I. Spicer Memorial College Enters Its 98th Academic Year

Rajendra Prasad <rajendraprasad2000@yahoo.com> June 14:
Spicer began its 98th academic year with Faculty Pre-session at Lagoona Resorts in Lonavla on June 11, 2012. About 60 faculty from the college and 120 from the high school along with the administrators spent the day there enriching themselves on the theme, "The Vision of the Adventist Philosophy of Education Lives On." After a lively song service and devotion taken by Pastor Noble Pilli, Executive Vice President, Dr. Justus Devadas, the College President, delivered the keynote address challenging everyone to gird themselves for the task ahead. Then the College faculty and the school teachers separated themselves, the former for a paper presentation on "Strategies to Enhance Learning in College Classrooms" by Professors S. Rajendra Prasad and Nanibala Paul from the School of Education, and the latter for a SWOT analysis orchestrated by the school administration. The high school has already enrolled 3,888 students to date and expects to take in another 120 students for Standard XI (ISC Programme). It is heartening to realize that more than 95% of the faculty both in college and high school are Seventh-day Adventists, most of them graduates from Spicer College itself.

II. Celebrate Dr. Matthews Birthday!

Sunny Wycliffe <sunnywycliffe@gmail.com> June 19:
Dr. Neville O. Matthews will be 92 years of age on June 30, 2012.
I know very well that all of us are extremely busy but may I suggest that all who knew and remember him write a nice birthday greetings card/letter to Dr. Matthews with their photos. I am sure he will love to read and reminisce on them. Please send it to his daughter, Gwen, at this address:
Dr. Neville O. Matthews
c/o Gwen Matthews-Ocampo
3106 Buckingham Road
Glendale, CA 91205

III. SUDites Plan Retreat in Blue Ridge Mountains in August

Sarah Khandagle <skhandagle72@gmail.com> June 13:
Adventist Fellowship International will be hosting an 'Amazing Grace' retreat in the beautiful Blue Ridge Mountains August 8-12, 2012 and we would love for you to join us. Enjoy the outdoors, participate in great activities for all ages, experience awesome food and be inspired by great speakers.
I remember as a little girl driving with my family all the way from Jonesboro, Arkansas for this one special week every summer. It was the one week a year when my family was able to spend time with our extended family and those who were always much more like family than friends. My favorite memories were hiking Sabbath afternoons, the fun evening games, racing in the AFI Olympics and both watching and performing in Saturday Night Live.
Ah, those were the days!
Being a part of AFI as an adult with my own family brings a new kind of joy to my heart. It is truly awesome to watch my children happily participate in the activities, build friendships and create memories that will surely last a lifetime, as many of mine have.

I am proud to serve as your Camp Director this year. Along with the members of the Camp Committee, we are striving to ensure your experience at camp this year is unlike any other. Planning an awesome event takes a lot of time and attention to details, but mostly dedication. We want to use all of your talents as well, please send me an email if you would like to become part of the team. Any info you need can be directed to the following emails: <AFICampDirector@gmail.com>, <shereen_samuel@hotmail.com>, <smokyzeboo3@aol.com>.

We are looking forward to a fun filled time in August with all of you.

We pray that you and your family and friends will be able to join us for a fantastic time away to experience and be reminded of His 'Amazing Grace'.

Sincerely,
Christina Pedapudi
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IV  Historic Document Signed for Nepal Christians

Rajendra Gautam <rajendra_gautam@hotmail.com>

The Honorable Mr. Top Bahadur Rayamajhi, the Minister for Peace and Rehabilitation for the Government of Nepal on the 27th of May, 2012 signed a historic document for the Christians of Nepal.

Mr. Rayamajhi, about a month ago when witnessing various programs been run by Adventist members of Pokhara SDA Church, said "I am impressed with Christians who change the lives of the destitute, the abandoned, the orphans, the lowest of the low castes, and help make this beautiful nation become stronger and a better community. My commitment in support of such people who contribute to build up this nation and make the difference will further become stronger after this event."

He further said that he will help in all possible ways to provide rights for the Christians in Nepal as any other religious group to continue with their selfless service and help build this nation become stronger and more beautiful.

