I. Remembering Mrs. Violet Quinn
II. Blind Student Attends Spicer College

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I. Remembering Mrs. Violet Quinn

Gerald Christo <christohsr@dataone.in> May 17:

Faithful Unto Death

I first heard of the late Mrs. Quinn in the mid 40s when Thrya E. Sandberg dictated letters to isolated members in the Northwest Union. The newly married Violet Quinn was one of the recipients. While itinerating in the Madhya Pradesh region through the 50s and early 60s I met the Quinns often. Though not baptised, Mr. Quinn did not forbid his wife from setting aside her offerings and tithes to give to visiting pastors. As Mrs. Margaret Nathaniel reported, her example and her good works will be remembered.

II. Blind Student Attends Spicer College

---from the GC Office of Adventist Mission

"But Now I See"

"Dilip Tapu had lost his sight, and his future looked grim. His parents had taken him to many doctors in northeastern India, but no one could help him to regain his sight. His parents found a special school for the blind where he could learn Braille. But soon after he enrolled, the school closed, crushing the family's hope of an education for their son.

"With nothing else to do, Dilip hung around with the street children and soon became addicted to chewing tobacco. Often he stole his mother's rice and sold it to buy tobacco. He discovered he could earn a few rupees by singing popular songs in the street and on the trains, but when his money was stolen one day, he returned home defeated. He was 10 years old.

"A man offered to help the boy but only took him home and forced him to work for a little food. Dilip escaped and returned home. His mother told him that she had found a school where he could study. 'Your life will be better,' she assured him. Dilip did not want to leave home again, but he obeyed.

"He arrived at his new school and heard children singing. He didn't recognize the songs they sang, but he liked the music. However, Dilip soon realized that his new school was operated by Christians, and he was prejudiced against Christians. He resisted his teachers' attempts to introduce him to the Savior and even tried to be expelled from the school by writing something bad about a teacher. But instead of becoming angry, the teacher forgave him and spoke kindly to him.

"Slowly Dilip realized that these Christians were different from others he had known. He apologized to the teacher he had wronged, and she in turn led him to accept Jesus into his heart. But when Dilip's friends and family learned that he had become a Christian, they scolded and mocked him. In spite of his new faith, Dilip struggled with cravings for tobacco. He prayed fervently for deliverance, but it took many months before the craving for tobacco left him.

"When he completed high school, Dilip wanted to continue his studies. His parents had no money, so he worked as a literature evangelist for three years to save enough to start college. He continues his studies at Spicer Memorial College, where he is preparing to become a pastor.

'"I thank God for the Adventist school where I met my Savior,' he said.

'Through this school my life was changed. Now I want to share God's love with others.'

"Seventh-day Adventist schools throughout India and around the world are making a difference to young people. Thank you for supporting Christian education through your mission offerings."
III. Hurricane & Hail Hit Indo-Bhutan Members

P. K. Tamsang <pktamsang@hotmail.com>

On May 4 a severe hurricane hit the Indo-Bhutan area and made hundreds homeless. The entire North Bengal district was affected; the speedy hurricane blown down houses and trees, smashed crops in the field and took some lives. Moreover, a train was blown off the tracks, bridges were damaged and roads blocked everywhere. This unexpected hurricane made thousands suffer the effects of a tsunami.

Our Adventist school and churches had their roofs blown off and walls suffered crack damage. Thousands of people are homeless; now many hardly have a place to stay and fed their children. Joel and Mary were crying bitterly because they lost their entire school books, uniform, etc. They wonder how their poor parents will be able to replace them and even find a place to sleep at night. There are hundreds of children like them affected by the hurricane and are in a pathetic situation. We need you special prayer to these affected families and school going children at this present period.

Please kindly do remember them in your prayer.

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IV. Hepzibah Kore’s Morning Watch for May 9:

by Hepzibah Kore, from RENEW, the women’s morning devotional book for 2012

"Before I Called" Isaiah 65:24

"My husband and I planned our first trip to Ranchi, Bihar, in India. Two weeks before the journey, he took another assignment, which meant I had to travel alone. I was apprehensive. The train would take about two days, and I had to change in Chennai around midnight. Several 'what ifs' raced through my mind. Furthermore, it had been only four months since my surgery.

'I boarded the train on schedule. The train reached Chennai a half hour late. Fortunately, I found a kindhearted, middle-aged porter to carry my luggage. The walk from one end of the railway station to where I had to catch the next train seemed never-ending. When we reached the platform, we found that the train was 45 minutes late.

'Promising to be back when the train came, the porter left. 'What ifs' popped up again. But true to his word, the porter settled me comfortably on the train. 'Who has gotten my husband's berth?' I wondered. 'Will it be a woman to whom I can talk?' Soon I heard a young woman speaking my language. She settled opposite me in the place my husband would have been. I offered a silent prayer of gratitude to God and conversed with the woman.

'Priya was going to Ranchi, my destination. She knew the Adventist hospital where I was going and a few of my acquaintances. When I told her it was my first visit, she assured me of her assistance and calmed my fears.

'Around 9 in the morning of the third day, my new friend announced unexpectedly, that she would get off at the station before Ranchi to save time. Though I was disappointed, I assured her that I would be fine. 'Lord,' I prayed, 'I need help to carry my luggage. You know my condition.' Priya alighted from the train, giving me a big hug.

'I was left alone with a young man. Surprisingly, the man who had not spoken a word all those hours of traveling together said, 'Aunty, do not worry. I will help you with your luggage.' 'How did he know I would need help with my luggage?'

'Yes, God fulfilled His promise that day. Before I called, He had arranged for Priya to have my husband's berth. While I was still speaking He impressed the young man to help me with my luggage. What a mighty God we serve.'

