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**For Private Circulation only**

## Himalaya Evangelical Mission

**AND KASHMIR EVANGELICAL FELLOWSHIP**  
Indigenous Religious-cum-Charitable Ministry

- MOTTO:** REACHING THE UNREACHED AND TELLING THE UNTOLD IN THE HIMALAYAS
- ORIGIN:** On November 17th 1963 in a tiny mud hut at Udhampur in the state of Jammu and Kashmir.
- FOUNDED:** Officially in 1972.
- REGISTERED:** With the registrar of Societies J&K in 1982. With the Home Ministry, New Delhi in 1982.
- H.E.M.** With 270 national missionaries is now concentrating mainly on the unreached areas of the Himalaya Region.
- CENTRAL OFFICE:** Moved to Gorakhpur in 1996
- AFFILIATION:** HEM is a long-time member in good standing with India Missions Association and works with them in research, consultation, and partnership.
- ACCOUNTABILITY:** HEM is annually audited by a chartered accountant and submits reports to the Income Tax, Registrar of societies and the Home Ministry of the Government of India. We also maintain "an open-book" policy for Ministry Partners.
- PROJECTS:** Church planting, Missionary Training, Child Care, Literature, Educational, Charitable and Relief work.

*"Wherefore by their fruits ye shall know them" (Mat. 7:20)*

The Divine Commission of the Lord is given to all individual believers rather than just to a corporate body of the church. The divine purpose of the present age is to bear fruits and harvest them as soon as possible because the day light is fading and the night is near. The end times are coming fast and we have very little time left. We have been given the seed of the Word and we are expected to produce healthy spiritual fruit found worthy in the eyes of God. From the seed we get the fruit and the fruit produces more seed which in turn produces more fruits. A Christian having no spiritual fruit in himself cannot produce seed for others and so falls short of obeying the great commission.

Dear brothers and sisters we must bear good fruits otherwise like a tree that does not produce fruit we shall be cut down and burned. Every tree that does not bear good fruit is hewn down. (Mat. 7:19)

The result of fruitless trees is evident everywhere. Today we see a clear decline in the church attendance in most of the traditional churches. Many of the nominal members there are non productive. Even the so called Pentecostal, evangelical churches, who were once considered the vanguard of spreading the word of God have become complacent in obeying the great commission. World morality and ethics have reached their nadir; love patience, in fact all the fruits of the Spirit mentioned in Gal 5: 22 are now practically dormant, even non existent.

The question today is what are we doing? We who have been given a mandate; are we producing good fruits? God chose the people of Israel to be a light to the world, they were his beloved people but when they disobeyed Him He punished them. Remember dear ones; God is not to be mocked. He has chosen you and me and if we don't bear fruits as per His wishes we will also be not spared. Let's think about this before it is too late and before the axe falls.

**Dr. B. Walters**



**KINGDOM OF GOD IS FOR THE FRUIT BEARERS**



*“Therefore I tell you the kingdom of God will be taken from you and given to a people who will produce its fruits” Mt. 21.43.*

Jesus used five illustrations in Matt 21, to prove this kingdom principle. In the beginning of the chapter Jesus rebuked the Jewish leaders because they could not recognize Him. The disciples recognized him, the donkey recognized him, children recognized him and the large multitudes who saw his miracles recognized him; but the chief priests and the scribes in Jerusalem who claim to be the leaders of God’s people who have heard and seen everything Jesus did could not recognize him. Secondly, Jesus scolded them and said the temple which once was a house of prayer, has now become a center of business and a den of thieves.

Jesus tried to prove his lesson through three more illustrations, first how a fig tree was cursed and dried for not bringing fruits, then by the parable of a disobedient son and then lastly how a vineyard was taken away from the vinedressers who did not give the fruits to the landlord. Then towards the end of the chapter He said in, “Matt 21:43 “Therefore I say to you, the kingdom of God will be taken from you and given to a nation bearing the fruits of it”. The warning Jesus gives here is clear; His kingdom belongs to the fruit bearers.