Minister Rayamajhi, being a very close friend to us for a while, has been very keen at learning about the Christianity and its importance in Nepal. His officially signed agreement document on behalf of the government of Nepal came just few hours prior to the dissolution of the constitution assembly and the news has been published in the national newspaper, the Kantipur. giving recognition and rights to the Christians of Nepal.

Little did we realize that our friendship with him would help achieve such a big and historically important document that has now been officially documented probably for the first time ever in the history of Nepal. Mr. Rayamajhi is a minister representing the Maoists communist party of Nepal.

What is impossible with our God who lives and still rules? Efforts made by the Pokhara SDA church to impress and give him a knowledge about the true living God and the importance of His people in Nepal; and we pray for Mr. Rayamajhi's success and political prosperity in Nepal.

Pastor Rajendra Gautam
SDA Church. Pokhara, Nepal
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V. Death of Frieda Jaley

Priscilla Shyam <priscillashyam@SAAA.ORG> June 15:

It is with great regret that we inform you of the untimely demise of Freida Jaley, Mr. Mohan Jaley's wife. Frieda passed away on Wednesday, June 13, 2012, due to cancer. Mohan & his wife have been strong members of the Southern Asia Adventist Association for many years. Please remember Mohan and their daughter Amanda; Mohan's sister Cathy and brother Andy and their families; and Freida's siblings and their family members in your prayers. May God comfort them in this time of their grief!

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VI. SAYJ Rally Weekend Update

Vikram Panchal <info@sayj.org> June 12:

South Asia Youth for Jesus (SAYJ), a youth-led supporting ministry of the Seventh-day Adventist Church

Last evening (June 11) SAYJ brought its first rally in Bangalore to a close. We had a number of committed and sincere young people attend the training sessions. I am especially grateful that a focus was placed right from the outset to make
this rally one that provides practical training on church growth. Our emphasis throughout the weekend was on two components: Evangelism and Training which can be achieved through home-based evangelism or CARE Groups and Discipleship training for members, respectively.

On Friday evening (June 8) I shared my personal conversion testimony of growing up in a Hindu family, later being sent to a Christian boarding school run by missionaries in India, and then finally encountering a Seventh-day Adventist on a train journey back home while living and studying in Melbourne, Australia. I decided to open the weekend with sharing my testimony to let the youth and church members know that God is working in the lives of young people everywhere from all religions who are honestly searching. It is for us to find them even in a country like India which has over a billion people, seven major religions, and 22 official languages.

**Sabbath Sunshine**

On Sabbath morning (June 9) I had the chance to speak at the Sunshine SDA Church. Sunshine is a unique place because in addition to the church there's also a school and 'home' or orphanage. I continued from the previous evening and spoke about the Great Commission of Jesus' call to systematically evangelize but also to train our church members thoroughly.

. . An appeal was made at the end, based on Matthew 9:35-38, for people to come for the training sessions the following day.

In the afternoon then, some of the SAYJ leaders came together to run a regular class on Revelation. I was expecting only about 7-10 people but along with the leaders were another 30 kids from the home eager to study and learn together! It was a joy to see these kids ask questions and also eager to read from the Scripture.

**SAYJ Rally**

The following day (June 10) our rally commenced once again at the Central Tamil SDA Church. I was impressed and excited with the presentation made by Dawn, SAYJ General VP, about the upcoming plans for SAYJ in the near future. Following that, Mr. Ravi Shankar, Division Youth Leader of Southern-Asia Division was present at the start of the rally and mentioned his affirmation for the work SAYJ was doing and looked forward to the upcoming projects planned. He was also thankful for the emphasis on Discipleship given the GCs recent focus on retaining church members through Biblical Discipleship.

Let's continue to keep in prayer the team in Bangalore as they coordinate efforts in how to implement the training received over the next several months. I will continue to liaise with the Bangalore chapter to provide assistance as needed.

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Upcoming Events:

**Nepali Youth for Christ**
July 25 - 29, 2012 Chandragadi, Jhapa, Nepal

**SAYJ South India Conference**
Bangalore October 24 - 28, 2012

**SAYJ International Conference**
Jaintia Hills Meghalaya January 22 -27, 2013

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VII. Stella Thomas' Morning Watch for June 20

--from RENEW, the women's morning devotional book for 2012

"Even a Little Child Shall Know" Mark 10:14

"On a rainy Saturday night in Hosur, India, Sheena, my 6-year-old daughter, wanted to give her friend across the street a card she had made for her. I told her it was very wet outside and she could give the card the next day. However, Sheena insisted. 'Mama, only one minute. I'll come back immediately.' I reluctantly agreed, and in just a minute or so I heard her returning footsteps, so went to the screen door to open it for her.

