

## Overseas Friends of UESI (Union of Evangelical Students of India)-USA

*Address for Correspondence:*  
OFUESI-USA, 1921 Narrows Lane,  
Silver Spring, MD-20906



*Financial Contributions:*  
Treasurer OFUESI, 1135 W 187<sup>th</sup>  
Street, Homewood, IL-60430

Dear OFUESI Family:

Greetings to you in the highly exalted name of our Lord, Jesus Christ. In this issue, you will find the gist of the *final* messages from our 2008 Annual Regional Conferences in our *Eternal Excellence Feature*. How thankful we are to both Bro. Sathkeerthi Rao and Bro. LT Jeyachandran for their timely exhortation and encouragement! May our Lord help us to transform our learning into complete obedience!

Did you complete the requested online survey about Marriage and Family, one of our brothers, Dr. Packiaraj (formerly Trichy EU/EGF, Chair of UESI-TN Christian Home Dept., now Phily EGF) asked us to fill? He targeted the end of February for data collection. He will be analyzing the data for his research study at Marywood University. We trust the lessons gleaned will be a great blessing in bringing a new hope to many of our OFUESI families. If you missed it, we would urge you to take time and complete the survey at this URL: [http://www.surveymonkey.com/s.aspx?sm=8tUFK\\_2fRxst38XMNH3fmyDw\\_3d\\_3d](http://www.surveymonkey.com/s.aspx?sm=8tUFK_2fRxst38XMNH3fmyDw_3d_3d).

Please continue to uplift the Executive Committee (Joji, Zeno, Paramjyothi, Suman and Suresh) who have been introduced in the last issue. You will find Bro. Zeno's testimony covered here, a testament to the long lasting influence of UESI in our lives. We trust you will be reminded of God's grace in your lives as you enjoy this testimony.

Let us continue to pray for our OFUESI families, some of whom have health setbacks and employment challenges. All of us need daily grace in our spiritual walk. Pray for local EGFs to provide the spiritual fellowship and support to one another. May the good Lord keep us in the palm of His hand and use us for His glory!

In Christ, *Subha Kumpty*  
For KIT Editorial Board

**OFUESI Vision:** *Fostering the UESI vision in the US and strengthening the UESI through OFUESI*

### **Testimony of Zeno Philip (shared at the National Council meeting on Dec 13, 2008)**

I am the oldest son of missionary parents, Mr. and Mrs. A. G. Philip, who were first with the Operation Mobilization (OM) and then with the UESI as staff workers. My earliest memories are those of traveling in OM trucks - transporting people and literature to various places. Often, the OM truck served as our home as we spent much time on the road. Later on, my parents, along with Dr. and Mrs. Sterrett and Mr. and Mrs. John Martin helped setup the UESI study center at Bangalore.

I accepted Jesus Christ as my personal Savior when I was around 8 or 9 yrs old while at boarding school, in the Nilgiris, Tamil Nadu. After completing my 12<sup>th</sup> grade I tried for admission into engineering school in Kerala and got into TKM college of engineering, Kollam, Kerala through the waiting list only because the number of seats were increased after the examination results were finalized. I clearly see God's hand in this as admission into TKM enabled me to come into contact with many committed EGF members in Kollam such as Dr. E. V. Mathew, Mr. John George and Mr. P.C. Thomas, among others. Their love and involvement enabled me to recommit my life to Jesus. I did fairly well in my undergraduate education and obtained a job with ONGC in Mumbai offshore. At ONGC, I was for the most part a passive Christian. After 6 years in ONGC I decided to come to the US to pursue graduate studies in Petroleum Engineering and God gave me admission at the University of Texas at Austin. It was there by the work of a student organization called International Students Friendship Ministry that I came back to Christ and began attending an Assemblies of God church called Glad Tidings. After my MS studies and

marriage to Roopa, a physician, I decided to pursue a PhD in Petroleum Engineering. Although my MS studies were relatively easy, I found PhD studies quite difficult. I was fortunate to have two very compassionate advisors (a rarity in academia these days) – Dr. James W. Jennings, a born-again Christian, who attended the Redeemer Presbyterian church in Austin and Dr. Jon Olson, professor of Petroleum Engineering at UT Austin. Dr. Olson allowed me to continue in the PhD program even after I received an “F” in one of my courses and a large component of my dissertation is due to an idea proposed by Dr. Jennings. Once again I clearly see God’s hand in this as without their support “above and beyond the normal” I would have been unable to complete my PhD studies. I have since been working in Houston as a diagnostic engineer for a company called Pinnacle Technologies, recently bought out by Halliburton. I am delighted to be a part of Houston EGF and the OFUESI family at large. I count it a privilege to serve on the Executive Committee.