In Mt. 12.33 and Lk.6.44, Jesus said ‘they shall be known by their fruits’ not by their gifts. Gifts can be purchased and packed beautifully and people may not even know what is inside. Friends, this is a serious warning to all of us especially to Christian leaders. The time has come when our denominations, our churches and our mission organizations will be judged not by external packing of our gifts or colours, size or number, but by the fruits we produce. Fruits show the real nature of the tree. In this article, I want to point

out from the Bible, some important fruits God is expecting from His people.

**1. Fruit of salvation.** Mt.3.8-10; The warning Jesus gave in this portion is very clear. Bear fruits worthy of repentance and do not boast on your traditions, going back to Abraham or to your forefathers. The axe is ready; every tree which does not bear good fruit is cut down and thrown into the fire. In Mt. 15.13 Jesus says. Every plant which My heavenly Father has not planted will be uprooted. The axe is already at the root of the trees, and every tree that does not produce good fruit will be cut down and thrown into the fire.

Jer 7:9-10 gives a serious warning, “Will you steal, murder, commit adultery, swear falsely, ... and then come and stand before Me in this house which is called by My name, and say, ‘We are saved ...? Let our fruit prove before the world, that we are a different breed of people. Paul says in Rom 6:22. But now having been set free from sin, and having become slaves of God, you have your fruit to holiness, and the end, everlasting life.

**2. Fruit of the Spirit.** In Gal 5:22-23 the seven fruits of the Spirit are shown as one fruit originating from love. Paul gives great emphasis to the gift of the Spirit also especially in 1 Cor. 12-14. But in the last verse of cha. 12 he says, I will show you a more excellent way and then the great love chapter 13 follows. Here Paul tries to say all the gifts, like tongues, prophecies, faith, miracles etc are useless if we do not have love, the fruit of the Spirit. Again he closes ch. 13 with the words, ‘the greatest of these is the fruit of love’. If that agape love is missing from our churches, our missions, ministries and from our individual members, all the other gifts are in vain.

**3. Fruit of souls** In John 15:16 Jesus says, “You did not choose Me, but I chose you and appointed you that you should go and bear fruit ...”. In Rom 1:13 Paul says, that he planned to go to Rome that he might have some fruit from them also as he already had in other places. This is the one main purpose why the church is on this earth today, to complete the body of Christ, His bride from every nation, tribe and tongue.

Every true Christian is to get involved in this ministry of soul winning. Whether he be a student or in journey or working in a factory or in a business he should realize our foremost responsibility on this earth is to bring fruits into God's kingdom and thus hasten the coming of the Lord. From Rom 11:25 Paul says the fullness of the Gentiles has to come in and then the Redeemer will come out of Zion. That is the only reason why thousands of missionaries went to the ends of the earth; many suffered and died as martyrs.

**4. Fruit of Giving** Phi. 4.17. Paul writes to the church in Philippi, "Not that I seek the gift, but I seek the fruit that abounds to your account". What Paul is saying Phi. 4.15-17 is about the giving of Christians. He is not begging for money; but he is telling them, the heavenly audit of all our accounts is coming. The more they give for the Lord's work, the more will be the fruit they receive when God audits their account. Like all the other doctrines he taught them in the past, he is now teaching them the doctrine of giving. What a great lesson for all Christians!

**5. Fruit of worship** Heb. 13.15. Therefore by Him let us continually offer the sacrifice of praise to God, that is, the fruit of our lips, giving thanks to His name. This is the one thing we will be doing up in heaven through eternity. In Rev. 22.3 John says, His servants shall serve Him or worship Him for ever and ever and we will never be tired. Real worship in truth and in spirit increases our strength spiritually and physically. Like a newly married bride looks at the face of her bridegroom we will look at our beloved Jesus and sing of His love for ever.

Friends, the warning Jesus gives is clear and applicable not only to churches but also to families, individuals, and nations. As we go through the history of the nations and see how God gave opportunities to innumerable leaders and nations down through the centuries and bypassed them when they failed to recognize God and His plan for mankind. God bypassed the 98 year old high priest Eli and chose 4 year old Samuel to lead Israel. God bypassed Saul the king of Israel and chose little David the shepherd boy as king.

