

Moirang, Manipur, N.E. India
September 10, 2009

Dear brother Jim E. Waldron,

I greet you in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ.. From day by day the state of Manipur is facing more and more violence. You will be pleased to know that on 9/02/09 Mrs. Ngakneikim a widow (68 yrs old) was baptized.

We are having daily Bible studies, even with no electricity and must use a lantern and candles. With these we find it hard to read their Bible. We need a battery and light to use during the study time. It costs Rs 7000 (\$146.00). We also need English New Testaments for most of the brothers and sisters can read English. So, please could you send us NKJV at least 30 copies of it. (These things we will do, JW) I have been going to the doctor for medical check up regularly. I am still having malaria.

A brief report of Manipur law and order situation: Recently a pregnant woman was shot dead with a babe of 6 month inside the womb. At the place where I am working right now there are many terrorist groups. The army and police are watching for the terrorists, yet in the course of that many civilians are being shot dead without any cause as the army operates under the AFSPA (Arm Forces Special Power Act), where they are allowed to shoot anyone whom they suspect to be a terrorist. The army and the police misuse their power where civilians are killed regularly in the name of counter insurgency operations.

They are also guilty for extortion, demanding ransom money by arresting innocent persons. If the army shoots dead any civilian it has been agreed to pay a ransom of one lakh (100,000 rupees or \$2,083.00). So, the price of a human life is very worthless here in Manipur. Again the terrorists are killing anyone who are against them or anyone who is wealthy. They throw bombs in crowded areas. Right now Manipur state is in chaos. It is like the darkest period like in Texas during the cowboys, where might is right. Please remind (remember) us in prayer for all the churches of Christ in Manipur so that we will not face any difficulty in worshipping and expanding the Lord's church and peace will be restore in this land.

*In Christian love,
Joshua N. Kom
Moirang Manipur Church of Christ*

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FAITH LIKE THAT OF THE THREE HEBREW CHILDREN LIVES



The names of two young women in the picture are Soniya (on the right), daughter of J.W. Samson and his wife Shermilla and Ruth the daughter of Jaya Paul and his wife Daveanbu; all of Dindigul, Tamil Nadu, S. India. Soniya is 22 and Ruth is 21; both were raised to be faithful servants of Christ and are graduates of the Coimbatore Bible Institute (CBI) for women, which is located near Coimbatore in Tamil Nadu, S. India. This is a two year school designed to train Christian young ladies in the word of God in order for them to be good Christian wives and mothers and to be teachers of women and children.

Soniya graduated in 2008 and Ruth finished this past April. By the end of June this year Soniya who had been studying computer science by correspondence while attending CBI completed that work and received her bachelor's degree. About the same time Ruth indicated she wanted to spend a year in school learning to sign for the deaf as we have a Home and School for the Blind and Deaf about 100 miles from where they live. Soniya also expressed a desire to do the same, thus at the beginning of July they enrolled in a university where signing is taught; they stay in the women's dormitory on campus.

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When I went with brother Samson and his wife to visit them on Sunday evening the 9th of August the girls were well and excited about their studies. This was in spite of the fact that it is a grueling course that requires them to spend five hours a day in class learning either to sign or finger spell between fifty and sixty new words everyday.

Everything was going fine until August 15th approached. That is the date on which India celebrates her independence from Great Britain, which took place on August 15, 1947. Generally on that day most of the colleges and universities in the country have a national celebration, but since the university that Ruth and Soniya attend was endowed by a very wealthy Hindu family they have a day of pooja (performing worship or rites before idols). The students are required to attend a lecture by the university head, then take a handful of rice in his presence and present it to an idol to be burned in the fire before him and bow to the university head himself. This head man is a high caste Hindu priest called Swamyji, which is often used as a common name, but in this context has reference to being honored as a god.