My father used to say that God does not have grandchildren – only children; however, in my case I clearly see God’s extra special love and care in drawing me to Him on numerous occasions. So in that sense I am His child only because I was first His grandchild.

#### From the desk of Treasurer -

I bring greetings to you in the wonderful name of Lord and Savior Jesus Christ. It is our joy to be a part of the ministry of UESI through our prayers and financial support by our OFUESI family. During the month of December 2008 we were able to send an additional \$6,000 to UESI (YTD support to UESI in 2008 is \$ 74,205). Praise the Lord for His faithfulness. During 2009, we have sent \$3000 so far (in February). Please pray with me that our God will enable us to be faithful in our consistent giving to UESI on a **monthly** basis.

May each of you abound in His grace!

Sincerely,

Paramjyothi Marati, Treasurer OFUESI

**OFUESI Mission:** *Strengthen the bonds of fellowship among OFUESI, provide prayer and financial support to the UESI work in India, and expand evangelism efforts among Indian students in the US.*

### **Eternal Excellence Featuring the *Ministry of the Word* by Mr. Sathkeerthi Rao (SR), UESI, India and Mr. LT Jeyachandran (LT), RZIM, Singapore at the Regional Conferences '08** (FINAL MESSAGES)

#### **LT4: Mission as Redemption of Creation including Identities- Rev. 7:9,10; 21, 22**

1. The present natural creation is awaiting the redemption of the children of God (*Rom.8:19-22*).

2. Our ethnic, linguistic and cultural identities will be redeemed as part of our redemption in Christ (*Rev.7:9,10; 21:24-27*).

3. The majestic finale of the Scriptures is the redemption of the whole of creation as described in *Rev. 21, 22* and *Is.65:17-25*.

4. The centerpiece is the Church, the New Jerusalem — its dimensions are those of a perfect cube, paralleling those of the Holy of Holies in the tabernacle of Moses and temple of Solomon. The Church is the dwelling place of God and of the Lamb (*Rev.21:9,10,22,23*).



Remember we said earlier that the gospel does not begin with Gen 3 (fall) and end in Rev 20 (judgment). The gospel does begin in Gen 1 (made in the image of God, creation) and end in Rev 21 (remade in the image of Christ, new creation). In Gen 1, God gave identities to material objects. What He formed in Days 1-3, He filled in Days 4-6. If we conduct diagnosis of the Fall (Gen 3), the first symptom we notice is ‘shame’. I can’t accept myself. And I can’t accept how my wife is. Adam and Eve sowed themselves aprons of fig leaves and initiated today’s trillion dollar cosmetics business. They hid themselves from God overwhelmed by shame and guilt. God is a relational being. He calls Adam: Where are you?. There is this response “I heard You but was afraid, naked and hence hid myself”. Relationship with God is broken and needs restoration. The child bearing would be painful and the work will be toil. In the original design, work is to serve (avath), the same word used for worship (serving God). Both cultivating the land and worshipping the Lord use the same root word. Now,

man has to deal with wastefulness in work (Thermodynamics question). Only instance in the Bible the second law of Thermodynamics is violated then is at the Resurrection of Jesus. Rom 8:20 shows relationship within the nature is broken. Who subjected creation to frustration- man or God? Read the book *God and Tsunami* by the Campus Crusade for Christ. Our God, in His eagerness to save us, is saving the whole world. Sundar Lal Bahuguna hug the tree and said he is one with it. But we look after the tree because we are above it and caretakers of it. Our life is a continuum of the Amazing Grace and we do what we do in the name of Christ. John Newton, a slave owner was saved. It led to Britain being saved from French type of revolution. God used William Wilberforce, a British statesman, in the abolishment of slavery. Our jobs are sacred calling of God. Your contribution to society is central to who you are as a Christian. When I joined Bharat Sarkar, I made three vows: 1) I will not be corrupt. 2) I will never ask Govt. of India to change my transfer orders. 3) I will treat everyone with dignity and respect, as fellow-human made in the image of God. I worked with all kinds of people in all kinds of places and God gave me a great time of my life serving Him through my employment.

