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THE MORNING STAR

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RIGHTEOUSNESS EXALTETH A NATION BUT SIN IS A REPROACH TO ANY PEOPLE

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The Jaffna Diocesan Council

The *Thirty Seventh Annual Meeting* of the Jaffna Diocesan Council of the CSI will be held from March 1 to 3, at Otley Hall, Jaffna College, Vaddukodai. The Worship Service each day will be held at the Cathedral Church.

Trinity College Prize Giving

Mr. E. L. Senanayake the Speaker was the Chief Guest and Mrs. Senanayake distributed the Prizes at the Trinity Prize Giving held recently. The following are extracts from the Report of the Principal. Rev. (Dr.) W. G. Wickremasinghe referring to the July crisis said "the July crisis, unprecedented in its nature and magnitude, shook the very foundations of our national life and challenged the credibility and stability of our social and political structures. The sudden breakdown of discipline, law and order, naked brutality and wanton destruction resulted in panic and bitter suffering. It created a situation of suspicion, distrust and hatred between the two ethnic groups. This traumatic experience resulting from idolising our ethnic heritage seemed to make mockery of our heritage, the hallmarks of which are tolerance and reverence for human life. Many school going children were innocent victims and their exposure to such danger and horror has killed their respect for the adult world."

He also expressed disappointment at the break down of the G. C. E. O/L Examination in December. A worse calamity was avoided by the discovery of the leakage of question papers before the conclusion of the Examination. Students should not be made victim of unscrupulous people who resort to unethical practices to make quick and easy money. It was a matter for great regret that there was a steady deterioration of discipline and honesty in the examination halls on account of blatant indifference and inefficiency of invigilators.

Master C. M. G. Daswatte, the Senior Prefect made the vote of thanks,

Closure of Banks

Six People's Banks in the Northern Province were intended to be with effect from 18-2-84, according to a news item in the *Island* of 15-2-84. This follows the robbery of jewellery estimated to be worth 5 million rupees from the Chankanai branch of the Peoples' Bank on 13-2-84.

The Saturday Review

The Directors of the New Era Publications Ltd., have appointed Mr. Gamini Navaratne as Editor to succeed Mr. S. Sivanyagam, the first Editor of the *Saturday Review*.

For the Record

Flood Refugees in Jaffna

	Families	No. of people
1. Jaffna	15	46
2. Karaveddy	660	3616
3. Kopay	672	2300
4. Velanai	652	3790
5. Pt. Pedro	615	3000
6. Uduvil	248	1200
7. Sandilipay	124	644
8. Chankanai	397	1588
9. Chavakachcheri	2060	9655
10. Delft	583	2328
11. Kayts	1883	11451
	7909	39618

The Immigration Department

The mad rush for passports after the ethnic violence of July 1983, has made the Immigration Department the most sought after Department in Sri Lanka. The branches in Kandy, Galle and Jaffna have now been closed. The congestion in Colombo is unprecedented.

The run on new passports to replace those burnt during the riots is now the major problem.

In the meanwhile crooks and confidence tricksters are also on the increase.

The Vicar Murder Case

The appeals against the conviction and sentences in the Vicarage Murder Case will be filed before March 5, according to Mr. R. J. Obeyesekere, Senior Counsel for Rev. Mathew Peries. Mr. Cecil Gunawardhana will, it is learnt, file the appeal for Mrs. Delrine Ingram. The 612-page tome was read by the Judges in turn — Mr. Tissa Bandaranayake (Chairman), Mr. P. Ramananthan and Mr. D. C. W. Wickremasekara.

Rev. Peiris (64) was a former Vicar of St. Paul's Church, Kynsey Road, Borella. He and Mrs. Delrine Ingram were sentenced to death on Wednesday (15-2-84) at 6.30 p. m. They were found guilty of murdering their spouses.

At Rest

We regret to record the death of **Dr. Arulpragasam Rajanayagam** of Chundicuti on 13-2-84. The Funeral Service was held at his residence on Tuesday 14-2-84 at Kachcheri, Nallur road, Jaffna.

The Archdeacon of Jaffna, the Ven. Sam Horsington officiated assisted by Rev. Joseph Sarvanandham Vicar of St. John's Church, Chundicuti. The remains were interred at the St. James Church Burial Grounds Nallur.

He leaves behind his son, Arul Manoharan of People's Bank, Jaffna and daughters Naveena Devanandhan, Vice-Principal, Chundicuti Girls' College, and Povala Nandakumaran Attorney-at-Law.

