

# Fountain of Life



## WHITHER GOES CHINA?

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China's  
Most Wanted  
Speaks to FOL  
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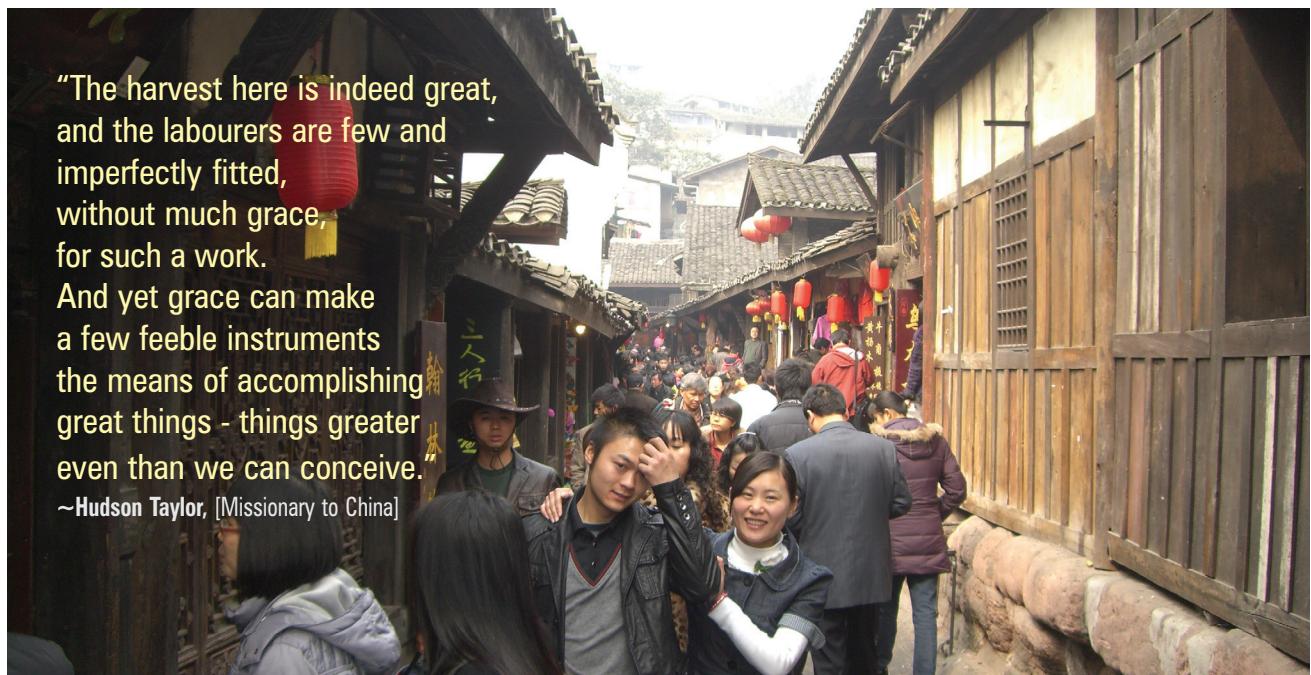


The Man  
Who Made  
Gandhi Known  
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The Unseen  
The Unheard  
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China today boasts that the One-Child Policy has prevented over 400 million births, and that over the last four decades, they have aborted 336 million children, performed 196 million surgical sterilizations, and inserted 403 million IUD's (intrauterine devices).



"The Indian rupee has lost 20% of its value this year and is one of the world's worst-performing currencies."  
~BBC News.

## Do Animals Suffer from Obesity...???

**D**o animals suffer from Obesity? The answer is Yes and No. 'Yes,' if humans are their masters, 'No' if God is their Provider. Except for domestic pets, it is commonly observed that animals living in the wild are never over fed, rather sumptuously fed, because God feeds them and hence they are usually not obese.

The recent free fall of the Indian rupee against the US dollar had been an issue of concern. The danger speculated by experts is further worst. According to Len Perry, *University of Technology, Sydney*, "Don't be surprised when, within the next five or 10 years, it costs 100 rupees to buy one US dollar; which of course means that, at that time, one rupee will be worth one US cent." At the time of Indian independence from Britain in 1947, 3.3 Indian rupees would buy one US dollar, approximately. Ten years later, in 1957, it cost 4.8 rupees, and by 1992 the cost had roughly tripled to 9.6 rupees. Today, the cost of a US dollar is about 20 times the cost back in 1947. Thus the price recorded recently hovered between 65 to 69 Indian rupees for one US dollar. [www.thebull.com.au/articles/a/40638-india%27s-inflation-woes-could-see-rupee-fall-even-further.html]

It scares to think that one day we may have to carry money in bags and bring home groceries in hands. The future seems threatening for the Indian rupee. However, a one-line sentence could put a cap on the issue. If you do this simple math, you will agree with the BBC, "A deficit happens when the country's import bill is bigger than its earnings from exports." While it scared many an India, it also confused the Church going believers. While the economists and the financial analysts have much to scream about, has the Bible anything to whisper to those who care to listen?

The Bible says that the birds do not sow, neither reap nor store, yet God feeds them. It continues, "...Are ye not much better than they?"<sup>26</sup> Matthew 6<sup>26</sup>. The Psalmist says, "He giveth to the beast his food..."<sup>147</sup> and "The young lions...seek their meat from God." 104<sup>21</sup>.

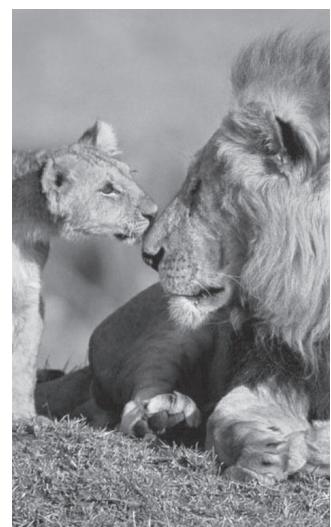
If God could feed the bird of the air and provide for the beast in the wild, are we not more precious to Him than the animals? However, it is the animals that trust Him more. An old poster read like this, 'No matter the economy of the jungle, we can never eat grass. It is not pride, it is the way God made us.'

The Hebrew words 'Jehovah-jireh,' means 'the Lord provides.' 'Jireh' means 'provides.' The word *provide* comes from two Latin words *Pro* and *video*. *Pro* means 'before' and *video* means 'to see.' This simply means to see the provision of the Lord in advance with the eyes of faith.

While God is our Provider, He also expects His people to do their part. An old Jewish teaching teaches thus, 'to spend less than you earn. Wealth doesn't mean high income. It could be less than most others, but the simple math to adequacy is, 'to spend less than we earn.' No recession and fall of currency could oppress or suppress God's children.

God does not expect all His children to be millionaires, but to live in sufficiency and sumptuousness. Going by the need keeps us spiritually slim; going by the desire only makes us obese and sick and going by greed gets us out of balance with life and out of tune with God.

'No matter the economy  
of the jungle,  
we can never eat grass.  
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it is the way  
God made us.'



He giveth to the  
beast his food

Psalms  
147<sup>9</sup>

**Fountain of Life** (FoL) is an inspirational, interdenominational, apolitical (non-political) contemporary missions magazine published quarterly from, Visakhapatnam, AP., India.

FoL includes articles, messages, thoughtful comments and relevant news written from a Christian perspective thereby bringing an awareness of missions and missionary endeavours. The articles are aimed at challenging the readers with the issues and happenings on the missionary frontiers and thus impact their spiritual lives to take up missions as a lifestyle.

#### Our Vision:

To be an effective tool committed to inspire, inform, invigorate and encourage the the body of Christ to take up missions as a lifestyle.

#### Our Mission Statement:

In pursuit of awakening a missionary spirit.

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**Fountain of Life** (FoL) is a quarterly magazine circulated among Churches, Christian organisations, Bible colleges and university students, in India and overseas. Column viewpoints are of its respective authors, and do not necessarily represent the opinion of the FoL management or staff.

We welcome free-lance contribution of any article on missions and missionary work in India and abroad. FoL being a missions magazine aims at keeping a balance of 60/40 per cent of missions and other articles. Inspiring articles, first hand miracles experienced in challenging situations and other related articles that help Christian growth can be sent to us. However, the final decision to accept or reject depends on the editorial team. It is preferred that the articles be accompanied with good quality photographs in color/black and white. You may send them by email too. Digital photographs must be in 300 DPI and in Tiff / Corel Draw/JPG format preferably.

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## From the Editor



"When Christ calls a man, He bids him come and die."

~Dietrich Bonhoeffer,

*The Cost of Discipleship*

The Communists had a slogan,  
‘for one comrade down, ten will rise,’  
but today, the Chinese underground Church is proving,  
‘for one Christian down, a thousand are rising.’

I always felt drawn with sympathy for the Chinese underground Church. Every time I heard a testimony of arrest and imprisonment of Christians, it pained me. I always prayed for the Communist regime in China to fall. With an aggressive spirit I made my home work to study and research the Chinese underground Church, when I stumbled at scores of testimonies that startled me. It was relieving to hear that the Christians in China believe that Communism is a blessing in disguise. They believe Communism to China is what Roman persecution to the early Church was. Most Chinese say that God is using Communism to purify their faith. Chinese Church today, is the fastest growing Church in the world. The Lord is in control and is building His Church in China. It immensely blessed me doing the ‘cover story’ of this issue. I am sure you will be too, reading through.

Another special feature of this issue of FoL is the personal ‘face ‘a face’ [interview] with Chai Ling one time ‘most wanted’ in China. Her journey from the epicentre of death, her fugitive days and her flight to freedom and finally a leap into the arms of Christ is an incredible story I personally enjoyed and was blessed researching and writing.

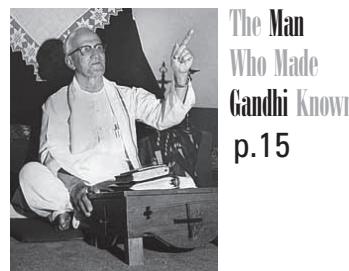
The other articles on Kandhamal, conversations with the State Representative Jeff Grisamore and the remarkable ‘story lost in history’ of the life and contributions of ‘missionary extraordinary,’ E. Stanley Jones and our regular ‘columns’ all come with a tag, ‘you will be blessed.’

God’s blessing on you as you flip through these pages.

  
Sunny Joseph P.  
**Editorial**

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July - Sept. 2013



face 'a face



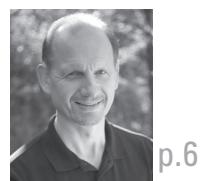
a student...  
the most wanted...  
a fugitive on the run...and  
China's darling child...**Chai Ling**  
..in a face 'a face [Interview]  
with the Editor of *Fountain of Life*

The Unseen The Unheard



**Remembering Kandhmal**

## Columns



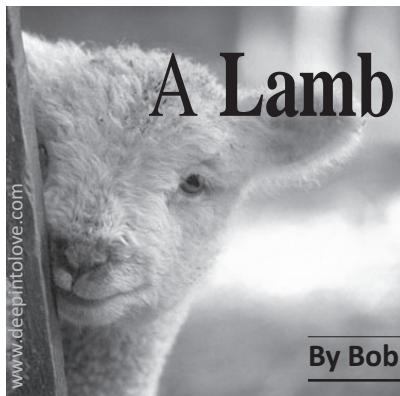
**Bob Sorge**



**David Brown**



**Ravi Zacharias**



# A Lamb Fixation

By Bob Sorge

The saints are singing a new song before the throne, and it's a mystery that the four living creatures and the elders could not "learn" the song. This is intriguing to me. Why can't they learn the new song? Are they new song-challenged? No. Back in Revelation 5:8-9 it was the four living creatures and the elders who were singing a new song. But now they can't even learn this new song.

This seems strange to me. I think I know how to teach them the new song. We put the words on the screen; play the melody several times on the keyboard; sing it for them a couple times; then have them sing it over and over until they get it. Shouldn't be that hard to teach them the new song.

But yet the Scripture insists: They can't even learn the song. So now I'm asking the question, "Why not?" What is it about this new song that means they can't even learn it?

I'm going to give you my best answer. There's no way to prove if I'm right, but here's my theory on it. The four living creatures and the elders can't learn the new song of Revelation 14:3 because *it's totally unrehearsed*.

Imagine this: Billions of believers gathered together around the throne, burning on the fiery sea of glass, gazing upon the face of Christ, and fashioning a new song together, extemporaneously, in the fiery passion of the moment. Imagine two billion believers crafting a new song together, simultaneously creating the same lyrics, the same melody, the same harmonies, and the same rhythms—as though they'd been practicing it for weeks.

And there's only one way to know what the next word will be, or what the next note will be: *You've got to be in the river*. Those not in the river of the redeemed just stand and watch it unfolding before them in absolute amazement. They want to join in, but they're totally incapable of singing this song. The song flows from within as the redeemed people of God stand in the midst of the Spirit's fiery river, a stream that galvanizes the Bride so that she can sing her own new song to her Beloved.

## The River Flows Today

As already stated, this river is not only for the age to come. It's available to us today.

Come now to Revelation 14: 13

"They sang as it were a new song before the throne, before the four living creatures, and the elders; and no one could learn that song except the hundred and forty-four thousand who were redeemed from the earth."



This river flowed at Christ's triumphal entry. "Then...the whole *multitude* of the disciples began to rejoice and praise God with a loud voice for all the mighty works they had seen" (Luke 19:37). Again, there was no worship leader at this event, just a groundswell of exuberant praise from the great multitude as they rose to praise our Lord according to His excellent greatness. The dark scowls of the critics couldn't staunch this flow of heaven-empowered celebration. The multitude had found the river, and an entire city was moved. Blessed are the people who know this joyful sound!

