I. Pakistani Adventist Convicted in "Blasphemy" Case

II. A Cohort of DMin Programme to Start at Spicer in 2014

III. Inauguration of Dr. Vincent Injety as South African College President III.

IV. Life Sketch of Edwin Buck V.

New Church Dedicated in Punjab, North India VI.

Daughter Marla's Childhood Religious Training

I. Pakistani Adventist Convicted in "Blasphemy" Case

by Elizabeth Lechleitner, Adventist News Network

Phony evidence used to get a life sentence for 29-year-old (Posted August 21, 2013)

Court in Pakistan sentenced a Seventh-day Adventist to life in prison in July for allegedly defaming Islam's Prophet Muhammad in a case that falls under the country's controversial blasphemy laws.

Sajjad Masih, 29, was convicted of sending blasphemous text messages to a member of a religious extremist group in 2011, despite his accuser's subsequent retraction and prosecutors' failure to produce any evidence of his involvement. Javed Sahotra, Masih's defense attorney and fellow Adventist Church member, said the judge buckled under pressure from extremists who dominate the local religious and political landscape.

John Graz, director of Public Affairs and Religious Liberty for the Adventist world church, said Masih's case is, sadly, not unusual.

"Members of religious minorities in Pakistan live with the constant threat of being accused of blasphemy," Graz said. "They know that if they are accused, they cannot count on a serious investigation." . . .

Gojra police arrested Masih on December 28, 2011. His lawyer accompanied him to the Gojra city police station, where he hoped Masih could record a statement and clear his name, church leaders said.

But the case was registered under Pakistan's blasphemy laws, which call for death or life imprisonment for any person found guilty of blaspheming Muhammad, the prophet of Islam.

Michael Ditta, president of the Adventist Church's Pakistan Union, said the laws are notoriously used to take revenge on Christians and other religious minorities. Pakistan is 96 percent Muslim, with only 2 percent of the country's population identifying itself as Christian.

"We as a minority faith are concerned about the misuse of this law and growing intolerance toward Christians in the country," Ditta said. Defense lawyer Sahotra said he is planning to appeal the ruling in early August. . .

--Copyright © 2013, Adventist Review.

II. A Cohort of DMin Programme to Start at Spicer in 2014

Rajendra Prasad <rajendraprasad2000@yahoo.com>

After long and hectic communication between Spicer, the Southern Asia Division (SUD) and Andrews University (AU), we have finally arrived at some understanding. AU is willing to help SUD and Spicer with this DMin Cohort, and about 12 credits of pre-requisite courses are being planned to start from April 2014 at Spicer to help the applicants to become eligible for the actual DMin programme to be launched here from 2015. Dr. Roy Jemison Injety, Academic Dean of the College, is presently coordinating with AU and others about the exact details of the programme. About 30 candidates are expected to join and be benefitted from this doctoral programme.

III. Inauguration of Dr. Vincent Injety as South African College President

On July 31, 2013 the inauguration ceremony of Dr. Vincent Injety, the new president of Helderberg College, took place in Anderson Hall at 10.00 am. It was truly a gala occasion with many guests and also dignitaries from the South African Union Conference, the Chancellor, Dr. Letseli and local representatives and many guests. Promptly it started at 10.00 am, with the marching in of the staff and followed by the participants in the service.
The whole service was well orchestrated, the special music was appropriate from two student groups and it all contributed to an enjoyable occasion.

The special speaker for the occasion was Dr. M. C. Nhlapo, from the Kwa-Zulu OFS conference and he spoke very well about the contributions that Private Colleges and Universities make to the Education of youth in South Africa. He mentioned that there are 61 registered private institutions in South Africa and Helderberg College is ranked among the top 7 for quality education!

The charge to Dr. Injety was given by the Education Director of the SAU - Dr. Gerald du Preez, himself a former president of the College. After signing his acceptance of the charge as the New President, he was asked to remove his Academic Regalia and he was given the new College regalia and then the Chancellor handed him the Mace of Authority. Dr. Injety then responded and spelled out his vision for the college and the support he needed to carry out the vision.

Dr. Injety is a graduate of Spicer Memorial College in India and has served in India, Solusi University as Dean of the Faculty of Business and his last two years as Pro-Vice Chancellor. He joined the Helderberg College Business faculty in 2008 as head of the Business department, in 2011 he became the Vice-President for Academic Administration of the College. He has presented professional papers on Strategic Management and non-profit management in various countries including South Africa, Zimbabwe, Hong Kong, Turkey and the United States. He is currently advisor to MBA students of Regent Business School, South Africa and also for the Adventist University of Africa in Kenya.

He is supported by his wife, Lynda Priscilla, who lectures in the faculty of Business and they have 2 children, Sahana and Steven.

His message to the patrons, alumni and supporters of Helderberg College is to join him in building the wall - quoting from Nehemiah 4:6 "So we built the wall and the entire wall was joined together." Working together he believes we can help build Helderberg College to reach a higher level.

