

PRESBYTERIAN REVIEW



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No. 63



2011 Synod Meeting at Khatla Presbyterian Church

Presbyterian Review is a quarterly news magazine concerning the Life and Witness of the Church in Mizoram and other related matters, published by the Mizoram Presbyterian Church Synod.

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The views expressed in this magazine do not necessarily represent the official position of the Mizoram Presbyterian Church; each contributor is solely responsible for the views expressed in his/her article.



Editorial

Ecumenical Movement: What do we mean?

New Year's greetings to all the readers of the *Presbyterian Review*.

In this column we would like you to ponder afresh upon the meaning of the ecumenical movement in this issue. While we are all striving towards the growth of our respective churches to which we belong, we are also attempting to make relationships of some kind with our Christian and non-Christian counterparts. In such a context, it is pertinent to reconsider on what we exactly mean to the ecumenical movement.

The division of Christian denominations is a historical fact. The hatred between those divided denominations could not be denied. The attempts to bring such denominations into one community have been a long process since the time of the inception of the World Missionary Conference, held at Edinburg in 1910, and later, the International Missionary Council. Missionary societies, Church Councils and organisations have sprung up all over the World. All this have attempted to bring unity of churches and organisations, trying to influence the divided Christian denominations to come together under one umbrella, to be the answer of the prayer of Jesus Christ the 'High Priest'. Successes have been achieved to very great extent, but the divisions of churches could not be eradicated totally. The history of the Ecumenical movement is an interesting story, and it has been one of the 'history subjects' in the theological curricula. The 'Evangelicals' and the 'Liberals' have come closer in defence of and to proclaim the Gospel to the entire world.

However, the ecumenical movement has not been a preferred movement to many. One of the most inclusive organisations of Christians, the World Council of Churches, has a lifelong critiques and 'enemies' since its very inception. The enemies have their descendants till today, who occasionally



try to play down the WCC and its mode of works. To those people, the idea of bringing Christian believers together and making peace with non-Christians is a kind of apostasy. They relate the W.C.C. with the biblical prophecy of the ‘beast’ (e.g. Revelation 13) by giving all the bad names they could find. Such people claim they are ‘evangelical’, ‘conservative’, and having passion for the lost souls! But they in fact scatter the people of God because they do not gather (cf. Mat. 12: 30 and Lk. 11: 23).

Such people may be termed as ‘the non-ecumenical extremes’. But, there are other people who may not be better than the people mentioned above. They think they are ‘holier than others, always right, and never make mistake’. They love the church, they love their denominations, but they abhor anyone who is not among their own folks! They try to play down any activities others would execute by disregarding them as irrelevant. They may speak of Christian relationships and common works as good, but they would accept only those who are able to put their knees down before them. Ecumenical movement for them means to find justifications why they could not tolerate others by tracing the past history when ‘their feelings are hurt by their rival denominations’. ‘Ecumenical’ as a subject for them seems to mean something like a study of trying to find the wrong doings of others while justifying oneself”!

This may sound too local, but the truth is that unless the local ecumenical attitude is set right, there could be no worldwide ecumenical spirit. The ecumenical movements have always been blamed for not taking the local situations seriously, but trying to come together at a larger regional or national/international level. Unless there is a serious tendency and commitment on the part of the local members of the church to be ‘ecumenical’ in a true spirit, there could be no reality of Christian unity.



LIFE AND MINISTRY OF THE MIZORAM PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

Rev. Dr. K. Lallawmzuala & Ms. P.C. Lalitlani

Opening of Synod Office for the new year:

Synod Office was opened for the new year on January 5th 2012. Opening worship service was held followed by fellowship tea among the office workers.

Dedication of Missionaries:

On January 8th Synod Mission Board held a dedication service of missionaries who will be working in different parts of India. Among them were 11 Ordained Ministers and 96 contract missionaries. Rev. Thangzauva, Synod Moderator dedicated them and gave a short exhortation. On behalf of the missionaries 2 representatives, 1 from ordained ministers and 1 from contract workers, gave responses. Chanmari local church choir and Bungkawn Pastorate choir gave special numbers. Rev. Zosangliana Colney, Executive Secretary said a special prayer for the outgoing missionaries and Re. Lalzuithanga closed the service with benediction.

The 96 Contract Missionaries underwent intensive Pre-Service Training Programme during January

9th -13th at J.M.Lloyd Hall, Synod Office. Among them were doctors, nurses, theologians, laboratory technicians and other skilled people. Some of them used to work as missionaries under Para Church organizations while some left their jobs in the government. They will be sent to different mission fields, such as Assam, Tripura, Cachar Hills, Karbi Anglong, Arunachal East and West, Siliguri, Jharkhand, Patna, Lucknow, Delhi, Orissa and Nepal. The 11 Ordained Ministers will be given separate training at some other time.

The demise of Rev. Dr. R.Chhuanliana:

On January 8th, Sunday at 4:20 pm, Rev. Dr. R.Chhuanliana died from cancer at Synod Hospital Durtlang. Rev. Chhuanliana was 51 years old and he left his wife and three children. (Please read 'obituary')

Pastorate Level Youth Fellowship Meet:

During January 20th – 22nd Youth Fellowship Meet was organized at different Pastorates but some



pastorates had their meet during January 27th – 29th. Members of the Youth Fellowship Central Committee attended the different Pastorate Meets.

The demise of Rev R.B.Laitawia:

Rev. R.B.Laitawia died from diabetic sickness on January 25th at his residence in Chanmari West. He was 77 years old when he died. His funeral service was held at Chanmari West Presbyterian Church with full honor. (Please read 'obituary')

Synod Pastors' Pensioners Fellowship General Body Meeting:

Members of the Synod Pastor Pensioner Fellowship had their Annual General Body Meeting on January 26th at Zosaphluia Building. In the forenoon they studied a paper presented by Rev. K.Lungmuana on 'Theology of Creation', in the afternoon they had election for 2012-2013 Office Bearers. The elected leaders were:

Chairman - Rev. C. Vanlalhruaia
Vice Chairman - Rev. Dr. Lalchhuanliana
Secretary - Rev. Chuauthuama
Asst. Secretary - Rev. Chawnghranga

Treasurer - Rev. C. Biakmawia
Financial Secy. - Rev. K. Lungmuana

Seminar on Mizo Christian Songs:

Calvin Study Centre, Aziawl Theological College organized a Seminar on Mizo Christian songs on January 28th at Zarkawt Presbyterian Church Hall. Representatives from different local churches within Aizawl city attended the Seminar. The main theme was divided into three sub-themes which were presented by three Resource Persons as follows:

"Calvinism and Mizo Christian Songs" presented by Rev. Dr. Tlanghmingthanga

"Critical Appraisal of Mizo Traditional Songs" presented by Elder Prof. R.L.Thanmawia

"Critical Appraisal of Different Mizo Christian Songs" presented by Prof. Vanlalchhuanawma.

