Adventist Heritage

From: charles tidwell <charles.h.tidwell@gte.net>
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To: Self
Subject: [Spam******* SpamScore] SUD e-News, April 27, 2012 #18

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I. Announcements
1. SUD-ites to Meet in Loma Linda
   Doris Kore <drskore@aol.com> April 23:
   Friends of Southern Asia Adventist Fellowship (FSAAF) will be meeting on Saturday, May 5, 2012 at the Chan Auditorium, Loma Linda Academy, Loma Linda, CA 92354 at 10:00 AM followed by a potluck. Featured speaker: Dr. Lynden Christian from the UK. Special feature will be given by Dr. Sam Koilpillai and the SS lesson study by Mrs. Nina Andrews. All are welcome.
   (Please note the change in venue.)

2. Free Concert at Maryland Church
   Patrick Jacob <JNeedride@aol.com> April 23:
   Vijay Benedict concert at Southern Asian SDA Adventist Church (SASDAC)
   After 5 years Mr. Vijay Benedict, India's former popular film play-back singer and now a gospel singer, is coming again to the Southern Asian Seventh-day Adventist church (SASDAC) to perform a gospel concert on May 5, 2012 at 05:30pm. This is a FREE concert; a free-will offering will be collected to support SASDAC's and his ministry. Please come with your family; invite your friends, co-workers and neighbors, and have a great time listening to his voice, testimony, and how God has changed his life and using him as a gospel singer in God's ministry. God is a mighty and miraculous God who can change anyone's life. We just have to lead people towards Him. Who knows? This concert may touch someone's life if we do our part.
   If you wish to sponsor the concert with a 10 second slide, or for more information, please contact church office at 301-301-442-4581.

II. PRIA Ministries in Andhra Pradesh
   Baburao Chedalawada <baburaoched@msn.com> April 20 Newsletter
   Sarojini and I returned from a 6-week trip to Tanuku, AP, India during January and February of this year visiting the PRIA (Pure Religion in Action) projects. . .
   We spent a large portion of our time at our school at Tanuku where we visited classes and evaluated teachers. Many of our non-Christian teachers have come to embrace the love of Jesus in their hearts. Because of unbelieving husbands, they cannot openly express their faith. We pray that some day all those who have experienced the love of Jesus in our school will openly accept Jesus as their Savior.
   The new school term starts on June 1, 2012. For the first time since the school opened in 2001, we will be operating a full high school program from kindergarten to 10th grade. We expect an enrollment of 400 of more students. Twenty-five percent of these students need scholarships of differing amounts. A full scholarship is $300 per year or $25.00 per month. Classes run for 11 months and the school collects for 12 months. All scholarships this year will be around $15,000. This is where our donors come in. . .
We had the privilege of attending 2 branch Sabbath Schools in nearby villages, conducted by our teachers and students. These are in addition to branch Sabbath Schools conducted by some 22 of our lay members who also visit homes giving Bible studies. What a joy it was to see 70 beautiful children from the school studying God's Word, praying, and praising God in these churches!

We also have a Widows’ Ministry in the same area. At present 112 widows and some widowers from 10 different villages benefit from this program. PRIA Ministry also provides assistant to terminally ill and physically handicapped person. It takes only $25 per month to help one of these people.

We returned home from this trip with hearts full of joy and gratitude to God for leading us into this ministry and blessing it and us. What a wonderful God we serve!

--Baburao and Sarojini Chedalawada

[To find how to send aid to these worthy projects, write to the e-mail address above.]~~~~~~~~~~~ III. Letters

1. Justin Singh <JUWYL@aol.com> April 22:
I was thrilled to read Charles Shad’s brief note honoring his father, Pastor B. M. Shad. Kudos to you, Charlie, for honoring your father in the SUD Newsletter.

With his 55 long years of service, your father stands shoulder to shoulder with any who have worked in Southern Asia Division. I am one of those who am blessed by his ministry, and I join you in honoring your father.

I look forward to reading more such write-ups in the Newsletter, in which Indian leaders are honored for their contribution in Southern Asia Division.

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2. South Asia Youth for Jesus <supriya100@gmail.com>:
Were you a Hindu or know of someone who was a Hindu and now is a Seventh-day Adventist? The Hindu Study Center is needing your help to better reach out to Hindus around the world. Can you help by filling out a survey?
Please send an email to supriya100@gmail.com

What is the Hindu Study Center? Find out @ ttp://www.adventistmission.org/fl12q2-editorial South Asia Youth for Jesus is a youth-led supporting ministry of the Seventh-day Adventist Church.

