the rest of Indians. Accordingly, tribal religious practice is not in harmony with the other tribe that confused him further. **Finally**, he decided to do his best in Agronomy to help the people of NEFA to transform their styles of cultivation in the light of the latest farming methods. The shifting cultivation practiced by the people of NEFA has required tremendous energy and lots of time taking but yield less harvest which is insufficient to feed their families throughout the year. Being an agronomy student, he dreamt of wanting to help the people that gave a self-sufficient production from their own field after he completes his studies.

As the school was maintaining strict discipline so they took permission to watch a film in the cinema hall. That English movie 'Gone with the Wind.' It is one of the best family films and is also international award winner. In that silver screen he saw nuns moving their hands and saying words in prayer. Being a person from other faith he thought that was how Christian prayer is like for it was the first time he saw it. In this institute someone presented him one religious book whose name will not be mentioned as it may hurt the follower of that religious group. As he was interested in religiosity, he completed the whole book in a year in search of god's love for him and also to find out the true religion that was fit for the tribal. Ironically, he did not come across even one sentence that says god loved him and treated every human equally. While he was in the quest to investigate other religion to find out the answer of this question at his surprise his Jaintia friend Maylinggam presented him a Good News translation- Bible (**if Maylinggam comes across this article he is kindly requested to contact 9402872857 as Longkhap Merang wishes to rekindle old memories**). From that day the bible became his life and later on he became a bible translator of his tribe the- Tangsa Bible. Besides, in the library he used to read a Christian testimony from the newsletter 'the soon.' Those testimonies really inspired him a lot to realize that quest for the best faith.

Gospel literatures that were sowed on him gradually grew into a big tree and he turned out to be a gospel writer and track distributor. After completing his official work at the secretariat, he continued his journey

After returning to his hostel room he knelt down and prayed for the first time. He wrote in his diary 'Jesus I will follow You.' That prayer gradually formed into a prayer habit and it is still the channel for him to access the Source of strength for any necessity. He kept his self-declaration promises and finally became one of His ardent followers. Through his witnessing gospel he led numbers of people to be the followers of Jesus Christ and whom the Holy Spirit drew nearer to God. He baptized hundreds of people. As his money was running short in 1970, he wrote a letter to James Wangcha Lowanglet (former home minister, GoAP) who was doing B.A in Jawaharlal Nehru College Pasighat. After four months the reply was delivered to him. Wanglet replied that his father (the king of Borduria) did not send him money anymore. He was to manage by himself so he would not be able to send him any help. However, in his letter he quoted Matthew 4: 4 'man shall not live by bread alone but by every word of God that proceed out from the mouth of God.' As Wanglet rightly furnished the prophetic advice that same year in August 30th he was baptized at Tinsukia, Assam which was administered by the Evangelist Yeluvi Sema. Wanglet's promised verse came true for him since from that year Rev Longkhap Merang Yonger Taungwa makes his livelihood through sharing the gospel to the hundreds.



Corrigendum

In the previous issue of Baptist News, Vol 70 issue 3, in the “Glimpse of Indian Baptist Summit”, the caption- *Delegates from Garo Baptist Convention presenting their folks dance* should be, **Delegates from Baptist Churches Council of Eastern India.**



Awareness on the North East Christian University

*Huzo Meru, Director of Operation,
NECU*

The North East Christian University was proposed by the Principals' Forum of Theological Colleges under CBCNEI. Conventions and Associations leaders in a major consultation had approved for the establishment of NECU. As per the requirement of the University Grants Commission, the NECU Act 2012 was passed by the Nagaland Legislative Assembly in 2013.

The Government of Nagaland was pleased to allot 248 acres of land at Medziphema for the permanent campus. In Dimapur city, the Anchor Society gladly parted with its Anchor Building worth about Rs 50 lakhs for NECU. The land Patta for this building, measuring an area of one and half acre land worth about Rs 3-4 crores, was willingly donated by the Khrielie Kevichusa family to NECU. The land was formally transferred to NBCC for NECU in 2016.