Hospital Sunday

After a torrential downpour of rain throughout the day, Nature allowed a brief respite for the doctors the nursing staff and the para-medical staff of the three Mission Hospitals in Jaffna — Green Memorial Inuvil and the Mcleod Hospital Inuvil and the Methodist Mission Hospital at Puttur — to light their candles and march in procession into the Uduvil Church to mark Hospital Sunday this year on 11-2-84.

Rev. S. N. Sugunanandhan, Presbyterian of the Uduvil Church led the Service and preached the Sermon. Rev. D. R. Ambalavanar, Presbyterian of the Manipay Church led the Dedicatory Prayer for the Staff of the hospitals.

The Bible Lessons were read by Dr. C. S. Mills of Green Hospital, Manipay and Miss Danforth, Sister Tutor at Mcleod.

Three special lyrics were sung by the choir of the Methodist Hospital, Puttur, the Mcleod Hospital, Inuvil and the Green Hospital, Manipay.

The Service ended with the congregation joining in the familiar hymn: *At Even Ere The Sun was Set* and the Bishop, the Rt. Rev. D. J. Ambalavanar pronouncing the Benediction.

The Private Medical College

The North Colombo Medical College at Ragama, created history in medical education in Sri Lanka, when it engaged its third-year medical students to work with a group of general practitioners in Colombo, as part of their clinical practice.

NCMC sources said the students will work for three days a week with the GPs, at the end of which they will conduct a seminar at which they will discuss the experience they gained and any problems they confronted.

The first batch of students from the NCMC is expected to graduate as doctors in 1987.

In brief

○ The floods in nine districts have destroyed paddy crops estimated at Rs. 975 million. In Batticaloa (850 mm rainfall in February) alone, 5.5 million bushels of paddy valued at Rs. 227.5 million have been destroyed. 600 to 700 heads of cattle have also perished in the floods in the Eastern province.

○ The Tamil Manram of the University of Jaffna collected a sum of one and a half lakhs for flood relief. The money includes a sum of Rs. 25,000 collected by a flag-day in the schools in Jaffna.

○ Mr. B. S. C. Ratwatte, retired Supreme Court Judge has been

Police recover safe

Police on Sunday found the five-ton safe removed by robbers from the People's bank at Chankanai on the centre of the road at the Vallai junction. Atchuvily 8 miles from Chankanai.

Believed to have contained pawned jewellery worth of Rs. five million, it had been blasted open and emptied.

The robbery, on this occasion by armed men in military uniform was carried on February 13 night exactly one month after the Kattankudy raid on the Peoples Bank in which pawned gold worth Rs. 32 million was robbed.

C. D. N. 21-2-84

YMCA Camp

The National Council of YMCAs of Sri Lanka will conduct the 10th annual YMCA "3-R" Camp for young men and women between 18 and 30 years. It will be held from March 14 to 18 at the National YMCA / YWCA Holiday Camp Resort at Welimada.

The program includes self appraisal exercises, talks and discussions on leadership, personality development, national development, peace and national harmony and love and marriage.

Weddings

Reginald Gnanendran —
Maureen Swendrina

The wedding of *Reginald Gnanendran* (Civil Engineer) and *Maureen Swendrina Mather* took place on Tuesday the 24th of January 1984 at C. S. I. Church Manipay. The Bridegroom is the son of the Late Mr. S. R. Arumanayagam and Mrs. G. Arumanayagam of Lawton Road, Manipay, and the Bride is the youngest daughter of the late Victor Mather and Mrs. Ratna Mather of Manipay.

Rev. D. R. Ambalavanar officiated, assisted by Rev. A. Jeyakumaran. The homily was preached by Rev. S. Sugunanandhan. After the Service there was a reception at the Brides residence.

Amirthanayagam — Blanchard

The marriage of *Bobbis Amirthanayagam*, son of Mr. V. Rajaratnam and the late Mrs. Rajaratnam of Heudala, Wattala, and *Audrie Rugitha*, daughter of Mr. & Mrs. E. S. Blanchard of Suthumalai South, Manipay, was solemnised at the Manipay Church on 12-1-84 at 4.00 p. m.

Rev. S. Manepavan officiated and performed the nuptial rites, assisted by the Rev. A. Jeyakumaran. Rev. A. C. Mathanaraj preached the homily.

lected President of the Trinity College OBA. He succeed Minister Gamini Dissanayaka.