Synod Mission Board and Moorshed Memorial Christian Hospital:

On February 2nd Rev. Lalchhuanmawia, Synod Mission Board Secretary and Elder B.Lalrinliana, BEC member, went to Orissa to study the ways in which the partnership between Synod Mission Board and Moorshed



Life & Ministry of the Mizoram Presbyterian Church

Memorial Christian Hospital, Orissa is working out and also to find out the means for expanding the mission of the Church in Orissa. Synod Mission Board is now sending 3 doctors and 2 workers at the Hospital as part of the partnership programme.

Pastorate Level Women's Fellowship Meet:

During February 10th -12th (Friday – Sunday) Pastorate level Women's Fellowship Meet was held in different Pastorates. Members of the Central Women's Fellowship Committee attended the different meets.

Will Graham Crusade:

During February 16th – 19th (Thursday – Sunday) a Gospel Crusade was held at Joint YMA Field, Vaivakawn. The speaker was William Franklin Graham, grandson of Billy Graham. Those who accompanied the Speaker were – Rev. Solomon Bodan, North India Festival Director; Mark Christian, soloist; Rev. Dr. Robeert Cunville, Director of Billy Graham Evangelical Association; Rev. Terence Wanshong, soloist from Shillong; Sondup Lama, BGEA Staff and Conrad Poe, personal security of Will Graham.

Two worship services were held daily from February 17th – 19th, day time and in the evening. Friday worship service was held for Women's Fellowship, Rev. Dr. Cunville delivered the sermon at the daytime service and Will Graham spoke in the evening service. On Saturday Youth Fellowship worship service was held and Will Graham spoke in the two services. On Sunday two worship services were held, in the afternoon and evening. Will Graham preached in the two services.

In every worship service the two soloists, Mark Christian and Rev. Terence Wanshong as well as combined choirs of Pastorate level in Aizawl city sang special numbers. Synod Choirs, Baptist Church Choir and Salvation band also got the opportunity to sing.

The Crusade was jointly organized by Billy Graham Evangelistic Association and the Mizoram Presbyterian Church Synod. At the venue of the Crusade 12,000 seats were prepared for the worshippers.

Christian Youth Fellowship General Conference:

During March 1st – 4th (Thursday – Sunday) the 54th Christian Youth



Fellowship General Conference was held at Thenzawl Public Playground under the leadership of Rev. K.Lalpiangthara, Leader of the Central Youth Fellowship. Around 23,139 participants went to Thenzawl to take part in the Conference. Delegates also came from outside the State and also from abroad. Three came from Wales, five from Taiwan, two each from NEICC, KJP Synod (Sepngi), Biateram Synod, CHT Synod and LIKBK.

The Conference declared the theme for the year 2012 as “To Have Jesus Christ”. The theme of the Conference was “Jesus Christ – The Answer to the Needs of the World” and the Speaker was Rev. C.Lalsangliana.

There are 1,28,116 members in the Christian Youth Fellowship, out of them 80,800 are males and 47,316 are females. Chanmari Pastorate has the highest number of members, 2686 and the smallest number of members come from Buarpui Pastorate with 62 members. 29931 copies of the Youth Fellowship Journal were published and distributed.

Important resolutions of the Conference:

- i) To appoint the host of the General Conference for a number of years.
- ii) To give the offerings collected during the Youth fellowship Worship service for the needy
- iii) To organize whole night prayer service in the State.
- iv) To organize consultations/ seminars on mental health, better work ethics and proper value system.
- v) To publish Song Book on Christmas Songs.
- vi) The next Youth Fellowship General Conference will be held at Khawzawl town during February 27th – March 2nd 2014

Budget:

Rs. 12,00,000 for the budget of 2012-2013 was approved.

New Leaders:

From the nomination made by each Pastorate 18 members were elected to be the Committee members. Out of the 18 members elected the following Office Bearers were elected:

Leader - Rev Lalrinmawia (appointed by the Synod)

Asst. Leader - T. Upa Dr. Samuel Vanlalthlanga, Luangmual Pastorate



Life & Ministry of the Mizoram Presbyterian Church

Gen. Secretary: Elder Lalrinmuana
(appointed by the Synod)

Asst. Secretary: Mr. V.L.
Muanchhana, Mission Veng
Pastorate

Treasurer: Elder Zothangzuala
Chhangte, Chanmari Pastorate

Fin. Secretary : Mr. Zohmangaiha,
Khatla Pastorate

Fellowship. 2 delegates from each
Pastorate, 2 delegates from Central
Youth Fellowship and 3 delegates
from ATTWI were present,
altogether 379 delegates were
present during the business session.
4 observers were also present.

*(A more detailed report has been
given in a separate section of
this issue)*

The 6th Committee Meeting of Women's Fellowship:

The 6th Committee of Meeting of
Women's Fellowship was held
during March 9th – 11th (Friday –
Sunday) at Tlangnuam Presbyterian
Church, Aizawl. The Committee
Meeting started with worship
service at 6:30 pm on 9th evening.
During the service the delegates
representing Women's Fellowship at
the Pastorate levels in and outside
Mizoram were welcomed and
reports from the General Secretary
and Pastorate levels were given.
Rev. Thangzauva, Synod Moderator
gave a short speech. According to
the reports during April 2010 –
March 2011 Rs. 7,55,28,608.00 was
received from selling the handful of
rice collection.

The business session was held on
the day of March 10th under the
guidance of Mrs. Laltlanmawii,
Chairperson of the Central Women's

Consultation on HIV/AIDS:

Mizoram Synod Social Front
Department organized a
consultation on HIV/AIDS issue on
March 12th at JM Lloyd's Hall,
Synod Office. Representatives of
different denominations, Office
Bearers of the Youth and Women's
Fellowships, Office Bearers from
NGOs, SEU representatives from
different colleges were invited.
Around 70 participants attended the
Consultation. Dr. Robert S. Halliday
presented the concept paper which
was followed by discussion

Dedication of the new C.T. Scan Machine, Synod Hospital, Durtlang:

On March 13th (Tuesday) the
dedication service of the new
C.T.Scan machine was held at
Synod Hospital, Durtlang. The
service was presided over by Dr.
Lalremthanga, Director, Mr.



Lalengmawia Kawlani, Head Technician, Radio Imaging Unit gave a report. Rev. Thangzauva, Synod Moderator dedicated the new machine for God's service and Rev. Zosangliana Colney, Executive Secretary i/c Hospital ended the meeting with benediction.