--forwarded by Dr. John Matthews <Johnmatt@andrews.edu> ~~~~~~~~~

IV. Burma Vignettes-- Early Missionaries # 55

Mervin Myat Kyaw <mervinmk@yahoo.com.au> and his wife Nan are Karen Adventists who worked many years in Burma and Thailand and now live and work in Australia. He has written a manuscript covering Adventism in Burma from its very beginning to the present and of his work in Thailand.

# 55. Frank C. & Barbara Wyman (1949-66)

Frank C. and Barbara Wyman arrived Myanmar on Dec. 7, 1949, together with other missionaries who came back or who just came for the first time.

This was just after the war and Adventists in Myanmar longed to see them back.

Frank C. Wyman was the son of Frank A. Wyman and Nellie Wyman, the earlier missionaries. Frank C. was thus a second generation missionary.

Frank C. Wyman was the principal of Myaungmya Seminary from 1964 to 66.

The Wyman's were the last to leave Myanmar when foreign missionaries were requested to leave in 1966.

~~~~~~~~

V. Life Sketch of Edwin Francis Buck, Jr.

supplied by John Matthews <johnmatt@andrews.edu> August 16:

Edwin F. Buck, Jr., 92, passed away on August 5, 2013 at Woodland Terrace of Longmeadow, Niles, Michigan after several years of declining health. A person of many interests, his priorities were his teaching and students, airplanes and flying, photography, the church, and family and friends. A private graveside service is planned.

Edwin was born and raised in Detroit, Michigan. He graduated from Cass Technical High School in Detroit with highest honors in 1939 and worked as a tool and die maker at the Ford Motor Company to earn his way through Emmanuel Missionary College (now Andrews University). After completing a B.A. degree in theology in 1944, he was ordained a minister of the Seventh-day Adventist church in 1948. In 1943 Edwin married Elsie Salse Landon in Berrien Springs, Michigan, and they had three children: Patricia, Edwin Landon, and Elizabeth. Edwin and Elsie taught at Cedar Lake Academy in Michigan and later at Vincent Hill School in Mussoorie, India. During the six years they were abroad, Edwin also conducted evangelistic campaigns in Lucknow, Calcutta, and New Delhi, India; Rangoon, Burma (Myanmar); Kandy, Ceylon (Sri Lanka); and Lahore, Pakistan. In 1955 the family drove by car through Ceylon, India, Pakistan, Afghanistan, Iran, Iraq, Jordan, Lebanon, and Europe on their way back to the United States.

After returning to this country, Edwin served as a minister in Nashville, Tennessee, and Miami, Florida for eight years. He then moved to Berrien Springs with his family for graduate study at Andrews University.
Edwin received a Master of Arts degree in counseling and guidance in 1964, followed by a Doctor of Philosophy degree from Michigan State University four years later. He taught Communication Arts at Purdue University North Central from 1966 to 1990 and was awarded the title of Professor Emeritus on his retirement.

Edwin developed a passionate interest in airplanes and flying as a child in the 1920s, but he did not acquire his first airplane until the late 1940s. Thereafter, he owned an airplane whenever possible for rest of his life. Troubled by the need to find a car after he landed at small airports, Edwin was among the pioneers who designed and built a roadable airplane. In the true spirit of technology innovators, he worked on his roadable airplane in his garage during his free time in the 1970s and 1980s. Not only did the prototype, the Buck Roadaire 1, N11EB, travel down the road on many occasions; it successfully left the ground during a test flight. The prototype was given to Purdue University in 1993 and put on display in the Aerospace Sciences Laboratory, which houses several wind tunnels, including the one used to test the design of the prototype.

Edwin was also an avid photographer. He began taking pictures of his family in the 1940s but expanded his media to include thousands of slides and many hours of movies documenting life in South Asia during the 1950s. He continued to photograph people and events, changing media over the decades, as the technology evolved. Edwin was also actively involved with his church.

He became first elder of the Pioneer Memorial Church in Berrien Springs and continued in that capacity for 15 years. He also taught a large Sabbath School class there each week for many years.

Edwin was predeceased by his beloved wife of 69 years, Elsie Landon Buck. He is survived by his son and daughter-in-law Linda and Edwin Buck of Gwinn, Michigan; daughters and sons-in-law Patricia and Frank Dominguez of Chapel Hill, North Carolina, and Elizabeth and Dave Zumbrunnen of Seneca, South Carolina; granddaughters Kathryn Dominguez Bermudez and her husband Ryan Bermudez of San Carlos, California and Meredith Buck of Gwinn, Michigan; grandsons David Buck and his wife Jill Carney of Minneapolis, Minnesota, Karl Buck and his wife Hannah Lenzo of Madison, Wisconsin, and Charles Dominguez of Redwood City, California; great-grandsons, Gavin Bermudez of San Carlos, California and Liam Edwin Buck of Minneapolis, Minnesota; his brother, Donald Buck, of Palm Springs, California; his sister-in-law Elizabeth Landon Salse; many nieces and nephews; and their children and grandchildren.

VI. New Church Dedicated in Punjab, North India

Ramesh Massey <rameshmassey@aol.com> August 19

