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I. Letters
   1. J. D. Moses jdmoses36@yahoo.com April 23:

   I have read the many tributes paid to Pastor S. James by many of his admirers and was thrilled to know that people still remember him. He was really a "man of God" of modern times.

   Being cousin brothers, as our mothers were sisters, we exchanged a lot love and respect for each other. I have known him from my early age and looked to him as a saviour. He had a liberal heart and would help anyone at times of need, even if he were to he will borrow money on interest from the money lenders and meet their needs. Such was this man of love for others.

   During my service in the church I was transferred to many places in India and Nepal, and he would make it a must to visit me, wherever I was, and he loves the cooking by my wife, the late Hannah Moses. He was so attached to all of our family members. He was a good singer, having a tenor voice and would ask me to sing the lead and he would join me in singing. I have had the privilege to stay with him and family sometime during 1966/67 and he showered all his love towards me. One can never forget his good deeds and people do remember that which is good. I will see him when the Lord comes to take us all home.

J. D. Moses & family
P.O. Box 2, Jeevan Jyothi Campus
Hosur - 635110
Tamil Nadu, India
Telephone: 09790162110

II. Death of Pastor K. G. George
   Josy Thomas <bobanthomas@aol.com> April 24:

   We are saddened to inform you of the death of our father, Pr. K. G.

   George on April 15th, 2011 at the Seventh-day Adventist Hospital, Ottapalam, Kerala, India. For the past few years he had been suffering from Alzheimer's disease. He had been hospitalised for three weeks following a seizure. His funeral was at the Seventh-day Adventist church in Ottapalam on April 17th 2011. His life sketch is to follow. We request you to remember the family in your prayers. -- Mary Titus and Josy Thomas

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   C. D. Mathew <mathewcdplkal@gmail.com> April 25:

   Pastor K. G. George who had served as the treasurer of the combined Central India Union from 1980 to 1987 and editor of the Malayalam Health Magazine at OWPH for 16 years entered into rest on Friday April 15, 2011. He is survived by his wife Annamma, daughters Mary and Josy, their spouses, C.

   V. Titus and Dr. Boban Thomas, four grandsons and their families.

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III. Maranatha Builds One-day Schools in India

"The One-Day School is being used in a big way in India at the Fjarli School near Ongole. Two large dormitories are being constructed as well as a large classroom block. These buildings will compliment existing structures already built on campus. Volunteers recently returned from a project at the school where they help erect some of the buildings." -- Maranatha Volunteers International's Spring 2011 Updates

IV. Share International Food Recipes
Rick Kajiura <KajiuraR@gc.adventist.org> April 26:
Wanted: International Recipes from Adventist Missionaries
Adventist Mission is looking international recipes from current and former Adventist IDE missionaries. Many of you learned to make the foods from the areas where you served.
We’d like to put together an Adventist Mission cookbook featuring recipes from missionaries and former missionaries from the countries or areas where they served.
If you have a favorite recipe, please send it to recipes@AdventistMission.org. Along with the recipe, please include:
Country or region of the recipe
Your name
Where you served
When you served there
If there’s a story that goes with the recipe, feel free to include that too.

-- Richard Kajiura ~ Communication Director ~ Office of Adventist Mission General Conference of SDA, 12501 Old Columbia Pike, Silver Spring, MD 20905;
Phone: (301) 680-6070 -- Fax: (301) 680-6625 ~~~~~~~~~~~ V. Honoring John M. Fowler [Part 1 of 2]

M. S. Jeremiah jeremiahsms@rediffmail.com April 27:
Gold from Kolar Field - The Era of Dr. J. M. Fowler Draws to an End:

By Dr. M. S. Jeremiah

The Kolar Gold Fields near Bangalore must have yielded tonnes of gold before it was closed down - but one nugget of gold that it yielded, was more precious than the rest of the gold put together, priceless and precious beyond measure, that nugget of gold is Dr. J. M. Fowler. His radiance and brilliance has spread across the length and breadth of the Southern Asia and Adventist Church all around the world. He is officially retiring on 1st of May 2011.