The new C.T.Scan machine is 16 Slice and is more sophisticated than the ordinary C.T.Scan machine. The rate for using the machine ranges from Rs. 1200 – Rs. 2500 depending on the parts of the body needed to be scanned.

Pro-Pastor Orientation:

During March 26th – 31st (Monday-Saturday) Orientation Course was organized for Probationary Pastors who joined from January 2012. It was held at Synod Conference Centre, Mission Veng, Aizawl.

They were given orientation on different subjects, such as Church Administration, Information/Public/ Interpersonal Relations, Biblical Hermeneutics, HIV/AIDS issue, Worship, Life Style of a Pastor, Pastoral Care & Counseling, expectations of congregation on Pastors, Health Education, Articles of the Presbyterian Faith, Synod Rules & Regulations, Mission, File

Keeping, Current social issues, Departments and Committees under the Synod, Revival & Pastoralia, Pension & Service Rules, Pastor & Materialism, Heretical teachings etc. 19 Resource Persons appointed by the Synod gave them the orientation. The participants also met with the Synod Officers.

CSI Leaders' Retreat:

On March 25th & 26th leaders from the Church of South India came to Aizawl to have their annual retreat. 36 leaders attended, 15 Bishops and their wives and 6 church officials from the CSI Church attended the retreat. They paid their own expenses.

They arrived at Aizawl on March 24th and they visited cultural centers and important places of the Presbyterian Church of Mizoram Synod. On Sunday they took part in Sunday School and evening services in different local churches in Aizawl.

The leaders of CSI requested the Synod to host their annual retreat for this year, which was granted and the Officers Meeting made the necessary arrangement. During their stay they were hosted by Chaltlang Presbyterian Church. On the night before they departed the



Synod organized a dinner on their behalf and Rev. Thangzauva, Synod Moderator presented them mementos.

Inter-College/University Faculty Seminar:

On March 28th the Aizawl Theological College organized Inter-College/University Faculty Seminar on the theme Mizo Society in the 20th Century: A Post-Colonial Reading at I&PR Conference Hall. As invited 60 Professors and Lecturers from secular colleges within Aizawl City attended the seminar.

HIGHLIGHTS OF THE 238TH SYNOD EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE MEETING

Editorial Collections

The 238th Synod Executive Committee of the MPC was held at the J.M. Lloyd's Hall of Synod Office during February 21-23, 2012. The highlight of the meeting is given in the following.

Out of the 46 members, 125 were present. It was mainly to follow-up the Synod 2011 held at the Mizoram Presbyterian Church, Khatla, Aizawl. The more important resolutions made are:

1) Withdrawal of Missionaries from Manipur: Manipur, a neighbouring state of Mizoram has been occupied by predominantly Meitei Hindus, and the Mizoram Presbyterian Church has been working for almost a half century. The converts has now claimed to be able to run their the mission of their own, and even declared their own synod last year. The last Synod resolved to apply a formal inauguration of their own Synod to the PCI General Assembly. As a result of this, the SEC had decided to withdraw the missionaries both ordained and lay people with immediate effect. The Synod Officers' Meeting had been



entrusted to assign the responsibilities of the ordained pastors while the Mission Board had been entrusted to assign the works of the lay missionaries.

2. Giving Grants to the Anti-Drugs Agents: The Synod Social Front had been entrusted to materialise the decision of the Synod 2011 to give financial assistance to the Anti-Drugs agents (products) in their fight against such abuse of drugs (including liquor and tobacco products).

3. Demarcation of State Boundary: The OM members have been entrusted to meet the Mizoram Chief Minister to request him to make the State boundary clear with the neighbouring state of Assam.

4. Appointment of Leader for Youth. The SEC appointed Rev. Lalrinmawia, the pastor in-charge of Maubawk, Aizawl, to be the next Leader of the Central Christian Youth Fellowship (*Kristian Thalai Pawl*). He will replace Rev. K. Lalpiangthara, whose term will end after the General Conference in the month of March, 2012.

5. Giving Aid to the Church at Pune, India: The meeting agreed to pay a sum of Indian Rupees (INR) 1,00,000/- (one hundred thousand) to a church at Pune, Maharashtra, whose church building

was burnt to almost complete destruction. This decision was made as the church had been the meeting place of Mizo Christians for many years who stay at Pune.

6. New Permanent Jobs: The Meeting agreed to create as many as 38 jobs under the Synod Mission Board.

7. New Pastors' Posts: It was resolved that ordained pastors should be posted at Odisha (previously Orissa), and Bangalore, India, and in Cambodia. The Synod Officers were entrusted to select and appoint people for these.

8. Hospital in Southern Mizoram: The Hospital Board has been entrusted to go ahead to establish a hospital in the Southern part of Mizoram.

9. Hike in "Living Allowances": The meeting agreed to increase the Living Allowances of the Synod workers up to 15% which will include the dearness allowances of the pensioners but the field workers were excluded.

10. Purchase of Land within Aizawl: The Meeting, in pursuance of the Synod's decision, has agreed to purchase land for use in its ministry. The OM was entrusted to do the needful.



REPORT OF THE MIZORAM PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH- WOMEN FELLOWSHIP 44th CONFERENCE & GOLDEN JUBILEE CELEBRATION

Ms. H.Lalpianthangi
General Secretary

The 44th Mizoram Presbyterian Women Fellowship Conference and Golden Jubilee Celebration was held on 3-6 March'2011 at the playground No.II of Kawnpui Village, the North West of Mizoram.

The Programme is highlighted as follows :-

1. The Highlighted programme are as follows :- Usually the Conference had been started from Friday evening since 2005 but this year Mizoram Women Fellowship Conference hold its 50 year counting from 1960. So Central Committee decided to Celebrate its Golden Jubilee alongwith, so, another one day was spared for the Celebration of Golden Jubilee.

A. The General Secretary Pi Lalrinkimi gave the highlighted report on the activities of Mizoram Women Fellowship on Thursday evening service (Dt. 3.3.2011) Central Committee prepared Golden Jubilee Souvenir Magazine, it was also released by Rev. P.C.Pachhhunga, Synod Secretary (Sr.)

Business Session was started on
Dt. 4.3.2011, Friday morning from 6:00

a.m.to 2:20 p.m at Presbyterian Church Kawnpui North. For them, morning meal was prepared together at the expense of Central Women Committee. Meanwhile, there was Pandal Service in the morning, we listened a sermon from Mrs.Lalengthangi, Missionary.

In the afternoon Service we had Bible Study on II Timothy by Mrs P.C.Laltlani, M.Th, Librarian A.T.C.