This river flowed in the Upper Room, on the Day of Pentecost (Acts 2). It swept the 120 disciples off their feet and carried them along in a fiery flow of declaring the praises of God. The mockers mocked, but they couldn't stop this river. A prophetic spirit fell upon Peter as he preached from this river; the secrets of men's hearts were revealed, and BOOM—3,000 souls were brought into the Kingdom and baptized in water!

This river is still flowing today. That's what Ezekiel saw, when he was shown the river. He saw this river flowing in this age, bringing healing to the nations, and producing a great harvest of "fish" for the glory of God. The river of fire from God's throne is still flowing today, and its glory is available to those who will thirst and yearn for it.

## The Lamb

What is it that empowers and energizes this Revelation 14 river? Look again at the passage.

Then I looked, and behold, a Lamb standing on Mount Zion, and with Him one hundred and forty-four thousand, having His Father's name written on their foreheads. And I heard a voice from heaven, like the voice of many waters, and like the voice of loud thunder. And I heard the sound of harpists playing their harps. They sang as it were a new song before the throne, before the four living creatures, and the elders; and no one could learn that song except the hundred and forty-four thousand who were redeemed from the earth (Revelation 14:1-3).

It is the Lamb who gives us this river. His pierced side allows His liquid love to pour forth into our hearts.

It's our affections for the Lamb of God that opens our hearts to this river.

We're in love with the Lamb...This Bride has a Lamb fixation.

All she can see is the Lamb;  
all she can think about is the Lamb;  
all she wants to do is be with the Lamb.  
It's lovesickness in its fullness.

The river finds its fountainhead in the Lamb of God. As the redeemed gaze upon the Lamb, their love is awakened and enflamed, the river catches their hearts up, and the new song explodes from within.

It is the Lamb who gives us this river. His pierced side allows His liquid love to pour forth into our hearts. It's our affections for the Lamb of God that opens our hearts to this river. We're in love with the Lamb.

This Bride has a Lamb fixation. All she can see is the Lamb; all she can think about is the Lamb; all she wants to do is be with the Lamb. It's lovesickness in its fullness. Which is why the next verse says, "These are the ones who follow the Lamb wherever He goes" (Revelation 14:4). They're Lamb groupies. They will not—they cannot—be separated. He took the nails in His hands and feet, and now she is entirely His. Forever.

## The Vision Summarized

So what is our vision for corporate worship? Here it is again, in a final summation. This is not worship as we hope it might happen; this is worship as it most definitely will happen—here on earth, in this age, before Jesus returns.

- God's people are gathered to worship our beloved Savior and Redeemer. The worship leaders take us on a passionate search for the Ezekiel 47 river of God's glory.
- Once we hit water, the leaders are using their lists and preparation as guides, but the desire is to flex and flow with the river as the Spirit takes us on a fluid journey into the heart of God. So the rigid lines of the service order are set aside in favor of encountering God.
- As we move from ankle depth to knee depth to waist depth, something organic and alive begins to coalesce as our corporate worship takes on an identity all its own. A tapestry of worship emerges as the Bride and the Bridegroom alternate reciprocally in the dance of divine romance.
- As we gaze upon the beautiful Lamb of God, the old song unites and galvanizes the hearts of believers into a crescendo of high worship; but then a new song begins to erupt, thrusting us forward into the freshness of the deeper waters.
- A powerful transition begins to unfold. The saints of God rise up in confidence in their identity as the great multitude, and we begin to release a sound like many waters and like loud thunder, proactively taking ownership of the worship service. A corporate synergism takes over the multitude as we now become the initiators of worship, while the worship team steps back into a facilitating role.
- Now we are in waters which cannot be crossed, waters in which one must swim—it's where the trees of healing are. Now the Glory of God is manifest as healings and miracles and the raising of the dead burst forth in the midst.
- The Fourth Man shows up in the fire, burning away every hindrance that inhibits us from expressing ourselves freely in the fiery furnace of God's love.
- A spirit of prophecy is released, revealing the secrets of men's hearts. Sinners are falling on their faces, giving glory to God, and walking away testifying, "God is in the midst of those people!"

O holy Lamb of God, evermore lead us forward to these springs of living water!

[This entire book in English can be downloaded for free at:<http://oasishouse.net/wp-content/uploads/2012/04/FollowingTheRiver4th.pdf>

Bob Sorge is a teacher and author. Having served as a senior pastor for thirteen years, Bob now travels domestically and abroad. Bob and his wife, Marci, live in Kansas City, Missouri with their three children and six grandchildren].



## JEWS in NEWS

### Israel the 2nd Most Educated Nation in the World

Israel is ranked the second most educated countries in the world after Canada according to a study conducted by the Organization for Economic Cooperation and Development (OECD), *24/7 Wall St.*

Topping the charts is Canada, the only nation in the world where more than half its residents can proudly hang college degrees up on their walls. Snagging the number two most-educated spot was Israel, which trailed Canada by 5%. The other countries in the list are, Japan, United States, New Zealand, South Korea, The United Kingdom, Finland, Australia and Ireland. [<http://jewishnews.co.uk/?s=Most+educated+nations>]

**Life expectancy in Israel in 2011** was 80 years for men and 83.6 years for women. This life expectancy continues an upward trend of the last decade. The Israeli life expectancy is higher than the OECD [Organisation for Economic Cooperation Development] average. [[http://www.jewishvirtuallibrary.org/jsource/Society\\_&\\_Culture/newpop.html](http://www.jewishvirtuallibrary.org/jsource/Society_&_Culture/newpop.html)]

Holocaust survivors and victims' heirs have received \$1.24 billion from a Swiss fund set up after a scandal over dormant accounts of Jews killed in WWII. Swiss banks are accused of keeping money owned by Jews who hid funds in secret Swiss accounts but who then perished in the Holocaust.

A top Thai university has apologised for a poster showing Hitler alongside Superman, Batman and other superheroes. After complaints from the Simon Wiesenthal Centre, Chulalongkorn University said it was painted by 'ignorant students' who didn't realise Hitler's image would offend anyone.

# Bridging the Gap

by General Colin Luther Powell

The less you associate with some people, the more your life will improve. Any time you tolerate mediocrity in others, it increases your mediocrity. An important attribute in successful people is their impatience with negative thinking and negative acting people. As you grow, your associates will change. Some of your friends will not want you to go on. They will want you to stay where they are. Friends that don't help you climb will want you to crawl. Your friends will stretch your vision or choke your dream. Those that don't increase you will eventually decrease you.

**Consider this:**

Never receive counsel from unproductive people. Never discuss your problems with someone incapable of contributing to the solution, because those who never succeed themselves are always first to tell you how. Not everyone has a right to speak into your life. You are certain to get the worst of the bargain when you exchange ideas with the wrong person. Don't follow anyone who's not going anywhere.

With some people you spend an evening: with others you invest it. Be careful where you stop to inquire for directions along the road of life. Wise is the person who fortifies his life with the right friendships. If you run with wolves, you will learn how to howl. But, if you associate with eagles, you will learn how to soar to great heights.

"A mirror reflects a man's face, but what he is really like is shown by the kind of friends he chooses."

The simple but true fact of life is that you become like those with whom you closely associate - for the good and the bad.

Note: Be not mistaken. This is applicable to family as well as friends. Yes...do love, appreciate and be thankful for your family, for they will always be your family no matter what. Just know that they are human first and though they are family to you, they may be a friend to someone else and will fit somewhere in the criteria above.

"In Prosperity Our Friends Know Us. In Adversity We Know Our friends."

"Never make someone a priority when you are only an option for them."

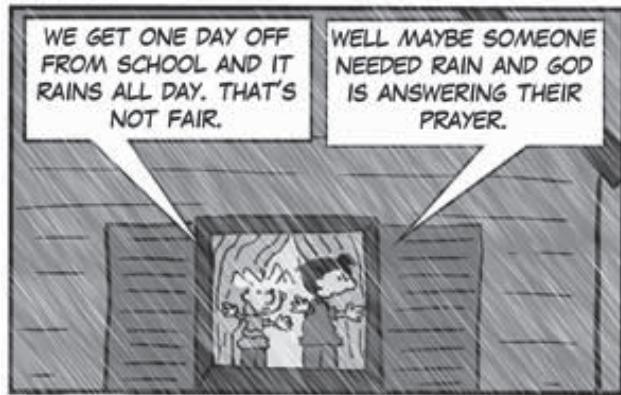
"If you are going to achieve excellence in big things, you develop the habit in little matters. Excellence is not an exception, it is a prevailing attitude."



"Never make someone a priority when you are only an option for them...If you are going to achieve excellence in big things, you develop the habit in little matters. Excellence is not an exception, it is a prevailing attitude."

Colin Powell an African American is an American Statesman and Four Star General in the United States Army, Former Secretary of State to President George W. Bush.

## P.K. PREACHER'S KIDS



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# Praise: God's



by Dr. David Brown

## Praise is: A People

To find the roots of praise, we must return to the DNA of this weapon in Genesis 49:8, “Judah thou art he whom thy brethren shall praise; thy hand shall be in the neck of thine enemies; the father’s children shall bow down before thee.” Jesus Christ was born of the tribe of Judah according to Matthew 1:2. In fact, one of our Lord’s titles is the Lion of the tribe of Judah (Rev 5:5). The word Judah in Hebrew literally means, “to celebrate in praise.” To be a Jew is to be a celebrator of praise. We are told that Judah would hold the ruler’s staff or scepter, and that the lawgiver would be located in and amongst the people of praise. (Gen 49:10-11)!

In Judges 1:1-2, we are told that Judah is to be first in battle, for God has given the land into their hands. In other words, the people of praise are God’s special attack forces against the powers of hell! The praise people are God’s special forces for special military operations, invasions, and incursions. We are God’s marine reconnaissance, airborne, seals, green berets, and army rangers of God’s forces! The Bible tells us that Judah shall plow (Hos 10:11). This means, in worship services and in life, we as people of praise prepare the soil for the good seed of the word of God. “And I will bring forth a seed out of Jacob, and out of Judah an inheritor of My mountains; and Mine elect shall inherit it, and My servants shall dwell there” (Isa 65:9). We are the elect of praisers; we are the inheritors of the high places of God as we exercise our privilege of praise!

We are of the kingly tribe of Israel spiritually as we praise our GOD! We are of the tribe of the Lion, the vanguard tribe, the tribe that lays the law of God down as we triumphantly praise the Lord!

## Praise is: An Invasion into Hell

“For thus hath the Lord spoken unto me, Like as the Lion, and the

young lion roaring on his prey, When a multitude of shepherds is called forth against him, he will not be afraid of their voice, nor abase himself for the noise of them; So shall the Lord of Hosts comes down to fight for Mount Zion, and for the hill thereof' (Isa 31:4). Praise loosens our God, who according to Exodus 15:3, is "a man of war"; He also is the captain of the armies of heaven (Josh 5:13-14). God comes and defends His bride at the first cry of her praises! "Every stroke the Lord lays on them with His punishing rod, will be to the music of tambourines and harps, as He fights them in battle with the blows of His arms!" (Isa 30:32 NIV). Isaiah 66:6 goes further to inform us of God's punishment of the forces of hell arrayed against us, "Hear that uproar from the city, hear that noise from the temple! It is the sound of the Lord repaying His enemies all they deserve!" (NIV). Our praises release God to come to fight, and win our battles for us. As we war in praise, He wars in the Spirit realm; the good news is that He has never lost a battle!

### **Praise is: Paralysis to the Kingdom of Satan**

There is an ordination of praise found in Psalms 8:2, "Out of the mouth of babes and unweaned infants You have established strength because of Your foes, that You might silence the enemy and the avenger" (AMP). Praise silences or makes Satan mute, dumbfounded, still, and silent. It shuts Satan's mouth! This praise comes, from those with the greatest faith, which is child-like faith. Again, the people of Judah will have their hand on the neck of the enemy in a deadly, silencing stranglehold (Gen 49:8)!

### **Praise is: The Power to Loose the Captives, and the Act of Binding Satan**

On the heights of Zion this blessing unfolds, "On this mountain He will destroy the shroud that enfolds all peoples, the sheet that covers all nations" (Isa 25:7). "Verily I say unto you, whatsoever ye shall bind on earth shall be bound in heaven; and whatsoever you shall loose on earth shall be loosed in heaven" (Matt 18:18). The "you" in Matthew 18:18 is you plural, or all of you. This is a corporate blessing of the children of God! This word is confirmed a second time, "Let the high praises of God be in their mouth, And a two-edged sword in their hand, To execute vengeance upon the heathen, And punishments upon the people; To bind their kings with chains and their nobles with fetters of iron; To execute upon them the judgment written; this honor have all His saints, Praise ye the Lord!" (Ps 149:6). The honor of praise is conferred on us to bind Satan with our praises unto the LIVING GOD!

We know that in the Old Testament times the enemies were literal people, and their struggle was with the Canaanite nations to possess their promise. Now, in the New Covenant times we understand according to Ephesians 6:12, "For we wrestle not against flesh and blood, but against principalities, against powers, against the rulers of the darkness of this world, against spiritual wickedness in high places." So now, we do not bind literal kings or people, but spirit rebel enemies and kings!

## **Conversations**



**N**icknamed, 'Serves public with a passion,' and the recipient of Donovan Award, Jeff is a man who carved out for himself a name among the common people in Missouri politics. With the memory of his infant daughter's death and passion for the less advantaged in the society, paired with a Christian calling, Jeff is a Christian icon in politics. With the heart of a shepherd and a calling of a minister, Jeff is on a mission making ripples in his district and is on the way to revolutionise the cause of the vulnerable. Elected for the third time consecutively, Jeff Grisamore is the man hungry to have more of God for his people and his nation. He calls himself an 'advocate for the elderly,' 'a champion for children' and a 'defender of the disabled' which is true to the core and he is proving so.