From a rural hamlet to the world's highest platforms, a journey of more than five decades as a pastor, teacher, editor, scholar, administrator, orator, theologian and philosopher is drawing to an end. It is a sad story of human life, that stalwarts and intellectual giants, after having served their time must retire, but his is an irreplaceable loss that will be strongly felt by all who have been beneficiaries of his benevolence and compassion - this is my humble tribute to him.

Dr. John Fowler had modest beginnings but he was a brilliant student from his childhood days. His father nourished and cherished the idea that one day his son would be sitting shoulder-to-shoulder with the very Britishers he worked for. He gave him a British name and refused to bow down to coercion to send him to work in the Kolar mines - instead he sent him to school. His father had a 'Mountain' in his mind that he wanted his precious son to climb - every decision he made was positioned for his rising. Dr. Fowler to his credit, never lowered the peak and ascent the mountain, he did, with aplomb, assurance, determination and skill.

For the excellent marks that he received in his graduating class, he could have walked into any Medical or Engineering College of his choice - yet he chose to pursue a course in Theology. Friends and relatives thought he had gone insane. "Theology was something you pursued when you could not get admission into any other discipline", his father said. Yet, he knew that was to be his calling and even in the face of tremendous opposition he stuck to his guns - the church is richer today for the mature, nonstandard and brave decision that the young Fowler took that day.

During his illustrious career, he steered the Adventist Church with dedication and utter candour and took it to new levels of excellence. During his long career, Dr. Fowler held numerous administrative assignments both at Southern Asia and at the General Conference and served in editorial capacity on leading Adventist magazines, national and international. Dr. Fowler was a man of letters and held a Bachelors Degree in Theology from Spicer Memorial College in Pune, a Master's degree in Theology from Andrews University (Michigan USA), a Master's degree in Journalism for New York and a Doctoral degree in education from Andrews University. He has served the Southern Asia Division in various capacities, as a teacher, pastor, editor, director and Division associate secretary. In 1990 he became the associate editor of Ministry Magazine. This singular achievement was followed by him becoming elected to be the associate Director of Education at the General Conference, a position that he held till his retirement. He has the honour of being the first Indian editor of "Herald of Health," the oldest Adventist Health magazine. He has authored 4 books and written hundreds of articles published in scholarly journals and Bible study guidelines.

He was a connoisseur of the English language, someone who could weave magic with words. He could string bland words and make them sound lyrical.
To me, be it spoken or written, he was the King of grammar and syntax. He was an orator beyond compare. His preaching was exemplary. He brought the Bible before our eyes. The absolute conviction with which he preached and the certainty of His prophecies drove many of us to the throne of God.
Possessing a enchanting stage presence and limitless charisma his deep booming voice mesmerized audiences and one of my earliest and fondest memories of him is walking more than 20 miles, as a young boy, just to see and hear him speak. [End of Part 1] ~~~~~~~~~ VI. SRI LANKAN FISHERMEN

by Benjamin D. Schoun, former president of AWR

"Sri Lanka is a beautiful island that lies in the warm waters of the Indian Ocean, off the southern tip of India. For 30 years the nation was wracked by civil war, but at last peace has come, and the people can once more hope for a better life. Farmers can plant their crops without fear, and men can go fishing in the rich waters that surround their island.

"But another threat has arisen, a threat to religious freedom. Recently the government of Sri Lanka has passed a law forbidding religious conversions. Now anyone caught distributing religious material risks being convicted of a crime. How can the 3,600 Seventh-day Adventists living on this island share God's love with others without risking their lives, their jobs, their future? How can they invite people, as Jesus did, to 'follow Me.'?

"Two brothers who make their living fishing in the sea near their home bought a small radio to listen to as they sat for long hours in their boat.

One day while searching for something of interest to listen to, they came across a station they hadn't heard before. It was a message of hope, a message of God's love.

