

Archiv der Gossner Mission

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Signatur

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Aktenzeichen

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Titel

Gossner Evangelical Lutheran Church in Chotanagpur and Assam (GELC), Schriftwechsel und Berichte 1962-1964

Band

1

Laufzeit

1962 - 1964

Enthält

Schriftwechsel mit d. Präsidenten Dr. Marsallan Bage und Rev. Joel Lakra;
Gedächtnisprotokoll Besprechungen zwischen Dr. Bage u. Dr. Berg, August 1964

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G. E . L. Church

=====

1. Dr. Bage
2. Rev. Lakra
3. Allgemein
4. Finanzen
5. Finanzberater der G.E.L.C.
6. Verhältnis Gossner Kirche / Gossner Mission
Evtl. Beendigung des unmittelbaren Verhältnisses
7. Scholarships
8. Erziehungsarbeit
9. Evangelistische Arbeit
10. Wellesley Square Church
11. KSS / Secr. of KSS
12. Mr. Panna

B o t s c h a f t

der Bundesrepublik Deutschland in Neu-Delhi

Nr.6, Shanti Path, Chanakyapuri

N e w D e l h i / 3

Indien

6.9.62

Su.

Seemannsmissionar Walter P a n z l a u

Salita San Rocco 3/18
Genova/Italia

(auf diese Anschrift kann bei Schwierigkeiten auf der Durch-
reise indischer Studenten, die auf dem Wege nach Deutschland
sind, zurückgegriffen werden)

ebenso

Dekan Rolf Lepsien

Via M. Durazzo 12 A-10
Genova/Italia

29.5.62
Wo.

Dr. Bage

GOSSNER EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN CHURCH IN CHHOTANAGPUR
AND ASSAM (INDIA)

Memo No. 390/64-KSS-126.

Dated Ranchi 9 May 1964.

To:-

The Director,
The Lutheran World Federation,
Department of World Mission,
17 Route de Malagnou,
Geneva (Switzerland)

3. J. A.
C. Gossner Kops
157
15

Sub:- INFORMATION FOR RECORDING ACTIVITY
AND STATUS OF WORKS- 1963.

Dear Friend,

Further to my letter No. 379/64 -KSS-126 dated 4.5.64, I send herewith further information in respect of G.E.L. Church Hospital Angson (Orissa) Technical Training Centre Phudi ~~and~~ (Bihar) and Agricultural Training School, Khutitoli (Ranchi) as follows:-

I. G.E.L. Church Hospital Angson.

1. No. of beds.	50
2. No. of National Nurses.	1
3. No. of other National workers rural, medical helpers, dhai.	4
4. No. of bed patients during the year	1681
5. No. of out patients.	20188

II. T.T.C. Phudi

1. No. of Students.	37
2. No. of National Teachers.	4
3. No. of Foreign Teachers.	5
4. No. of other workers.	25

III. A.T.C. Khutitoli.

1. No. of Students.	8
2. No. of National Teachers.	2
3. Others.	1

Yours Very Sincerely,

M. Page

Pramukh Adhyaksh,
G.E.L. Church, Ranchi.
(Dr. M. Page)

Copy to:-

✓
Dr. Christian Berg,
Director,
Gossner Mission Society,
Händjerystrasse 19/20
Berlin - Friedenau,
WEST GERMANY.



Gossner Evangelical Lutheran Church

CHOTANAGPUR & ASSAM.

Rev. Dr. M. BAGE

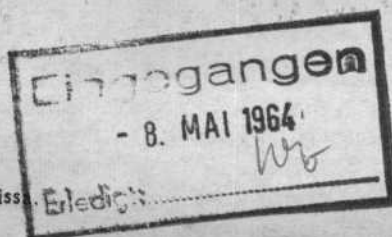
Pramukh Adhyaksh

G. E. L. Church, Ranchi

Rev. C. B. AIND

Up-Pramukh Adhyaksh

G. E. L. Church Rajgangpur, Orissa



Shri H. SAMAD Secy.

G. E. L. Church Kadma

Khunti Dist. Ranchi,

Shri C. A. TIRKEY Treas.

G. E. L. Church Chainpur

RANCHI.

Ref: No. 379/64-KSS-126.

Date May 4 1964.

To,

The Director,
The Lutheran World Federation,
Department of World Mission,
17 Route de Malagnan,
Geneva Switzerland.

Sub:- INFORMATION FOR RECORDING ACTIVITY AND
STATUS OF WORK-1963.