He continues to do the same even today. Peter says in 2 Pet 2:4-5 God did not spare the angels who sinned, but cast them down to

hell and delivered them into chains of darkness, to be reserved for judgment; and did not spare the ancient world, but saved Noah. Paul says in Rom 11:21 If God did not spare the natural branches (ie OT Israel), He may not spare you (ie NT church) either. Heb. 3 says because of unbelief and disobedience, their corpses fell in the wilderness. Let us take this warning seriously and put all our efforts to produce the fruits God expects from us.

### **A letter from your brother P.M. Thomas**

Dearly beloved in the Lord,

As this next bulletin was going to the press I came across the following story in the EFI bulletin,

A story is told of Sadhu Sundar Singh on his journey in the mountains. In the Himalayas, he met an old man in his 70's, who said: "Son, you are so young and you are a Sadhu? You are wasting your life. Look at me, I made the most of my life, enjoyed every pleasure; and now when I am useless to the world, and the world to me; I am going to seek after God". Sundar took out an orange. Without responding, he began to eat it. After he finished, he gave the skin to the man and said: "Eat this". The old man was furious and said "Don't you have any shame, or respect for an older person. How dare you tell me to do this?" Sundar looked at him kindly and said: "This is how you are treating God. After spending the best part of your life for yourself, you are now giving him the leftovers!"

As Christy and I get older, we look back a lot to the long years we have left behind and also our soon coming eternal home. It was in 1953 I left my job and home and stepped out to serve the Lord full time. In spite of my several weaknesses and disobedience on the way one thing in which I rejoice today as I look back to these last 56 years of my ministry is, I did not hide anything from God, my health, wealth, future or family. What all I gave Him, He returned much more than hundred fold. Both our children with their families are involved in the ministry with us carrying out our same vision of reaching the un-reached and telling the untold from the western tip to the eastern tip of Himalayas. In spite of our old age and few

sicknesses, Christy and I continue our ministry based at our central office at Gorakhpur.

Friends, the signs of the times keep proclaiming that our Lord's coming is near. So I trust you are steadfast in your midnight vigil for the bridegroom. The Lord continues to keep me amazed by the ways He breaks-through in our ministries. I had a blessed time visiting and preaching at some meetings at Trivandrum, Kottayam, Ernakulam, Binnaguri, Delhi and in some of our mission stations around Gorakhpur. As a result many hundreds of people committed their lives to move to the unreached and untold areas of India. Some have already joined us and some others will be joining soon. Thank you for your prayers and supports.

It was Pandita Ramabai who said: 'A life fully committed to God, has nothing to fear, nothing to lose and nothing to regret'. May we, by the mercy of God in our remaining time here, become those followers of Jesus, committed to give Him our best years. Believe me, He is the good and faithful Master who has never abandoned his army and who has never lost a battle.

### How to send Donations?

All overseas donors: please make your cheque payable to **Kashmir Evangelical Fellowship, S.B.I Udhampur** or Wire transfer your donation directly to our A/C no. **11380341999**, IFSC code **SBIN0001186**.

Indian Donors: Can be made by cheque or DD payable to **Himalaya Evangelical Mission, Union Bank of India, M.C Road, Gorakhpur** A/C No. **507402010001052**, IFSC Code : **UBIN0550744** or by Money Order.

All those who live in countries where you are unable to get a DD in the name of a church or mission, may send your donations in the name of P.M Thomas, UBI MC Road, Gorakhpur. If you do not receive the receipt within two weeks kindly inform us.

## FROM KERALA TO NEW YORK AND BACK TO THE HIMALAYAS

*By Jomon Kuriakose*



I was born in a middle class family in Kottayam city, Kerala in a Knanaya Christian family. According to our Knanaya traditions our forefathers have come from Syria in the early centuries under the leadership of a man called Knanaya Thoma. Our denomination considers themselves as higher class Christians and do not give membership to any one else in our church except those who are born of Knanaya parents.

Now coming to my own life, living in New York and my higher class Christian birth, I was proud and I did not even know to be born again and so I got involved in the pleasures of the world like any other young people. When I reached twenty one, I started to feel an emptiness in my life. I met many Christian leaders and people of other faith. But my own inner thirst was not quenched. During this time I secured a good job in a bank with a fairly good salary. But my emptiness and thirst only increased. It was at this time, some of the Bible verses I had listened years ago from my aunt who was a believer, started to come before me like a dream. Soon I picked up a Bible and started to read it; but I could not understand any thing.

