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I. Update on "Spicer Adventist University" Charter

Rajendra Prasad <rajendraprasad2000@yahoo.com> Spicer College was able to complete the process of establishing endowment fund for "Spicer Adventist University" on Friday 25th April. We have submitted all the necessary documents, under takings and affidavits to the Government of Maharashtra. Thus we have completed submitting all the documents and will wait for the visit of the study commission. The visit of the team is very crucial and we seek your continued prayers. With the commission's recommendations, a bill will be placed in Maharashtra Legislative Assembly and Council for the University Charter. We are confident that our good Lord will bless us as He has been always.

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II. Remembering Them
   1. Giddaluri Samuel Sadananda Rao
      Thomas Prasada-Rao <tom12.rao@gmail.com> April 22:
      Sammy is my nephew. I remember their family going to Philippines because my brother David went along with them - they were all POW's in Manila and spent some R&R time in Australia. and finally came to India. Dr. Rajendra Prasad wrote a very detailed history in a recent SUD e-news and I thank him for it.
      We grieve Sammy's death and wish Ann and all the family our deepest condolences and look forward to the day when we will all meet him when the Lord comes to gather his own!
      Tom & Ardyss Prasada-Rao
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   2. Pastor V. Raju
      Roseline Muthiah Davy <davyp@bellsouth.net> Mar. 25
      My uncle Pastor V.Raju has gone asleep in Jesus today March 25, 2014. He was over age 90. He was once manager of the OWPH at Salisbury Park, Poona, India as many will remember. Please keep my Aunty Rosemary and all family members and especially Rani in your prayers as she is bearing the sorrow of many losses in such a short time. May God be with each one of you. I am singing the song, 'Jesus is coming again.' Even so, come Lord Jesus, QUICKLY come.
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III. Spicer Gets 3 More PhDs in Its Kitty

Rajendra Prasad <rajendraprasad2000@yahoo.com>

As a hat trick Spicer was enriched with 3 more PhD degrees within a week's time. The first one is in Systematic Theology from AIIAS, Philippines, the second one in Education from Pune University, and the third, in Commerce, also from Pune University.

The new kid on the block going about the campus wearing only Indonesian floral or Filipino embroidery shirts and carrying a satchel full of books with an aura of newly acquired doctoral degree about him and a halo of PhD in systematic theology hovering above his head is Dr. Paul Bhaggen, a recent PhD graduate from AIIAS, Philippines. His doctoral thesis is entitled "The Subordinate Deity of Christ: A Critical Analysis of the Christology Suggested by Adrian Ebens" under the research guide, Dr. Hyung Ho Song, HoD, Historical Theological Studies, AIIAS, Philippines. Paul had his...
high school studies in Kottarakara, BLA degree (with Religious Philosophy major and Western Music minor) from Spicer in 2000 and MA in Religion from Andrews University programme at Spicer in 2002. He is a talented singer and speaker and while at Spicer actively took part in almost all the activities. After leaving Spicer he worked in South India as a school teacher and pastor for a few years before being sponsored by SUD for his doctoral studies in the Philippines. He is married to Shirley, a computer science graduate also from Spicer who also completed her Master of Public Health (MPH) degree from AIIAS while in Philippines with her husband. They are blessed with a daughter Joanne Leah Paul (7) and a son Jonathan Chris Bhaggien (4). The family joined Spicer in the first week of April and will certainly be a blessing in the area of theology, music, computer science and health. Dr. Bhaggien is already teaching his debut college course RELB301 Advanced Apocalyptic Literature (that is Book of Daniel for the uninitiated) this summer.