Dear Friend,

With reference to your letter dated 18th November 1963, I am enclosing two copies of the forms duly completed for your information as required.

The delay in submission is very much regretted as the report could not be submitted in specified time due to non receipt of informations from stations in this Church.

Very Sincerely yours,

M. Bage

Pramukh Adhyaksh,

G. E. L. Church, Ranchi.

(Dr. Marsalan Bage)

cc:-

✓
Dr. Christian Berg,
Director, Gossner Mission
Society,
Handjerystrasse 19/20
BERLIN-Friedenau.

INFORMATION FORM FOR LUTHERAN CHURCHES and/or MISSIONS for the year 1963

Please complete this form, using estimates where exact figures are not available. Send

2 copies to:
Lutheran World Federation
Dept. of World Mission
1, Ancienne Route Grand-Saconnex
GENEVA, Switzerland

1 copy to:
each mission board or
society assisting in
this field, and keep
1 copy for your files.

PLEASE MAIL THE COMPLETED FORMS NO LATER THAN APRIL 1, 1964

A. GENERAL INFORMATION

1. Country INDIA

2. Exact name of church and/or mission

Church Gossner Evangelical
Mission Lutheran Church

3. Boards and societies assisting the mission and/or church

Name of Board or Society Financial/Personnel
(check one or both)

Gossner Mission
Society
Friedenau Germany

4. Has an indigenous church been constituted? Yes
yes when

5. Head of church

Rev. Dr. Marsallan Bage
name and title

Pramukh Adhyaksh
address

G. E. L. Church, Ranchi Bihar
cable address and tel. No.

510-A

Head of Mission
(on the Field)

name and title

address

B. THE CHURCH

1. Number of Congregations

Number of Preaching Places

(Where the ministry of the word is regularly carried on, but where believers are not formally organized into a congregation; or one of many local units within a single congregational structure.)

2. Total baptized membership at end of year 1963

Men 55671
Women 59074
Children 113400
Total 225455

a) Communicant membership at end of year

Men 57326
Women 57729

b) Number of adults baptized during year 898

c) Number of children baptized during year 7396

(!)

d) Number confirmed during year

Adults
Children } 2944

3. National Staff

- a) Number of pastors
b) Number of other paid evangelistic workers
(exclude teachers, nurses medical, office, etc. workers)
Men 129
Women 15

4. a) Women's organization:

Lutheran Mahila Sammelan

Head of organization: Miss Anugrahit Minz

b) Youth organization: Gossner Church

Youth Organisation

Head of organization: Rev. Martin Tete

c) Other organizations (Men, Student, etc.):

5. Missionary activity (missionaries sent to areas outside this church):

- a) Within the country-number
b) To other countries-number
c) Number supported by this church alone
d) Number supported jointly with other churches

6. Radio Evangelism:

Did your church/mission engage in radio evangelism during the year? No
(Explain briefly)

7. Relationships:

This church holds membership in the LWF; WCC; National Council; Conference; Federation, etc.
(Please underline)

F.E.L.C. (1)

C. EDUCATION

1. Elementary or Primary Schools

(including kindergartens) (1st-6th school years)

- a) Number of schools 204
b) Number of pupils 15187
c) Number of national teachers 690

2. Secondary (Middle) Schools (7th-12th school years) operated by this church/mission alone

- a) Number of schools 46
b) Number of pupils 4453
c) Number of national teachers 203

3. Secondary (Middle) Schools operated jointly with other churches/missions/organizations if other than listed in Part A above

- a) Number of schools
b) Number of students from this church/mission
c) Total number of students

4. Institutions for Higher Education

(College or University level)

a) Operated by this church/mission alone

Name

Location

b) Operated jointly with other churches/missions if other than listed in Part A

Name

Location

c) Totals for above (a and b)

No. Christian students

No. non-Christian students

No. national Christian teachers

No. national non-Christian teachers

5. Theological Seminaries

Name Lutheran Theological College Ranchi

Cooperating churches/missions if other than listed in Part A above

Number of national teachers 3

Number of students from this church/mission 11

Total number of students. 12
Other church 1

6. Bible Schools

Name Tabita Bible & Bunyadi Training School Govindpur

Cooperating churches/missions if other than listed in Part A above

Number of national teachers 4

Number of students from this church/mission 30

Total number of students. 31
Other church 1

7. Teachers Training Schools

Name Bethesda Women's Training School

Cooperating churches/missions if other than listed in Part A above

Number of national teachers 3

Number of students from this church/mission 37

Total number of students 40

8. Nurses Training Schools

Name

Cooperating churches/missions if other than listed in Part A above

Number of national teachers

Number of students from this church/mission

Total number of students

9. Other Medical Training Schools

Name

Cooperating churches/missions if other than listed in Part A above

Number of national teachers

Number of students from this church/mission

Total number of students

10. Other Training Institutions

(agricultural, industrial, etc.)