I was at the home of Emmanuel and Mercy in Pune where we had an international students' bible study. There were 9 Iranians and 2 Afghans. One Pharsi had a question why he should worship in Arabic. Our linguistic, ethnic and cultural identities will be redeemed. The way we dress, the food we eat and the way we worship are cultural identities which will be redeemed. We will live eternally rediscovering our identities.

In Gen 2, we see the four riverheads out of the garden of Eden and one of them, Pishon flowing in the land of Havilah where there is gold, onyx stone (raw materials). In Gen 21 we see the city with twelve gates of pearl and foundations of precious stones (finished products). We move from agrarian, rural garden in Gen to urban city in Rev. I happen to think there is enough work for all of us. The Physicists will create a glorified theory of relativity. As Is 65 portrays, His elect shall enjoy the work of their hands. In Rev 21, we find the city having the glory of God for its light and coming down from heaven. To give a picture of its majesty, the Holy of Holies was 15X15X15 ft<sup>3</sup>, inner sanctuary of Solomon's temple was 30X30X30 ft<sup>3</sup> and the New Jerusalem, the heavenly city is 1400X1400X1400 mi<sup>3</sup> (not ft<sup>3</sup>). In this city, there was no temple for the Lord God Almighty and the Lamb are its temple. The glory of God illuminates the whole city and the Lamb is its light.

Nothing impure will be found there. It sure is a place of redeemed identities.

Please note the Lamb, Jesus Christ. The glorified body of Jesus will still have the marks on the body. This is ugliness to ISKONS, who elevate to the highest Krishna, one of the incarnations of Vishnu. For our redemption, Jesus went to the cross. His words began with 'Father, forgive them' and ended with 'Father, Into Thy hands I commend my spirit'. While He hung on the cross for six hours, there was darkness of 3 hours and an instance where He felt the separation from the Father as He uttered, "My God, My God, why have you forsaken Me?" It was the Holy Spirit who was holding them together. The Holy Spirit is the vicar of Christ. Heb 9:14 provides a key insight: "How much more the blood of *Christ who through eternal Spirit offered Himself without spot to God*, purge your conscience from dead works to serve the living God? This is a Trinitarian verse about our atonement (at one with God), our redemption. The human body of Jesus was affected for good, to save me and the billions.

#### SR4: *Spiritual Satisfaction- From Haggai*

1. Self-seeking 1:2-4
2. Self-evaluation (5 times) 1:5; 1:7; 2:15; 2:18(2)
3. Self-surrender 1:12,14 – 2:13
4. Self-sanctification 2:23 – Zerubbabel

- I will take you
- I will make you
- I have chosen you.



The Lord is in His holy temple. The kingdom of God is at hand. We have at our disposal the gospel of God's grace. Let us be filled with the Spirit. Let the words of Christ dwell in us richly. The just shall live by faith (Habakkuk 2:4). Martin Luther, John Wesley, Augustine.. many have been touched and moved by the Lord with a vision and burden to make an impact for kingdom. God is working in history. Prof. Enoch wrote the booklet, *Evolution or Creation* for which Sir Wakely, Royal College, London wrote the beautiful foreword: "Evolution is a man-made theory. Creation is by the handiwork of God. I, for one, believe in creation". We must make rich contributions to the kingdom and the world. One of the four aims of UESI is to raise a testimony to the truth of historic Christian

faith and present the message thereof for the solution of the problems of mankind. Dr. Nambudripad, son of a Brahmin purohit, was born in Tiruvalla, a place saturated with Christianity. God had to take him to London in order for him to meet Christ. He practiced in CMC, Ludhiana. In his day, he was recognized as the fourth top neurosurgeon in the world. UESI has made a rich contribution to the kingdom as its men and women led in IEM, FMPB, World Vision and such. It affected the theological, social, educational and political framework of India. Rodricks, Bishop of Marthoma church has impacted politics, a UESI graduate. OFUESI members are here by divine design not just for material gain, social upliftment and cultural enthronement but to make a rich contribution to the world under the mighty demonstration of God. Remember that.