The evening service was the Opening of Golden Jubilee year, Sermon was delivered by Rev.Zosangliana Colney, Executive Secretary i/c Women.

After the service over, we had fellowship, Mrs Liankimi, Committee Member presented a very important theme "*Christian family and to be Economical with*".

B. Golden Jubilee Celebration



Day :- Dt. 5.3.2011 (*Saturday*) was a Golden Jubilee Celebration Day. The General Secretary introduced and give away present of Golden Jubilee Souvenir to all the former-leaders of Central Women Committee. The theme of the sermon delivered by Mrs Lalzawmliani was *"To Praise God"*. The Aizawl City joint Choir presented, *"Jerusalem Ka In Ropui"*. After the service was over we had a heavy Jubilee Tea it was brought from Aizawl prepared an expense of Central Women Committee.

Afternoon service was spent only in praising God together. From evening service, we listened the Theme **'Christian Family'** (Joshua 24 :15) Theme I: **'Christian Family and Today's World'** was preached by Miss Zohmangaihi, Secretary for Women's Relations PWF. In the fellowship programme we listened about *"Christian Family"* by Mrs Liankhumi, Central Committee.

Dt. 6.3.2011 In the (Sunday) Morning Service, we listened the Theme *"To Serve God with all family members"* preached by Mrs C.Lalhmingaihi, Treasurer. The Theme III *"Christ in the Foundation of Christian Family"* was preached by Mrs C.Lalthanzami, Central Committee Member in the evening service.

Holy Communion was Celebrated

in the afternoon service by Rev.C.Lalsangliana, Synod Moderator with the Assist of Ministers and Elders who were presented.

C. Choir :- Every Service was blessed with two Church's Women Choirs and all Women Conductors had done very well and acted nicely.

D. Delegates :	
S/No	Pastorates/Field Present
1.	151 Pastorates (two each) 318
2.	3 Pastorates (one each) 3
3.	Central Women Comt.Members 33
4.	Synod Leaders 2
5.	Central K.T.P 2
6.	ATTWI Members 2
7.	Pastor 3
8.	Pro.Pastor 4
9.	Elder 1
10.	Manipur Area 5
11.	Arunachal 'E'Mission Field 3
12.	Karbi Anglong Mission Field 2
13.	Tripura Mission Field 2
14.	Barak Area 1
15.	Chairman Elect 1
16.	LIKBKHP 1
Total 386	

E. Handful of Rice Collection : In 2010 the Total Collection amounted to ` 86,97,424.760 qtls (86974.24 qtls), This year the first prize of the handful of Rice Collection was again won by



N.E.Khawdungsei Pastorate for the 9th times, 523 out of 552 families observed family prayer every day. Out of 552 hundred percent of families offered handful of rice Collection.

2. Statistic : Under Mizoram Synod, there are 161 Pastorates out of which 156 Pastorates submitted their Reports. There are 812 Churches and 92912 Families. 145242 are the Women members. 45698 (49.18%) are the Families who observed family prayer daily , while 89342 (96.15%) offered handful of Rice collection.

3. The Resolution passed as follows :-

- 1) Let a Special Budget for Women Center be continued.
- 2) Let the term of Secretary of Handful of Rice collection follows the term of Pastorate leaders.
- 3) Equal Nomination of Women's Pastorate leaders to be revised.
- 4) Let Women Theologian who deserve to be ordained as Pastor/ Minister be ordained. This will be put up in the Synod Executive Committee.

4. New Leaders : With the As-

sist of Rev. Zosangliana Colney, Executive Secretary i/c Women, Rev. P.C.Pachhunga. Synod Secretary, Host Pastor R.T.Lianthanga. The new leaders were elected as follows :

Chairman: Mrs Laltlanmawii

(Appointed by Synod)

ViceChairman: Mrs Khawlvuani,
Hlimen Pastorate

Gen.Secy: Mrs H. Lalpianthangi
(Appointed by Synod)

Asst.Secy: Mrs Laldawnkimi,
Ramhlun Pastorate

Treasure r: Mrs Lalsawmliani,
Bawngkawn Pastorate

Fin.Secy: Mrs Liankimi,

Mission Veng Pastorate

**5. 2011 - 2012 Budget and Project :
Project Amount**

- 1) Women Centre ₹. 7,20,000.00
- 2) Women Fellowship Conference Host Church fund ₹. 1,50,000.00
- 3) Womens Fellowship Committee Host Church Fund ₹. 30,000.00
- 4) Women Fellowship Fund ₹. 1,00,000.00

Grand Total ₹.16,45,000.00

6. Organising Committee :-
Organising Committee set up ten sub-committees. The area of Pandal is 168 feet long and 169 feet wide with 6200 people packed. They spent Rs.



341.550 for the construction of Pandal.

This Conference had differences comparing to others Conference because of no disturbing not only raining and storming but also Accident etc. Throughout the programmes, we received God's guidance. Everything went smoothly. We can feel that God is within us and can feel that the presence of Holy Spirit to each

and everyone of us. The atmosphere of Church service, fellowship and all the other programmes are very lively and meaningful.

In 2012, we will have Mizoram Presbyterian Women Fellowship Committee at Tlangnuam Presbyterian Church. Hope to meet at any place in the coming Conference which will be held in the year to come 2013.



Laying Foundation Stone at Women Centre



THE 88TH MIZORAM PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH SYNOD

Rev. P. R. Hmuaka.

The 88th Mizoram Presbyterian Church Synod was held at Presbyterian Church Khatla on 30-November – 11 December 2011. Altogether 1880 delegates attended the annual Synod. Altogether 17 persons were selected and appointed as probationary Pastors. 16 Probationary Pastors were ordained as Pastors.