Name and type Technical Trg. Centre Phudi
& Agricultural Trg. Centre Khutitoli

Cooperating churches/missions if other than listed in Part A above

" Bread for the World "

Germany

Total number students in these schools

Number of national teachers

11. Sunday Schools

Total number 1162

Number of pupils 28718

Number of teachers 1507

12. Student Hostels

Locations

Total number resident students

D. Welfare Work

1. Hospitals

Locations

No. beds

Amgaon (Orissa)

Total No. national physicians

Total No. national nurses

Total No. other national (government-recognized) medical workers (medical assistants, rural medical aids, etc.)

Number bed-patients during the year

Number of out-patients registered and treated

2. Dispensaries

(not located at hospitals — include clinics, polyclinics, medical stations, etc.)

Number

Number of registered patients

Number treatments given

(Fill in one or both of the above two rubrics depending on how records are kept.)

3. Other Charitable Institutions

(Orphanages, leprosariums, etc.)

Location

Type of Institution

Number cared for

Location

Type of Institution

Number cared for

4. Did your church/mission engage in the distribution of aid to the poor, refugees, etc., during 1963?

(List actions)

E. LITERATURE

1. Periodicals published by this church/mission alone for its own constituency

(not by and for home board)

a) Name Charbandhu

Language Hindi

Number copies 1000 Number pages 18

Frequency Monthly

b) Name Adhyatmic Patrika
Language Hindi & English
Number copies 800 Number pages 23
Frequency _____

2. Periodicals published jointly with groups other than listed in Part A

Name of publication _____
Language _____
Number copies _____ Number pages _____
Frequency _____

3. Any other publications _____

4. Do you control or share control in a publishing agency?

If so please give its name and address _____

F. FINANCES

Please estimate if exact figures are not available and convert to U.S. \$

1. Total cash contributions received in local churches

U.S. \$ _____

2. Estimated value of gifts in kind

U.S. \$ _____

3. Estimated value for donated services
(e.g. building, etc.)

Nature of Service	Value
_____	U.S. \$ _____
_____	U.S. \$ _____
_____	U.S. \$ _____

4. Special income received from non-church sources
(government grants, fees, etc.)

Nature of income	Amount
_____	U.S. \$ _____
_____	U.S. \$ _____
_____	U.S. \$ _____

5. Receipts from mission sources for all the work on this field, excluding missionary salaries

U.S. \$ _____

G. FROM ABROAD

(including wives and those on furlough)
Include all categories of called foreign workers.

1. Total number serving on this field

Men 9
(ordained) 1
(non-ordained) 8

Women 12
(including Wives)

Total 21

Please sub-divide the above total of Foreign Staff into the categories given below (a to g).

a) Number of pastors _____

b) Number of other evangelistic workers

Men
Women
(including Wives)
Total

c) Number of teachers

Men
Women
Total

How many of the above teachers are

in elementary schools
in secondary schools
in teachers' training
in colleges
in seminaries
in training schools for non-ordained

b) Number of physicians

Men
Women
Total

e) Number of nurses

f) Other lay staff

g) Wives
(not included elsewhere above)

Remarks: Please include here or on attached sheets comments on items where your activities do not fit the questions asked. Thank you!

drog/br

Berlin-Friedenau, December 7, 1964

Pramukh Adhyaksh
Rev. Dr. M. Bage
G.E.L. Church Compound

Ranchi / Bihar
India

Subject: Arrival of family Bruns for Khuntitoli, later Karimati

Dear Brother Bage,

Together with the information about the arrival of Mr. Montag, I am very happy to confirm your letter December 2, 1964 which arrived here this morning. We already received a cable from Brother Weissinger last Friday so that after waiting for nine months, Bruns will leave Germany by plane quite soon. We are sure that they will obtain the necessary visa from Bonn or Hamburg at the end of this week.

The plane is scheduled to reach Calcutta at 8.55 a.m. December 17 (AJ 104) and arrive in Ranchi about 8.00 a.m. December 18 (Departure from Calcutta 6.05 a.m. December 18, JC 275).