In a personal conversation with *Fountain of Life* State Representative Jeff Grisamore speaks about his passion to serve God and God's people from a political pavilion.

**FOL: You have been a pastor and a missionary. Please throw some light on that part of your life?**

**Jeff:** I was called to ministry in 1978 and it was a clear cut calling. I was actually preparing for law or medicine and was seriously pursuing my career in that direction. However, when I felt the call, I spent three years at the Trinity International University, Deerfield, Illinois, and completed Bible and inter-cultural studies. Later, I spent three years on the mission field in West Indies doing Church planting, relief and mercy ministries. I returned to the States from the mission field in 1995. I joined Mike Bickle in Kansas City and worked with him for five years. In the 90s I worked with some international organisations like the Morning Star, Promise Keepers and such. Later, I pastored a Church in Tennessee after which I took a study Sabbatical. I also served in Children of Promise, Int'l. I served as their executive Vice-President, Sr. Vice-President and as the President. We were involved in 20-

30 countries with over 200 projects doing disaster relief, Church planting and widow programmes through children's homes. Much of my work was in India also among the poorest of the poor which I thoroughly enjoyed because that is where my heart was, to serve the Lord among the poor.

**FOL: How and why did your entry into politics?**

**Jeff:** Around that period I made a transition in legislative and public service. In 2006, we were asked if I would be interested to run for an open seat in the House of Representatives. We prayed about it and my wife got a scripture, "for such a time as this." We took it as a confirmation from the Lord and prayed if this opportunity would give me more opportunities and increase my influence in the area of serving the least in the society more efficiently. And so, I was there in the race in 2006. It was a bad year for the Republicans. We lost seats in the House of Representatives in Missouri. I was down by 18% six weeks before the poll and ended up winning by 2%. We were able to close the gap of 20% in two weeks. We believe it was the hand of God and He has a purpose in this.

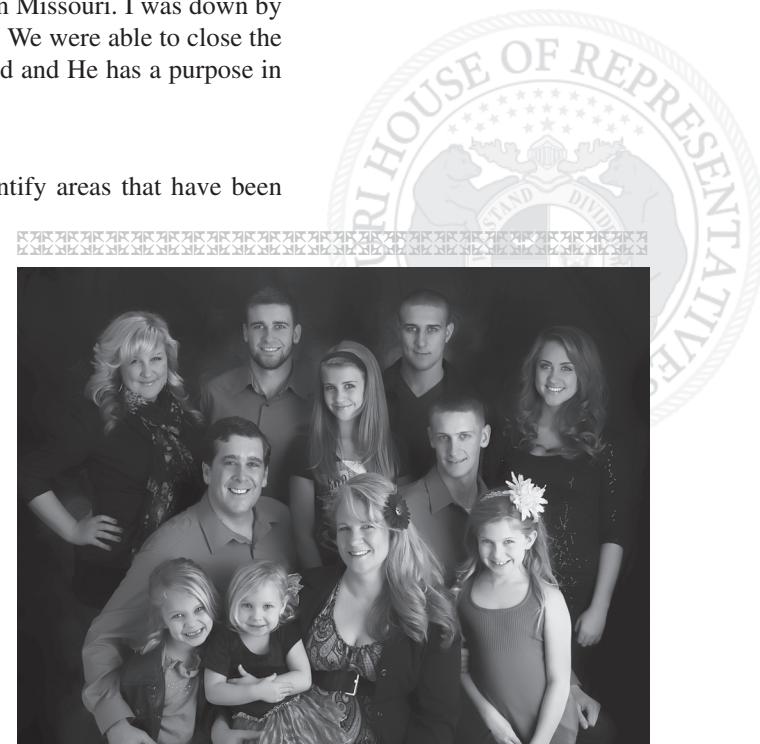
**FOL: What's been your role in politics as a Christian?**

**Jeff:** After I got into the legislative role, I began to identify areas that have been vulnerable, unreached and underserved population like the women, children and seniors who needed help especially individuals with developmental disabilities. My seventh daughter Rebekah, one of our ten children died ten years ago from developmental disability called the Prader-Willi Syndrome. After my daughter's death, I focused a lot on helping and caring for individuals with developmental disabilities. In my six years as a representative, I served on the Appropriations Committee on Health, Mineral House Social Service where we oversee \$10.5 billion projects, \$24 billion budget. I also serve on the House Budget Committee and also serve as the Chairman on the newly created Special Standing Committee

I face question like. "Why did you leave the ministry?" Well, I say, "I did not." This is part of my calling and ministry. I have a calling to serve God and it is in public places as a public servant; it is just that it is in a different location and capacity. It is very essential serving vulnerable people, women and children who don't get the services and funding and may have gone in circles for years trying to get things done, yet without help. I see such cases solved. More than politics, it is public service. I say this always, 'I hate politics, but I love public service.' It is not just about being in a position, but I feel a sense of calling being where I am.

**FOL: You are nicknamed, 'Serve public with passion.' You are also a recipient of Donovan Award. What is your motivation that makes you serve people with such passion?**

**Jeff:** I am very much driven by the scriptures where Jesus commands serving 'the least of these.' Jesus' commandment is my passion to help those who are weak and cannot help themselves; to care for the orphans and the widows. In the political framework you tend to see the greatest influence exerted by those who most have the money and the most that have power. Some of the vulnerable don't have the money, lobbying, political cloud or power to advocate for themselves. I am in a position where I can fight and advocate for such a category of people. You need to do this in a fiscally responsible way. This is what I share with the Governor of Kansas, Sam Brownback.



Jeff and Mary with their children  
Ben, Joel, Micah, Sarah, Gracie, Angela, Ellianna, Elia Nicole,  
Annikah, Rebekah [not in the picture]





I face questions like.

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Rep. Grisamore, a Republican, represents part of Jackson County, including much of Lee's Summit and Greenwood, [District 34] in the Missouri House of Representatives. He was elected to the House in November 2006.

In addition to his legislative duties, Rep. Grisamore is a humanitarian leader who engages in care for orphans, widows and the poor. He has also been active in writing, speaking and consulting. In addition to serving as a former pastor and missionary, his professional career over the last 30 years has included broad involvement in the corporate, civic, governmental and faith communities.

He is the recipient of Donovan Award in 2009. Donovan Award is given annually to one current or retired elected official who has provided leadership in the area of child abuse prevention, family support and overall concern and advocacy for children and family issues. Jeff and Mary make their home in Lee's Summit, MO with their children.

When he was in the Senate, he passed some landmark legislations dealing with human trafficking especially that which affects the children. He continues to be a voice on such fronts. He was very instrumental and opposition to a lot of the atrocities and injustices going on. I am a fiscal conservative and I believe in balancing budgets and holding line on taxes and keeping taxes low in a way that helps families, helps businesses, create jobs, and generate more revenue at the same time I think we can give focus on making a priority caring for our most vulnerable citizens and those that need services whether it is targeted from the private sector or the public sector or if it is a public-private partnerships.

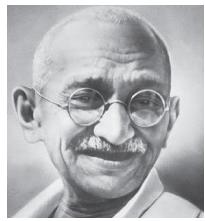
**FOL: Serving God and people from such a key position, what are your challenges?**

**Jeff:** The greatest challenge is the separation of the Church and the State and the misinterpretation of what our 'founding fathers' intended. When Thomas Jefferson wrote a New Year's letter to the Danbury Baptist association in 1802, he mentioned the term, 'Separation of the Church and State.' But he never intended 'separation of the Church from the State.' That phrase was in vote in 1947 Supreme Court decision. I think it was a gross misinterpretation and basically turning the intent of the 'founding fathers' on its head which they never intended in this nation for the Church to be ostracised and separated and kicked out of the public square and the public discourse but at the same time, it was the intention of the 'founding fathers' who were fleeing the suppression and the control of a State Church in England to ensure religious freedom and that is one of the hallmarks of the 'founding fathers' philosophy. They supported the idea of religious freedom for all denominations, all religions. They did not want a State Church at the same time they did not want to be excluded from the public discourse in terms of making their voice and values known. If you see the Declaration, except for one or two, most of them were devout and Christian in spirit. They did not set it up as a religious State, but as 'One nation under God.'

Concerning the challenges, we have had some bad legislation and bad judicial ruling over decades which completely turned around the original intent of the 'founding fathers' and we run into that now. We have just over written the Governor's veto of the bill that deals with the religious freedom basically which is tied into Obama Care, where one of the out working, which is in so many ways a very dangerous legislation whose intent is trying to increase access, quality and affordability to health care to more Americans. If this is not repealed and reversed the opposite of this will increase cost and decrease the quality and decrease access because in the rationing and because of shortage of doctors and delivery of medical services.

**FOL: How do you participate in serving through your Church?**

**Jeff:** My participation in my Church, the Abundant Life Baptist Church is whole-hearted. It is a wonderful and one of the fastest growing Churches in this area. Our pastor is a former Missouri police officer, a wonderful shepherd. Our Church is into constructing an auditorium preparing for more room for the growth. This is exciting.



## The Man Who Made Gandhi Known



Mahatma Gandhi needs no introduction anywhere around the globe past or present. However, at a time when the US was deeply involved in a quagmire of civil war, it was Dr. E. Stanley Jones' book on Gandhi that made him known in a larger perspective to a wider audience of the western world, particularly in the United States.

The 'civil war' icon, hero and martyr Martin Luther King, Jr., acknowledges that it was Dr. Stanley Jones, who made Gandhi known to him through his powerful book,

*Mahatma Gandhi-An Interpretation.*

## Lost Stories in History

It was E. Stanley Jones, who was also called the 'missionary extraordinary,' that made Gandhi known to Martin Luther King, Jr., the civil rights icon in the US.

In Boston University 1964, prior to his journey to Sweden to receive his Nobel Prize for peace 1964, Martin Luther King, Jr., told Eunice Jones Matthews [daughter of Dr. E. Stanley Jones], "Your father was a very important person to me, for it is this book on Mahatma Gandhi that triggered my use of Gandhi's method of non-violence as a weapon...for freedom in the United States." King showed Bishop Matthews [son-in-law of Dr. Jones] that in the margin of the book, he had written, "This is it." Without this book, Martin Luther King, Jr., would still have probably reached a similar decision by some other means. But as it turned out, this book by E. Stanley Jones was, according to Martin Luther King, instrumental in shaping the missional direction of his use of non-violence. Dr. Jones' granddaughter Dr. Annie Matthews Younes writes, that reading my grandfather's book on Gandhi may have assisted Dr. King with the application of Gandhian principles within a Christian context. The grandchildren of E. Stanley Jones and the grandchildren of Gandhi remain friends today.

Dr. Jones, a Methodist missionary had been a close friend of Mahatma Gandhi. In fact it was Jones' book on Gandhi that made Gandhi known to the west in the right perspective. Dr. Jones helped hundreds of thousands, from village outcasts in India to molders of public opinion in America, Japan, Europe and India. Stanley Jones went to earth's troubled spots helping to promote international understanding. "Peace," he said, "is a by-product of conditions out of which peace naturally comes. If reconciliation is God's chief business, it is ours, between man and God, between man and himself, and between man and man." In Africa, he was called the "Reconciler." His efforts in Burma, Korea, and the Belgian Congo, between China and Japan, and between Japan and the United States, to mention only a few, received wide attention. In the months prior to December 7, 1941, [The Pearl Harbour bombing by the Japanese] he was a constant confidant of Franklin D. Roosevelt and Japanese leaders trying to avert war. On his first visit after World War II, Japan hailed him with banners saying "Welcome to the Apostle of Peace." He also won the esteem of all India. Men in the old British colony and in the new Indian nation, which came

"...a constant confidant of Franklin D. Roosevelt and Japanese leaders ...on his first visit after World War II, Japan hailed him... 'Welcome to the Apostle of Peace.' He also won the esteem of all India...His influence had no small share in establishing religious freedom in the new constitution of India."



Contd. on p.31





# WHITHER GOEST CHINA?

By Sunny Joseph



"China grows and grows, but no one is sure into what."

~ Chinese News Paper



"The Chinese are the biggest factor for the world's disorder and we must entangle the madness of their madness..."

~Theodore H White,

'*The History of China: The Roots of Madness*'



ubbed by the BBC as 'the fastest changing place on the earth,' China is a wonder place on the earth. In the name of progress, urbanisation and modernisation, the country and the rural places are being transformed into high rise buildings with modern constructions and technology like never before. To China, its economic growth is priority and it would do anything to achieve the 'Chinese Dream.' Since the 80s China had been enjoying its booming economy. Looking at the present trend of its growth it is unwise to underestimate Chinese growth. According to Martin Jaques, the author of *When China Rules the World, The Rise of the Middle Kingdom and the End of the Western World*, that when China started off, [a couple decades ago] its economy was 1/10 of the American economy, but now it is half the size of the American economy. Though ruthless in its execution, China had been profoundly restructuring and reformatting making its governmental policies a sophisticated system. While rejecting democratic form of government and denying human rights to its people, China is aggressively spearheading, head-on towards achieving supremacy. If one asks, "Supremacy over what?" This is what China itself has not defined, except, that it wants to rival, compete and defy the American progress in the east. Remember the 'American Dream' of old times? The buzz word in China today is the 'Chinese Dream.'

China's challenge is its growing population. With a population which is 1.3 billion today and growing by 10% every year, this means every 7 years the population doubles. Imagine this has been happening since 30 years. Left uncontrolled, by 2050, China would be 1.46 billion. China is the world's largest exporter and importer, which means its dependence on other nations, is high and may increase if the population growth is left uncontrolled. With the fast growing population, China's challenges are, need for resources to sustain such a leap of growth in population. One has to only wait and see the success of China's 'One Child Policy,' if that could come to stop the population growth.