One of my co-workers in the bank was a born again believer. Seeing the change in his life I requested him to take me to his church. It was a charismatic and sprit filled church. Even though I liked the church worship, I did not understand much because it was all different than what I have seen in my own church back home. However the pastor visited my house few times and slowly answered many of my doubts and questions. I understood the need of repentance and forgiveness of sins and the need for being born again. But I did not know how or what to do for that.

Then, one night while I was praying the Holy Spirit started to speak to me and all my sins started coming before me. I was convinced I was a sinner and on the way to hell. That night I knelt down before God and committed my life to Jesus. On Aug. 22, 1994. I got married to Reni, a born again Christian girl. She was a Bsc. Nurse. As we both

were working we were earning a lot of money. Our jobs also were quite promising jobs.

But by the middle of the year 2000, one day as we were praying God put a burden on my heart for the perishing millions in India. I shared it with my wife and after much prayer and thinking we decided to resign our jobs. Almost all our friends and relatives were against our decision. But the vision God gave to us was very clear and soon we resigned our jobs and came back home to India for good, in 2002.

When we arrived at Kottayam we did not have any idea of what to do or how to proceed. Soon, before us was the challenge of the college students, the HIV infected, drug and alcoholic addicts and criminals and we started to minister among them. But God was putting a burden on our hearts for the unreached and untold people especially in the northern parts of India.

It was at that time we heard that a missionary from the Himalaya region in N. India Dr. P. M Thomas was coming to speak in a three days interdenominational gathering called Mission Expo 2008 in the Mammen Mappila hall at Kottayam. We attended all the meetings and were greatly challenged by the testimony and messages of Dr. Thomas and convinced that our return to India was the plan of God and we recommitted our lives to serve in the un-reached villages of N. India. In a short time we packed our little belongings, said good bye to all our dear ones, arrived at Gorakhpur and joined The Himalaya Evangelical Mission, on February 10, 2008.

God has also blessed us with two sons, Joel five years and Jonathan 14 months. We are sure God will help us to continue to live on faith looking to Him only and at the same time loyal to HEM. Ever since we came we are involved in the ministry either in the campus or in outreach work in villages and we feel happy now we are in the center of God's will.

My dear brothers and sisters will you uphold us in your prayers my wife Reni, me, our two little children, their education, future etc. that we may stand faithful as we face this entirely new culture, new language and new life style of this area. We need grace to fulfill our vision looking to Jesus, the author and finisher of our faith and walk worthy of His calling. I also hope and pray that some of you, who are reading this testimony, may be challenged, make radical steps and invest the rest of your life to serve Jesus the great King of kings. Please write to us in the HEM address.

## SPECIAL NEWS

### CENTRAL REGION

#### HEM BAL VIKAS

As we have reported in the last issue we have started a child development project under the name of 'HEM Bal Vikas' to impart wholistic development to children from the poorest of the poor families living in the vicinity of HEM campus. At present we have 113 children registered. Seventy eight children are attending regularly, and other's parents are motivated to send their children.

On 23<sup>rd</sup> December we had a special Christmas program for them. About 150 people including children and their parents attended the program. Children staged the nativity play and some action songs. Then Dr. Thomas shared the message. All the children were given gift packets which included a set of winter clothes and some sweets. Refreshments also were provided to all at the end of the program. Please pray for these children that their lives may be changed, they may live a clean and healthy life, study well and that their families may also be saved. Pray for our Bal Vikas staff so that this project may be successfully managed and that the love of Christ may reach hearts of these poor children.

#### DELHI VISIT

Dr. P. M Thomas was away in Delhi in the second week of February to participate in the director's meeting of the Caruna Bal Vikas project. The meeting was a good time to know the details and planning of our program here in which about seventy eight poor children are attending every day. Since it was a visit after a gap of two years it was also a good time to meet some of his relatives and old friends. Besides taking part in these meetings he also had some special meetings in Emmanuel Theological seminary. After the message about eighty students stood up committing their lives for pioneer missionary work.