We very much hope that you will get competent and devoted friends for the big tasks first in Khuntitoli and later on in Karimati. May their service be blessed in your midst and may they have a safe arrival in Chota Nagpur.

With heartfelt greetings in our Lord,
Yours,



cc/ Rev. Kloss/Ranchi
ATC Khuntitoli
Dipl. Ing. K. Schwerk

GOSSNER EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN CHURCH IN CHOTANAGPUR & ASSAM.

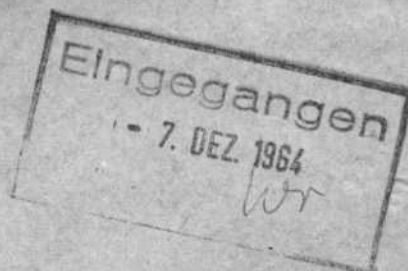
Ref. No. 984/64

From :-

Rev. Dr. M. Bage,
Pramukh Adhyaksh,
G.E.L. Church.

To,

Dr. Ch. Berg, Director,
Gossner Mission Society,
Berlin - Friedenau,
Handjerystr. 19/20,
Germany.



Ranchi, the 2nd December ' 64.

Dear Brother Berg,

One of our men in Delhi has informed me per telegram that Bruns Visa has been granted and has already been despatched to him.

We are glad to receive this information. Please, however, let us know whether Mr. Bruns has already received the same, or not.

I received the telegram last Sunday.

Yours Sincerely,

(M. Bage),
Pramukh Adhyaksh,
G.E.L. Church, Ranchi.

Copy to :-

Mr. Weissinger,
Agr. Tr. Centre, Khuntitoli,
G.E.L. Church, P.O. Simdega.

den 2. Dezember 1964
drbg/br

Memorandum an: Dr. Bage/Ranchi
Pastor Kloss/Ranchi
Direktor K. Schwark/ Fudi
Diakon F. Weissinger/z.Zt.Khuntitoli

Betr.: Mein Kommen nach Chota Nagpur

Liebe Brüder !

Bruder Weissinger hat jüngst sehr dringlich gebeten, ich möchte schon etwa am 20. Januar 1965 nach Indien fliegen, um vor der Konferenz deutscher Mitarbeiter, die für Anfang Februar in Fudi in Aussicht genommen, wenn auch noch nicht ganz fest angesetzt ist, einige Plätze zu besuchen und dringlich anstehende Fragen zu klären. Diese Bitte, so sehr mich ihre Begründung überzeugt hat, hat mich deswegen in nicht geringe Verlegenheit gebracht, weil ich für einen dringenden Vortragsdienst in Augsburg vom 17. - 26. 1. schon eine feste Zusage gegeben habe. So möchte ich bis auf weiteres noch daran festhalten dürfen, um die Monatswende Januar / Februar den Flug anzutreten und folgendes vorzuschlagen:

- a) Die Konferenz unserer Freunde könnte vielleicht zweckmäßigerweise auf den 12. - 14. 2. in Fudi verlegt werden, damit ich in den 10 Tagen vorher für die beabsichtigten und für dringlich gehaltenen Besuche und Gespräche zur Verfügung stehe. Dies freilich unter der Voraussetzung, daß Bruder Weissinger seinen Aufenthalt in Indien um 2 - 4 Wochen verlängern kann, denn wir sollten ihn unbedingt bei der Konferenz dabei haben.
- b) Ich habe bisher nicht erkennen können, wann Bruder Dr. Bage das KKS einberufen hat; Möglicherweise erst Anfang März in der Woche vor der Kalisha Sangh, um unnötige Reisekosten zu vermeiden; Evtl. aber auch schon Mitte Februar, so daß ich dann dem leitenden Gremium der Gossner Kirche für einige Fragen zur Verfügung stehen könnte. Jedenfalls muß ich ja, wenn ein Besuch Parulias schon gleich Anfang Februar erfolgt, Ende des Monats unbedingt einige Tage Angaon besuchen und zu irgend einem Zeitpunkt auch für einige Tage in Khuntitoli sein.

Ich wäre jedenfalls dankbar, wenn Sie in nächster Zeit in dieser Frage so miteinander Fühlung nehmen würden, daß ich Ende Dezember oder spätestens in den ersten Tagen des Monats Januar auf Ihren Vorschlag hin den Reiseternin endgültig festlegen kann.