NECU started its first classes in July 2018. It has made some reasonable progress and next year,

In July 2020, it plans to offer Under Graduate Honours courses in English, Teacher Education, Management, International Relations, Political Sciences, Psychology, Sociology, Economics, History and Computer Sciences. It would propose to offer PG (MA) courses in English, International Relations, Political Sciences and Religious Studies and PhD programmes in English, International Studies, Political Sciences and Management.

NECU is fulfilling a need for higher education in the region. At least Rs.2000 crores are spent annually on pursuing studies outside the region. NECU concentrates on developing the human character based on Christian principles.

GOLDEN JUBILEE
50 YEARS ANNIVERSARY (1969-2019)
CHRISTIAN LITERATURE CENTRE
5th November

American Baptist Mission (A.B. Mission) had the First National General Secretary of CBCNEI Rev. Edward Singha (1956-1968), who shared religious ideas with the nearest missionaries to spread the Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ. Therefore, they together decided to form a Christian Literature Committee, and this Committee would run a “Book Room” in the Council of Baptist Churches in North East India (CBCNEI) Mission Compound, Guwahati, Assam. Thus, the first Book Room meeting was arranged in the resident of Rev. George Gillespie on 30th May 1962 at 4:30 PM and formed Literature Managing Committee.



The 1st Thai Christian Business Association (TCBA) & North East India Christian Business Persons And Entrepreneurs Fellowship Summit

The First Thai Christian Business Association and North East India Christian business persons and entrepreneurs fellowship was held on November 6 and 7 at CBCNEI Mission Compound, Guwahati, Assam with the initiation of Thai Christian Business Association from Thailand. These two days mission trip to North East India by TCBA was very fruitful with 39 registered participants from all the 8 States of North East India.

TCBA, was represented by its President, Sutee Techarukpong and Vice President, Jack Limbu. Also Mr. Ralph G. Memon Vice President, ICBA Mumbai attended the summit. Logistic coordination was given by Rev. Dr. Akheto Sema, the General Secretary, Council of Baptist Churches in North East India. Rev. Mangthianlal Thangniang, a long-time mentor of Christian business persons and entrepreneurs, helped in Coordinating all over the North East India.

During these two days, apart from introducing Thai Christian Business Association to the participants, business products from Thailand were



October - December 2019



Pressing towards “Christocentric Ecclesiology” for the fullness of life in the Church”

*Khahring Maku, Faculty of
Religious Studies
North East Christian University,
Dimapur*

Introduction

To begin with, it would be more comfortable to start with the meaning of the word “life.” One reason is that without understanding life, we would not be able to justify the quality of “fullness.” In this point, the simplest term is that “Life is the aspect of existence that processes, acts, reacts, evaluates, and evolves through growth.” Another importance to note is the word “fullness” which occurs seventeen times in the New Testament and mostly in the Pauline writings. The simple connotation of fullness can also mean a complete. Therefore, it is the existential journey of the church to accomplish or complete her mission. In this sense, pressing towards “*Christocentric Ecclesiology*” is focus to show the fullness of life in the church. Following points are some of the important elements to understand the mission of the church to achieve a “Christocentric ecclesiology.”

Meaning of Christocentric and Ecclesiology

In a simplest term Christocentric means Christ centered life or system. It can also mean keeping Christ at the center. Or we can put it this way that it means centering theologically on Christ. It is the most loved phrase we

First is the “Christocentric love” which is the first thing Paul presents in most of his writing when he deals with community, unity and faith. For Paul, love is *agape* which is Godly love (1 Cor 13). And it is the love that surpasses one’s own love and gifts. This love has a single meaning, which is defined as “putting the needs of others ahead on one’s own.” It was at the heart of the Christian experience; it shaped the Christian’s understanding of God’s own character and it was the chief expression one Christian would use toward a fellow believer and the world. The same love which God poured into the world and was embodied in Jesus is still alive and flourishing in life-giving ways in the community of faith: this is what convinces the believer that she/he has come home to a trustworthy community in the midst of the desires of life. It is within the church that the love of God is experienced in multiple ways. Yet, this sort of love is felt in patience and kindness; the absence of jealousy or boastfulness; in members not being arrogant or rude with one another; in the absence of irritability and resentfulness among fellow believers; in its power to bear and hope, and endure all things. So, Christian foundation of love must be rooted in Christ whose love has no greater meaning.