China, instead of fighting with the reality of issue, sadly, is fighting with its people and playing with their freedom and human rights. Whither it goeth, one must only wait and watch.



Cover Story





Chinese Dream



The Rise of the Red Dragon

**“China will become the world’s largest importer of crude oil in October, surpassing the U.S. for the first time...China already is the largest importer of oil from the troubled Middle East...Its ascendance as the world’s largest importer, even as U.S. dependence on Middle Eastern oil declines to negligible levels...”**

The ‘Chinese Dream’ is a concept introduced by President Xi Jinping that is widely understood to represent the renewal of China.

‘Chinese Dream,’ ‘Beautiful China’ and ‘the completion of a well-off society,’ were among most frequently used terms in media reports and text books last year. At ‘The Road Toward Renewal’ exhibition in Beijing, in November 2012, Xi Jinping, General Secretary of the Communist Party of China [CPC] urged all Party members to firmly keep in mind that lagging behind leaves one vulnerable to attacks and only development makes a nation strong. In his first public speech on November 15, 2012, President Xi said, “The people’s longing for a good life is what we are fighting for...” He continued “In my view, to realise the great renewal of the Chinese nation is the greatest dream for the Chinese nation in modern history...I believe that by the time when the Communist Party of China marks its 100th founding anniversary, the goal to complete the building of a moderately prosperous society in all respects will be inevitably achieved.”

In the recent decades, China had showcased tremendous progress on all fronts. The following are a few:

#### **Military:**

Today, China’s military is the third best in the world, standing just behind the US and Russia. The current military modernisation process has three main focuses. First, the PLA [People’s Liberation Army] has paid close attention to the performance of the US ground forces in Afghanistan and Iraq and is learning from the success of the US military in information-centric warfare, joint operations, C4ISR, hi-tech weaponry, etc. Second, the PLA is gradually building up its power projection capabilities, which will allow it to deploy forces not only within China, but also in peripheral regions. Third, the PLA is quietly developing the capability of rivalling a technologically superior military power through so-called ‘asymmetric warfare,’ in order to deter the U.S. intervention in case of war with Taiwan. [<http://www.sinodefence.com/overview>]

#### **Oil:**

China today is the largest user of automobiles and the number of car sales in 2009 had been 19 million. Hence, the need for heavy import of oil is inevitable. “While China’s dependence on foreign oil is growing rapidly, The U.S. dependence has been dwindling rapidly.” [[www.washingtontimes.com/news](http://www.washingtontimes.com/news)]. Studying the pace at which China is importing oil, as posted on [www.washingtontimes.com](http://www.washingtontimes.com) “China will become the world’s largest importer of crude oil in October, surpassing the U.S. for the first time as the Asian giant’s rising consumer class of drivers grows increasingly thirsty for fuel the U.S. Energy Information Administration is projecting. China already is the largest importer of oil from the troubled Middle East...Its ascendance as the world’s largest importer, even as the U.S. dependence on Middle Eastern oil declines to negligible levels, could transform regional and world politics as the focus of global defense efforts for decades has been keeping open the vital oil shipping lanes leading from the Persian Gulf.” [[www.washingtontimes.com/news](http://www.washingtontimes.com/news)]

#### **Economy:**

According to CNN, China which was in the sixth place among the world’s largest economies, had moved to the second place after the U.S. in 2013. The economic forecast is that China will retain its position till the end of the decade. Since the late 1970s China has moved from a closed, centrally planned system to a more market-oriented one that plays a major global role. China is second to the U.S. in the value of services it produces. [[www.indexmundi.com/china/economy\\_profile.html](http://www.indexmundi.com/china/economy_profile.html)] In the words of Bill Conerly, a contributing writer with Forbes, “China’s economic growth has been very good for quite some years. The consensus forecast now is that 2012 growth will be right in line with the country’s long-term growth potential of about nine percent per year...the value of the Yuan continues to trend upward, which will limit export growth. This is actually a good thing, as the high foreign exchange rate hurts internal consumers. Allowing the Yuan to rise to market levels is a good inflation-fighting technique and also relieves some political pressure.” [[www.forbes.com/sites/billconerly/2011/12/19/chinas-economic-forecast-2012-2013-a-business-perspective/](http://www.forbes.com/sites/billconerly/2011/12/19/chinas-economic-forecast-2012-2013-a-business-perspective/)]



## History of the Chinese Church

Traditional Christian thought suggests that St. Thomas, known as ‘the Apostle of India’ or possibly St. Bartholomew were the first to spread gospel in China. Third century Christian writer Arnobius mentions that a people known as the “Seres” as being among the groups [he enumerates also the Persians and Medes] which had been evangelised at that time. While there is evidence that Christianity existed in Mesopotamia and Persia by the early fourth century, there is no documentation that it had entered China. [\[www.ibiblio.org/chinesehistory/contents/02cul/c05s04.html#Introduction\]](http://www.ibiblio.org/chinesehistory/contents/02cul/c05s04.html#Introduction)

The earliest documented missionary presence in China goes back to AD 635 the early years of Tang dynasty [AD 618-907]. The most widely accepted record of the earliest existence of Christianity in China is a stone stele dated AD 781, that detailed Christian missionaries’ activities and the propagation of the religion in China.

The stele’s 1,900 word carvings describe a Syrian missionary monk Olopon’s [Alopen or Aluoben] arrival in the capital of China during the Tang Dynasty, Chang An [today’s Xi’an] in AD 635. It further states that the Gospel was translated in the imperial library and presented to the Emperor Taizong [599 – 649], who issued an imperial proclamation that says “having examined the principles of this religion, we find them to be purely excellent and natural...it is beneficial to all creatures, it is advantageous to mankind. Let it be published throughout the empire, and let the proper authority build a Syrian Church in the capital...which shall be governed by twenty-one priests.” [\[www.christiansinchina.com\]](http://www.christiansinchina.com)

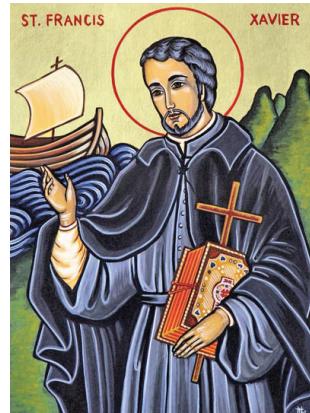
The sole purpose of Olopon’s visit to China was to introduce a new religion to China referred to by the Chinese characters ‘jing jiao’ translated as the ‘religion of light’ or ‘luminous religion.’ After the Tang dynasty declined, Emperor Wuzong [814-846], a zealous Taoist, decreed in AD 845 that all foreign religions be banned. In addition, the Silk Road, on which Olopon had traveled to reach China two hundred years ago, was taken over by Muslims, thus effectively shutting the path of Christian missionaries to China. No record points to any notable Christian presence until four hundred years later during another period of cultural collision and integration in China, the Yuan dynasty [1271-1368].

Giovanni of Monte Corvine [1246-1329], a Franciscan missionary, arrived in the capital, Da Du [today’s Beijing] in AD 1294 after his visit to Madras a coast in India. The Mongol emperor was tolerant to all forms of religion, Christianity included. Britanica.com mentions that Giovanni da Montecorvino, [born 1247, Montecorvino, Sicily, died 1328, Peking], Italian Franciscan missionary who founded the earliest Roman Catholic missions in India and China and became the first archbishop of Peking. The 13th century saw the Mongol-established Yuan Dynasty in China. Christianity was a major influence in the Mongol Empire, as several Mongol tribes were primarily Nestorian Christians, and many of the wives of Genghis Khan’s descendants were strongly Christian. Contacts with Western Christianity also came in this time period, via envoys from the Papacy to the Mongol capital in Khanbaliq today’s Beijing. [\[www.wikipedia.org/wiki/Christianity\\_in\\_China\]](http://www.wikipedia.org/wiki/Christianity_in_China) Chinese society was finally enjoying peace and stability after years of turbulence. As a result, Monte Corvine was able to build Churches around the capital and convert at least six



“Today, the fastest growing Church in the world is in China. In spite of the persecution, the growth of the Chinese Church has been phenomenal.”

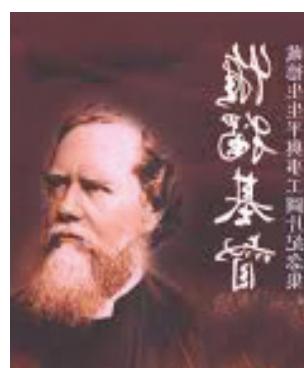
~ Theresa



Cover Story



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**Both Catholics and Protestants founded numerous educational institutions in China from the primary to the university level. Some of the most prominent Chinese universities began as religious-funded institutions.**



thousand Chinese and Mong. [www.britannica.com/EBchecked/topic/390673/Giovanni-da-Montecorvino]

Like previous efforts, this round of missionary work was forced to stop. The short-lived Mongol Empire crumbled due to internal power struggles. One year after the establishment of the Ming dynasty by Han Chinese in AD 1368, all Christians were expelled from China. This is the second virtual extinction during Christianity's long tortuous journey in China. It would take more than two centuries before Christianity returned to China, and this time to settle. [www.christiansinchina.com]

Matteo Ricci a 30 year landed in China in 1582. His work was the most fruitful. One of Ricci's converts was the prominent scientist Xu Guangqi, who later was appointed grand secretary to the emperor. The Cathedral of St. Ignatius or Xujiahui Church in Shanghai, which stands in the center of the city today, was built with Xu Guangqi's help. Ricci devoted himself to learning the Chinese language and culture. He translated Chinese classics and created the first Portuguese-Chinese dictionary. Ricci's mission was a huge success.

Robert Morrison, whom the Protestants regarded as being the first Christian missionary to China, arrived in Macau in 1807. Morrison translated first the New Testament and Old Testament into Chinese. He also compiled a Chinese dictionary for the use of Westerners. Another English Protestant missionary was Hudson Taylor, who revolutionised Christian missions in China. Taylor had an audacious idea. He founded the China Inland Mission [CIM] with the aim to take the Gospel into the hearts of Mainland China. It was the first massive grassroots missionary effort ever to have taken place of this type in China. Taylor accepted single women as missionaries. It turned out to be a huge success. By 1895, there were 641 missionaries in every Chinese province except Tibet, Inner Mongolia and Xinjiang.

The expulsion of foreign missionaries after 1949 opened a new chapter of Christianity in China as the Chinese government tried to gain full control of all religions. Over a thousand years since the Nestorian monks' arrival in Xi'an, and against a culture [namely, Confucianism] that has no place for God, Christianity was playing critical roles in education, medicine, science and society. [www.christiansinchina.com]

Protestant missionaries played an extremely important role in introducing knowledge of China to the United States and Britain on the one hand and the United States and Britain to China on the other. The book *The Small Woman* and film *Inn of the Sixth Happiness* tell the story of one such missionary, Gladys Aylward. It is recorded that the first martyrdom of a Protestant Christian Chinese occurred in 1871 in Poklo, Guangdong. Che Kam Kong [or Chea Kunkong] visited Hong Kong in 1865, and in 1866 became a Christian. He proselytised extensively over the next five years, allegedly bringing about the conversion of over a hundred people in Poklo. Town elders, concerned with this abandonment of tradition, warned Che to stop, yet he refused. He was kidnapped and tortured in 1871 in an attempt to force him to give up his beliefs. He is said to have declared, "You may kill my body but you cannot destroy my soul". He was taken outside the city gates and killed; his body was cut up and thrown into a nearby river.

Both Catholics and Protestants founded numerous educational institutions in China from the primary to the university level. Some of the most prominent Chinese universities began as religious-funded institutions. [www.ibiblio.org/chinesehistory/contents/02cul/c05s04.html#Introduction]

Theresa, a Chinese Christian says, "Today, the fastest growing Church in the world is in China. In spite of the persecution, the growth of the Chinese Church has been phenomenal." The Chinese Church has come a long way. The Lord who had first planted the Gospel on the Chinese soil through His servant missionaries, shall continue to water it as the Church around the world continues to pray.

# Back to Jerusalem Movement

As told by **John Kim** to *Fountain of Life*

Religious Jews sing,  
 "Kee Mitzion Taytzeh Torah"  
 [And the law shall go forth from Zion]  
 "Oo Davar Adonai may Yerushalayim,"  
 [And the Word of the Lord shall go forth from Jerusalem.]

~ *Book of Isaiah.*

The Chinese underground Church is a big sensation and also a mystery because there are not many hard facts that are measurable in terms of tracking with what China is doing. 'Chinese underground Church' I believe resembles closely the Church in the *Book of Acts* because the present day Chinese Church has many parallels with the early Church.

'Back to Jerusalem' movement started in 1920s in the north-west part of China when a small group of believers received a vision similar to Acts 1:8 which says, "But ye shall receive power, after that the Holy Ghost is come upon you: and ye shall be witnesses unto me both in Jerusalem, and in all Judaea, and in Samaria, and unto the uttermost part of the earth." They knew where Jerusalem, Judea and Samaria were but they did not recognise the ends of the earth. The early Church had no way to know how the 'ends of the world' looked like then. The vision of 'Back to Jerusalem' is to send missionaries to all the nations that lie between China and Jerusalem which is also called the 'Silk Road,' an ancient trade route that winds from China to the Mediterranean Sea.

Ninety five percent of the unevangelised world lives in the 10/40 window extending all the way from east Asia to the north Africa. What is interesting is, the gospel had circled westward and has come to Asia. Some of the Asian countries like Korea, Taiwan, Philippines, Singapore that received the Gospel are on the winning side. The Gospel is advancing aggressively in Indonesia an Islamic nation. India of course had the Gospel from Thomas the Apostle of Jesus Christ in the first century itself.