"Day after day they listened to programs on this newly discovered station, which identified itself as Adventist World Radio. They responded to the messages of hope and peace and accepted Jesus as their personal Savior.

"They shared what they were learning with their families, and during the long hours out in their boat, these brothers turned up the volume on their little radio so that the men fishing nearby could enjoy the messages as well. Their favorite program was called 'The Voice of Hope,' and the words of hope warmed the hearts of many who listened as they fished.

"As the fellow fishers asked the brothers questions, the new believers grew bold. They organized a prayer group, and several who have come have found hope and life in the gospel of Jesus. Now, in spite of the new legal restrictions, these men asked for literature and Bibles so they can study and grow in their faith and knowledge of Jesus.

"Please pray for these modern-day fishers of men, and all the believers in Sri Lanka and elsewhere in the world where the devil seeks to slow the Lord's work."
--from the current Senior Sabbath School quarterly.

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VII. The Eastern Tidings--100 Years Later

Gerald Christo presents some historic information from Southern Asia's first official journal, "The Eastern Tidings." In this centennial year we will bring some short items that still thrill us to read:

LEST WE FORGET--From the Eastern Tidings of March 1911-Reported by J. L. Shaw. (Courtesy Office of General Conference Archives and Statistics)

The Watchman Press has done more work than usual the last season. But they could do much more if the workers would crowd the publication of vernacular literature more rapidly. The Oriental Watchman is being increased in size, four pages being added. More room will thereby be given to the Home and Health departments. In this way it is hoped the paper may be still more interesting to those not so fully interested in purely gospel themes.

Annfield House has been taking on some repairs preparatory to the opening of the school. Paint, white-wash, and hard work work wonders.

Treatment rooms will be conducted at Kirkville this season. Much of the Sanitarium furniture and appliances have been carefully put away for future use.

The Garhwal school opened with an encouraging attendance. Two out-schools will be conducted the coming year. The construction of the dormitories is well under way, and a school house will probably be built this year.

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VIII. Hope for Humanity Team Visits Nepal

Bhaju Ram Shrestha <umansan@wlk.com.np> April 25

Upon asking what the learning to read had been doing, we got this answer: "Our parents deprived us of learning when we were young, but you provided us the opportunity to learn. You are our fathers and mothers." This heartfelt tribute was paid to the Hope for Humanity team by the jubilant women in the Lele Village, about 30 km from Kathmandu.

The Hope for Humanity (HFH) team, led by its president Dr. Maitland DiPinto, was in Nepal making an on-the-spot visit to the women's literacy classes that has been running the second cycle. The team constituted the liaison officer, Dr. Gordon Buehler, Elder Gerry Chundlech, and the Communication Director for the Pacific Union Conference, Pastor Ray Tez, and the Media Producer for the Church, Pr. G. W. Kore and Mrs. Hepzibah Kore from the Southern Asia Division. The team arrived on April 13, 2011 and took up their observation and interview assignment from next day for five days till they left.
Taking the camera gears and accompanied by the translator, Uma Shrestha, a senior Spicer College student and couple of us, the team first made its visit to Sagbari, Bhaktapur district, where Mrs. Purna Maya Sunwar, was the facilitator. It was the high festival day in that district, yet there were some eager women who came together to meet the HFH team. Purna Maya’s class is held on the different times of day, depending upon the convenience of the learners than the teacher who conduct the class about 5 hours a day. She has 18 women learners. The team witnessed as the class was held. There were interviews and exchange of conversations and questions in this first class that was held on the roof top. Dr. DiPinto scooped out some inspiring answers to his questions to Purna May who never had a formal education, but learn to read by her personal effort. She learned to read by reading the Bible and she wanted to encourage other to learn to read so that they too could learn to read the Bible. . . .

From this first class, the team went to a small carpet factory where Purna Maya goes to teach the class. The ladies gathered in the porch to study while the hand spinning wheel turned round and round a few feet away. Dr. DiPinto and Dr. Buehler put forth some questions. The questions comprised of why they were learning? whether their children helped? did the husbands resent their learning ability? why they did not learn when they were young? what they could do now that they could not do before? whether they could make own decision after learning better than before or not? etc.