Haggai 1. The remnant had their priorities wrong. They neglected building of God's temple and were self-seeking. The questions to us: What am I building? What have I built over the years? What is your identity- Christian or Non-Christian, spiritual or worldly? Our UESI founder, Prof. Enoch left not an inch of land or a rupee coin for himself. Today many church leaders are building their kingdoms for upto fourth generation of their families. Actions speak louder than words! Are you self-seeking or God-seeking? Mt 6:33. Seek ye first the kingdom of God. This is not only theological but also economical. Adding (by God) is proportional to seeking (Him). God's work done in God's way will never lack God's supply said Hudson Taylor. Someone asked Bro. Bakth Singh whether he had any financial needs. He said he did not have any. When he was invited to U.S. Presidential Breakfast, he prayed about it and said God was not leading him to it. Seek first the kingdom of God.

Haggai gives the challenge to consider their ways. They have sown much but reaped little. What they brought home, God blew it away. Will God do that? Eli served 40 years and he was looking for 40% discount. Full-time workers are looking for a discount. No, Ichabod! The glory of God departed. Why? Because God is reasonable. Because of His house which remains in ruins. Even from the background of UESI, there are full-time workers that have sons, who have divorced their wives or left the faith. Maternity has nothing to do with morals. It is easy to conceive, carry and deliver. Have we built God's house, His kingdom? Consider our ways.

1:12 The Lord their God sent the prophet Haggai. Haggai gave the message. They obeyed the voice of

the Lord their God. Zerubbabel and Joshua.. men who will become messengers and doers. Are you sent by God or sending yourselves? Are you doing God's work or your work?

John Moody at CMC, Vellore led Sarla Elisha to the Lord. She has been a blessing in Guntur as a Christian doctor. John shared the gospel with Joe Devadatta, whom nobody liked to sit next to due to his intoxication. Joe served the Lord as Vice-Principal of CMC. The method of our evangelism: one student at a time. Please chew on this. John Moody went on to make an impact in North East India. Nowadays, we are feeding too much to Madhya Pradesh (stomachs) and not to Uttar Pradesh (hearts). The campus evangelism has become camp evangelism. We will put on unnecessary luggage (weight) and nothing else. The Jews had to go to the mountain, bring down the timber and build God's house. It means "work". We cannot be lazy. Some will say, "I will come, God willing". It actually means, "I will come if possible". And the fellow won't come at all. Let us consider our ways. Let us get to work and build God's house. I will fill this house with glory, says the LORD (2:7). He is able to do exceedingly above all that we ask or think. Eye has not seen, nor ear heard nor have entered into the heart of man what God has prepared for those that love Him. Hallelujah! Don't settle with what you have.

At High Field, Kotagiri we have the inscription, "In this place, I will give you peace", a promise God gave to Mrs. Sterrett. We notice in Haggai (2:19), From this day forward I will bless you. Claim this promise for yourself and your families. The prophet forgets the high priest but concentrates on the governor, Zerubbabel whom God raised for the purpose and who has obeyed the Lord's voice.

2:23. Three-fold promise and calling. On the day, I will take you. I will make you. I have chosen you. My dear brothers and sisters, He brought you here for a purpose. Don't shortchange your calling for material gain. Be involved in kingdom work and provide a rich contribution to the world.

"Obedience is what delights our Lord; obedience from His chosen ones is the sweetest smell He loves. He looks all across our world looking for those souls that are His, with humble tender hearts that want nothing less than to be obedient to Him regardless of the cost. Obedience will not be easy....no matter, it is in pleasing our sovereign Lord with our obedience that is of most importance." – Scott Bailey