I. Remembering the Giants of the Past
II. Life Sketch of Pastor J. D. Moses

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I. Remembering the Giants of the Past 

By Dr. M. S. Jeremiah,

As I was casually glancing through a recent SUD News Letter, my eyes fell on a small write-up titled "90 + Club". Several thoughts converged in my mind. The club was composed of living legends of the church, icons whose contributions changed the face of the Church and who are now touching the ultimate horizon of life. Perhaps they should be called as 'Warriors of Faith', 'Heroes of the Past', 'Architects of Destiny' and 'Master Designers of the Organization'.

My thoughts took me back in time and went back to their youthful years - when they were full of life, full of excitement, extra-ordinarily passionate, vibrant and pulsating with energy. Their spirit of resilience rooted in a tenacity of strength and character - a determination to embrace all that they were desirous of achieving against overwhelming odds. They could react and adapt themselves much faster than anyone could imagine. Nothing could bend, twist, distort or thwart their spirit. They were distinctive, stylish, admirable, and elegant. They had insurmountable
elasticity, ability, vigour and power in them which could bring them back to 
original vitality. With amazing speed they reached to the highest ranks and 
files of our organization. Their name and fame echoed in the ecclesiastical 
order for decades and even now we feel those vibrations. They have been 
great sentinels who guarded the geographical boundaries of our organization, 
institutions and its people during their varied postings. 
But now they are confronted with the fragilities of life. They are 
confounded and baffled as they go through the decay and dissolution of their 
life. Ravages of time is taking toll, inner faculties are failing, chronic 
ailments are restricting physical movements, and feelings of being 
overlooked, abandoned and disregarded are dominating. Pain, grief and misery 
are leading to an erosion of their dignity and self-respect. For them old 
age has become the supreme frustration. The rhythm of their life is getting 
distorted - the spring and summer of life giving way to the clouds of autumn 
and the chill of winter. With fading memories and equally fading bodies, 
life for them is ebbing away. They have a forlorn look on their faces. With 
the gift of life fleeting away their final moments look meaningless. They 
feel marooned, left in isolation, forgotten on a lonely island. Those 
sugarcoated praises which they repeatedly heard have long ceased and they 
have been left on their own, their accomplishments relegated to history, 
unsung and unheralded. 
But the pen of inspiration assures that in His time, in His way, He 
will reward them. Because they have labored with complete dedication and 
commitment, because they proved to be an epitome of sacrifice and charity, 
because they showed benevolences and generosity, because they carried the 
ministries of church forward through famine and pestilence- therefore the 
Mighty One, the Majestic Lord will reward them. They are now experiencing an 
incredible journey, a journey that leads them to ultimate destiny. 
They had seen the infant church in its cradle. They also witnessed the 
eyearly blossoms of this church. It is they who nursed the infant church to 
adulthood, it is they who watered the early blossoms making certain that it 
flourished and grew, it is they whose efforts have made the Church into a 
mighty empire with ecclesiastical tenets and celestial flavor. In order for 
this church to grow so magnificently, they laid the foundations. Those 
seeds that they have planted are the harvest that we are reaping - they have 
left an enduring legacy for future generations. 
R. S. Lowry: One of the finest Administrators and President of Southern 
Asia, about whom volumes can be written and yet many things will remain 
unsaid. Man of elegance and prudence, man who worked with a plan, policy and 
strategy, man with Western origin but soaked in Eastern culture. He stayed 
at the helm of affairs of the Church for the longest period in Southern 
Asia. He was a philosopher, an educator and a prudent leader with 
distinctive capabilities for management. 
Gerald Christo: A towering personality in Southern Asia and the first 
National Leader, elected to be the President of a vast Division territory 
that included Burma, Ceylon, Pakistan and India. He carved a special niche 
for himself in the history of SUD. Rose from the lowest rungs of ladder and 
reached to the highest echelons of the church. Man who took lofty decisions 
in re-structuring the Southern Asia, a leader known for fine tuning the 
Ministries of the Church. 
C. H. Tidwell: An Academician, a Philosopher, a Disciplinarian known for
organizational abilities. He laboured for the advancement of educational ministry. He is a man with an eye for accuracy and precision. Skillful and Oriented with Technology. Coming from an illustrious family of Missionaries, he is a man of steely will power, dogged determination and unalterable decisions.