After China became Communist in 1949. Mao Zedong wanted to clean China of all religiosity, especially Christianity. His wife Jiang Qing announced on the radio that Christianity in China was a thing of the past and the only place one could find the evidence of Christianity was in museums. So, as an effort to clean China of Christianity, they killed, imprisoned and tortured Christians by thousands. The small group that received the vision in 1920 began to preach the Gospel and all of them were arrested and killed in prison except one, Simon Zhao whose wife too was arrested when pregnant with their first child. For several years he lived with the hope to see his wife someday, but not until 10 years when he was told that she was killed while in pregnancy. He was in jail for 45 years. He had little or no idea how rapidly China was changing outside the prison walls and how the Church was thriving. As the suffering increased, believers identified themselves with the suffering of the early Church. Chinese Church believes that Communism to China is what Roman



Cover Story



The price they are paying is costly to follow Christ. Seeds that go down and die to such an extent would not bring ordinary harvest but great and abundant fruit and we shall see that in our own generation.



John Kim



**"I have personally been in China and watched the underground Church. I have realised, each underground Church is a power house bursting and just waiting to breaking through any power of opposition. At the right time, God will showcase to the world, why He had been keeping the Chinese Church down under. Unless, a grain of wheat goes down and dies it cannot bring forth life. China has paid the cost."**



**"China today is impregnated with the passion for the perishing souls. The world would soon see an explosion of evangelism from China. The birth pangs have begun and it is the moment of the Chinese Church now. Even the gates of hell will not prevail leave alone Communism."**



persecution to the early Church was. Most Chinese Christians say that God is using Communism to purify their faith.

The Gospel started from Jerusalem and travelled westward and it is coming east, to China and other nations in the region and through the central Asia and the sub-continent of India. The passage runs through the middle-east and Africa and 'back to Jerusalem.' Ezekiel sees a vision of the Temple, in which he sees the 'glory of the Lord coming from the east like the sound of rushing wind.' The Chinese Church took this portion of the scripture believing that the glory of the Lord would sweep through the east and would come *Back to Jerusalem*.

'Back to Jerusalem' is not a Chinese movement but of the Lord with many other nations that are facing persecution along the route to Jerusalem. As these nations pray for each other and network among themselves, I believe there would be a great sweep of God's power. This is not a missions movement from one nation, rather a Kingdom movement from the Lord.

Today, God is doing something remarkable through the underground Church in China though there is intense persecution. Evangelism in China goes by word of mouth within inner circles and among relatives. My passion for China was birthed after I read the book, *The Heavenly Man*. I prayed, "Lord, I am available to you for 'Back to Jerusalem' movement, and I am willing to serve you through the Chinese Church the rest of my life." Shortly, after I prayed that prayer, someone introduced me to an underground Church leader who was in prison with the Heavenly Man who was also the mentor of the Heavenly Man.

I travel to China several times. The underground Church leaders narrate both exciting stories of God's marvels and also stories of great persecution and imprisonment of Christians. I met several women whose husbands were either imprisoned or killed. Their children, some of them orphaned now live with the stigma of their fathers in imprisonment.

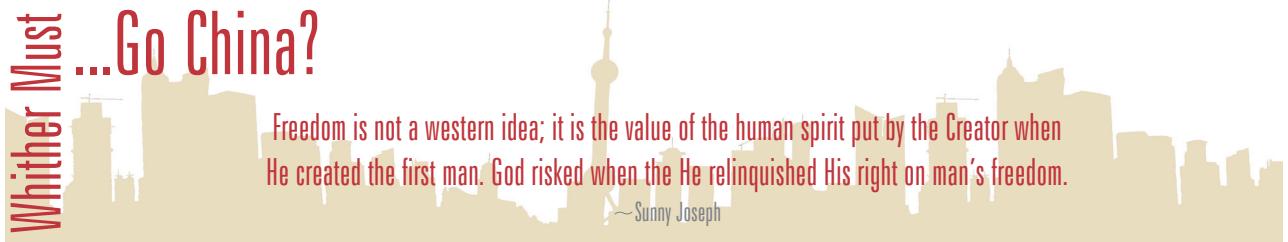
Growing up in the west, I have seen a lot of selfish Christianity where people use God instead of God using them. On the contrary, to a Chinese believer, God comes first and everything else next. The Chinese take Christian life seriously. They live and practice the presence of Jesus making their life a reflection of an intimate relationship compelled and constrained with the love of Christ.

The spirit of missions is high among the Chinese believers. They believe God is rising up an army for the gospel to grow and go out of China to places that are unevangelised, hostile to the Gospel where Christ is not preached, before touching Jerusalem.

'Back to Jerusalem' is not a loft idea from man out there in the cloud, but it is a mandate from God. People are serious and rigorous with their Christian living. There are many Chinese who undergo underground seminary studies preparing themselves for world evangelism, learning languages like Arabic, Hindi etc. Part of their preparation includes military training. For example, I saw them learning how to unlock hand cuffs, walk long distances, and stay under minimum water and resources which prepares them for a hard core missionary adventure. Today, Chinese Church is paying a high cost for their faith. Seeds that go down and die to such an extent would not bring ordinary harvest but great and abundant fruit. I believe we shall see that fruit in our own generation.

**[John Kim** passionately believes in this vision of finishing the task of world evangelisation He is an active participant in the vision of Back to Jerusalem Movement.]

# Whither Must ...Go China?



**D**etailing the role of China in world history, Theodore H White said, "The Chinese are the biggest factor for the world's disorder and we must entangle the madness of their madness..." White was a political journalist and historian. He is best known for his wartime reporting from China and *The Making of the President Series*. In *Thunder out of China*, White writes, "To expect stability in China in our generation would be childish. China must change or die." Contrary to White's perspective, China has changed phenomenally. However, the question remains, what truly builds a nation? Is it its GDP, technology, development, urbanisation or anything else?

An old Indian poet said, "Nation is not its soil, it is its people." The foundations for nation building must basically be the welfare, wellbeing and the goodwill of the people. Sans this, the nation sooner or later collapses. To begin with its change, China must primarily deal with its peasants decently, whether the peasantry will be integrated into a new Chinese capitalism, or will it form an excluded and marginalised class, or would they be turned to workers?

Second, it's corruption. Today, Chinese corruption is at its peak. It is said that bribery, kickbacks, theft, and misspending of public funds cost at least three percent of GDP. China specialist Minxin Pei in his book, *Corruption Threatens China's Future*, argues that failure to contain widespread corruption is among the most serious threats to China's future economic and political stability. China's corruption is rooted in Confucius philosophy. Corruption is at the very root of Chinese moral standards. "The spread of corruption in traditional China is often connected to the Confucian concept of *renzhi*, "government of the people" as opposed to the legalist "government of the law". True Confucians were supposed to be guided in their actions by the moral principle of justice. Thus, all relations were based solely on mutual trust and propriety... [However] this could be developed only among a minority. The famous attempt of Wang Anshi to institutionalise the monetary relations of the state, thus reducing corruption, were met with sharp criticism by the Confucian elite. [[http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Corruption\\_in\\_China](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Corruption_in_China)].

Thirdly, China's 'One Child Policy.' A nation's progress depends on how it deals with the women. Today, the cry of every woman in China is against 'One Child Policy.' Imagine the over 400 million births prevented by the Chinese government, and that over the last four decades, aborted 336

million children, performed 196 million surgical sterilizations, and inserted 403 million IUD's [intrauterine devices].

The list could go on, on how many fronts, China had to make amendments. History is clear, that the nations that honoured God, commanded unprecedented rule, power and authority. China may grow and grow without boundaries but unless the foundations are set with God, China's growth could only be phenomenal but not perpetual. China can grow greater and stronger than America, provided it follows the ways of the God.

A nation is built on the blood, sweat and the tears of its people who sacrifice willingly. On the contrary, China

Cover Story



No nation is free until its children are free. The cry of the mothers, the tears of the peasants and the prayers of the underground Church, God will not ignore...

China cannot keep its people suppressed long. Before China showcases its greatness, it must face God or His judgment.

spills the blood of its people and kills unborn in millions. China will have to pay for the curse of every mother whose child is aborted. The outright denial of justice for the violation of its people's human rights will have to come to the book and to the altar of justice. No nation is free until its children are free. The cry of the mothers, the tears of the peasants and the prayers of the underground Church, God will not ignore. All people are born free but those born in China are in chains. How true the words of Charles Colson, "...all of our freedoms are not worth the paper they are written on. If government can dictate what we may or may not believe, or how we may or may not live out our beliefs, then we are no longer a free people."

China cannot keep its people suppressed long. Once the spark for freedom is ignited, the brushfire would grow like a wild fire, and a greater uprising than that of 1989 T-Square would rise, that would make or break China's greatness. Before China showcases its greatness to the world, it must face God or His judgment.

face 'a face

# CHINA'S MOST WANTED



Speaks to Fountain of Life

**China, April 15, 1989:** A day after former Communist Party General Secretary Hu Yaobang's death, a small-scale demonstration commemorated him and demanded that the government reassess his legacy. A week later, the day before Hu's funeral, some 100,000 students marched on Tiananmen Square, leading to the T-Square protests of 1989. The days passed for the protesters which eventually had nearly 70,000 to 80,000 students daily who boycotted classes from 48 colleges and universities. What started as a peace march to the T-Square on April 27, 1989, turned into a hunger strike from May 4, till it was rudely stopped on June 4, 1989, when the Chinese government ordered its Red Army to take to martial law. Thousands of students were killed and injured as the army took to ruthless attack on the students. The students, who vowed not to use weapons, fell to the army tankers that rolled over them. Many fled and but many died too.

Perhaps I take leave, never to come back again,  
If it were so, would you forgive me?  
Would you understand?

Perhaps I would fall down, never to open my eyes again,  
If it were so, please don't grieve,  
For where you look at our national flag,  
You will see it's glories have been written by my blood.

~ Deng Xiaoping,

The world only knows the names of Gandhi, Martin Luther King Jr., William Wallace and such martyrs, who laid their lives for their countries, but history though cannot speak, had hidden in her bosom, several of her untold martyrs who both died and are still living; some hidden, some imprisoned and some free, yet not without nursing their wounds...a few such are from the Chinese soil...one such, is the one time 'Most Wanted...' CHAI LING.

One among the top cream of the 'T-Square Massacre' in 1989 was a young 23 year old student, Chai Ling. She was the Commander-in-Chief of the 'Defend Tiananmen Square Head Quarters.' Chai Ling was one fierce human weapon that stirred the hearts of a whole generation of students along with her student comrades. Facing death in the eye of the storm, she led a bold and one of the most remarkable and stubborn student protests in the history of China. The 'protests' stand unrivalled even today against any other event, not just in China but anywhere in the world.

Short in stature, but well composed in head and heart, Chai Ling fought like the Joan of Arc of old. Armed with a deep conviction that she would lay her life for the freedom of her nation, she was prepared to let her blood spill; she walked dauntless and led a red path of blood to the glory of her nation and the honour of her people. In a nut-shell, she paved a pathway for modern day martyrdom.



# The Saga of a Journey ...to Freedom ✈

The girl, whose voice roared over T-Square from the microphones, spoke in her candid child-like voice to Sunny Joseph, Chief Editor, *Fountain of Life*, in her office in Boston.



face 'a face

## FOL: Your immediate predicament when your name flashed among the 'Most Wanted' in China?

**Chai Ling:** Following the June 4, 1989 attack, I fled Beijing with my husband Feng; now fugitives in my own country. On June 13, we were watching TV news while taking dinner in our hideout near the South China Sea. Our hosts and their neighbours took us to be students on a summer vacation. There was this telecast on the T-Square incident after which the list of the most wanted appeared. Among the names that first appeared was Feng's. It shook us from our heads to our toes. Then, a gruesome footage followed. We saw one of our close comrades Xiong Yan being led by the police with his arms twisted to his back. They were pushing him mercilessly although he was wearing a graceful smile. The sight drained my blood. The background music added to the terror of the telecast as the music grew louder and louder heralding something more gruesome. Even as our heart beat was racing, we tried to act cool and showed no signs of panic. Next came up my picture and name. My blood curdled and my heart sank. My hosts where we were staying were very kind, though they did not know that we were on the run. We narrated our story and they sympathised with us. That night they locked us in a room for safety sake. I knew I was prepared to die during the 'protests,' but now, I did not want to die for the wrong reason. I felt like a criminal even though I was not. I knew for the first time, I was not free and no place in my own country was safe. While death seemed near, I was hoping against hope for freedom.

## FOL: How did you make it to freedom?

**Chai Ling:** From June 4, 1989 when I last left Beijing till I came to Hong Kong almost nearly one year, I was on the run changing my hide-outs, changing name, changing costume, and even getting a cosmetic make over on my face and carrying a fake identity card. My posters were everywhere and my face frequently flashed in the TVs. The final lag of my fugitive phase was four hours and five nights sail in a cargo boat that plied between Mainland China and Hong Kong. The place in the fish boat was dingy and more suitable for rats. We were trashed in the down part of the boat with the dead fish that was being transported to Hong Kong. Our protectors cautioned that it would be a 'weng' a jar like place in the bottom of the boat with pitch darkness and very hot and humid. However, at the end of the journey was freedom. It was not a good experience, but the end of the journey was. My escape from China to Hong Kong and from Hong Kong to France and finally to the US, was painful but the adventure was worth it.

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"I believe God is using the Communist persecution to purify the Church. God also used the T-Square massacre to pull down the idols that we had about our political system. We all believed Communism was true but the real nature of Communism

came up during the massacre..."

For the first time, most of us began to seek for answers beyond communism."