Second is the “Christocentric Hope” for salvation and it need is base upon Christ and Christ alone. The gospel is the gracious love of God in Christ, which accepts the sinner even though fallen and unworthy. The church is a place to express Christ love for everyone and show a hope in Jesus irrespective of who/what the person is. Christ reflects the self-witness of God and in Him the fullness of God is manifested (Eph 3:19). Our Lord understood that he was the key to the manifestation of God’s glory and the salvation of his people. When Christ was on this earth, his ministry is borderless and gives hope to the blind, lame, lepers, blood hemorrhage, marginalized human, tax collectors, spiritual leaders, military men, to the hopeless and also to the Gentiles. Faith is a journey towards Jesus up to the point of commitment to him as Lord and Saviour. And when that happens, sight is born. In the ecclesiastical circle, the ministry of the church needs to manifest Christ centered ministry and show that hope is found in the body of Christ through the Church. Christians have the privilege to live a witnessing community to show God’s grace in abundance and it is hopeful.



Jesus Christ the Greatest Healer and Christian Healing Ministry

Dr. Bamin Tada, Medical Secretary, CBCNEI

Ever since Christianity originated with the ministry of Jesus in the 1st Century Roman province of Judea, Jesus Christ was recognized as Jewish teacher and healer, who proclaimed the imminent kingdom of God and was crucified at 30-33 AD.

Christians, do often believe that God heals people through the power of the Holy Spirit. It associates with the various modes of healing. Faith healing involves the laying on of hands. It is also called supernatural healing, divine healing, miracle healing. The prerequisite for faith healing is the faith in Lord Jesus Christ and power of Holy Spirit.

Another dimension of healing is physical healing for which there are sets of professionally trained people who are called medical team comprising of doctors, nurses, medical technical personnel. The profession involving in healing is also part of Christian ministry. Very often, the importance of healing ministry has been sidelined. The concept of Christian evangelical works confined to church base activities and at the most other outreach activities.

The great deal of life of Jesus Christ was dedicated to healing the sick. He healed all kinds of people, the blind, the paralyzed, the lame, the deaf, lepers and many more.

Isaiah 53:5 *“But He was wounded for our transgressions, He was bruised for our iniquities; the Chastisement for our peace was upon Him. And by His stripes we are healed”.*

We need to understand the deeper theological understanding of health and healing, pain and suffering, governance, management, patient care not the least by the pastoral care. Hence segregation physical healing from the rest components of health, such mental, spiritual and social aspects of a sick people are does made total health care. Jesus practiced all the components of the health care. God became flesh and dwell among us. He communicated and worked through the life, death and resurrection of Jesus of Nazareth.

The current practice of medical education and the practice of medicine that ensures it, turns a blind eye to the spirited aspects of holistic healing. It is, therefore, high time for us to revisit mission and health care in Christian perspective.

As Christmas 2019 is in the air, I along with my family wish you all Happy Christmas and joyous New Year 2020.



*14th India Baptist Women Union (IBWU) Assembly
27th - 29th November, 2019 at Guwahati Baptist Church, Panbazar, Guwahati, Assam*

better, clarity in vision, clarity in presentation, sharing their vision and taking practice in church.

Therefore, in this article the writer would bring forth some of the strategies of Sadhu Sunder Singh as the effective means for presenting the Gospel so that individuals, groups, ministers, missionaries, lay evangelists can meaningfully and relevantly participate in the propagation of the gospel in the present times.

