I. SPECIAL NOTICE (Repeated)

We are changing the way we distribute the SUD e-News. In the future it will be posted via Yahoo Groups. Our daughter-in-law, Lila Tidwell, is currently sending invitations to each of you to sign up to the SUD e-News Yahoo group. I encourage you to accept the invitation if you wish to continue to receive my newsletter. Some of your email addresses have rejected the invitation as spam because it does not recognize Lila's email address. If you didn't receive an invitation, you can request to join by sending an email to the following address: SUBSCRIBE: <sudnews-subscribe@yahoogroups.com>

II. The Wilson Family & the Southern Asia Division

In the last newsletter we told you of Dr. D. S. Williams' book, "Highly Committed", about the Wilson family. Chapter 5 consists of 7 very full pages describing their years in the Southern Asia Division beginning in 1935. SUDites will find many, many historic names and families mentioned. Beginning with this issue, the newsletter will quote paragraphs from this fascinating book.

"At the end of his furlough [Nathaniel Carter Wilson] wrote this letter:

"I wish I could tell you what a great blessing our furlough as been to us. After spending ten years in Africa, much of the time being spent in the tropics, one feels the need of a change and a little opportunity of associating with the workers here in the homeland. We go to India feeling well and ready for future years of hard service in that very needy field.

The thing which has cheered us most during our furlough has been the deep and genuine interest which our people everywhere in the homeland have in the great mission program throughout the world field. This confidence encourages us as we leave the homeland for Southern Asia with its many and difficult problems."

"Having gotten the rest and recuperation the family needed, the Williams set out for a new field of labor. Elder and Mrs. N. C. Wilson and their children sailed from Portland, Oregan April 23, 1935 on the 'General Sherman' for India. Elder Wilson and his family spent nine and a half years in missionary service in Africa coming home for their first furlough last summer. At the Autumn Council he was appointed the vice president of the General Conference for the Southern Asia Division and it is for this post he and his family have sailed on the completion of their furlough.

"After arriving in India and getting to work, Nathaniel wrote, 'We have been here now about two months and are feeling very much at home. We had a good many conditions quite similar to those in Africa, and this has greatly assisted us in getting settled in our new work. Another thing that has greatly helped is the kindly and cooperative attitude on the part of the brethren here at headquarters and throughout the field. I do not know how one could ask for better cooperation and a more willing spirit on the part of the workers generally than we have found here in Southern Asia.

"A good foundation has been established for the work in this field through the years, and I find the spirit of optimism on the part of the workers, particularly those who have been in the field for many years, and who have had the opportunity to observe things for a long time. It must have taken a great deal of courage and fortitude on the part of the early workers in this field to labor on year after year facing caste conditions, opposition and many other obstacles. But now the brethren are greatly encouraged in that a new day has arrived for us in Southern Asia, and there are many calls and providential openings that, rather than finding difficulty in getting a hearing or finding a place in which to work, we are totally unable to answer the urgent calls which come to us. You can imagine the courage and inspiration which this change in the situation has brought to the hearts of our workers generally, and particularly to those who have labored here for many years."

III. Letters
1. R. J. Solomon <rj_solomon@yahoo.co.in> July 22:
The news of Spicer College turning into University is welcomed by Adventists all over. At the same time many also expressed apprehension about how the University status may impact Spicer in its long run.

Spicer has gained the status of a Private University. In India it is the big corporate houses and politicians with substantial influence alone venture into the "business" of Private Universities (PU). Establishing and operating a PU demand investments in millions of dollars (on average about 100 crore rupees). The PUs usually target the rich and the superrich with the standard of amenities and the quality of education they provide. The fee structure in most PU is at least 10 times more than the state or central governed universities. Yet private universities survive because of the high standards of education they provide and for the choice of professional courses they offer.

For Spicer to survive as Private University it needs to outsmart Pune University which is at its next door. The Pune University nick named as "Oxford of the East" will remain a stumbling block in Spicers attempts to establish its name and reputation.