**FOL: Why did you make a decision for Christ in the US, that which you did not make in China?**

**Chai Ling:** In China, we were not supposed to believe in God. During the counter revolution time, Christians were severely prosecuted. Even if a copy of the Bible was found, the person was put to death or sent to life time imprisonment. When I knew I was wanted by the Chinese regime, my only aim was safety and escape to freedom. In my fugitive months before my flight to freedom, I was helped by thousands of Buddhists. I really appreciated their heroic efforts for my escape. While in my several hide-outs, I began to practice Buddhist meditation and I came to believe I was a Buddhist.

Even after coming to the US, I did not find God until 20 years. I did go to Churches. However, the prayers and the service all seemed ritualistic. There was no passion, no enthusiasm and no life; preaching was pale. I thought my faith was better than theirs and so I did not want to trade my faith.

On the 20<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the T-Square massacre, I attended a prayer meeting with my former colleagues from China, who also were listed among the 'most wanted' in China. But, these friends have become Christians already and have been praying for me. In the next six months, the Lord miraculously won my heart. The book *The Heavenly Man* was another source of inspiration that drew me closer to Christ.

**FOL: What was your inspiration behind the movement All Girls Allowed?**

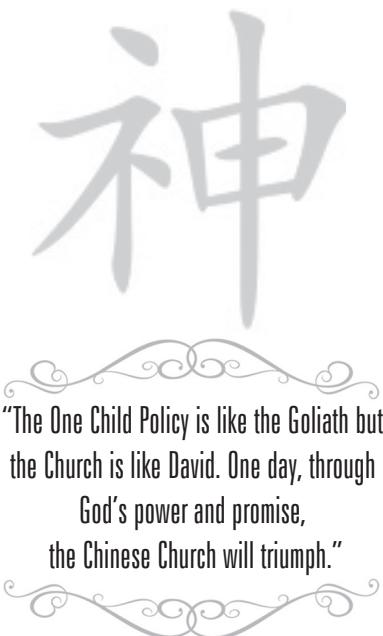
**Chai Ling:** We believe that life comes from God and no one has the right to take it. Our commitment is to restore life its value and dignity to girls and mothers. Each time I hear about the suicide of a young mother, I remember my mother who is no more. She was a beautiful young doctor, a loving wife and a caring mother. My heart goes out for young mothers and girls when I hear gory stories from China. I believe God gave me grace and calling, to be part of this movement. I feel the inspiration is from my mother. 'All Girls Allowed' is the manifestation of God's love born out of pain and healing.

**FOL: What have you to say about the underground Church in China?**

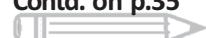
**Chai Ling:** The underground Church in China is an awesome miracle of God. Studying from the history of Christianity in China, we learn there were many missionaries who came to sow the seeds of the Gospel on the dark soil of China and many have become martyrs for God especially from 1900 till the 1949 before the Communist party came to power. I believe God is using the Communist persecution to purify the Church. God also used the T-Square massacre to pull down the idols that we had about our political system. We all believed Communism was true but the real nature of Communism showed up during the 1989 massacre only to prove the false side of Communism. It destroyed many of the idols we had built upon our government and its ideology. For the first time, most of us began to seek for answers beyond Communism.

**FOL: What do you feel is your Christian commitment to the people of China?**

**Chai Ling:** All Girls Allowed is an effort to encourage and inspire the Church to take God's heart for life. The One Child Policy is like the Goliath but the Church is like David. One day, through God's power and promise, the Chinese Church will triumph. We want to stand with the Church and give our solidarity. In China, 2/3 of the families suffer from domestic violence, including the Churches. God says that husbands must love their wives as Christ loved the Church which simply means husbands must love their wives and present her pure and blameless before God.



Contd. on p.35



Remembering Orissa

5 Years  
After



## Kandhamal Carnage: Aftermath



[www.rediff.com](http://www.rediff.com)



FoL file photo

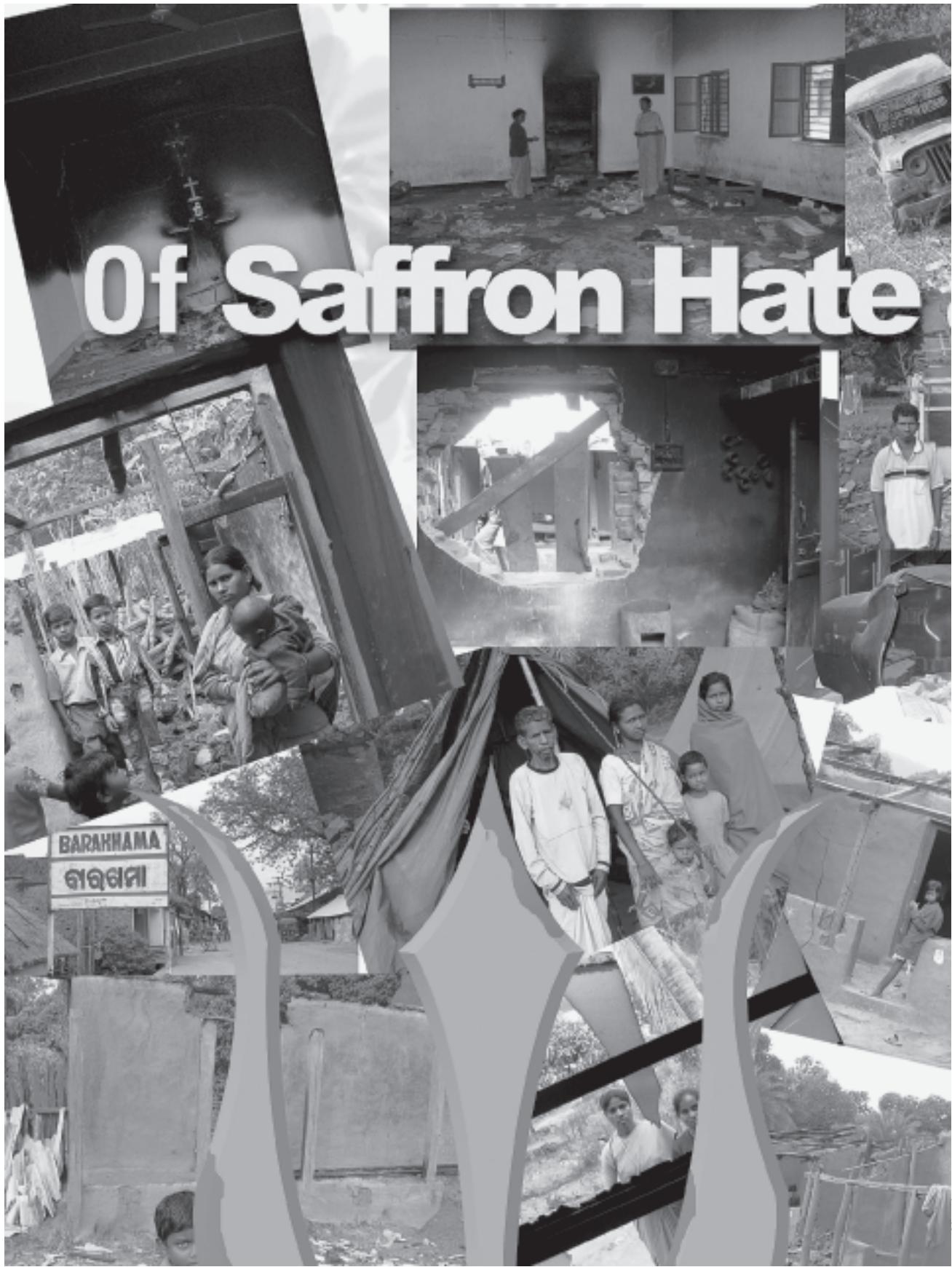
The Unseen The Unheard

by Ram Puniyani

This August 25, 2013, it will be five years, since the biggest anti-Christian violence, biggest communal violence in the Adivasi [natives] area, will complete five years. What has been the plight of the victims of the violence after this ghastly tragedy? What is the state of justice to the victims?

Kandhamal violence began in 2008, after the trailer of the same was seen a year earlier in 2007. The pretext was the murder of Swami Laxmananand, Lakkhanand, who was working in the area for the last four decades. He was part of the RSS combine, VHP-Vanvasi Kalyan Ashram and was involved in the programs like *Ghar Vapasi*, a forcible conversion of Adivasis to Hinduism. RSS combine asserts that Adivasis were originally Hindus who fled to forests to avoid being converted to Islam in particular. This is a political construct and has nothing to do with the social history. [Adivas natives or tribals are animists not Hindus] The credit of the murder of Swami was owned by the Maoists, who said that this act was done to stop his activities related to spreading hatred in the area. Immediately after the murder, Pravin Togadia of VHP took out a procession with the body of Swami through a long circuitous route spanning 270 km. It was on this route that anti-Christian violence and destruction of Churches and damage to property of Christian community took place. It is reminiscent of the Gujarat pattern, where the bodies of Godhra tragedy were taken in a procession to Ahmadabad by the functionaries of VHP-BJP., and the violence followed.

# Of Saffron Hate



Fol file photo

We are not afraid of death,  
we are frightened by life...

~Kandhamal kids

FoL file photo



The victims of Kandhamal were poor Christians, most of who were dalits and living below the poverty line. Nearly three hundred Churches were destroyed and four hundred Christians were done to death. During this time, thousands had to leave the area and were forced to live in the poorly equipped refugee settlements. This violence was targeted against the minority Christian community. This violated the fundamental right to life, liberty and equality guaranteed by the Indian Constitution which was affirmed by many international covenants. The pattern of violence shows that the attacks were targeted widespread in the district of Kandhamal. Their execution was done with meticulous planning and preparation. The violence was preceded by various activities and the planning meetings were held by the perpetrators prior to the violence. Apart from this meticulous planning the financial and other forms of assistance were secured months prior to the violence. The violence meets the criteria of 'Crimes against Humanity' as defined in international law. The blatant brutality of the violence makes it fall within the definition of 'torture' under international laws.

The winter following the carnage was very intense and the facilities to combat the nature's fury were far from adequate. The relief came much later but not adequately from the government sources. The Church tried to step in as a stop gap measure but the government blocked this humanitarian relief. On the intervention of the court, government was forced to permit the Church to offer the aid to the victims. This also partly reminds us of Gujarat. Here too, the State washed its hands off soon enough and when the religious organizations tried to fill the gap!

The state of justice delivery system as such is abysmal. The communalised state apparatus blocks the justice at various levels. The story of this obstacle begins from the registration of cases, then to investigation and then to the court procedures, the role of public prosecutors and the willpower of the State. The whole chain shows that justice is hard to get by especially the way our democracy is being eroded by the communal ideology under various garbs. At this stage the National Human Rights Commission, Human Rights Law Network came forward and brought out good reports showing us the mirror of the prevalent injustice in Kandhamal. A People's Tribunal was also set up under the Chairmanship of retired Justice AP Shah. Most of these reports indicted the communal forces for their aggressive stance and held the State Government responsible for various acts of omission and commission. Unlike in Gujarat, the BJP, which was part of ruling coalition, was dumped by Biju Janata Dal after which Naveen Patnaik, the Chief Minister could frankly speak about the role of BJP and company in their involvement in instigating the violence against Christians. The role of Hindutva organisations in the carnage was officially acknowledged by the Chief Minister. In response to a question posed in the Legislative Assembly, the chief minister of Orissa, Naveen Patnaik, admitted, on the basis of the State's investigation, "members of the RSS, VHP and Bajrang Dal" were involved in the violence. As per the Chief Minister, police arrested 85 people from the RSS, 321

Chief Minister of Orissa, Naveen Patnaik, admitted, on the basis of the State's investigation, "members of the RSS, VHP and Bajrang Dal" were involved in the violence.

As per the Chief Minister, police arrested 85 people from the RSS, 321 members of the VHP and 118 Bajrang Dal members in the attacks. He said that only 27 members from these groups were still in jail.



We are not afraid of death,  
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~Kandhmal kids

members of the VHP and 118 Bajrang Dal members in the attacks. He said that only 27 members from these groups were still in jail.

Even till date the work of rehabilitation and justice to the victims is far from adequate. Nationally there are so many pressing issues of violations of the rights of minorities that Kandhmal issue has not been so much brought into focus by the human rights groups, which is a bit unfortunate. Despite other pressing demands on the time of social groups, one must appreciate the dogged and determined work of some of the activists who are pursuing the struggle for dignity and rights of the victims of Kandhmal violence.

John Dayal, President of All India Catholic Union and member of National Integration Council points out, "The Chief Minister Patnaik appointed two judicial commissions...the commonality between the judges of these commissions is the haste in which they have expressed their high regard for the late VHP leader, Swami Laxmananand and their belief that the violence is not religiously motivated but a conflict over land issues between the Tribal Kondhs, mostly Hindu, and the Dalit Panos, many of whom have converted to Christianity, and who are demanding Scheduled Caste status." Like most of the commissions of inquiry these commissions are also working at a snail's pace to prove once more that a delayed report usually becomes useless as far as delivery of justice is concerned. The Christian community was so disgusted with the attitude of the commissions that initially they boycotted them but later seeing no other platform to express their pain and anguish have decided to be part of the same.

Today, five years down the line, the process of rehabilitation is far from satisfactory, a small number is yet to get the compensation. The compensation received is too inadequate to rebuild the life afresh. As far as justice is concerned while the inquiry commission reports are too slow, the fast track courts which were set up have been suspended. The proceedings of the cases are going on in an atmosphere where the guilty are openly threatening the witnesses, and many of them are reluctant to give evidence out of fear of the accused, who are on bail despite several serious charges against them. Quite like Gujarat, where many a witness turned hostile! In this scenario the State is backing off from rebuilding the Churches destroyed during the carnage. The plea being offered is how a secular State can spend money on places of religious worship. Again quite like Gujarat! When state is unable to protect a place of worship, why should it not come forward to re-build it?