Mit brüderlichen Grüßen



Berlin-Friedenau, December 1, 1964
drbg/br

Pramukh Adhyaksh
Rev. Dr. M. Bage
G.E.L. Church Compound

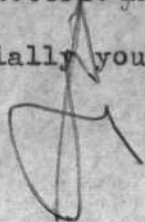
Ranchi / Bihar
India

Re: Your letter of November 24, Ref. No. 918/64

Dear Brother Bage,

Of course, the cheque handed over to you by Mr. Schwerk for Rs. 5.184,40 was meant to cover the loss of the Pracharaks' Provident Fund, as I also informed you (vide letter September 15, 64). In future, all amounts for the Gossner Church will be sent to the Treasurer of the G.E.L. Church so that you will not be troubled by these matters anymore.

Cordially yours,



Gossner Mission
1 Berlin 41 (Friedenau)
Handjerystraße 19/20

drbg/br
Berlin-Friedenau, den 25.11.1964

Pramukh Adhyaksh
Rev. Dr. M. Bage
G.E.L. Church Compound

Ranchi / Bihar
India

Subject: Minutes of the KSS meeting of October 20-22, 1964 and some other questions

Dear Brother Bage,

Thank you very much for sending us the comprehensive and interesting minutes of your meeting which took place straight after the All-Asia-Lutheran Conference at Ranchi. It was of great interest to learn what had been discussed at the KSS-meeting and it is indeed praiseworthy how it has been laid down in the minutes; clearly arranged and distinct. I can, indeed, bestow great praise upon Brother Samad, your faithful secretary, for putting up the minutes so clearly.

And now some points:

1. I was already prepared by your letter that the KSS resp. a Commission would like to discuss with me point 4a) "Terms of Reference" and 6a) "Evangelism" resp. "Mission by the Gossner Church". I like to confirm that I am ready for discussion with the KSS resp. a Commission in order to clarify pending questions.
2. I am grateful to you for fixing the time of the Kalisha Sangh at the second week of March. Am I right that the day of arrival will be Saturday 6th of March 1965 and that during the following days in the second week of March discussions and meetings will take place?

You will surely send me the programme in time. Am I also right to assume that my offer has been accepted as to hold bible studies in the morning? I shall try to write them down so that they can be translated into Hindi by you, Brother Surin or Brother Kloss. May be, they will be of the kind and standard to be printed in Gharbandu in the following editions.

3. Since, probably, Rev. Devadas from Calcutta will take part in the Kalisha Sangh, it would be good if the Committee met during the second week of March, discussing the matter of the Wellesley Square Church, and if I were asked to participate in it as guest. I am really interested in this matter, because it means for the Gossner Church a chance to get rooted in the big city of Calcutta.
4. The reason for not writing about more details is the fact that I can hope to be able to discuss with you all these matters in Ranchi personally. But I would be interested and be glad if the Planning Commission as well as the Board of Theological Education could meet in February and if I were asked to take part in it as guest. I should like to get to know the problems of your church in those two working fields by

way of brotherly discussions.

5. The date of my arrival has not finally be fixed. It depends on a lecturer-week in Augsburg at the end of January. But, in the first days of February, I like to participate in the conference of German fellow-workers in the Gossner Church. I assume that this conference will take place at Fudi. During the month of February 1965, I shall have to visit Khuntitoli, Amgaon, Govindpur and Purulia. If you have arranged a meeting of the KSS in February, then the concerning days will have to be considered in my time schedule. I hope that you and the other brothers will take care of co-ordinating these plans.
6. I should like to ask you to desist from arranging visits to different congregations this time. My stay in India at the beginning of next year is, so to speak, a working visit. At most, I should like to pay an official visit to the congregation of Raj-Gangpur where Brother Aind as well as Brother Eeka are stationed. I did not have the opportunity of doing this last time. But, I should really visit the Vice-President of the Gossner Church and his congregation during my visit next year. It will also be a pleasure if the congregation at Purulia welcomes me officially during my stay there for two days, and I cannot have anything against it, but - as I said before- I will be quite pleased about it. I can do without visiting different congregations this time, dear Brother Bage, for I shall have the pleasure of seeing and speaking to members of almost all Synods of the Gossner Church in March of 1965.
7. Unfortunately, the matter of a successor for Brother Junghans has not been solved yet. Visa for Mr. Bruns and Sister Marianne Koch have not arrived yet, too. Dr. Peusch has also not been here in the Gossner-house in order to discuss his future work. You see that all these matters are still pending.