Mrs. G. Swarna Rekha Rao successfully defended her PhD thesis entitled "A Correlational Study of MetaCognition from Educational Perspective" on April 9, 2014, almost 20 months after submitting her thesis, under the research guide Dr. A. M. Wadkar (Asst. Professor, Department of Psychology, University of Pune) and won appreciation from all the 4 viva voce team members all of whom encouraged her to publish a book on this topic as it is a budding and very relevant topic both in Education and Psychology. It was a treat both to her husband Professor G. Daniel Dayananda Rao recently retired as the Vice President of Roorkee Adventist College and other colleagues from Spicer who attended the 2-hour long defense examination to see Dr. Rekha Rao, though still recovering from a recent illness, brilliantly answering the difficult questions posed to her, standing strong and tall in her mauve Banaras pure silk saree rich with golden buta, almost like a bride, and appreciated by the audience for her sartorial taste. Dr Rekha Rao had her high school education in Hyderabad, BSc (1977) and MSc (1979) degrees in Psychology from Banaras Hindu University, joined Spicer faculty in 1986 and also obtained her MA in Education degree from Andrews University programme at Spicer in 1990 while teaching and later heading the Psychology department here. She moved to Roorkee Adventist College along with her husband in 2007 and served as Administrative Assistant to the College President and then as Assistant Registrar and returned to Spicer in 2013. They have two lovely daughters, Julia Priyadarshini (Mona) and Evangeline (Sona), both medical doctors (MBBS) now planning to join the postgraduate courses in medicine. With this enhanced degree covering both education and psychology Dr. Rekha Rao will be a great asset in the Andrews University-affiliated MA in Education and M Ed programmes at Spicer as well as in reviving the psychology department here.

Dr. Genu Roney Varghese is the third Ph D holder this season defending his thesis "Economics of Training and Development: An Empirical Study of Selected Industrial Establishments in Pune Region between the Years 2000-2005" on April 10, in the University of Pune Commerce Department under the research guide Dr. Santosh R. Dastane, Research Director, IBMR, Chinchwad, Pune. With his acute presence of mind coupled with a good command of the English language, he too successfully warded off tricky questions posed to him by a tough examination team and was declared a winner in the presence of his family and colleagues from Spicer, among others, who attended his defense exam. Dr. Varghese was born and brought up in Pune, had his high school studies in Spicer, completed his BCom (1995), MPM (1997), and MPhil (2002) degrees from Pune University, and worked in Spicer Industry for a while before switching on to the teaching job in the Spicer Business and Commerce Departments. He was also the Head of Commerce Department in the erstwhile Pune University programme. He is married to Nirmala Varghese, who teaches Hindi in Spicer High School in spite of possessing an M.Lib. Info. Degree like her mother-in-law, the senior Varghese. The Varghesees too are blessed with two lovely daughters, Vallerina (13) and Vinitaa (7) , both studying in Spicer High School. The family has a special identity on the campus as the only one reminding us of nature with the cocks crowing every morning from his mini poultry farm and the watchdog barking in their backyard. With this enhanced terminal degree, Dr. Roney Varghese is sure to make a dent in the Business department which runs Griggs University-affiliated BBA and MBA programmes on the campus.

We wish all the three new PhD holders God's blessings as they continue to serve this institution with renewed vigour and zeal with their enhanced knowledge and wisdom in their respective field.

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IV. The Chedalawadas Visit Their School in India
--from their PRIA Newsletter of April, 2014

Trying to run a Christian school in a non-Christian environment is challenging and sometimes difficult. We realized there were some issues that needed attention at the Chedalawada English High School before the old year ended in April and the new school year began in June. After much prayer, we decided to make a trip to India.
On Sunday, March 16, we boarded a British Air flight to London and from there to Hyderabad, India. We reached Hyderabad on March 18 and changed to a flight going to Rajamundry and then traveled by taxi to Tanuku. It is a long trip, but we felt God's protection and presence and received new energy during the trip. It was summer time in India and extremely hot. Fortunately we had air conditioning in our apartment to keep us comfortable.

It was refreshing to meet all the new and old teachers, and they were happy to meet us and greeted us with garlands of fragrant flowers.

A Miracle Happens Enroute

On March 18, before boarding the plane to Rajamundry we both had to go through a security check in Hyderabad. I went through the ladies' section while Baburao went through the men's section. After the security check we boarded the propeller plane to Rajamundry. Just before the plane was to take off, Baburao discovered he did not have his jacket. He had taken it off while going through the security check and forgot to pick it up after he came through.

He told the authorities on the plane he had to go back to the airport to get his jacket he had forgotten at the security check point. They told him there was no going back as they were about to take off. They said he would need to pick it up on our return. We told them that we both had our passports, money, and necessary medicines in the jacket, but they would not delay the plane.

We prayed silently and earnestly, asking God for a miracle. After we landed in Rajamundry, we called a cousin, Hephzi, in Hyderabad and told her of our predicament. Her son is a manager at the Hyderabad airport. She immediately called her son and told him what had happened to us. He assured her that he would call the security officer at the airport and report the missing jacket.