Kandhmal is yet another reflection of the impact of communal forces within our system, the difficulty in rehabilitation for them and the lack of adequate justice for riot victims. This is what is the major phenomenon eroding our democratic plural ethos. More and urgent efforts need to be put in for these hapless victims of the carnage.

**[Ram Puniyani,** is a Writer activist. He can be contacted at ram.puniyani@gmail.com]

**Contd. from p.15**



into existence after World War II, counseled with him. His influence had no small share in establishing religious freedom in the new constitution of India.

In recognition of his significant contribution he was nominated for the Nobel Peace Prize for his reconciliation work in Asia, Africa, and between Japan and the United States.

The three Round Table Conferences of 1930–32 were a series of conferences organised by the British Government to discuss constitutional reforms in India. Stanley was the person who introduced the idea of 'Round Table Conference.' He inaugurated 'round table conferences' at which Christians and non-Christians sat down as equals to share their testimonies as to how their religious experiences enabled them to live better. In fact, much before the three Round Table Conferences, held between 1930 and 32, Dr. Jones wrote a book called *Christ at the Round Table* in 1928. Thirty years before the United Nations came into being [in 1945] he proposed a Round Table of Nations. [<http://vaxxine.com/eves/jones.htm>]

His book, *Christ of the India Road*, which sold in millions, became a text book in many countries at pre-university level in government colleges and was quoted in parliaments, of course, the communists burnt it too.

In 1950 Dr. Stanley Jones provided funds for India's first Christian psychiatric center and clinic, the now noted Nur Manzil Psychiatric Center and Medical Unit at Lucknow, India. The staff includes specialists from India, Asia, Africa, Europe, and America who had given up lucrative practices to serve in this Christian institution which serves thousands of patients.

Interestingly the first four laureates of the Gandhi Peace Award include apart from Eleanor Roosevelt the president of America, the others were Christian ministers including a Jewish Rabbi, the sixth recipient of the Gandhi Peace Award being Rev. E. Stanley Jones

To the Christians of India, Jones said this about sharing their faith: "Don't talk about it. The rose doesn't have to propagate its perfume. It just gives it forth and people are drawn to it. Don't talk about it. Live it. And people will come to see the source of your power."

It was to Dr. Jones that Mahatma Gandhi said these words, : "I do not reject your Christ. I love your Christ. It is just that so many of you Christians are so unlike your Christ." When Dr. Jones asked Gandhi, "How can we make Christianity naturalised in India so that it shall no longer be a foreign thing identified with a foreign people and a foreign government, but a part of the national life of India and contributing its power to India's upliftment?"

Gandhi responded with great clarity, "I would suggest first of all that all of you Christians, missionaries and all begin to live more like Jesus Christ. Second, practice your religion without adulterating or toning it down. Third emphasise love and make it your working force, for love is central in Christianity. Fourth, study the non-Christian religions more sympathetically to find the good that is in them, so that you might have a more sympathetic approach to the people."

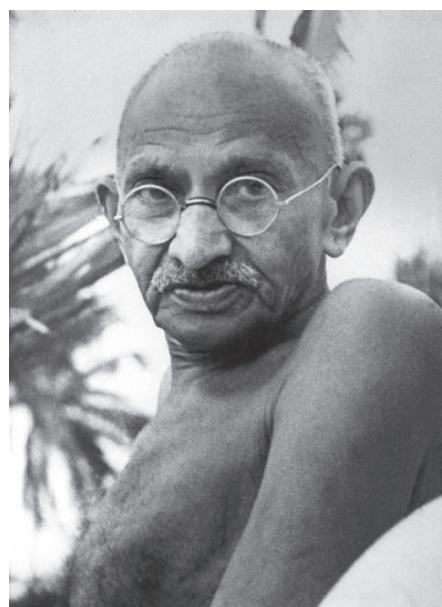
Dr. Jones knowing fully that all Christians are not perfect and Christianity does not always truly reflect Christ said, "The Indian is making an amazing discovery, namely that Christianity and Jesus are not the same, that they may have Jesus without the system that has been built up around Him in the West."



Nur Manzil Psychiatric Center and Medical Unit at Lucknow

<https://www.google.co.in>

"I do not reject your Christ.  
I love your Christ.  
It is just that so many  
of you Christians are so  
unlike your Christ."



**Family Time**

# Taking the Full Blast of the Roar

By **Elizabeth Daghfal**

**...And There Was Darkness over the Whole Land...**

Luke 23:44 [ESV]

"Like a roaring lion, prowling around, seeking someone to devour."

[1 Pet. 5:8]

Can you relate? Seems like everywhere we turn, globally, locally, even in our own backyard—the growl echoes, surrounding us with darkness and devastation like a smothering blanket of fog. Wars and rumors of wars, terrorists, rapes, men shooting men, men shooting kids,...

Then there's the purr for pleasure: Live for games. Live for sex. Live for self. Is there any doubt that 2 Tim. 4:3 is in play? *"For the time is coming when people will not endure sound teaching, but, having itching ears, they will accumulate for themselves teachers to suit their own passions,"* where nothing is wrong except labeling something as wrong.

And in this climate, we try to raise our families. To shine as lights in the midst of a crooked and twisted generation. Holding fast to the word of life, so that in the day of Christ we may be proud that we did not labor in vain. (Phil. 2:15-6)

My family has walked this path in the past few months. It started with a call for my husband to step up as a church elder. We knew without a doubt it was a call from the Lord, and we gladly responded. But the very next day began an intense period of spiritual warfare. Day after day, we were attacked: my time, my job, my reputation, abilities, finances, security, safety, kids... Each one threatened, seemingly "out of the blue." And we were left reeling as to what would next be hit, all the while trying to understand how to respond rightly. Before our kids, before our neighbors, before each other. Before God.

In each, I clung to His Word. My stronghold? God is good and He is Sovereign. *"Give thanks to the Lord, for He is good, for His steadfast love endures forever!"* (Did you know that's repeated in nine different verses, spread over four books, and eight chapters?!) I clung like Job. Like Joseph. I wanted to be a witness for Him, a testimony to His faithfulness. And He was faithful. In each event, He showed His hand; showed His hedge. Of control. Of protection. He left no doubt that I was His child and, therefore, in the palm of His hand.

But it was hard! In the last of the major events, one daughter was robbed; two others were in a head-on collision that could easily have killed them both. And I have to say, I crumbled. During a morning church service, I bawled, cowering in the roar. Feeling like Peter. Like I had been sifted (Lk 22:31) and found wanting. Like I had failed.

I stood, trying to sing through my tears, but in my heart, crying out, "Lord, if anything else happens, I don't think I can hold on." The soft reply? "That's okay. You weren't holding on anyway. I've been holding you." And I was reminded. It was for this He came. For this, He died. Because I could not do it. I could not stand up to that lion. But He could. And He did.

That day on the cross, He took the consequences of all my weaknesses, taking the full blast of that roar.

The adversary is forever trying to mimic God,  
seeking power, seeking control.  
But he is only "like a roaring lion."  
Christ is the true Lion.  
The majestic King.



Revelation 5: "And between the throne and the four living creatures and among the elders, I saw a Lamb standing, as though it had been slain." (v.6) Of Him, "they sang a new song, saying, 'for You were slain, and by Your blood You ransomed people for God from every tribe and language and people and nation.'" (v.9) "And one of the elders said to me, 'Weep no more; behold, the Lion of the tribe of Judah, the Root of David, has conquered.'" (v.5)

The adversary is forever trying to mimic God, seeking power, seeking control. But he is only "like a roaring lion." Christ is the true Lion. The majestic King. Who set it all aside to become a lamb for us; He Himself, our perfect sacrifice. Then, in His sovereignty, He defeated the usurper. Once and for all.

My tears changed from fear to gratitude. The darkness to light.

I do not know what tomorrow holds, but I know Who holds my future!

So, "to Him who" holds me and "sits on the throne and to the Lamb be blessing and honor and glory and might forever and ever!"

"And the four living creatures said, 'Amen!' and the elders fell down and worshiped." (v.13-14)



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is a freelance writer and  
columnist in  
Kenosha, Wisconsin  
where she lives with her  
husband David and  
five children.



Be the first to the field and the  
last to the couch.

~Chinese Proverb

Let him that would move the  
world first move himself.

~Socrates

A hero is born among a hundred,  
a wise man is found among a  
thousand, but an accomplished  
one might not be found even  
among a hundred thousand men.

~Plato

Good habits formed at youth  
make all the difference.

~Aristotle

You don't lose the game;  
you just run out of time.

~Vince Lombardi

When a defining moment comes  
along, you can do one of two  
things. Define the moment,  
or let the moment define you.

~Tin Cup

Complain to one  
who can help you.

~Yugoslav Proverb

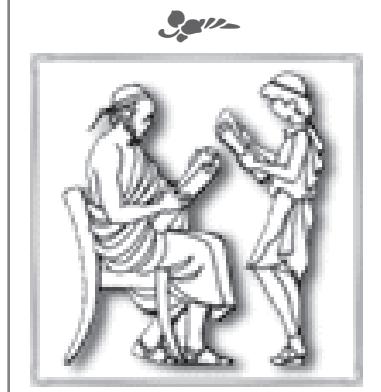
Change before you have to.

~ Jack Welch

If it is important enough to you,  
you will find a way.

If not, you will find an excuse.

~Anon



# Giving Permission

by Cecil Murphrey



I can think of nothing more difficult than giving someone permission to die. You may have to do that.” Those words open a chapter in my gift book *Saying Goodbye: Facing the Loss of a Loved One*.

I'd helped others give permission to their loved one. Now it was my turn. Last month, as I stood at Shirley's bedside, I repeatedly told my wife of 58 years it was all right for her to die.

As I kissed her brow and whispered those words, I was aware of two strong emotions. The *second* emotion was relief that she would be free from pain. For several weeks, I'd asked my friends to pray that she would have no more pain because her medications weren't strong enough.

My *first* emotion was self-focused: I didn't want to release the woman with whom I had spent three-fourths of my life. Despite the medical information that she would never recover, I still held on. Afterward (and even today), I don't condemn myself for not wanting to let go. I was hurting and focused on my loss.

As I reflect on my inner workings, I realize that letting go is rarely easy—and it doesn't have to be a drastic situation like mine. Letting go forces us to admit that

we have little control in this life—especially over the important things. To surrender to the inevitable means we'll be different; our lives will change. Yet some primitive part cries out, “I want it to be the way it used to be,” even though that isn't possible.

In trying to be kind to myself, I accepted my first emotion. “It's all right to be selfish. That's part of taking care of myself,” I said.

Shirley had lain in ICU for two days and I could have insisted on removing the life-support system the first day, but I wasn't ready. As I drove home from the hospital the second day, I was able to say to God, “I know Shirley is ready to go, and I'm ready to release her.”

On the morning of the third day, I insisted. They complied and moved her to the hospice ward of the hospital. Eight hours later, Shirley died.

When the first person asked me how I was feeling, two simple statements came spontaneously to my lips: “The pain is deep; the peace is deeper.”

As I spoke the words, I knew they were true.



Veteran author **Cecil Murphrey's** more than 135 books, including the *New York Times* bestseller *90 Minutes in Heaven* (with Don Piper), have sold in the millions and brought hope and encouragement to countless people around the world. ([www.cecilmurphrey.com](http://www.cecilmurphrey.com))



Contd. from p.26

**FOL: Do you think you grew more radical since you left China?**

**Chai Ling:** I am not a radical, but the way I had to respond to events and situations made me one. I believe Jesus' love to us is radical. The love of Christ in its simplest form, when put to practice becomes radical. In a way, a true follower of Christ will look to the world a radical. In that sense, you may call me one.

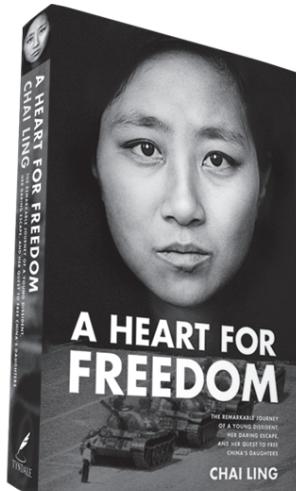
**FOL: You wrote in your book, "While the rest of the world wants to forget, I choose to not forget T-Square massacre." What is it that you choose to cherish from T-Square?**

**Chai Ling:** I treasure the part of the movement where the young people wanted to take on a regime; that sense of purity in their spirit. The world wants to forget the tragedy that the Chinese government had caused. Today, there are many who are still in jail and are suffering with no justice and no compensation to their families. There is so much healing that must take place and God will do this. This is a promise but they must repent and come to Christ. I personally have to forgive the leaders who ordered the massacre which I do this daily. Only the love of Christ enables me to do this.

**FOL: What is your philosophy in life...had it been any different when you were in China now that you are in the US and a Christian?**

**Chai Ling:** My philosophy was 'to just follow your heart.' I knew back at the T-Square, I was asking, 'God where are you?' For a girl of 23 years to pull such a massive movement that involved history, military and the entire Chinese government, it meant life and death to me. It was an overwhelming situation. Every time I face an overwhelming situation, I become silent and listen to my heart. I find peace, clarity, determination and resolution. That had become my guiding spirit in my life. Now that I have become a Christian, it has become much easier for me. I now stop to listen to Jesus and He always gave the best direction. My prayer is that I might dwell in the house of the Lord all the days of my life to behold His beauty and inquire in His temple.

Finally, Sunny, I know our countries; India and China share a common problem on the gender issue. Our prayer is that we will soon see God triumph over this issue.