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IV. Death of Kenneth A. Wright, Jr.

This brief obituary was in the April 26 Adventist Review:

Kenneth A. Wright, Jr. -- Born Union Springs, New York; died September 11, 2011 Winchester, Virginia. He worked for the Voice of Prophecy broadcast. He also served in the Arizona, Mountain View, and Wisconsin conferences, Bass Memorial Academy, Pakistan Union, and General Conference Treasury. He is survived by his wife, Ruth; one son, Kenneth III; one daughter, Sharon; and one brother, Burton.

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V. Rag Pickers from an Indian Slum

--from the March 15 Adventist Review

"Burdens to Carry" by Sudha Khristmukti

"On weekend afternoons the markets wear a festive look as crowds go about their shopping. I pass through the middle of town carrying two carefully balanced sacks of grain that are tied with a rubber tube to the rear carrier of my bicycle.

"Slum dwellers live outside the town limits. Nearby is a dirty little pond where filth and refuse have accumulated in a massive heap. Not far away, on a thundering, busy highway, passengers in cars, trucks, and buses pass every day, unconcerned about the existence of the place.

"On this hot afternoon I see barefoot children with matted hair and protruding bellies walking about on the hot, arid ground. They rummage through open garbage dumps by the roadside alongside dogs, pigs, cows, and vultures, each trying to salvage something worth eating or keeping.

"Strangely, there is more order here than at the local marketplace, where the have nots were haggling loudly to bring down prices and vendors were shrieking out the prices of their wares above the din of traffic.

"At the dump no one even shooed the birds or animals away. They just quietly went about picking up whatever was edible or usable. Ignoring the stench, some adults pulled out discarded plastic bags and metal objects they could sell for a few rupees to be recycled.

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"One child, naked and covered in grime, found an old pair of slippers, donning them immediately before anyone else could grab them. Another fished out an old bicycle tire. He would give it to his mother, who would cut it up and burn bits of it along with discarded wood chips from a nearby factory to cook rice for the evening meal.

"Newspaper writers label them 'rag pickers.'

"I was looking for a hut where a mother and her daughter lived. The assortment of huts--some merely partitions made of cloth, others with or without bamboo leaves--were randomly scattered over a deserted patch of land that connected a stretch of highway to nearby cities.

"I asked around while beggars and malnourished children stared with curiosity. An injured laborer sat on a mound of earth covered over in cement dust from head to toe, his leg wrapped in a dirty bandage.

"Finally I stumbled upon them.

"The mother had been born to parents who were poor and illiterate, and who considered their daughter a burden to be married off as soon as possible. She was given away to a man who not only didn't have a job, but was constantly drunk. He even stole the little bit of money she earned. She stayed with him out of sheer hopelessness. One day he abandoned her, disappearing to another city, leaving her pregnant.

"She barely eked out a living weaving and selling bamboo baskets, moving through various neighborhoods in and around town. Hunger, pain, and neglect had turned Shantu and her 1-year-old daughter into thin, pale, emaciated figures. Their bones were clearly visible through their torn, dirty clothes.

India is hot and dusty, and summer temperatures can rise to 110 degrees F. in arid states that are far from the coast.

"People like them simply die on the street from thirst, dehydration, or hear stroke. They cannot afford to buy water or find shelter to protect them from the devastating heat. Many of them simply huddle under whatever trees they can find, waiting for the sun to head toward the western horizon. They fall prey to jaundice, cholera, typhoid and gastroenteritis from the contaminated food and water they ingest. They have no money for medicine.

"My head swam from witnessing these ugly realities. Their open hut held an earthen water pot and a place to cook. I saw a pot blackened by fire standing on three bricks, a bucket of water, an old broken mug, and two broken coconut shells that served as dishes.

"We lugged the grain sacks to a corner of the hut; wheat and rice. some lintels and dried beans they could use any time. I emptied the fruit basket, laying out the chickoos, mangoes, and grapes. When I brought out a bag full of vegetables, they were the picture of delight.

"I sat on a stone while the thatched bamboo roof swayed with the wind.

The little one stared in wonder at the clean frocks for her, the skirts and saris for her mother.

"I thought I was doing the giving, feeling happy from the warmth of sharing and doing something good. But I realized that my meager gifts were nothing compared to what they had given to me.

"Their smiles said they were thankful. HOW CAN ANYONE SMILE IN SUCH A PLACE? I wondered.

"I glimpsed their resilient spirits and wondered, HOW DO THEY GO ON DAY AFTER DAY?

"Their eyes danced with hope and I wondered, HOW CAN ANYONE HAVE HOPE IN SUCH CONDITIONS?