The other issue of concern is Maharashtra state government's approval is subject to several conditions and compliance. This makes the task ahead very challenging. Conditions relating to teachers' salaries, student's enrollments, fees structure etc will be some of the early challenges Spicer has to overcome. The greater challenges will be facing the political pressures, dealing with the state appointed regulatory boards, meeting the deadlines for several government compliance and facing the RTI inquires.

The tasks ahead for Spicer University include preparing for NAAC assessment and securing UGC nod to get listed in the Gazette. AICTE approval will not be necessary for a state private university in offering technical educational programs but Spicer has to maintain standards and norms laid down by the council.

Finally for Spicer Adventist University (SAU) to benefit the Adventist community it has to receive the minority institution status from National Commission for Minorities Educational Institutions (NCMEI) to enable Spicer to reserve up to 50 per cent seats for Christians. The minority status received through Ashlock Trust may not help a private University in the long run.

It is my prayer that Spicer will be able turn as World-Class institution pursued by the commitment and dedication of its students, faculty, staff and the Church. To achieve this Spicer needs all of our prayers and support.

-- Dr. R. J. Solomon ICSSR Senior Research Fellow, Mumbai

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2. LoRita Erickson <hde24@msn.com> July 22:
For those interested, Harold Erickson has written comprehensive syllabus for Daniel and Revelation. It contains charts, pictures, etc. It help to make Each one understoood when reading the Bible and using the Sullabus together. He has use the Bible and History only. Those who have bought the books, say it is very good and helps to make them come alive.
Should any one be interested in purchasing them, let us know. You won't be sorry.

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IV. Spicer's University Programmes
S. Rajendra Prasad <rajendraprasad2000@yahoo.com> July 9:
The following programmes are offered for the academic year 2014-15 and more are on the cards to be offered in the subsequent years:

1. School of Arts:
   1. Economics Department
      B A : Economics
   2. English Department
      B A : English
      M A : English
   3. Geography Department
      B A : Geography
   4. History Department
      B A : History
      M A : History
   5. Psychology Department
B A : Psychology
6. Sociology Department
   B A : Sociology

II School of Business
1.  B B A : Business Administration
2.  B B A : Office Administration
3.  B C A : Computer Applications
4.  M B A : Business Administration
5.  M C A : Computer Applications

III School of Commerce
1.  B Com
2.  M Com

IV School of Education
1.  B A : Education (Elementary)
2.  M A : Education

VI School of Music
1.  Mus

VII School of Science
1.  B Sc : Biotechnology
2.  B Sc : Botany
3.  B Sc : Chemistry
4.  B Sc : Computer Science
5.  B Sc : Environmental Science
6.  B Sc : Mathematics
7.  B Sc : Microbiology
8.  B Sc : Zoology
9.  M Sc : Biotechnology

VIII School of Religion
1.  B Th : Theology
2.  M A : Religious Studies
3.  M Th : Theology

ADDITIONAL COURSES TO BE OFFERED IN THE NEAR FUTURE:
I  B E  Engineering
II  B Ed  Education
III  B Sc  Home Science
IV  M A  Family Counseling
V  M B A  Management in Town Planning
VI  M Ed  Education
VII  M Sc  Public Health
VIII M S W Social Service

The fee structure and other details can be noted from the university website, www.spiceradventistuniversity.com and for further information one may contact the new Vice Chancellor himself.

V. Death of Mrs. Rose Florence Rajah Rao
M rudula Rao <mrao@ifiadopt.org> July 16:
The Southern Asia Adventist Association (SAAA) deeply regrets to inform its members and the community that Mrs. Rose Florence Rajah Rao passed away on July 14, 2014 at Shady Adventist Hospital. She was among the early pioneers, along with her husband, to join the SAAA family and they both now await the Golden Morning. Rose was a gentle, caring Nurse with tender disposition toward all, patients. She will be fondly remembered by her children, Dr. Jennifer Ninala, Dr. Wilmar Hamilton, Mr. Alvin Paka, Mrs. Vivian Cherian, their spouses and children; her siblings and loved ones.
Drs. Wilkinson and Jennifer Ninala are members and strong supporters of the Southern Asia Adventist Association.