Hartley College

The Golden Anniversary of the Hartley College Old Boys' Association was celebrated on Saturday (18-2-84) at Hartley College. At the Public Meeting held in the School Hall. Mr. S. Anandakumaraswamy, High Court Judge, Anuradhapura and Mr. S. Kandasamy the were Chief Speakers. The Principal of Hartley College, Mr. W. N. S. Samuel proposed the Vote of Thanks.

Displaced Undergrads

Dr. Stanley Kalpage Secretary, Ministry of Higher Education and Chairman, University Grants Commission, told the Committee on Displaced Tamil University students that he would place before the Minister of Higher Education the details of the discussion. He also told the Committee that the decision of the government regarding the request made by the students would be conveyed to them as early as possible.

Dr. Kalpage conveyed these decisions when the Committee met on 5-2-84. Others present at Wednesday's meeting were the Vice Chancellor, Jaffna University and three students. The Director, Batticaloa University College was not present. He had excused himself for his inability to come to Colombo owing to floods. The Ministry release said:

The students presented details of the Tamil students from the Universities of Colombo, Peradenia and Moratuwa seeking admission to the University of Jaffna and to the Batticaloa University College for each year of study, both in the disciplines that are available in these Institutions and in disciplines for which new faculties departments of study would have to be set up. The Vice-Chancellor of the University of Jaffna indicated the extent to which the University of Jaffna could admit students in these disciplines in each of the years concerned. Similar information was available to the Committee from the Director, Batticaloa University College.

Displaced Tamil Engineering Students

The displaced Tamil Engineering students from the Universities of Peradeniya and Moratuwa—120 in number—have requested the Vice-Chancellor of the Jaffna University to make provision for some lectures in English temporarily for them in the Jaffna University till a decision is arrived at by the UGC. The matter, we learn, is under consideration.

Cabinet reshuffle?

Political circles in the city on Sunday were speculating on the possibility of Cabinet changes in the near future. Some expect a reshuffle before the opening of the next sessions of parliament on February 23. Other sources hinted that there may a reduction in the number of ministers.

Advanced Level Examination Sept. 1983

The results of the above examination is expected to be released by the first week of March. Some 150,000 candidates sat for this examination.

Bank changes in Dubai don't affect Colombo branch

Mr. A. N. R. Mc Harg, General Manager of the Union Bank of the Middle East Ltd. Colombo, said yesterday that the change in the board of the UMBE Dubai, 'in no way affected the operations of the Branch in Colombo.'

He said: Mr. A. Galadari resigned from the board of the Union Bank of the Middle East Limited and a new board was appointed on November 12, 1983.

"The new chairman, of the bank is Mr. Ahmed Humaid Al-Tayer, who is minister of State for Finance & Industry in the United Arab Emirates. The bank has the full financial backing of the Central Bank of the United Arab Emirates, and is considered undoubted for its Commitments."

Coconut Crisis

The coconut crisis is expected to be with us this year too.

Nut production fell by 10 per cent last year and is estimated to plummet by a further six to seven per cent in the current year.

"The best we can hope to achieve, weather permitting, is last year's level of production", Coconut Industries Ministry Secretary, D. Wijesinghe, said.

Last year production, fell to 2250 million nuts from 2,500 million in 1982. In the current year it is expected to slide to 2100 million, barely 30 million higher than the country's annual consumption.

With a rising world market price for coconut products (currently it is around 1200 US dollars) and exporters scraping the barrel to earn foreign exchange, the prospect of the coming coconut season bringing price relief to hardpressed house-wives is dim, say coconut millers.

Over 60-odd coconut millers and 65 desiccated coconut manufacturers have put up their shutters, depriving their workforce of employment, Mr. Wijesinghe said November to March is a lean time for coconut millers but this year is expected to be exceptionally bad.

The BCC and the Coconut Development Authority which together hold a stock of about 2500 tonnes of oil have begun to release small quantities to prevent the oil price soaring. This exercise will be continued till March, Mr. Wijesinghe said.

SLFP won't take part in all party Talks

The Sri Lanka Freedom Party has decided not to participate in the all party conference.

SLFP sources told the "Daily News" that at Saturday's Central Committee meeting held on 15-2-84 at the party headquarters, party president Mrs. Sirima Bandaranaike informed the Central Committee that Mr. Felix Dias Abeyasinghe, Secretary to the all party conference, had met her and explained the statements made by Mr. A. Amirthalingam, secretary general of the TULF. The sources said that the Central Committee had considered

this and decided not to participate in the all party conference and endorsed its earlier decision to abstain from taking part in the meetings of the all party conference.