We also continue to get encouraging reports from Kerala after his visit three months back. Out of the several hundreds who have

committed their lives for missionary work in North India one Mr. Jomon and family who were working in New York for the last several year have already joined us and two more families have visited us for survey and will be joining us on the 26th of March. Praise the Lord to know your prayers and sacrifices are not in vain. Yes indeed we have started to see as Elijah's servant has seen ' a cloud as small as a man's hand rising out of the sea' and we are sure there is going to be a heavy rain in these coming years.

## **REPUBLIC DAY CELEBRATION**

The Republic Day, 26th January 2009 was celebrated in the HEM Gorakhpur campus. All our staff and some of the Bal Vikas children from our project were also present. The flag hoisting ceremony was performed by Dr. P. M Thomas followed by prayer for the nation and thanks giving. Sweets were distributed at the end of the ceremony.

## **TRIVENI MELA**

Every year about one lakh Hindu devotees from India and Nepal mostly from the states of Bihar and Uttar Pradesh come to a place called Triveni to have their religious bath in the river Gandak to achieve salvation from sin. A team of six people, bros. William Hizkeal, Sugesh, Joseph, Arun Prakash, Antonio Dan and Ivan Joseph started their journey to Triveni on 24th January early in the morning in our Tata Pick up vehicle packed with literature, tracts and Bibles. On their journey to Triveni they held open air meetings at eight roadside villages. They were so thrilled to see hundreds of people who gathered at each village to hear the message and purchase the literature. On the same day by 8' o clock at night the team reached Bettiah in the state of Bihar and took rest in a school campus belonging to Assemblies of God organization. Next day after Sunday worship they left for Triveni. Between Bettiah and Triveni they could conduct open air meetings at six more places. The team reached Triveni on 25th January by 4pm.

The team spent the night huddled together in the vehicle throughout the cold night. They got up at 5 am and after parking their vehicle in a convenient place, they started to move about amidst the huge crowd which had begun to gather for the ritual bath. After setting

mikes they started announcement and gospel preaching. On hearing this thousands of people surrounded the vehicle. Our brothers continued preaching the gospel. The crowd who gathered around them was attentive to hear this new way of salvation. About 600 audio cassettes, 1200 New Testaments, 500 gospel packets, 100 Bible calendars and more than 50 CDs were sold and about 20000 free booklets and tracts were distributed. Our missionary Wilson from Harnatand in Bihar had arrived by bicycle and joined the team already working there. People who were interested to know more were called and counseled separately by our brothers.

After sunset they left Triveni and reached Harnatand at 8 pm. Wilson arranged dinner for the team. Early in the morning on 27th they visited some of Wilson's believers and prayed for them. At 10.30 am, they started their journey back to Gorakhpur. On their way they visited a hospital and gave some copies of New Testaments and held open air meetings in different places until the literature left over with them finished. By 7.30pm they reached Gorakhpur rejoicing in the great work God has done.

Let us pray that the Lord may open the eyes of thousands of people who received the gospel tracts and New Testaments so that they may know the true God who loves them and who can give them eternal salvation and set them free from the bondage of Satan.

## **97 BAPTISMS**

According to reports received in the last three months, our missionaries have visited 12937 houses and contacted 51560 people. Out of them 2471 made decisions to accept Christ and 97 people were baptized and added to our various churches in our mission stations. Praise the Lord for what He is doing and also thank you all for your faithful prayers.

## **NORTH EAST REGION**

### **YISU PUJA**

This is the name of our annual gathering at Binnaguri in W. Bengal near the Bhutan border. Yisu Puja held on 18-22 December was inaugurated by Rev Dr P. M Thomas. Other main speakers were

Rev Selvakumar David & Dr. J. Wilson. We all were greatly delighted to meet both Rev Dr. P.M. Thomas and Mrs. Christy Thomas for our Yisu Puja Program. The program was blessed with the heavenly singers from Nagaland Crown Centre Choir & Kerala Love Army Crusade. On the 18th of Dec we had the Christmas program of Child Development Centre and a crowd of 800 people gathered, to whom the word of God was shared and gifts were distributed-blankets, sweaters, clothes etc. and then ended with a lunch. The Yisu Puja was attended by about 250 delegates consisting of missionaries and their families and the evening public programs were attended by a little over 1000 people mainly non-Christians. On the 22nd we had the Corner Street program where we conducted open air programs in almost 8 junctions. Songs were sung and hundreds gathered to listen to the songs and the word of God that was shared openly. Finally we were surprised to see how the crowd joined with us to sing and dance and praise the Living God.