Mrs. Rajah Rau’s siblings are Mrs. Victoria Peter Nalli, and her husband also members and supporters; Dr. Johnson Choppla, Mrs. Lily Kaligithi and Dr. John Choppla, they all have been members of SAAA and their influence in the formative years has been a blessing.

SAAA extends its heartfelt condolences to the Rajah Rao families and their relatives and loved ones who mourn her loss. Please remember them all in your prayers. May God bless them and grant them comfort and courage, as they find new meaning in her legacy and wait in the promise of the Blessed Hope.

Funeral Services will be held on Sunday July 20, 2014, at the Southern Asian SDA Church, in Silver Spring, MD Viewing will be from 9:30 AM to 10:30 AM Funeral Service Begins at 10:30 AM

VI. Remembering Janet Caleb

Rajendra Prasad <rajendraprasad2000@yahoo.com> July 17:
The demise of Mrs. Janet Caleb didn’t come exactly like a shock to me, as I knew from her nephew Dr. Paul Bhaggien who joined Spicer’s faculty recently that she wasn’t doing very well for the last few years. In fact one of my first queries to him when he met me here after he returned from the Philippines was about the welfare and whereabouts of his aunt as I have been lately missing her interesting letters in the SUD eNews and was shocked then to learn from him that not only was she declining in her general health but also her memory was greatly affected of late. Though I think I must have met her somewhere once, either in Bangalore or Trivandrum decades ago, but I have sort of built up over the years a fairly strong memory of a short but very lively woman who stood tall thanks perhaps to her richly fulfilling life as an active and intelligent student at Spicer and a loving wife and mother and a faithful worker of the church, quite evident from her regular and catching anecdotes about so many people she knew, published in almost every issue of the SUD e-News till a couple of years ago. I get a sinking feeling just thinking about how such an energetic and popular woman in Bangalore who once led a dynamic life as a secretary to a succession of South India Union presidents, etc. lay almost like a vegetable in her twilight years, in a distant Kerala, almost uprooted from her loving home of many decades, and finally disappeared silently from this world she once was a proud and happy part of. But I am consoled at the thought that she left behind a rich legacy of loving family and friends, some of whom gathered for her funeral service not only from distant Bangalore and Hosur, but also from further Pune (her dear nephew from Spicer, Paul Bhaggien, in spite of his many constraints). May we all be fortunate and worthy to see her once again on the Resurrection Morning, vivacious and full of vim and vigour as her many friends have always known her!

VII. Vincent Hilll School Alumni Reunion

Ronnalee Netteburg <rnetteburg@yahoo.com> July 20:
Many already know about the VHS reunion in Chattanooga, TN this Sept. 12 and 13. Please let others know about it too. If they are coming please email me to let us know how much food to order and who to expect. There will more information coming for those who think they can come. Looking forward to seeing all of you.

[Forwarded by Dennis Dean Tidwell <deantidwell@yahoo.com>] VIII. Help Write History of Adventism in India

Dr. Michael Campbell <thewalkingstick@gmail.com>

Greetings from AIias here in the Philippines. I have a doctoral student, Koberson Langhu <langhu_k@aiias.edu> who is working on the early stages of gathering material for a dissertation on the history of Adventism in India.
While there have been several regional studies, I am not aware of a comprehensive overview of Adventism in India. If there are missionaries or senior national workers with sources, documents, or regional histories which they consider as potentially helpful I encourage them to please contact Pastor Koberson Langhu at the above e-mail address.

To remove your name from the mailing list of this newsletter, simply reply to this e-mail and put "REMOVE" in the Subject line.
Please let others know about it too. If they are coming please email me to let us know how much food to order and who to expect. There will more information coming for those who think they can come. Looking forward to seeing all of you.

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