[CDN 20-2-84]

Call to Curtail Air Lanka Flights

Dr. T. R. Janarthanan member of the Legislative Council of Tamil Nadu and President World Tamil Youth Federation has urged the Central Government of India to allow Air Lanka to land in only one place in India if the Sri Lanka Government did not permit the revival of the Tiruchi-Jaffna Indian airline service.

In a telegram to Mr. M. M. Kohil, Secretary Union Civil Aviation Ministry in New Delhi Dr. Janarthanan said "we have a legitimate right to touch a number of places as airlines of other countries are touching our land. Air Lanka is touching four places, but we are landing at only one place - Colombo Ninety per cent of the passengers travelling to Colombo have to go from Jaffna by train or bus in the present serious situation. If the Sri Lanka Government's anti-Tamil attitude prevents our claims, recommend to the Government to stop Air Lanka from landing at more than one place in India."

Capt. Rakkita Wickremanayake Chairman of Air Lanka, when asked for his comments told "The Island" "going on this principle it may be interesting for Mr. Janarthanan to asked the Indian Government why British Airways is allowed to land in Bombay, New Delhi and Calcutta while Air Lanka is allowed to land at Heathrow airport in London and why Thai Airways is allowed to land in New Delhi and Calcutta while Air India lands only in Bangkok. The reason for not giving permission for Indian Air-

Impressions on Church Life in Japan by a Fellow Asian

By Rev. Andar Ismail

(Continued from our 3-2-84 issue)

A Bonsai Church

A newcomer to Japan will quickly realise that the Japanese are very fast in everything they do. They walk fast. They work fast. However there are two exceptions, two things that take a long time in Japan. The first one is the Tea Ceremony. And the second is the growth of the church.

Of course, the life of the cannot be measured merely by the increase in membership. However, if the growth indicates slowness, does not that indicate the need for the church to re-evaluate its methods of work? It's definite that the slow growth of the Japanese church is not caused by stress or by obstacles. Compared with other Asian churches, the Japanese church now enjoys many advantages. It's relationship with the government is good, and the Japanese church is in the midst of a community that is tolerant towards the church. In other Asian countries people are often afraid to accept gifts of a Bible. In Japan, Bibles are openly sold even in general bookshops. The openness towards Christianity also shows up in Sunday School

Memorial Service

The Chief Justice, Mr. Neville Samarakone paid the tribute and the Bishop of Colombo, the Rt. Rev. Swithin Fernando preached the Sermon at the Memorial Service held on 18-2-84 to the late Mr. K. A. Pullenayagam at Christ Church, Galle Face.

Drop in tourist arrivals

The total number of foreign visitors last year was 337,342. The total number of tourists that arrived here in 1982 was 407,230.

A spokesman for the Ceylon Tourist Board attributed this decrease in the number of arrivals to the July disturbances last year. The highest arrival figure of tourists last year was 49,104 in January and the lowest was 8,430 in August.

Excerpt from the Morning Star Dated Jan. 7 1984 No. 1

TERMS

The Morning Star will be devoted to Education, Science and general literature and to the dissemination of articles on Agriculture, Government, and Religion, with a brief summary of important News.

lines to fly from Tricity to Jaffna is because the runway is in poor shape there are no facilities for customs clearances, no facilities for landing at night and also because under the present circumstances it is not advisable for security reasons.

Island 16-2-84

Editor's Note:

The reasons given for the refusal of Indian Airline's request for landing rights at Palaly interesting. A few years ago Air Ceylon was operating the Jaffna-Tricity line without too much difficulty.

with eighty children, sent by their non-Christianity parents. The fact that in Japan three million people claim to be Christians, whereas not more than half the number are church members, also indicates that Christianity is not a religion that is shunned by the Japanese. Also, surely it must be unique that nearly two-thirds of the theological students at Doshisha are not Christians. Now the problem is, are all these unique features just mentioned really being used by the church as an opportunity for the giving out of the Gospel? The fact that there is no opposition or obstacle toward the church certainly gives tranquillity and freedom of action to the church. But on the other hand such tranquillity can also cause the church to be too much at ease. It lives softly, without many challenges. The result is that it has little spirit to struggle. It is too protected. It is like a bonsai tree in a house that will grow slowly; or does it feel called to be a bamboo tree in a tree realm that will grow much faster, both in quantity and in strength?

(to be continued)