The answers such as these were fruitful: We want to learn to follow directions anywhere we go like in the hospitals; read transportation and public signs; help our children with their home work; write our names on documents; etc. . . . They expressed their gratitude for the opportunity to learn, and requested to teach English language too since it is becoming speedily common. Dr. DiPinto encouraged them to read something every day and told their enthusiasm to learn is very inspiring. When asked whether he could make a prayer of blessing, the women happily consented.

From this center, the team went to Om Gyan Mandir school where the jovial ladies of various age group was taught by a young and cheerful housewife Kabita Basnet. There too Dr. DiPinto had an opportunity to find out the first hand experience of how the teaching and learning took place and the interaction between the students and teachers. There were about 30 enthusiastic students in this class. The school had allowed to have the women’s class there. . . .

Both the above centers were observed in the morning, then in the afternoon, the team went to Sanga, 25 km east from the capital. The class taught by the housewife Nitu Shrestha was held in an unused shop. There were ladies of various age group ranging from age 20 to 85. The women with eager to learn came from far and near. Dr. Buehler sat with the students and had an exchange of question and answers. . . .

On the Sabbath of April 16 in Gathaghar, the center church of Kathmandu Valley, the Sabbath School program was conducted by the women’s literacy group comprised of the supervisors and facilitators. Dr. DiPinto highlighted the Hope for the Humanity Project. During the divine service Pr. Umesh Kumar Pokherel welcomed the guests and the women literacy supervisors and facilitators. Dr. Buehler offered the prayer. Pr. G. W. Kore preached. There was a fellowship lunch after the church program. . . .

On Sunday April 17, there was a special session for the facilitators and the supervisors in Gathaghar Church premises. In the first session of the program, Dr. DiPinto explained the vision of the literacy program, and how these facilitators and teachers were working hard to materialize that vision. He commended highly to those women for their noble task to carry the betterment of the society. Dr. Gordon Buehler talked about the literacy project and shared some of the method of teacher. Mrs. Hepzibah Kore, the key person to unlock the literacy program from the Southern Asia Division in this region shared her experiences and encouraged the facilitators and supervisors. She also shared some practical methods of teaching. She commended highly the commitment of the Women’s Literacy Program Crew of Nepal. . . .

The literacy program steered by Umesh Kumar Pokherel is under the auspice of Nepal Field of Seventh-day Adventists. Cathy Jenson is the director of Women Ministry Department of Nepal Field, and also in-charge of the women literacy program that has about 35 centers in the Bagmati Zone region.

On Monday, April 18, the fruitful meeting between the Hope for Humanity team and the officers of the Nepal Field took place pledging each other to support for the program. In same afternoon the Hope for Humanity team and the Nepal Field officers went to Lipcot, the leper’s colony where a literacy class for the ex-lepers and other was being conducted.

Before the team left Nepal on April 19 afternoon, they visited Scheer Memorial Hospital of SDA in Banepa that is 25 km from the capital. This hospital was started by Dr. Stanley Sturges of Portland in 1960.

The women literacy team of Nepal that is comprised of Umesh, Kumar Pokharel site, coordinator, supervisors, teachers, Nepal Field coordinator Cathy and the volunteer, reporter Bhaju Ram Shrestha would like to express their hearty and sincere appreciation to the Hope for Humanity team for coming all the way from the United States and India to make on the stop observation, interview, encourage and pledge the solidarity to bring the light of learning to the women of Nepal, who are being darkened by being the second class citizen We trust that Hope for Humanity, the Southern Asia Division and the Nepal Field will continue to do their best to first the open the learning eyes of many
deprived women, so that they can open their hearts for the Gospel of Lord Jesus Christ. --Report prepared by Bhaju Ram Shrestha with Umesh Kumar Pokherel.

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