Edward Streeter: A titan of architecture and designer of multi-campuses known for bold decisions in selling insignificant property and building Union Headquarters in Delhi and a School (now College) at Rootkee. He later moved to Andrews University as the Head of Educational Administration. Multi faceted he taught accounts and academics, administration and leadership. He is an epitome of Indian culture and an embodiment of the perfect teacher.

W. Gordon Jenson: A person in whom music and theology dwelt together. He orchestrated melodies and Ministries of the church. Sat at the helm of affairs at Spicer as its President and advanced the cause of education for youth: A lover of Punjabi ethnicity and augmenter of Christian culture.

I. R. Thomas: The most venerated and acclaimed man amongst the Asian community in the USA: a fatherly figure for Adventist immigrants who migrated to Western shores for economical advancement and better future. Taught academics as a professional and mentored many at Spicer and abroad.

John Curnow: Created NHHS (National Home and Health Service) adjacent to Oriental Watchman Publishing House to expand the scope of literature evangelistic work. A former aviation officer carried the Ministries of Church forward.

Robinson Koilpillai: Commenced his professional career in South India rose to high levels in the church organizational structure. He became a blessing to church through his establishment of Ananth Ashram to serve the poor and deprived, the orphans and the destitute.

Harold Erickson: Taught the mysteries of prophesies and histories of the nations at Spicer. A sound academician and known as a sincere and impartial professor. Worked as a Principal of Falakata and Narsapur and taught the values of sacrifices and charity to his students.

D. David: Man with highest level of commitment and devotion to his job. Held the affairs of legal structures of organizations and involved in fortifying the church functioning during the most fragile moments of church history. A dedicated pastor and an administrator for whom church growth and its welfare is of paramount interest.

L. D. Paul: One of the strongest workers of Northern India who became a blessing to the church in Southern Asia through the contributions of his most diligent and charitable children. The contributions of his family members to the Jaipur Section are extraordinary and unsurpassable.

Y. Robert Samraj: A strict but ardent and compassionate teacher, administrator and a Pastor who was involved in tuning the destiny of hundreds of children through education. A spiritual and thoughtful promoter and preserver of the faith community.

S. John: Financial administrator who transacted large sums of money and yet remained above reproach. Loved by laity and clergy equally, belonging to a family that served the church with zeal and passion.

S. T. Gomer: Highly esteemed, venerated and respected by Adventist community both in the Western world as well as in India, known for his immense contribution during the early days of the Church growth.

Mrs. Grace Prasad: A charismatic lady with princely charm, born in the
Pioneer's family of E. D. Thomas and known as a pillar of strength to her husband, M. S. Prasada Rao, who was a giant with great intellectual ability, who conglomerated the properties of the Church. She now lives in USA with her lovely God-fearing children.

Mrs. Alice Zill: Mother of many Narsapur graduates who still talk fondly about her most delicious cakes and meals served to them. To many, she is more dearer than biological mother.

Mrs. Joyce Ballantyne: A compassionate mission-filled teacher who educated economically deprived children by raising funds in England through her persistent efforts; a much loved educator who lives in the hearts of multitudes. Lots of credit is attributed to her for the growth of Vijayawada and Vizag Schools in Andhra Pradesh. When she reached her 100th birthday even the Queen of England sent her birthday greetings.

Edna York: Empowered by the Grace of God she worked diligently for the growth of the health ministry which proclaims the most gracious gift of God to all in and around Nuzvid area.

Mrs. W. L. Sharalaya: Remembered for her motherly care, Children's Sabbath School classes and for her benevolent ministry. A lady blessed with a most loving and compassionate husband.

Mrs. Juliet Ivorine Khnoghat: A commendable lady who can be easily called the second Dorcas and a pillar of strength to Pr. Khonght during his ministry as the President of North Eastern Field. A woman known for living a Christ-filled life.