A. Resolution Passed.

Some of the more important resolutions of the Synod were:

1. **Purchase of Blood component separator.** It was resolved to buy a blood component separator for use at the Synod Hospital. (GEN 2)
2. **Free Nilai Zan leh Beihruai Thupui.** It was resolved to give a copy of the *Nilai leh Beihruai Thupui* (Wednesday evening church lessons & topics for the month of September) free of cost to every church committee member as well as to every local church (GEN 3).
3. **Review of the Synod Hospital.** It was resolved that the Synod Executive Committee review the administrative set up, the nature and function the Presbyterian Hospital at Durtlang and report the matter in the next Synod (GEN 6).
4. **Benefits to doctors at Synod Hospital.** There was also a proposal to enhance the benefits to the doctors at the Presbyterian Hospital at Durtlang and to seek ways so that required doctors can be found. It was resolved that this matter be taken into consideration while reviewing the administrative set-up of the Hospital (resolution GEN 6 above). (GEN 7)
5. **Advance information to the church hosting the annual synod.** It was resolved that the Nomination Committee should henceforth consider informing the church hosting the Synod three years prior to the event. (GEN 12)
6. **Encouragement to those against drugs menace.** It was resolved that the executive Committee takes measures to encourage and strengthen those who are



- campaigning and working against the drugs menace and other intoxicating substances. (GEN 19)
7. **Mizoram state Boundary verification.** It was resolved that the Synod petition the State Government to verify and establish the state boundary of Mizoram with Assam.(GEN 20)
 8. **Judicious disbursement of consolidation funds.** It was resolved that the Synod Fund for the consolidation of the church should be judiciously disbursed. (GEN 23)
 9. **Pastor Conference.** It was resolved that ways to have a more beneficial Pastors' Conference be sought out by the Synod Executive Committee. (GEN. 25)
 10. **Provision of a Bus at Lunglei Office.** It was resolved that a bus to be stationed at the Synod Office, Lunglei be purchased. (GEN 28)
 11. **Pastors retirement age.** It was resolved that the age of retirement for pastors be increased from the present 60 years to 62 years. This will not affect those reported to go on retirement from January 2012. (GEN. 29)
 12. **Church members in southern Mizoram.** It was resolved that the more attention be given in safeguarding and upholding the church members in southern part of Mizoram.(GEN 31)
 13. **Army Chaplains.** It was resolved that steps be taken to provide Army Chaplains when needed.(GEN 33)
 14. **Ordination of theological graduates.** It was resolved that the Synod Executive Committee study the viability of the proposal to seek ways to also ordain theological graduates who will serve in capacities other than as a pastor. The study is to be reported in the next synod.(GEN 34)
 15. **Purchase of land at Aizawl.** It was resolved that as much land as is practicable in Aizawl be purchased. A sum of Rs. 600,000,000.00 (rupees six hundred lakhs) is approved to be included in the budget immediately.(GEN 35)
 16. **Sihphir Pastorate under Aizawl Hmar Presbytery.** It was resolved that Sihphir Pastorate be included in the Aizawl Hmar Presbytery. (GEN. 36)



17. **On loss of synod money.** It was resolved that concerning the loss/misappropriation of any funds in the various Boards, the synod financial rules should take its course.
18. **Parents' Day.** It was resolved that the Parents Day be henceforth observed in the churches. The SEC will prepare the details of the programme.(GEN 38)
19. **Doctoral Research Center at Aizawl Theological College.** It was resolved that a doctoral research centre be established at Aizawl Theological College. The SEC is entrusted to do the needful.(GEN. 43)
20. **On Joining membership of the WCC.** In perusal of the decision of the synod 2010 to take the views of the churches at the Presbytery concerning the decision to join the membership of the World Council of Churches the following are the results.
No. of Presbyteries which opted to join membership of the WCC: 14
Nos. of Presbyteries which opted not to join membership of the WCC: 29.
21. **Hospital at southern Mizoram.** The Synod Executive Committee reported of the problems in implementing the establishment of a hospital at the southern region of Mizoram. After the problems encountered were heard, it was resolved that this is an ongoing project and the Synod Executive should go on finding ways and means to implement the project.(GEN 48)
22. **Nomenclature of the Administrative Secretary of PCI.** There was a proposal from the Synod Executive Committee to change the nomenclature of the Administrative Secretary of the Presbyterian Church of India. It was resolved that the synod considers that the present nomenclature is satisfactory.(GEN49)
23. **Rebuilding of SMTC Building.** The Synod Executive Committee presented a study on the Synod



Multi-purpose Training Center (SMTC) land and reconstruction of the building. After discussion, it was resolved that a sum of Rs.50,00,000/- (Rupees fifty lakhs) is to be included in the budget for the re-building of the SMTC building. (GEN 52)

24. **CPF Scheme for workers under Manipur Area.** The CPF scheme prepared for the workers under the Manipur Area was approved. The Synod Executive is to revise/edit the proposal. (GEN 53)

25. **Pavalai Pawl** (Men's Group). The Guidelines prepared for the organization and functioning of the *Pavalai Pawl*, men's Group in the churches was reviewed. It was resolved that in the light of the discussions, the Synod Executive Committee edit the proposal to be put it into effect. (GEN 35)

26. **Review of criteria for selection of Pro-Pastors**

A revision of the criteria for the selection of the Pro- Pastors was presented by the Synod Executive Committee as entrusted by the Synod 2010 was reviewed. After discussion it was resolved that the SEC

again revise the proposal in the light of the discussion and present it the next synod. (GEN 46)

27. **Benefits to Field Worker Pastors.**

The proposal concerning the benefits to be given to the Field Workers Pastors under the synod Mission Board made by the Synod Executive Committee as entrusted by Synod 2010 was reviewed and approved. It is put into effect immediately. (GEN 57)

28. **Hindi Bible School and Nursing school in church statistics.**

It was resolved that the Hindi Bible School and the Nursing School be henceforth included in the church statistics form under the section "schools under the church: Others." (GEN58)

29. **Concerning revision of the Church Marriage Laws. (*Nupa Chungchang Dan*).**

The revised church marriage laws and the agenda no. 39 concerning a reappraisal of our relationship with the Baptist Church of Mizoram and other denominations were together discussed. It was resolved that the SEC take up the matter and



make revisions where needed and be put into effect.(GEN 59)

30. Concerning couples of the same sex living together as husband and wife.

It was resolved that this comes under the purview of our church marriage laws (Nupa Chungchang Dan). (GEN 59)

31. Revision of the Synod Service Rules.

The revision of the Synod Service Rules 2009 was reviewed and accepted. The SEC is entrusted to edit it so that it can be put to immediate effect.(GEN 61)

32. Pastors in Orissa and Cambodia. The Synod Executive Committee apprised the Synod of need to send pastor to Orissa and Cambodia. The synod approved the proposal.(GEN 62)

33. Revision of Manual for Missions (Ramthar Manual). Following the suggestion of the Synod Executive Committee, it was resolved that the Manual for Missions(Ramthar Manual) be revised for consideration in the next Synod. (GEN 62)

34. Chingmei Pastorate. It was resolved that Chingmei

Pastorate remain under the Manipur Mission Field as decided by the SEC. (GEN 64)

35. High School at Tlabung and Bungtlang South

Upon reports of the study made by the SEC as entrusted by Synod 2010 on establishing a High School at Home Mission South, it was resolved that a High School be established at Tlabung and Bungtlang South respectively. (GEN 65)