Positive Attitude towards the People of Other Faiths

Living in a multi religious and cultural context, one has to adopt a positive attitude towards other religions. Christians have to manage a healthy understanding by removing their misconceptions about other religions by looking closer with a friendly attitude and appreciating the positive side of other religions. This will help to enrich the Christian relationship with the people of other faiths in the pluralistic world to pave the way for the gospel to be propagated widely. As the Bible indicates, “The earth is the Lord’s and everything in it, the world, and all who live in it.” All human beings are the objects of God’s limitless and unfathomable love. It is the love of God and the love for the neighbor that must motivate Christians in their relationship with the people of other faiths.

Christians should have the attitude of inclusivism - the view that biblical Christianity is true, and those other religious systems are false are implied in numerous biblical statements, such as in Acts 4:12 (NRSV) “And there is salvation in no one else; for there is no other name under heaven that has been given among men, by which we must be saved.” However, one should not say that there are no moral truths in other religions. There are certainly moral and ethical truths and values. Therefore, one has to respect them and avoid superiority and exclusivist attitude. One need to avoid seeing the people of other faiths as enemies. The biblical command is to love one’s neighbor as themselves. Rather than viewing them as “the enemy,” one has to see them as “the victims” of the enemy who are in need of the same grace that has freed the Christians from spiritual slavery in need of the gospel of Jesus Christ.

death. He was not forced to do so but he did it because he knew whom he believed. And I believe, as a leader one has to inculcate this trait of humbleness willingly. Even in the Old Testament, Jehovah God called those who were humble. For example, when Moses was called to lead Israelites, he shrank from the responsibility, feeling his unworthiness. Jesus also taught his disciples that “Whoever among you wishes to become great, shall be your minister, and whoever wishes to be first among you, shall be your slaves.” “For everyone who exalts himself shall be humbled, and he who humbles himself shall be exalted” (Mt. 20: 26-27; Lk. 14:11). Humbleness is how one is to come to the Lord. It allows to be accountable, and to honestly assess one’s actions and performance. Humbleness will enable one to be a teachable person who is willing to have a good attitude of submission and servant hood.

Christian Witness

Christians need to be a good witness in God’s ministry according to the talent and ability God has given. The life and work of Sundar Singh indicates that he was a great witness and a mighty instrument in God’s ministry. He was actively involved in preaching ministry and travelled abroad doing mission. Selflessly he exercised God-given talents. The lessons one can learn from Sundar Singh is that Christians need to make use of their every talent, not only confined to one job but in whichever area they are gifted they need to be active. Christians need to have a sympathizing life for others, and attempt to do good things for others; and for the basic benefits for the community as a whole. They need to implement the selfless spirit for missions as Sundar Singh. Missionaries and God’s servant need to be like Sundar Singh who sacrificed his life for the sake of Christ till his last breath to save the people of other faiths who do not know Christ. The churches in India are facing a crisis in terms of witness and ministry, and also face the challenges of globalization, urbanization and religious fundamentalism, politicization of politics, increasing alcoholism, the cry of dalits, tribals and women for justice and the rights, threat from the terrorists and so on. Today many of the Indian churches see evangelism as an annual single event with a powerful speaker,

hearers. The Bible says, “Let your speech always be with grace, seasoned with salt, that you may not know you ought to answer each one” (Col. 4:6). The book of Proverbs says, “A soft answers turns away wrath but a harsh word stirs up anger” (Proverbs 15: 1). Therefore, it is important to remain courteous and not to descent to bad language or name-calling, even when this have been used against oneself. It is important that moderators and anyone else with a leadership role should model the behavior they wish to promote in users.

Preaching the Gospel without Manipulating the People

The responsibility of the Christians is to present the gospel of Jesus Christ. One needs to avoid attracting the people by preaching the benefits of material over and above the spiritual blessings when they put their faith in Christ. Sundar Singh preached about the necessity of experience. He said that one has to know Christ and preach with one’s experience. The work of the Lord has to be with the right motives and genuine commitment with experience. Nothing has to do for selfish gain neither to please Christian organization but to God. Evangelizing in today’s context need to go beyond mere routine preaching, repetition of platitudes, and denunciation of what evidently stands condemned. These are no doubt necessary, but not sufficient. Offering the gospel today has to include exerting a moral influence on society in such a way that it feels challenged to review its value system, revive its living norms and reorganize its self-improvement energies according to certain universally acceptable codes of human behavior. All Christians need to be alert to spiritual manipulation and follow this example from Acts 17:11.