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# Judaic Connection

...digging deep for Hebrew Roots



## The Little Voice ...called GUILT...our Lifeline

Rabbi Naftali Reich

Joyous enthusiasm is the child of inspiration. It is the emotional elixir that galvanizes, energizes, and electrifies our lives. It empowers us to move mountains and make impossible dreams come true. Without joy, we plod mechanically toward our goals, seeking relief rather than fulfillment, but with joy we soar toward glittering mountaintops.

Clearly then, joy is a critical factor in our service of the Creator. It infuses every observance, every prayer, every moment of study with a divine energy that brings us that much closer to our Father in Heaven. One of the Chassidic masters once said, "Joy is not a commandment, but no commandment can accomplish what joy can."

But what if a person cannot achieve joy? What if a person is overwhelmed by the vicissitudes of life and is unable to free his spirit and let it soar? Surely, he does not deserve to be condemned and chastised for this failure. Surely, he should continue to serve the Creator to the best of his ability even if his efforts are less than inspired.

The Torah describes the terrible consequences of the disloyalty of the Jewish people to their Creator. How does the Torah characterize this disloyalty? "Because you did not serve Hashem your Lord with joy." Some commentators resolve this perplexing problem homiletically. They read the verse as, "Because you did not serve Hashem your Lord **with joy**." It is not the absence of joy which is deserving of punishment but rather the presence of **inappropriate joy**. It is one thing to fall short in the service of Hashem, to fall victim to the weakness of the flesh. But it is quite another to revel in sinfulness, to delight in the saccharine juices of forbidden fruit. This is an unconscionable affront to the Creator and it is deserving of the most severe punishment.

Modern psychology has made the eradication of guilt one of its primary objectives. But in the Torah's perspective, guilt is a very valuable trait, a true blessing. The insistent voice of our conscience reminds us who we are and where our responsibilities lie. Whenever we step over the line, this same little voice berates and chastises us, and more often than not,

it robs us of the pleasures of sin. No matter how far we stray, guilt is our lifeline to Hashem.

Should we, however, find unmitigated joy in a sinful life, it would be a clear sign that the inner voice of conscience had been quashed, that our innate guilt had been expunged from our hearts, that our connection to Hashem had been severed, Heaven forbid.

A king who was angry with his son for neglecting his princely duties decided to discipline him by banishing him incognito to a remote village. When the prince arrived in the village of his banishment, he was mortified. The place was a collection of rude huts without the most basic comforts and refinements of polite society. There were no books or works of art for miles around. The people were vulgar and ignorant. The stench in the streets was overpowering. A year passed, and the king began to reconsider his decree of banishment against the young prince. But first he sent spies to see how the prince was faring.

The spies arrived in the village, but it was a while before they located the prince sitting among a group of peasants in a barnyard. The once handsome and elegant young prince was filthy and dressed in vermin-infested rags. He was stuffing his face with half raw meat, the red juices running down his chin. Every few minutes, he would roar with laughter at one or another of the coarse peasant stories that were being bandied about. The spies immediately returned to the palace to report on what they had seen.

When the king heard their report, he wept. "If my son is happy among the peasants, he will never be a prince."

In our own lives, we know all too well how difficult it is to avoid occasional missteps and lapses. After all, we are only human. But let us never forget who we are and what is expected of us. If we listen to the little voice of our conscience, if we embrace our guilt and use it as a lifeline to bring us back to Hashem, we will always remain royal princes and princesses and the doors to the palace will always be open to us.

[Source: <http://torah.org/learning/legacy/5769/kisavo.html> ]

# Radical Brotherhood

...analogy in Mt. Hermon

## Psalms 133

**H**ave you felt why the ‘unity of the brethren’ in the Bible was compared to the ointment that ran down from Aaron’s head down to his beard and to the tip of his garments? I felt it too. Not until I learnt in my study the beauty of the Lord’s picture of the ‘unity of His children’ did I understand this analogy.

When the precious ointment [*shehmen* in Hebrew translated to be a rich liquid of olive] is poured on the High Priest’s head, it runs down from his face and down through his beard. The collected oil drips from the tip of Aaron’s beard and runs through the breast plate on Aaron’s chest. The breast plate is a golden plate embedded with the 12 stones with three in each of the four rows. The 12 stones are sardius, topaz, carbuncle, emerald, sapphire, diamond, ligure, agate, amethyst, beryl, onyx, and jasper. The 12 stones represent the 12 tribes of Israel. The chemical reaction that occurs between the oil and the stones along with the metal of gold in the background is the beauty of the description here. When the oil comes in contact with the precious stones and the golden plate, a chemical reaction occurs due to which all the 12 stones appear to be as one piece in one colour, i.e., white. The colours of the stones do not actually change. They change neither in names nor in their value. Yet, they all seem to be in one colour; they only appear to be of one colour to the beholding world. A perfect picture as to ‘how good and how pleasant it is for brethren to dwell together in unity.’ [Psalms 133:1]

Mount Hermon for the most part in a year is snowy hence it is also called the ‘snowy mountain.’ The reason why it is compared to ‘the dew of Hermon’ [Psalms 133:3] is the same reason that all the 12 stones look white or misty white like the dew. This is the unity Bible talks about that when the Holy Spirit [oil] runs down from the head of Jesus [High Priest] makes the Church of Jesus Christ look as ‘one’ to the world.

Interestingly, the result of such a unity is ‘blessing’ [v.3] which in Hebrew is *B'rakaw* meaning prosperity, ‘for there the LORD commanded the blessing, *even* life for evermore. [v.3]

The radical brotherhood commanded by the Lord for the Church is this, that when the Holy Spirit covers the Church, the transformed Church thrives, triumphs and traverses through untold opposition with life and blessing forevermore.

The call of the Church is unity first, a radical unity and missions next. When the former is neglected, the later is sacrificed.

## Readings by the Lamp Side



Psalms 133

1. Behold, how good and how pleasant *it is* for brethren to dwell together in unity!
2. *It is* like the precious ointment upon the head, that ran down upon the beard, *even* Aaron’s beard: that went down to the skirts of his garments;
3. As the dew of Hermon, *and as the dew* that descended upon the mountains of Zion: for there the LORD commanded the blessing, *even* life for evermore.

## A Slice of Infinity

Dr. Ravi Zacharias



The difficult question of pain forms a thorny question on which volumes have been written. Why do the innocent suffer? Why do we face all these diseases? Why the suffering of millions because of natural disasters or the tyranny of demagogues? I do not pretend to have all the answers, but one thing I know: pain is a universal fact of life. Likewise, there are moral dimensions in the way we phrase our questions concerning pain, and every religion explicitly or implicitly attempts to explain pain.

But why do we even ask these questions about suffering within the context of morality? Why have we blended the fact of physical pain with the demand for a moral explanation? Who decided that pain is immoral? Indeed, almost every atheist or skeptic you read names this as the main reason for his or her denial of God's existence.

In the Judeo-Christian framework, pain is connected to the reality of evil and to the choices made by humanity at the beginning of time. The problem of pain and the problem of evil are inextricably bound. So when we assume evil, we assume good. When we assume good, we assume a moral law. And when we assume a moral law, we assume a moral law-giver.

You may ask, Why does assuming a moral law necessitate a moral lawgiver? Because every time the question of evil is raised, it is either by a person or about a person—and that implicitly assumes that the question is a worthy one. But it is a worthy question only if people have intrinsic worth, and the only reason people have intrinsic worth is that they are the creations of One who is of ultimate worth. That person is God. So the question self-destructs for the naturalist or the pantheist. The question of the morality of evil or pain is valid only for a theist.

And only in Christian theism is love preexistent within the Trinity, which means that love precedes human life and becomes the absolute value for us. This absolute is ultimately found only in God, and in knowing and loving God we work our way through the struggles of pain, knowing of its ultimate connection to evil and its ultimate destruction by the One who is all-good and all-loving; who in fact has given us the very



## Into God's Arms



basis for the words good and love both in concept and in language.

Not far from my home lives a young woman who was born with a very rare disease called CIPA, congenital insensitivity to pain with anhidrosis. Imagine having a body that looks normal and acts normally, except for one thing: You cannot feel physical pain. That sounds as if it would be a blessing. But the reason it's a problem is that she lives under the constant threat of injuring herself without knowing it. If she steps on a rusty nail that could infect her bloodstream, she wouldn't even realize it by sensation. If she placed her hand on a burning stove, she would not know she had just burned her hand except by looking at it. She needs constant vigilance because she could sustain an injury that could take her life or cause serious debilitation. When her family was interviewed some years ago, the line I most remember is the closing statement by her mother. She said, "I pray every night for my daughter, that God would give her a sense of pain."

If that statement were read in a vacuum, we would wonder what sort of mother she is. But because more than anyone else she understands the risks of this strange disease, there is no greater prayer she can pray than that her daughter feel pain and be able to recognize what it portends.

I ask you this simple question: If, in our finitude, we can appreciate the value of pain in even one single life, is it that difficult to grant the possibility that an infinite God can use pain to point us to a greater malady? We see through a glass darkly because all we want is to be comfortable. We cannot understand the great plan of an all-knowing God who brings us near through the value of pain—or of disappointment with pleasure.

And yet the very thing that enslaves and traps us becomes the indicator of our need for God and the means to draw us to the recognition of our own finitude and to the rescuing grace of God. The pain of pain clasps the lifesaving hand of God and draws us into God's arms. [Used with permission © 2008 Ravi Zacharias International Ministries. All Rights Reserved.]

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sans EXTREMITY is no  
Love

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is not Careful  
Love  
is not Clever  
Love  
is not Calculative...

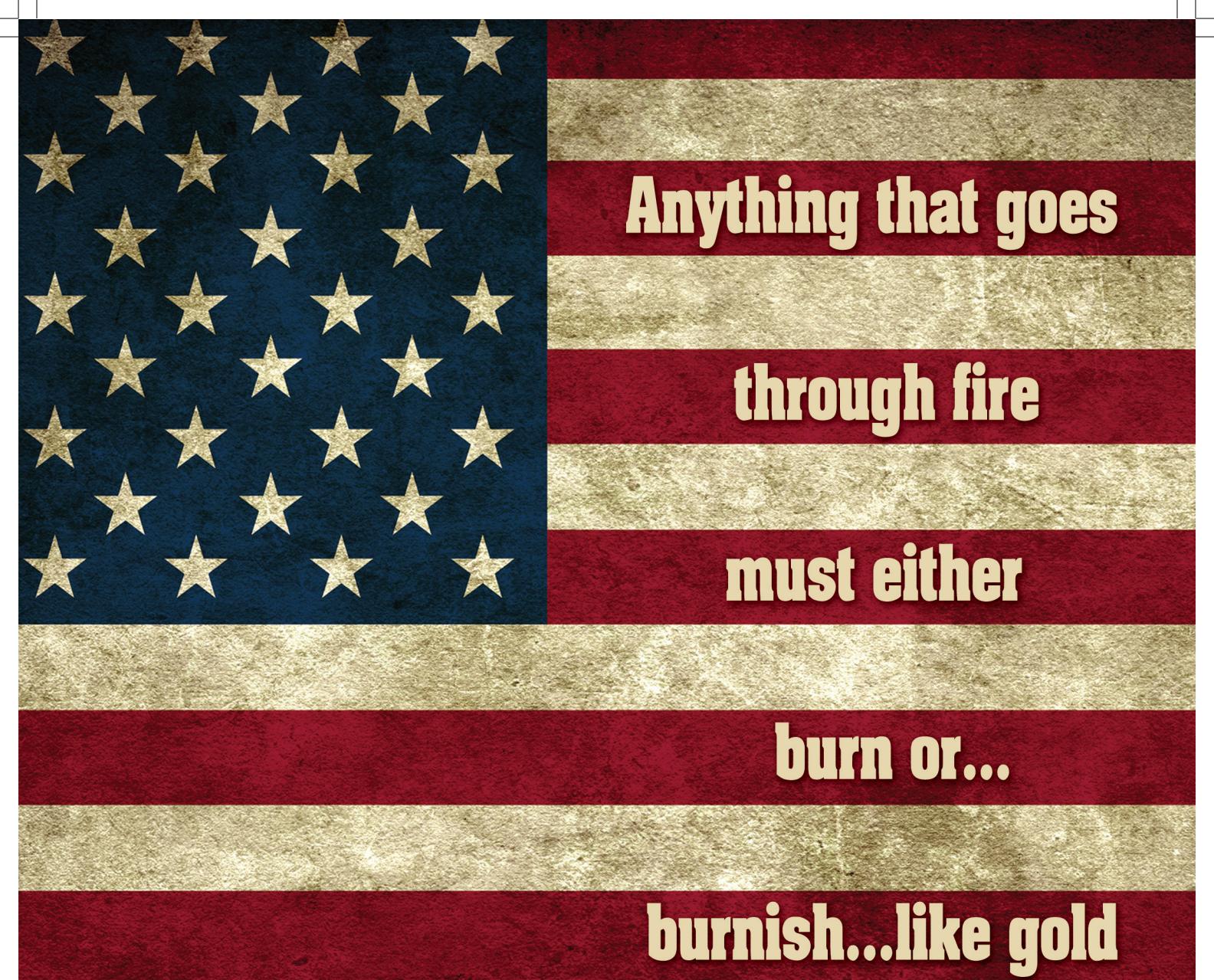
No Wonder  
Love  
Never Fails  
No Wonder  
Love  
Conquers...  
Always



Love  
spoken can be  
put aside...but  
Love  
shown is  
Irresistable

"A new commandment I give unto you,  
That ye love one another; as I have loved you..."

John  
13:34



Anything that goes

through fire

must either

burn or...

burnish...like gold

...US burning or burnishing?

**Psalms:** He that dwelleth in the secret place of the most High shall abide under the shadow of the Almighty. 91<sup>1</sup>

91  
Remember This Day

**Proverbs:** For by me thy days shall be multiplied, and the years of thy life shall be increased. 91<sup>1</sup>