36. Synod Office Annexe. It was resolved to construct a Synod Office Annexe as proposed by the Synod Executive Committee. This is to be included in the 2013-2014 Budget. (GEN 66)

37. Proposal to set up Meitei Synod

Following the proposal of the Synod Executive Committee that Meitei Synod be established, it was resolved that this proposal be put up to the General Assembly of the Presbyterian Church of India. (GEN 67)

38. Ordained Minister for Bangalore Mizo Christian Church. The suggestion from the Synod executive Committee concerning the guidelines for the Bangalore



Mizo Christian Church was discussed. After careful deliberation, it was resolved that an ordained Minister be provided as proposed.(GEN 69)

39. Aid to the Host for the Synod meeting.

It was resolved that, as the SEC has proposed, the amount of aid given to the church hosting the annual Synod

meeting be increased from the present 3 lakhs to Rs. 5 lakhs. (GEN 70)

40. Establishment of a secular college.

The SEC's proposal to set up a secular college to be run by the synod, as entrusted by Synod 2010, was discussed. It was felt that the synod could not afford to open such a college as of now. (GEN 71).

B. Synod Officers

The following are the officers of the Synod in 2011 and 2012

	30th Nov- 11th Dec 2011	28th Nov- 9th Dec 2012
Moderator	: Rev Thangzaava	Rev. Laramliana Pachauu
Secretaries	: Rev. P. C. Pachhunga (Sr.) : Eld. D.P. Biakhuma (Jr.)	Eld. D.P. Biakhuma (Sr.) Rev. H.Lalrinmawia (Jr.)
Finance Officers	: Rev. Zosangliana Colney : Rev. Dr. Lalhmangaiha	Rev. Zosangliana Colney Rev. Dr. Lalhmangaiha
Statistician	: Rev. C. Sangliana	Eld. C. Ngurthanmawia
Sr. Executive Secretary:	Rev. Vanlalzuata	Rev. Vanlalzuata
Executive Secretary:	Rev Lazuithanga.	Rev. Lalzuithanga

The Synod in 2012 will be held 28th Nov- 9th Dec 2012 at Presbyterian Church, Chandmari and it will be hosted by the Chandmari Pastorate.

C. Budget.

The following is a brief highlight of the budget for the year 2012-2012

	Expected Income: (In Rupees)	
	2011-2012	2012-2013
Pastoral	66,75,20,600	77,19,82,000
Mission	38,97,96,300	40,72,75,000
Total	1,05,73,16,90	1,17,19,82,000



Expected Income Budget break up for 2012-2013 (in per cent)

Offerings	41.64
Communication	7.17
Hospital	13.54
Education	2.43
Other Dept.	0.68
Offering for Missions	31.56
Field receipt	2.97
Total	100 per cent
Total (in Rupees)	1,17,19,82,000

The marked amount of expenditure is the same as expected income.
The percentage break-up of the total expenditure budget for 2012-2013 is as follows.

Expected expenditure budget break-up 2012-2013 (in per cent)**A. Pastoral**

1. Synod office	33.56
2. Aizawl Theol. College	3.44
3. Education	4.43
4. Communication	7.91
5. Hospital	16.11

B. Mission

Total	34.54
Total	100 per cent
Total amount (in Rupees)	1,17,19,82,000

The ministry of the church is growing both within and without Mizoram. As can be seen from the resolutions there is concern for establishing a strong and vibrant church and also a desire to reassess the ministry in missions. It is also evident that the socio-political concerns are also not lost in the church. Finally, it may be remarked that in faith that the budget of the Synod is made, in faith that the church members will continue to dedicate themselves and their offerings to the ministry of the Lord.



A Brief Report of the **CHRISTIAN YOUTH FELLOWSHIP**
(KRISTIAN THALAI PAWL) 54th General Conference

Upa Lalrinmuana
 General Secretary

1. The 54th KTP General Conference was held during 1-4 March 2012 at Thenzawl Public Playground.

A make-shift meeting hall measuring 180X288 feet was constructed with the Synod Pandal structure. This was the main Venue of the conference and could accomodate 15000 people. The roof of the meeting hall was lined with KTP flag colour of white and blue clothes which makes the ambience lively and comfortable. The decoration of the hall was done by Chhakkeswari Rental Store, Janiganj, Silchar.

2. Delegates: 23,123 registered and several un-registered delegates participated in the conference. A family having the largest number of guests had 126 delegate guests during the conference. The first service meeting i.e. thursday night was attended by 8,902 members and the last worship service i.e. sunday night was attended by 32,530 members.

3. Programmes & other activities: Heavy rains during the conference resulted in a few alterations of the schedule. Rev.P.C.Lalbiaktluanga's friday afternoon short message on "Missionary Challenge" had to be cancelled due to rain. All the choirs, except Mizoram Synod Choir, for saturday evening service were shifted on Sunday worship service due to technical errors caused by the rain. Two worship services on sunday were pre-pond half an hour before the scheduled time. Saturday Night fellowship programme which was cancelled due to rain was slotted right after sunday afternoon worship service. All groups and individuals, except Male Voice from Bairabi Pastorate could present their item. The multiplex programme, held in three different place, were commendably succesful as all the three venues were fully packed and meaningful interactions



took place between audiences and resource persons.

4. Election & Business Session: Election of the Central Committee members was held on Friday (2nd March 2012) morning at 7am at the main venue of the conference. 739 official delegates took part in this election. In the afternoon, a business session was smoothly held at the Thenzawl Vengthlang Church where 722 official delegates participated. Names of 18 newly elected Central Committee members were declared at the business session. In accordance with KTP Guidelines (2009) chapter III:3(5). The elected leaders appointed amongst themselves the following Office Bearers:

Leader : Rev. Lalrinmawia
(Appointed by the Synod)
Asst. Leader: T. Upa Dr. Samuel
Vanlalhlhanga, Luangmual Pastorate
Gen. Secy : Upa Lalrinmuana
(Appointed by the Synod)
Asst Secy: T. V. L. Muanchhana,
Mission Veng Pastorate
Treasurer : Upa Zothangzuala
Chhangte, Chanmari Pastorate
Fin. Secy : Pu Zohmangaiha,
Khatla Pastorate.

5. Dedication of Theme etc : At the Friday evening service, Upa DP

Biakkhuma, Synod Secretary released Mizoram Synod Choir music video DVD (containing 6 songs). Rev. Zosangliana Colney, Executive Secretary i/c KTP dedicated to the Lord the theme of the year 2012-2013 "With Jesus". He also released a guide book of the theme and a film based on the theme. On the 2nd March 2012 forenoon service, Souvenir of the conference called "HNI AK" (Footprint) prepared by the conference organising committee was released by Rev. Lalrinmawia, Leader Elect of the KTP Central Committee.