Mrs. Daisy Joseph: Wife of Mr. Abel Joseph who carried the beacon of Gospel to Early Christian converts in Kerala. A virtuous woman with unflagging spirit she played a vital role in her husband's ministry.

Eric Jurians: Laboured with sincerity and passion in the Northern parts of India. He belongs to a great family that served the church. He carried the beacon of truth to the early converts of Northern India.

Ed Beck: A versatile missionary who served in Sri Lanka as its Administrator, President and Principal of Church units. Later moved to USA and continued to be a support the growth of Church.

Tom Davis: a writer and a pen-master, worked as Chief Editor during the formative years of Oriental Watchman Publishing House in Pune. A man known for his exclusive and unique style of writing and reporting.

Mrs. June Hooper: A highly professional educator with outstanding teaching skills she taught at Spicer, known as a perfect lecturer loved by students as their favourite teacher.

William Isaac: Educated in India. He served the church with passion before moving to Western shores to be a greater blessing to lead people to the foot of Christ.

Eugene Anderson and Lois Anderson: Missionary couple worked in several places and known for their serene quiet nature yet accomplished great things for the advancement of the Church.

Ananda Rao Undru: The most soft spoken minister of God, who mostly served the church in Mumbai and other parts of Maharashtra. Ingrained with family values, he carried the mantle of Gospel Ministry.

Mayville Fanwar Holroyd: Educated at Assam Training School (presently known as North East Adventist College). Close associate of Pr. Lange, who was then principal and Missionary legend in Meghalaya. Married into the family of Holroyds. Known for her spirit-filled ministries of the church.
Martha Toews: Worked in South India. She helped her husband Mr. Toews, a well known auditor and treasurer, who was a perfect man on figures and financial transactions. He fulfilled the requirements of expanding work. His wife Mrs. Toews was always praised for her contribution to the family ministries. She sewed most of her own clothes and enjoyed embroidery. Dr. Arthur Weaver: Venerated highly as a Cancer Surgeon. He came to India for a brief time during the Second World War to serve the Church. Later, moved to USA to continue serving the Church and humanity.

II. Life Sketch of Pastor J. D. Moses
Sean Sunderraj
Amboornammal had a vision of a child that was waiting for her at the Bowring Hospital in Bangalore. Following this directive, she found this newborn baby, a child of an unwed mother. That baby was named Moses (drawn out of the water). So, John Devaraj Moses joined the family of C. John along with sister Salome.

He completed his secondary studies at Kudikadu School and then moved on to Spicer Memorial College, completing his Junior College in 1965. All through his academic career, he worked his way to earn his fees; working before and after classes. Unable to cope with funding his education, he left studies and joined the airforce base as a stores manager.

One day while commuting from Mumbai, he ran into Dr. M. E. Cherian, who asked him to return back to Spicer. It was there, he met Hannah and in 1966 they were married in New Delhi, making the transition into a happy Adventist family. The family grew with the addition of children - Chitra, Reginald and Esther.

His postings spanned the length and breadth of India - starting off at Jalandhar, then on to Roorkie and Nepal; shifting to Ranchi, then at SERVSDA office, Chennai. Served as the Treasurer of both the Tamil Sections, then as the Assistant Treasurer at South India Union; and then as the Area Auditor at Northern Union. a stint at OWPH and then culminating at SUD office as the Asst. Secretary and then Assoc. Auditor, GCAS, Hosur.

With the untimely death of Hannah at the age of 53, he single-handedly ensured his children were well settled. In 1998 he decided to spend the remainder of his life with Sugandha. Retiring at Hosur, he was struck by cancer and the fight that started in 2012 finally culminated on June 9, 2015.

He is also survived by sons Anil and Sunil; sons-in-laws Calvin and Sanjeev. daughters-in-law Anita, Sabitha and Roopa. Grandchildren - Sean, Rhea, Andrew, Sheena, Peter, Rehan, Zion, Rhea, Tweety and Baby. J. D. Moses will always be remembered for his amazing sense of humour and his ability to look at the positive in every situation. We look forward to the imminent return of our Saviour.

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