The Sabbath, 3rd August, 2013, brought joy and happiness to the local congregation at Khanpur-Latifpur, Punjab, India when a brand new church was inaugurated. The new church has been under construction for the last 19 months. While the church construction faced countless hurdles, I am happy to report that the new church is finally complete. The church is built with purpose; it has a capacity of over 200 people, with youth and women ministries rooms and pastoral office. The lower hall can seat a further 300 people to accommodate social events, for example, pot luck lunches, wedding, and birthday events. Furthermore, kitchen and toilets are also added.

I wish to register my heartfelt thanks to all those who have kindly supported this project from conception to finish. In particular, I express my gratitude to Rajpal and Tabitha, Samuel Paul and Angela, Pr. & Mrs. Sohan Gill, Neelam and Kumar, Mr. and Mrs. Sardar Masih Gill, Mr. and Mrs. Edwin Gill, Rajiv & Lillian, Mohan & Sheila, Pinky and husband. I also wish to thank the Oxford Seventh-day Adventist Church who broke all protocols to support this project.

The local congregation along with the able leadership of Mr. Emmanuel Gill, Member, State Commission for Minorities, Government of Punjab, left no stone unturned to make it a historical event. Over a thousand people were present at the opening ceremony. The senior police officers escorted us from the rest house to the church, which included Pr. Ezras Lakra the NIU President, Pr. Samuel Gill the NIS President and Mr. Manwar Masih, the Chairman of Minorities for the state government of Punjab. The other dignitaries included several Punjab government officials. We were further surprised when a military band played on while we walked into the church campus. The local/national television and media personnel covered the entire ceremony.

My wife Mercy, our son Shane and our little granddaughter Esha were humbled when we were asked to inaugurate the building along with Pr. Lakra.

Pr. Gill, the NIS President, welcomed the platform party and gave extended introductions. The NIU and NIS officers were honored with garlands and shawls, who reciprocated the same. Mr. Manwar spoke of Christian unity, and expressed gratitude to the sponsors. The local village heads from both Khanpur and Latifpur and several other Sikh and Hindu
community leaders were also present. The new building was officially declared a place of worship, after Pr. Ezras Lakra offered the dedicatory prayer. Pr. Thomas Gill, Pr. Amon Gill and the local choir blessed us with the special music. Pr. Lakra's sermon focused on Adventist faith, and reminded everyone of the huge responsibility we all have to proclaim the end time message.

After the service, a sumptuous meal was provided to all those who were present. Today a glorious pearl white church stands on the ground where our pioneers began a long journey of faith many decades ago. I salute the pioneers, Mr. Surendra Paul Gill, Pr. Samuel Gill and Pr. Sohan Masih Gill, who introduced the Adventist faith to my family, and surrounding villages.

Uncle Surendra, Uncle Samuel, and brother Sohan, I thank you for your sacrifice, devotion, and determination. While all odds were against you, you stood firm to defy all opposition, and went on to erect a church in this very place. Though the old church is no longer here, the path of light and direction you showed us has not diminished; the new church is testament to your hard labour. God of all mighty power and glory be praised - He is light of the world, may this holy temple continue to shine, and attract those who are earnestly seeking Him. The Lord commanded, "build me a sanctuary so that I may dwell in it; come Lord Jesus and bless Your people".


Recently Marla shared a bit of her talks at her St. Joseph, Michigan SDA church's week of prayer. I am including portions of it.

My junior year, when I was at Newbold College in England, I was the girl's club chaplain. During that year I always felt God's presence close to me, giving me strength and guiding me with the right words to speak when I was in charge of worship. As I look back on that year, it was a strong year spiritually for me. I used to fast for all the Sabbath meals and spend the time in Bible study and prayer. (It really wasn't such a sacrifice-if you had eaten at our cafeteria you would understand!) But seriously, it gave me so much more time to develop a relationship with God.

In High School and College I had free time and was able to do a lot of Bible study and prayer. I know young people don't always believe it when told that they are more carefree in college than they will be the rest of their lives. For me, it was definitely true. I had more time to spend in Bible study and prayer than I have had on a regular basis since then. Once you are married and working and raising children your time no longer seems to be yours to spend as you please, so developing a solid routine for Bible study and prayer while in college builds a strong spiritual foundation for when you get into the work place and when you get married and have a family to raise.

To remove your name from the mailing list of this newsletter simply reply to this e-mail and put "REMOVE" in the Subject line.

---

BEGIN-ANTISPAM-VOTING-LINKS

-----------------------------------------------

Teach CanIt if this mail (ID 09KfSLKdc) is spam:
Spam:   http://www.andrews.edu/spam/b.php?id=09KfSLKdc&m=7f407dee23a1&c=s
Not spam:  http://www.andrews.edu/spam/b.php?id=09KfSLKdc&m=7f407dee23a1&c=n
Forget vote: http://www.andrews.edu/spam/b.php?id=09KfSLKdc&m=7f407dee23a1&c=f

-----------------------------------------------

END-ANTISPAM-VOTING-LINKS