"As I began to open the screen, I saw something on the hinge side of the door. Thinking it was a millipede that was trying to get in, I put on the porch light. To my shock, it was a black snake. The tail portion was on the inside, but the rest of the body was outside. I yelled, 'Sheena, there is a snake! Move toward the pots on the right side!' She moved away, but started to cry loudly with fright. I was afraid the snake might strike if I opened the door. to let Sheena in. Then I saw the snake curl up a little, so I again shouted to Sheena to run. She ran down the porch steps, still screaming loudly. Hearing her cry, our neighbor came out and carried her away. Then a brave neighbor came and killed the snake, which turned out to be a viper."
Just that morning at church Sheena had participated in the children's program and given a talk. She ended her talk with these words: 'God is good all the time. I can never stop thanking the Lord for His goodness.' Before going to bed that night, Sheena said, with tears in her eyes, 'Mama, God saved me because I thanked Him in church!'

"My elder son, Sean, immediately took the Bible and read Psalm 46, and all of us prayed, thanking the Lord for His protection. I told Sean, 'Son, I just cannot imagine where the snake was when Sheena went outside, because she came back in just a minute.'

"Mom, if Sheena hadn't gone outside, the snake would have come to the door--and even gone away--and we wouldn't have even known about it. But the Lord showed us this snake so we would know how kind and loving He is.'

What a profound statement! As I write this to you, I am so touched by God's loving care that my eyes are filled with tears of joy.

"God has a special love can care for little children, and He wants us to be like them."

[Stella Thomas is an administrative secretary in the Global Mission Office at the General Conference in Silver Spring, MD.] ~~~~~~~~~~ VIII. The Mother Jilani Story--Promised Follow-up:

Almost a year ago we began bringing you this story, chapter by chapter. Now we come to the end of the story--almost! The book ended with this prediction: "Hagar was an old, old woman now, and nearly blind. But she was satisfied. The children would all be doctors, of course. After all, what else could Gulam's grandchildren be?"

Here is the current Simla Bazliels' follow-up of "If I have 12 sons" written last October by Dr. B. Y. Baziel:

"Dear Dr. Charles,

"Gullu and I are pleased, and honoured at your choice of sharing the book IF I HAVE TWELVE SONS with your readers.

"We can't understand MaMa Jilani’s insistence of her coming from the Tribe of Benjamin, since as far as Gullu knows, she was a pukka Sikh, but then there are more things in that story that we shall not know until we meet 'over yonder.'

"He has written to the Publishers requesting permission to edit the book and bring it up-to-date; but publishers are odd people especially concerning books long out of date! Meanwhile we have very recently made contact with his cousins, the grandchildren of Jamila, the youngest Jilani daughter. They are Muslims - naturally since both parents were Pakistanis - although they have spent most of the lives in the USA and I imagine are American citizens. If Gullu does not get permission to re-edit Goldie Down's book let me tell you the latest position of the 'Twelve Sons';

"'King' Ghulam Jilani--Hegar Singh
"Sakina Sarah - MBBS
"Innocent Robinson Baziel MBBS, FACS, Major, Indian Army Medical Service
"Pervaiz MBBS, MS, MCh (Plastic Surg)
"Dilavaiz MBBS
"Rohini MBBS, MD, Col USA Medical Service
"Gulraiz PhD
"Yvonne MB ChB, FRCOG
"Shireen MA to PhD
"Esther, Registered Nurse
"Nicholas, Determined to be Plastic Surgeon
"Jamila
"Parveen Mirza
"Imran Mirza, 3rd Year MD in Family Medicine

"If Shireen, Imran, and Nicholas complete their aims, there will be eight doctors in the family of Ghulam and Hegar Jilani.

"If the three specialists married into the Baziel family - Innocent, Rohini and Yvonne are also counted there would be eleven doctors in the descendants of Ghulam and Hegar. Who knows, but that Hegar will yet achieve her aim of 'IF I HAVE TWELVE SONS (DAUGHTERS) following in the footsteps of Ghulam Jilani?'

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