When Soniya learned of this program she with Ruth went to speak with their teacher to tell him that as Christians they could not present the rice to be burned or bow to the Swamyji, and they wished to be excused for the day to go home, but their teacher said they could not. They then went to see the dean of their particular college, but she also told them that they could not be excused, for if they were then other students would demand the same. She told them, last year (2008) there had been six Catholic "sisters" in the school and they had made no objection.

Soniya replied we are members of the church of Christ and we cannot do this; I wish to speak to Swamyji himself. The dean said this cannot be done, then she said to Soniya, who is only about five feet tall and weighs about 110 pounds, "you are a very little thing but you sure have strong convictions." Soniya told the dean that if they could not go home: "we will sit through the lecture, but we will not bow to Swamyji nor will we take part in the pooja." They heard the speech and watched as all the other students streamed across the stage, presented their rice and bowed to "Swamyji." Pray for these little sisters.

SERVING CHRIST IN THE MIDST OF TERROR

September 11, 2009 reminded us of the evil of Islamic terrorists against our own country. It also reminded us of the sacrifice of those, national leaders and men and women in the trenches, who have prevented a similar attack since then. For them we thank God. Yet, few realize that India has suffered much more than we, not only because of Muslim jihadists, but because of Maoists (communist) terrorists and others, who are supposed to fight the evil but become a part of it.

For the most part India is very peaceful, yet there are two or three states where conditions are very violent. Generally as foreigners we are not even allowed to visit those states without special permission due to the dangers, but our graduates can go there and work. On the back of this report is a portion of a letter from one of the 2004 graduates from the school of preaching in Shillong.

SATAN IS DEFEATED

On Monday (6th) Don and Cathy Iverson returned from their most recent trip to India. You will recall that we asked for prayers and fasting on their behalf before they left. That was due to the fact, that in spite of being granted a new ten-year visa in June by the Indian Consulate in Washington, an unprincipled Diotrephes, who is extremely jealous of the great work being done with multiple schools of preaching and two orphan homes, registered a case against him with the federal law enforcement authority of India; called the CID. Representatives of that office in light of the complaint had interviewed the native brothers who work with Don. These brothers in turn asked the detectives to speak to the attorney (a Hindu man), who represents the orphan homes and the schools of preaching in matters with the government. This they did and found no reason to question the work. Don was not even asked to come in for questioning. We thank God for His earnest care for this work and we thank you for your prayers. Besides the two homes for children Don works with 21 schools of preaching with 345 enrolled. These are besides the ones that I work with, which are listed below.

A SUMMARY BIBLE TRAINING SCHOOLS IN INDIA September 13, 2009

FULL TIME		NIGHT SCHOOLS	
Palakkad	72	Pandamangalam	22
Dindigul	30	Madurai	21
Shillong (Eng. Med.)	23	Chennai	49
Gandhigram	18	Thruchy	2
Jairampur	13	Dindigul	6
Coimbatore	26	Coimbatore	1
		Night School Teachers (also in training)	49
TOTAL	182	TOTAL	150
SPECIAL SCHOOLS			
		Women's two-years	42
		Blind	32
		Deaf	34
		TOTAL	108

TOTAL COST PER MONTH _____ \$21,860.00
 AVERAGE COST PER STUDENT _____ 50.00

Dear Brothers and Sisters in Christ,

May God bless you for your share in this work of faith and labor of love. Without your regular gifts this work could not continue. The three numbers above total 440 and 332 of the students are brothers being trained to be gospel preachers. Their average age is about 28.

The average age of the girls is 19 and they, as noted, are trained to be Bible teachers for women and children in the villages from where they come. The deaf and blind learn the word of God and are being taught to teach it to those who are also handicapped.

The costs range from \$25 per person a month for those in the night schools and \$90 in the fulltime schools. This work is to train faithful native Christians to reach their own with the gospel as per Paul's orders to Timothy (2 Tim. 2:2). Please bring it to the notice of your congregation; let me know if they want me to visit .

Jim E. Wallron