['Hepzibah Kore writes from Hosur, India, where she is the Shepherdess coordinator of the Southern Asia Division. Her husband, Gnararaj, is a minister. Her passion is to open the eyes of the women in her country to read the Word and see the world through adult literacy programs.'] ~~~~~~~~~~~

V. Maranatha One-Day Churches & Schools in India

-- from Maranatha's Spring 2012 Update

Three New Schools in India

Volunteers gathered during the month of November, 2011 in Guntur, Andhra Pradesh to build a new school campus. The buildings went up quickly, and will provide a place for 400 children to get a Christian education.

In February volunteers help build a new elementary school in the village of Hugelli, A. P. The students have been attending classes in a rented facility that was dark and run-down. The new campus provides a first-class environment for learning and will allow the school to grow as well.

In March, volunteers helped build the first classrooms of a new secondary school campus near Hosur, Tamil Nadu. There are 300 students on the waiting list, anticipating the soon opening of the school.
Maranatha has completed 115 One-Day Churches and 87 One-Day Schools in India. The projected goals for 2012 include 125 ODCs and 19 ODSs. "Mission Story from Long Ago: "Fast Unto Death, Against the Truth"

Mr. Murthi, son of a wealthy family in Bangalore, decided for the Truth; his good devout Hindu mother went on a fast "to death" to get him to come back to his parent's religion. She held out for a month, and he held out too. She started her second month, but seeing he would not give up, she broke her fast. He was disinherited from the family and their plastic business. Finally, faced with bankruptcy, the father relented and called his son back. As manager, the young man got the factory back on its feet, and today it is thriving. All benefits are tithed for the S. D. A. Church. Three sisters have been baptized in the S. D. A. Church, and both parents are taking studies. Mr. Murthi was chosen Layman of the Year for the Kanarese Section in 1966.

--Story told by Pr. George Maywald, Division Office worship Dec. 6. '67 ~~~~~~~~~~~~~ VII. The Mother Jilani Story [Chapter 14 of 17]

Chapter 14: Which Day Is the Sabbath

Precisely at 9 o'clock the next morning Pastor Nelson knocked at the door of the Bazliel home. Mrs. Nelson was with him, and Sakinah immediately recognized her as the European lady who had brought her the "Signs of the Times." She hoped that Mrs. Nelson would not ask her if she had read the paper.

After everyone was seated, with their Bibles open ready to begin the lesson, Pastor Nelson prayed that God would guide them in their search for truth. He had intended to start right at the beginning and take a proper sequence of Bible studies with the two women. But that was not their idea. They were most anxious to know why the church was shut on Sundays.

"We have been Christians for many years," Hagar protested when Pastor Nelson had suggested that they begin at the beginning and study the various facts which prove that the Bible is true. "We believe the Bible from beginning to end. Tell us why you have church on Saturday."

Not realizing that they had been convinced of the true Sabbath since Kuwait days, Pastor Nelson carefully took step by step through the Bible, proving to them that God had rested on the seventh day of creation week, had blessed that day and given it to man as a precious gift whereby he might be always reminded of his Creator.

He showed them texts to illustrate the importance of keeping the Sabbath holy and explained how national disaster had overtaken the Israelites when they had departed from keeping God's holy day. He proved to them that Jesus worshiped on the seventh day when He was on earth.

"But wasn't the day changed when Christ came and died for us?" broke in Sakinah, remembering the arguments she had heard so often at Sunday School.

"The Bible has no record of any such change," Pastor Nelson replied.

"Sunday, the first day of the week, is mentioned only eight times in the New Testament, and in no place are we told to keep it holy. Let's turn to these references, and I'll explain."

Old Hagar nodded in agreement when he had finished. "I remember Gulam finding those very texts," she said. "He said there was nothing in them to prove that Sunday was holy. That's why we kept the Sabbath with the Jews all the time we lived in Kuwait."

The Nelsons looked so mystified that both women hastened to explain how the Jews had challenged Gulam to prove that Sunday-keeping was in the Bible.

They told how he had failed so miserably nearly forty years before.

"A most interesting story." Mrs. Nelson sounded deeply impressed, and her husband added hopefully, "Then you will not find it at all difficult to follow the Bible teaching and keep the seventh day holy."

"I must ask my husband what he thinks about it," Sakinah said. "I know it is right, but I do not want to do anything without his consent."

"What about you, Mrs. Jilani?" Pastor Nelson turned to Hagar.

"Of course I'll keep the Sabbath. I've always done my best to keep it as a holy day."

When Dr. Bazliel returned from the hospital, Sakinah was full of enthusiasm about the study they had heard that morning.

"What do you think of it, Robbie? Isn't it right?" she asked after she had read all the texts she had written down and told him all that had been said. "Shall we keep it holy? It's God's true Sabbath, isn't it?"

"Do as you like," her husband replied amiably. "I have to work seven days a week, so I can't keep any day. But if you want to go to church on Saturday, it makes no difference to me. Everyone will think you've gone mad, though."
"But I must keep it really holy," Sakinah insisted, ignoring his last remark. "No half measures—not like most people keep Sunday. Mrs. Nelson explained to me how we should be ready at sunset on Friday and not do any work until the sun sets on Saturday. No buying, no cooking, no needlework—"

"Then what? Do we starve on Saturdays?" asked Robinson caustically.

"Oh, no. We are supposed to prepare enough food on Friday to last for two days."

"That's all right then. Send the servant to the bazaar on Friday to buy enough food for two days," suggested Robinson. "You'll have to tell him to buy ice as well so it will keep over.

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END-ANTISPAM-VOTING-LINKS