After two hours we got a call back from him saying the security officer had located the jacket and all the contents were secure. What a relief! We thanked God and praised Him for protecting the jacket and our valuable passports, medicines and money.

School News

The main goal of our trip was to encourage Christian education in a non-Christian environment. We also needed to emphasize the negative aspects of corporal punishment and the importance of non-violent communication with the students. Baburao spent hours each day explaining to the teachers the guidelines set by the Andhra Pradesh government regarding corporal punishment, and instructing them on how to use non-violent communication with the students.

While Baburao was busy with the school issues, I spent my time talking to first and second grade students, listening to their stories, and teaching them reading and comprehension. These little ones were not shy. They not only wanted to tell me stories, but also sing and dance for me. These innocent and precious children want love and attention. I hope I inspired them by sharing part of myself with them.

A Second Miracle Returning Home

Sunday, April 13, we left Tanuku at 7 a.m. in a taxi to Rajamundry to catch a 10:30 flight to Hyderabad. We boarded the plane at 10:00 a.m.

After a wait, the pilot said because of technical problem, we would be delayed for ten minutes. We sat in the plane for more than an hour. Then we were told the flight was cancelled and there would be no more flights until the next morning. However, after much pleading, they found us two seats on a 4 p.m. flight the same day. We arrived in Hyderabad at 6 p.m. on Sunday.

On Monday morning we arrived at Hyderabad Airport at 4:00 a.m. to catch the flight to London, but the airline representative informed us our flight had been cancelled. We spent hours trying to rebook our flight. Since we were already at the airport, British Air gave us seats on another plane the same day. we left two hours late, but hoped to make the connection to Seattle in London. We prayed earnestly to make it. But we were met with disappointment again when we missed the connection by only a few minutes. We were discouraged but consoled ourselves with the Bible verse, "All things work together for good to them that love the Lord."

British Air put us up in a nice luxury hotel for the night. What a blessing! Only after we had a nice warm bath, and went to bed between clean sheets did we realize what a blessing it had been to miss the flight to Seattle. God knew that we needed rest.

WE THANK GOD FOR HE KEPT US SAFE IN HIS ARMS WENT WE WENT ON HIS ERRAND.

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V. Prayer Request for Dr. Ravi Narsiah
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VI. The First Nepalese Speaking Adventist Passes Away

25.11.1913 - 01.04.2014

By Elder Bhaju Ram Shrestha

Tepa Tshering Tamsang passed away quietly in the hospital of Kathmandu on April 1, 2014. Tepa Tshering, the migrant from Nepal (Ilam) to India was the first Nepalese speaking person to accept the Adventist message in Kalimpong, Darjeeling. Born in 1913, he was baptised by Pr. Allen Maberly (Australian Missionary) in March 12, 1955 in India. Four sons & One Daughter - Pr. David Tamsang, Pr. Jonathan Tamsang, Pr. Praveen Kishore Tamsang, Naween Kishore Tamsang and Ms. Leena Tamsang along with their wives and two grandson and five granddaughters survive him.

Tepa Tshering came to Nepal to help Dr. Sturges and Pr. Allen Maberly along with other missionaries in Nepali Language. After working several years in Kalimpong helping the missionaries there, he went to Falakata School to join the work. He worked in the mission for 35 years. He was a jovial, hard working and committed Seventh Day Adventist. He was active in gardening till he was hospitalized for ten days, because of his Adventist health style, his skin looked fresh till his death. He was the notable example of Adventist life style.

The solemn funeral service took place in the beautiful Adventist Church in Dhumabarahi, Kathmandu. Welcomed by Elder Ashok Pradhan, the funeral service was officiated by Pr. Mesh Kumar Poker the director of Nepal Section, Pr. Kumar Adhikari, Pr. Naseeb Basnet, Elder Sundar Thapa, Pr. Abirman Puri as a main speaker and Elder Bhaju Ram Shrestha in the midst of friends, relatives and well-wishers.

After the funeral service, the body was taken in the coffin to three hours vehicle ride to the east of Kathmandu, because the Nepalese communities do not allow the Christians to be buried in cemeteries that the church had bought in Kathmandu valley and nearby villages. After a simple service officiated by Pr. Abirman Puri, Pr. Naseeb Basnet, Elder Sundar Thapa and Elder Bhaju Ram Shrestha the coffin was quietly rest under the ground.

Thus the first Nepali speaking pioneer of Adventist Church, Tepa Tshering Tamsang closes his life history.

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