Ecumenical Thinking

Today Christian world consist of countless denomination which may confuse the people to whom we are evangelizing if they are not aware of the differences which may be one of the hindrances for evangelism. However, Sundar Singh had ecumenical attitudes towards the churches. He had no denominational barriers. Wherever he went, he strengthened the ecumenical thinking. He fostered renewal and unity among churches. He appealed for co-operation between churches in sending out missionaries

for the successful Christian mission in India. Once when E. Stanley Jones asked Mahatma Gandhi how Christianity could become powerful for India's upliftment, the latter gave this as the first requirement: "...all of you Christians, missionaries and all must begin to live more like Jesus Christ." Rabindranath Tagore also wrote a similar note "The aim of every Christian should be to become like Christ...you cannot preach Christ until you have begun to be like Christ yourself; and then you will not preach Christianity, but the love of God which he reveals." One need to follow the example of Jesus Christ like Sadhu Sundar Singh faithfully followed till his last breath. Ideals in the heart count more than ideals in speech. Therefore, one needs to closely follow Jesus Christ in their heart and life.

Reaching the Unreached

The Christian ministers need to focus their mission in the rural villages. There are still so many places where the gospels are not heard. Sundar Singh always had the passion to reach the gospel to the unreached place. Whenever he returned to India from abroad, he toured all over the land as well as to his favorite Tibet since no ordinary evangelist could go into this very difficult place. In Tibet he was persecuted, beaten, lashed and suffered heavily on account of Christ. Despite of all those difficulties he spread the gospel even in the interior places. Like Tibet, many of the villages in India are characterized as conservative, superstitious, and even the caste system is prevalent today. This situation makes it difficult to preach the gospel or even to do social work. In India, politics and religion are closely knit together. This situation also makes it difficult to present the gospel. Therefore, taking lessons from the life and work of Sundar Singh one has to be convinced that preaching the gospel and evangelizing the unreached is an essential activity of the Christians and the church.

Self-Support

Most of the missions in India depend upon the foreign support for their mission work. But in some cases when the foreign missions discontinue the support, the organizations found it difficult to continue their mission. Therefore, those organizations which are depending upon foreign

Admission Notice

The Eastern Theological College, Jorhat invites application for aspirant candidates for the following courses under the Senate of Serampore College:

Bachelor of Divinity (B.D.) – Last date of Form submission 30/03/2020 Entrance Examination on the 23rd and 24th April 2020

Master of Theology (M.Th.) in Christian Theology, History of Christianity, New Testament, Christian Ministry (Counseling) and Christian Ministry (Christian Education): Entrance Examination on the 6th & 7th February 2020

Doctor of Theology (D.Th.) in Christian Theology, History of Christianity and New Testament (Last date of Form submission 31st January 2020 and Interview on the 20th February 2020.

Master of Arts in Holistic Child Development (MA-HCD) (College) - Last date of Form submission 20th April 2020

Get your **Admission Form** from www.etcollege.in and submit to:

The Principal

Eastern Theological College

Rajabari, Jorhat – 785014, Assam

Report of the 7th Triennial Conference Baptist Woman Fellowship North East India, Conference (BWFNEIC), 2019

as reported by Mrs Jaksil A. Sangma, former President, BWFNEI

The 7th Triennial Conference of BWFNEIC was successfully conducted on 12th - 14th November at Shalom Bible Seminary, Zubza, Nagaland, based on the **Theme “Transformed to Transform”**. The first evening service was led by Mrs. Jaksil A Sangma, President, welcome speech by Ms. Visasieu Dolie, Women Secretary NBCC and greetings was brought by Rev. Dr.Zelhou Keyho, General Secretary, NBCC.