6. Speakers/Speeches : The conference was graced by Rev. Thangzauva, Moderator, Mizoram Synod. At the first service of the conference he spoke on the theme "Faithfulness". Upa Dr. C. Zarzolian, Asst Secy. Central KTP spoke on "On God's side" at the Friday night service. The theme of the conference "Jesus is the answer for the world today" was preached thrice by Rev. C. Lalsangliana, the main speaker of the conference. In his valedictory sermon, Rev. K. Lalpiangthara, leader (outgoing) of the Central KTP spoke on "Preaching the Gospel". All the sermons and speeches during the



conference were powerfully blessed and appreciated by the participants.

7. Fraternal Delegates/Guests: Fraternal Delegates/guests from the following could part take in this conference-

a) Two delegates each from Central Kohhran Hmeichhia (Women's Fellowship); PYF Central Committee (including the Administrative Secretary Rev. David T.Lhouvum); The NEICCYA; KVP,Biateram Synod; Cachar Hill Tribes Synod; Jingiaseng Samla,KJP Synod, Sepngi; LIKBK,Mizoram; Tripura PYF.

b) Three Delegates from Presbyterian Church of Wales

c) Five Delegates from Presbyterian Church in Taiwan

d) Four Delegates from Manipur area.

e) Four Delegates from Kolkata Mission Field

f) Three Delegates from Assam and Arunachal East

g) 7 Members from Tripura Mission Field

The leader of each group was given a chance to greet the conference. Pu Lalthanhawla, Chief Minister of Mizoram also addressed the gathering on Sunday worship service.

All local transportations and accomodation expenses of the guests were borne by the Mizoram Synod Officers Meeting which amounted to Rs.1,23,341.

8. About Thenzawl : With arround 1700 households and 7000 population approximately, Thenzawl, a sub-divisional town succesfully hosted the conference. This was mainly due to the concerted efforts and dedications rendered by people living in Thenzawl.

9. Venue / Host of the 2014 KTP Conference : As resolved by the KTP Central Committee,the 55th General conference,2014 will be hosted by Khawzawl. The General Conference will take place during 27th Feb-2nd March 2014.

10. The following resolutions have been made by the 54th General Conference

1) Announcement/appointment of hosts/venues of the consecutive General Conferences, and not just the immediate next must be onwards.

2) Offerings collected in two youth services of every Church must be set aside for Relief Fund.

3) A night long propitiation and reconciliation prayer meeting must



Christian Youth Fellowship 54th General Conference

be arranged by the Central Committee for all the KTP Branches.

4) Mental Health Education must be taken up by the Central Committee.

5) Dissemination of Work Ethics to all the members of the KTP must

be taken forward by the Central Committee.

6) Education on Value System must be carried forward by the central committee.

7) A new exclusive Christmas Song Book must be prepared by the Central Committee



A BRIEF REPORT OF THE 6TH BUSINESS SESSION OF THE MIZORAM PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH WOMEN FELLOWSHIP

The 6th Committee's Business Meeting of Women's Fellowship was held during March 9th – 11th (Friday – Sunday) at Tlangnuam Presbyterian Church, Aizawl. The Committee Meeting started with worship service at 6:30 pm on 9th evening. During the service the delegates representing Women's Fellowship at the Pastorate levels in and outside Mizoram were welcomed and reports from the General Secretary and Pastorate levels were given. Rev. Thangzauva, Synod Moderator, gave a short speech. According to the reports during April 2010 – March 2011 Rupees 7,55,28,608.00 was received from selling the handful of rice collection.

The business session was held on the day of March 10th under the guidance of Mrs. Laltlanmawii, Chairperson of the Central Women's Fellowship. 2 delegates from each Pastorate, 2 delegates from Central Youth Fellowship and 3 delegates from ATTWI were present, altogether 379 delegates were present during the business session. 4 observers were also present.

From Saturday night the worship services were spent for listening to



Public Worship

the theme of the Committee “Jesus Christ Will Come Again” (Acts 1:11). The main theme was divided into a number of sub-themes and different speakers were assigned to preach on the sub-theme. Ms. Vanlalsawmi spoke on the sub-theme “The Time Is Near”; Ms. P.C. Vanlalnghaki (an itinerant Synod's revival speaker), spoke on “The Reason for the Second Coming”; Dr. Lalrindiki Ralte (Associate Prof. of Aizawl Theological College) on “Prepare Your Family” and Rev. Lalzuithanga, Executive Secretary i/c Women's Fellowship on “Be Prepared”. During the forenoon worship service on Sunday trophy and Certificate were given to North East Khawdungsei Pastorate Women's Fellowship for securing



Report of the 6th Business Session of the MPC Women Fellowship ²⁹

the highest marks in the Christian Family criteria. The awards were handed over by elder D. P. Biakkhuma, Synod Secretary Senior. In each worship service Women's Fellowship Choir from different Pastorates could give beautiful songs. The Bible Readers were appointed from different Pastorates. The theme of the 6th business Session was, "Jesus will Come Again," (Acts 1:18). A report of the whole year activity of the Church's women was given by the General Secretary. Two choirs sang in each service. The resolutions of the Session were:

1. The grand total budget for 2012-2013 amounted to ₹ 39, 65, 000/-; the budget for the General Conference for next year amounted to ₹ 13, 00, 000/-
2. The next General Conference will be held at Venghlui/College Veng, Aizawl during 8-10, 2013 which will be co-hosted by four pastorates – Venghlui, Republic, Bethlehem and ITI Veng pastorates.
3. The next business session in 2014 will be held at Durtlang.
4. The fund in aid of the hosting Pastorates of the General Conference has increased up to ' 4, 00,000.
5. The collections of offering of one evening Women service (Tuesday evening) will be given for the Synod Hospital Charity.
6. More efforts should be given for the proper guidance of children.
7. More awareness campaigns should be made towards the ill effects of smoking and other tobacco products.
8. The following resolutions were made with regards to the construction of the Women Centre:
 - a. Every woman member of the Church is asked to donate a one day salary for the construction. And so also the collection on the day of the Women's Day.
 - b. A special budget amounting to ' 20, 00,000 was approved for the construction.
 - c. Awareness for the construction should be made in every local church; and also a fund raising committee should be set up.
9. The Church Women have their own criteria of churches' families in respect of their family devotion and collection of



‘a handful of rice’ which results are as follows:

- a) Number of Families: 97458
- b) Number of families having daily devotion: 52451 (53.82%)
- c) Number of families collecting rice daily: 94398 (96.86%)

10. The summary reports:

- a) There are 1,55, 927 women members, of whom 3326 are belonging to the Chanmari church, Aizawl. The least number of members is at Bualpui, having 30 members.
- b) There are 136 pastorates that could organise worship services

of their own (i.e. on Tuesday evenings), while 51 branches could not do so.