"And yet they had life, hope, resilience, gratitude, and much more'

"I bicycled back to my home, humbled and truly grateful; I had to be. I realized I hadn't been properly thankful to God for all that He has given me. Not just for my basic necessities, but for all that I took for granted:

education, home, health, work that I enjoy, and many more blessings I can't even begin to list.

"The best way I can show my gratitude is to keep returning to help carry their burdens. It's my religious duty. The apostle wrote, 'Carry each other's burdens, and in this way you will fulfill the law of Christ.' (Gal. 9:2)"

(Sudka Khristmuki writes from Gujarat, India. ~~~~~~~~~ VI. Johnson Christian Reports Annual Work/Visit in India
Johnson S. Christian <JSFRUIT@aol.com>

I have just returned from India after few months doing volunteer work in our churches and schools. My wife also came with me on this trip. God has blessed us for the past 56 years of our marriage. We have two children and five grandchildren. Dr. Margaret married to Dr. Kenneth Peterson, and they have two boys, one a lawyer in California and the other college student.

Richard has three children, two girls and one boy.

I visited several schools and churches. We were very happy to visit Spicer Memorial College; we both were students some years ago. I graduated in 1956. There have been many improvements at the college. God has richly blessed the
college under the able leadership of Dr. Justus Devadas and his good staff. We attended the Sports Day program which was very good. The students of the college, both young men and woman, took part in the program; they have good talents which they showed in many sports items.

We went to Surat where Dr. M. S. Jeremiah is in charge of our hospital, college and high school. The hospital is one of the best in the Southern Asia Division with modern equipment. Both of us had medical check ups, and we were very pleased the fine job they did. The college and high school have more than seven thousand judgement-bound students. The fine leadership of Dr. Jeremiah is shown by the excellent progress seen in all the departments. I visited several high schools and churches and also helped some with of the needs they have mentioned.

My most important was visit was to Manipur in the Northeast India Union.

I wanted to go there for several reasons, one of them because of the fine churches and schools they have. The president of the Section is Pastor Barnabas Zimik, a fine Godly and hard working person; I travelled to many schools with him.

What struck me the most was my visit to one of the school with 100 fine children and would you believe they have no water facilities, no well and pipe water. I at once told the president that I would contribute Rs.40,000 to dig a well, and if it costs more than that, when I visit them next I will contribute more money, God willing. Pastor Lionel F. Lyngdoh is the president of the Union, a very hard working person, and also a very devoted person in God's work. He came with us on our visit to the schools and attended the workshop for the teachers which I conducted. I spoke for the divine service in their fine church in Manipur. I would kindly urge you to help along with me for the well project in Manipur and also for some of the churches and schools. Some have helped me in sending funds to the General Conference treasury department, marking it “Johnson S. Christian Ministry in Southern Asia Division.” I would greatly appreciate your contribution for God’s work in India. I thank those who have helped me for several years in my ministry in India. The funds are sent to the Division in India and then sent to the places where needed in our schools and churches which I mention to them.

Even though I got sick before I left India, I am happy to serve the Lord on a volunteer basis for the past 16 years. The work in Southern Asia is moving forward in faith in spite of the problems they face. Lets pray for the Division leaders, workers and lay people as the try to hasten God's Kingdom in spreading the message to the millions in the Southern Asia Division. Thanks for your help and prayers for me. I am glad I have a very humble part to work for the Lord in India.

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VII. Music Workshops Held in 2 Unions

Edison Samraj <amc3@vsnl.com> April 24:

We have successfully completed two major music workshops for the Karnataka and Kerala unions. The purpose of organizing this was to identify musical talents for media purpose including radio, TV and FM. We have been very delighted to see the amount of interest generated as a result of this initiative taken by Adventist Media Centre with the support and help of the communication directors of the respective units. Dr. Jayadev, Communication Director of the Karnataka Union and Mrs. Thankam Paulson, Communication Director of the Kerala Union, did a splendid job on the ground work for almost two months in planning for these important events. We had over 150 musicians from the Kerala Union who participated in the one day workshop in which several people were presented by outstanding musicians and soloists on their best compositions. The Karnataka Union had over 200 musicians participated in a life recording for almost five hours after the workshop was over. We have also identified people who have completed their CDs. We are asking for formal approval for them to be used in our programs. This is going to continue for the remaining unions as well as in the forth coming months. We are looking forward to working with the Andhra Union, Northern Union, Northeast Union and South Union. We are working towards it; kindly pray for these initiatives that they will be a blessing to the Adventist Media Centre.

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