In the very first night, Mrs. Pearly Syiem Marak, Faculty of Haggai International Ministry & Counsellor, Secretary & Deacon, SBC. She spoke on the

Topic **“Transformed to Transform: Family** - She said that Family is God’s design and the entity of society is family. Therefore, a good and godly family produces good society. Pearly further said that a transformed mother plays an important role in the family. She has two homes; *Firstly*, God makes a home for her in heaven. *Secondly*, she makes a home for Him on earth.

On the second day, Mrs. Phutoli Chingmak, Managing Director, Eleutheros Christian Society, she spoke on “Women and Legal Awareness” which was the need of the hour. Interestingly she has cited a classic example of Tamar from Genesis 38:6-11 whom the speaker considered as one of the transformed and careful women who knew about her legal right during an extreme situation with Judah. Tamar was able to assert her right before the family court thereby led Judah to confess his sins. The speaker also affirmed that when a woman is transformed, she will be able to impact her family as well as the society.

On the last evening service, Rev. Prof Akheto Sema, General Secretary, CBCNEI on **“Transformed to Transform: Church** - He reminded the congregation that the church is anointed by the power of Jesus Christ. Therefore, a transform church should extend the message of love, peace and forgiveness with one another.

Rev. Narola spoke from Romans 12:1-2 and reminded the listeners not to be conformed to this world but to present our bodies as a living sacrifice by

Obituaries



O. M. Roa 10th June 1931-18th November 2019



Funeral program of Mr. Marshal Murmu's mother, She went to be with the Lord on 21st November. The entire office staff and secretaries were present to comfort him.

people. The program included laying on of floral wreaths at the tomb of the Missionaries, prayers for their remaining unknown families, thanking God for the extension of His Kingdom in our land and people etc. During worship services, Rev. Dr. Solomon Rongpi, Sr. Pastor of Diphu Baptist Church and Rev. Davidson Ingti, General Secretary of KABC spoke on relevant topics encouraging one another to follow the footsteps of the Missionaries.

A workshop on **“Vision 2020 and beyond”** was also organized on 30th noon. Mr. Kamson Rongphar, Mission Secretary, and Mr. Milton Terang, Finance Secretary, KABC were the facilitators who also guided the participants on the proposed plan for unified missional strategy “One Mission” of the KABC. The interactive session was concluded with all the participants pledging to uphold the Convention with the newly proposed “Vision 2020 and beyond” plan and a resolution was adopted therein by them.

Replication: A partnership program with Mission India started a church planting training with 5 modules class for 3 days and 90 days outreach program for 15 months started from April 2019 at KABC Conference hall with 30 Church planters enrolled. The Module 3 class for 3 days started from 5th- 7th November 2019. Mr. Kamson Rongphar, Mission Secretary, KABC and Mr. Unique Terang, Mission Secretary, NKBA both are the mentors and facilitators for the training. This training has encouraged the Church planters for the effective witnessing of the gospel.

KABC Foundation Day: The 40th KABC foundation day was celebrated at the KABC premises on the 12th November 2019. The President hoisted the KABC flag and mass spoken prayer was observed with all the staff present.

Church Planters’ Debriefing program: Like every month the Church planters’ monthly debriefing was held on 22nd - 24th November 2019. The Resource persons from Colorado, USA visited and taught classes and led worship sessions.



& Worship was led by the youth from Sumi Baptist Church Dimapur Town. Ms. Khipnon Jugli, Staff UESI-AR, Namsai led Bible Study. Few highlights of the conference such as: Worship, celebrations, Musical Nights, Handicraft Exhibition cum Sales, Special presentations, and many other. About 500 youth including few ABCC leaders attended the conference. We are excited to see much progress of the ABCC youth ministry with no full time youth leadership at the convention level. I on behalf of the NBCC youth congratulate the ABCC youth department led by its youth secretary Mr. Litem Eshi and all his colleagues.

I also express my heartfelt gratitude to the BYFNEI President and his colleagues and CBCNEI for giving us opportunity to encourage one another through this youth exchange ministry. May we continue to shine for the LORD JESUS CHRIST under the banner of CBCNEI/ BYFNEI.



Lewis Memorial Sharing Joy of Christmas- 1st December