- c) 1243 pastorates are sponsoring missionaries, whereas 15 of them are supporting *Kraws Sipai* (soldiers of the Cross); 13 of them are supporting underprivileged women, while 156 are sponsoring orphans in the Agape Home (*Hmangaihna In: Durtlang*).

(Taken from *Agape*, Journal for Women of the Mizoram Presbyterian Church.)



OBITUARY

The Mizoram Presbyterian Church Synod mourned the death of two ordained Ministers right at the dawn of this New Year. They are Rev. R.B. Laitawia and Rev. Dr. R. Chhuanliana

1. **Rev. R.B. Laitawia**



Rev. R.B. Laitawia, (originally named Lalrinthanga), passed away on January 25, 2012 at 4:30 am in his residence at Chanmari, Aizawl, due to diabetic disease.

Rev. R.B. Laitawia was born at Sialhau village on July 15, 1935; his parents were Mr. Neihlaia and Mrs. Chhunkhumi, both church leaders in their local church. He had two brothers and one sister. He learnt how to read under the guidance of his mother due to unavailability of school in their village. When a school was opened in the village in 1945, he studied in class III and passed that same year. Since there was not a higher class at that time, he could not study further. He survived strangely two deadly accidents, one was when he fell from a tree, and another was when a tree felled by him and his friend hit on his head that caused him to become unconscious. Some charismatic revivalists (sic) predicted that he would recover and serve the Lord; and that prediction was said came to be true later when he became a pastor.

He opted for a government service by enlisting himself in a police, but surprisingly that was inconvenient due to some strange reasons. Then he became convinced that he had been called by God to be his servant, and he attempted to do the requirements. First, he continued his study by



writing exam at class six in 1960, and after he passed, he applied for theological study but he did not succeed in the first attempt. After many attempts, he studied at the Aijal (sic) Theological College during 1967-1971. After he finished the course, he applied for and became a probationary pastor under the Mizoram Presbyterian Church Synod in 1971. He was ordained in 1975. He upgraded himself to get the degree of Bachelor of Theology (B. Th.) course during 1978-1980. He married to Mrs. Vanrammawii and they were blessed with four sons.

Rev. Laitawia, although he was not a highly educated, was known for his deep commitment and untiring service during his ministry. He would not retaliate to those who would speak ill of him. He had never been known to abandon his ministerial duty due to any family affairs or personal interest. He preached his last sermon on the theme, “But for me it is good to be near God,” based on Psalm 73: 28 on January 8, 2012 (Sunday evening worship at Chanmari West Church.

We thank God for giving the Church such a faithful and committed minister. We pray for the his family that God will give them comfort.

2. Rev. Dr. R. Chhuanliana Kawlni



The Church lost one of his precious minister Rev. Dr. R. Chhuanliana on January 7, 2012. Rev. Dr. R. Chhuanliana hailed from Farkawn, a village in the south eastern corner of Mizoram, at the Myanmar Border. His father was Hrangkhama, a church elder, and his mother was Mrs. Rallianzingi. He had two sisters and two brothers, the youngest among the siblings. He married to Mrs. H. Lalthanpari, with whom God blessed him with two sons and one daughter.



Dr. R. Chhuanliana Kawlni had his elementary and higher education in his own village schools; he did his college/graduate studies at Pachhunga University College at Aizawl. He passed B.A. (Hons.) in 1984. Soon after his graduation he joined the job of cashier-cum-clerk in the State Bank of India. But his main interest had been to serve the Lord full time, and with the permission of the MPC Theological Education Board in 1985 he joined the course of the Bachelor of Divinity (B.D.) degree at the Serampore College (University). Dr. Chhuanliana was an ardent learner, and he left remarkable records throughout his studies, both in secular and theological education.

Soon after he finished his theological degree, he was one of the probationary pastors taken by the MPC's Synod in 1989, and he completed the three-year probation period at Suangpuilawn Pastorate. He was ordained in 1992, and was posted at Sairang pastorate, which became his first and only pastorate he worked in. Knowing that he has a scholar's calibre, the Synod Theological Education Board sent him at the United Theological College, Bangalore for post-graduate study (Master of theology) in the department of New Testament. After he finished his course with good results, the Synod posted him at the Aizawl Theological College as a lecturer in 1997. As the Synod was upgrading the College into post-graduate studies, he pursued further the doctoral course at the United Theological College in 2001. During his doctoral studies, he proved himself again a highly academician. But, sadly to say, it was at this time he was diagnosed to having suffered from a cancerous disease called multiple myeloma, which affecting his whole life.

The Church had given him all supports to fight against the illness in terms of prayer and finance, and a bone-marrow transplant was carried out successfully at the CMC Vellore. On his part, he showed a fighting spirit against his illness, and he could overcome the hardships to a great extent, and he even was capable of continuing his doctoral study. Although he was delayed, he could finished the study within five years, and he was awarded the degree of Doctor of Theology in New Testament in February 2007 at



the Annual Convocation of the Senate of Serampore College held at Shillong, Meghalaya.

Although his illness was treated well and he could continue his teaching and other works for three years, the malignancy reappeared, and to be dismayed further another cancerous illness had been diagnosed in his body requiring him another surgery, which was too much for him to conquer. After long suffering he was admitted in the Synod Hospital, Durtlang, on December 12, 2011 and he breathed his last on January 7, 2012 at 4: 20 pm. His funeral service was conducted at the Mission Veng Church on January 8, 2012 in which the Synod Moderator Rev. C. Lalsangliana delivered a message of comfort, two Choirs namely the Mission Veng Church Choir and the Choir of the Aizawl Theological College sang funeral songs.

Rev. Dr. Chhuanliana is worth to be admired for many reasons. For one, he never complained his illness, but always grateful to his Lord for his guidance and blessing. He was more concerned of his students than of his illness in most occasions. Amid such serious illness, he tried his best to update his knowledge both in theological and secular and also his ministerial resources, for which he read books almost all the time. Although he had a short lifespan, he wrote seven books to his credit and a number of articles. The Church lost one of her valuable ministers. We pray for his wife and family so that the Lord will guide them in the absence of their dear dad.

“And I heard a loud voice from the throne saying:

See, the home of God is among mortals.

He will dwell with them as their God;

They will be his peoples,

And God himself will be with them;

He will wipe every tear from their eyes.

Death will be no more,

mourning and crying and pain

will be no more,

for the first things have passed away” (Rev. 21: 3-4).





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