**Grace Johnson**

### **BETHESDA COMMUNITY HEALTH CENTRE**

In the month of January a health check up program was conducted for all the children of CDC, their parents and siblings. Free check up and medicines were provided. Approximately 400 people were benefited by this program.

Later on the second of February a medical camp was organized, which was categorized into three departments namely EYE, DENTAL and GYNAECOLOGY. People were provided free consultation from expert Doctors and free medicines were provided. People with poor eye sight were diagnosed and appropriate spectacles were given free of cost. By the grace of God this camp was a great success and hundreds of people were blessed. These camps are very essential in such a remote area. Please do pray for BCHC and also to conduct such camps in future.

**Dr. Lawrence P. Bose**

## **HIMALAYA THEOLOGICAL COLLEGE**

On the 20th of December we had the Graduation of 8 students of HTC .The Graduation service started with the prayer and worship by Naga choir and LAC Choir .On that auspicious occasion Rev. Selvakumar David gave the Graduation sermon and Rev. Dr .PM Thomas distributed the certificates to the graduates. Special awards were given by Rev. Dr. J Wilson to the deserving graduates. The farewell song of the graduates was touching and the congregation was overwhelmed to see the graduates coming out with flying colours. Please do pray for the students who graduated and for the future prospects and working of the college.

**Harison Moses (Academic Dean)**

### **NORTH WEST REGION**

### **CHRISTMAS PROGRAMS**

Pastor Santosh Thomas returned after two months visit of overseas prayer partners and relatives. After his return to India, we all got busy with the Christmas programs. We were invited to several schools, colleges and other public institutions and army units to speak. The visit of the Naga Choir added to the joy of these programs. On 24<sup>th</sup> December evening many other officials and dignitaries and a large crowd of about 2000 people also came to the campus and listened to the word of God. Besides that the evening was marked by live telecast and our Christmas message was published by some of the leading newspapers.



## FIRST AID TRAINING

Emmanuel Hospital Association, a fellowship of Christian Institutions had organized a First Aid Training to all of our Missionaries, Pastors, and Evangelists and their wives. Mr. George Paulose, Mr. Arthur Mandru and Mr. Raja Abraham were the main facilitators. The training really helped many of them to learn the basics of First Aid.



## REGIONAL CONFERENCE

After a gap of six months all our missionaries along with their wives gathered together for our Regional Conference for two days here at the base. Pastor Santosh shared from the word of God. He emphasized that accountability and integrity both with man and God is must in the ministry.



## KASHMIR BIBLE COLLEGE

Kashmir Bible College is getting ready for the final semester exams. 22 students will be graduating and some of them will be sending out to the mission fields. Please pray that they all come out in flying colors for the glory of God.

## KASHMIR WOMEN'S FELLOWSHIP

Kashmir Women's Fellowship started one more women cell group in Ramban up in mountains. Mrs. Shimona Thomas and some of the other group leaders visited Ramban where Pastor Sarapheen Sunny and his wife Karuna are working. Sister Shimona and others shared their experiences and prayed together and challenged the women to be more on their knees praying for their families, church and the state. This was really a time of blessing. On the other hand other cell groups are showing good results and growth. Now they have started a Bible study in their cell groups so that they can have more insight in the Word. Please continue to pray for them.

## BROOKLYN MISSION SCHOOL

Brooklyn Mission School students are getting ready for the final examinations. The 8<sup>th</sup> grade students are appearing for the State Board of School Education. Let us for their success.

## GIVING THE LAST COIN

It was the prayers of Hudson Taylor's parents that led him to China and also as the founder of the China Inland Mission. While his mother was spending an afternoon on her knees in prayer for him, while out of town he committed his life to Christ. His own call was influenced by his father's oft-repeated prayers for the people of China. Before sailing to China, as a young man he made a solemn pledge: "When I get to China, I shall have no claim on anyone for anything; my only claim will be on God.

How important therefore, it is to learn before leaving England to move man, through God, by prayer alone". He spent several hours in private devotion each morning before sunrise. Before he left for China, he prepared himself for the missionary service by doing "gospel work" in London among the people "in the lowest part of the town." On one occasion, as he was finishing up his work late at night, he was stopped by a man who asked if he would come and pray with his sick wife. The man explained that he had sought to find a priest, but was told that he would need a payment of eighteen pence,

which the man did not have. Indeed the man confessed that he did not even have money to buy food for his starving family.

Taylor agreed to go to his home, but immediately his conscience was stricken. He too was living virtually on a starvation diet, but he had money- a half crown- in his pocket. It was all the money he had, and his own food was running out. "If only I had two shillings and a sixpence," he contemplated, "instead of this half-crown, how gladly would I give these poor people a shilling!" But to give all his money to a stranger-that was unthinkable.

Finally they arrived at the tenement. "Up a miserable flight of stairs into a wretched room he led me, and oh, what a sight there presented itself! Four or five children stood about, their sunken cheeks and temples telling unmistakably the story of slow starvation, and lying on a wretched pallet was a poor, exhausted mother, with a tiny infant thirty-six hours-old moaning rather than crying at her side."

Taylor spoke to them, trying to bring comfort and encouragement, but the words stuck in his throat. "Something within me cried, 'You hypocrite! telling these unconverted people about a kind and loving Father in heaven, and not prepared yourself to trust him without half a crown.'" With nothing to say, Taylor determined to get the visit over quickly so he offered to pray as the man had initially requested. "But no sooner had I opened my lips with, 'Our Father who art in heaven,' than conscience said within, 'Dare you mock God? Dare you kneel down and call him "Father" with that half-crown in your pocket?'"

When Taylor got up from his knees he was so distraught that the man asked him what was wrong. The man could never have understood, but Taylor himself knew what was wrong and there was only one remedy. He dug deep into his pocket for his half-crown and gave it to the man. "And how the joy came back in full flood tide to my heart!... Not only was the poor woman's life saved, but my life as fully realized had been saved too."

**Before you tell others what Jesus can do for them  
Tell them first what Jesus did for you**

## **Persecution**

### **Binaya Kumar Sipka**

After visiting Gorakhpur HEM office I returned to my house in village Golamunda on 24<sup>th</sup> August 2008 night. On 25<sup>th</sup> morning a huge mob of 2000 people without warning attacked the houses of Christians in Orissa state. Along with my wife, my daughter Blessy aged 7 years and son Blessed aged 3 years I ran to the Jungle to save our lives. Our house was burnt to ashes in front of our eyes. We ran from the house with the clothes on our bodies and without food. We walked 30 km in the jungle to hide from the mob. We had no food or water. Whole night we stayed hidden in the jungle infested with snakes and wild animals. Next day we reached the road and took bus to Raygada to our friend's house 200 km away. There we could get some sleep and food on the 26<sup>th</sup> night. All my property and house hold things were destroyed. After staying for 15 days we received some help from our HEM mission station with which we purchased some clothes for ourselves. Then we moved of Sialoti a village in Orissa near Madhya Pradesh state border which is 350 km away from Rayguda. There we picked up two more of our missionaries Kaibal Bagh and Gyani Harpal and their families who were also hiding in jungles to save their lives. For a week we stayed together in Sailoti, and moved to Gyani Harpal's brother's house at Kesinga 150 km away from Sailoti by bus. All traveling was done in the night fearing the roaming vicious mobs.

On 15<sup>th</sup> October 2008 I along with my family returned back to my village. The situation had cooled down, and the neighbours who could not help us before now treated us well and gave some cooking utensils and money. The neighbours also helped us to repair two rooms of our destroyed house.

Praise the Lord now we are all safe by His divine mercy, and we thank Him for the protection and love He gave us in our time of distress. My daughter Blessy was studying in class II in the mission school. The school building was destroyed so at present her education has stopped. We hope with God's grace the school will reopen in March 2009.