I do hope that you had not too difficult days at Khuntitoli. At the beginning of next months, we shall have Dr. Junghans here in Berlin and shall then hear of all things which happened during the last days at Khuntitoli.

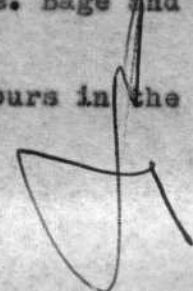
8. We got to know twice that Brother Weissinger arrived safely at Ranchi and was welcomed by you heartily and that he has already moved to Khuntitoli to stay there for a few weeks. May his stay in the Gossner Church be blessed.
9. You, obviously, had not received the minutes of the Kuratoriumssitzung of October 14, 1964 when holding the meeting of the KSS. In the meantime, you will surely have received same and will have learned that the Kuratorium has decided to pay pension to Miss Schmidt and that she will, therefore, not return to Chota Nagpur. I do not assume that another, different resolution will be made at a meeting of a special Commission of the Kuratorium at which Miss Schmidt will be present. I do not know whether your resolutions, regarding Tabita-School and Blind Home in Govindpur, would have come out differently, if you had known this fact. Anyway, I have to inform you officially about it today.

10. January 13, 1964, the Kuratorium will resolve the budget of the Gossner Mission for 1965. We shall send you a copy of it quite quickly after its resolution so that you are able to see which points are especially interesting for the Gossner Church. From your minutes I learned that the Five- resp. Ten-Year-Plan has evoked "much discussion" and that the question of sending a financial adviser has been considered "with keen interest." It is good that you have set up a special financial committee !
11. Brother Seeberg will probably have a chance of talking to Bishop Meyer at Hamburg on February 11, 1965 so that we shall then have a clearer picture as to the future of P. Kerketta. You will obtain information of the results of this talk.

I did not take up all points of your minutes, but some of the most important ones.

Sending you our best greetings and wishes, dear Brother Bage, and asking you to give our regards to Mrs. Bage and to all the other friends, too,

I am yours in the Lord,



cc/ Secretary of KSS
Rev. Kloss

P. Berg

GOSSNER EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN CHURCH IN CHOTANAGPUR & ASSAM.

Ref. No. 918/64

Eingegangen

30. NOV. 1964

Erledigt:

From :-

Rev. Dr. M. Bage,
Pramukh Adhyaksh,
G.E.L. Church.

To,

The Director,
Gossner Mission Society
Berlin - Friedenau,
Handjerystr. 19/20.

Ranchi, the 24th Nov. '64.

Dear Brother Berg,

In the last week of October, Mr. Schwerk issued a Cheque for Rs. 5,184.40 naye paise to me personally. I do not know what this amount is for. Even in your letter to Mr. Schwerk asking him to transfer the above mentioned amount to me it is not clear. Is this amount for making up the loss we had in the Pracharaks' Provident Fund?

I shall appreciate if you let me know this immediately so that I transfer it to the K.S.S. Treasurer. I shall also appreciate if all the amounts which are meant to be a help or subsidy to the Gossner Church, whether they are sent direct or through T.T.O. or Rev. Kloss, are sent to the Treasurer G.E.L. Church.

Wishing you all blessed Advent.

Yours Sincerely,

M. Bage

(M. Bage) Pr. Adhyaksh
(President) G.E.L. Church,
Ranchi.

Copy to :-

1. Head Accountant, K.S.S.
2. Treasurer, K.S.S.

drbg/br

Berlin-Friedenau, 5.11.1964

Pramukh Adhyaksh
Rev. Dr. M. Bage
G.E.L. Church Compound

Ranchi / Bihar
India

Lieber Bruder Bage !

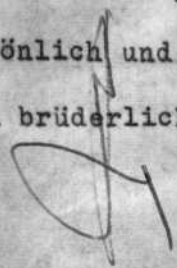
Durch Bruder Weissinger schicke ich Ihnen zunächst herzliche, persönliche Grüße. Ich hoffe sehr, daß sein Kommen sie persönlich freut und die Verbindung erneut stärkt sowie seine Anwesenheit besonders in Khuntitoli von Wert ist, zumal das Visum Bruns bis zur Stunde nicht eingetroffen ist. In diesem Falle hatte auch Bruder Junghans das Kommen unseres Kasteler Freundes warm befürwortet.

Darf ich bei diesem Anlaß (indem ich mir erlaubt habe, deutsch zu schreiben) Ihre beiden Briefe bestätigen, und zwar denjenigen, in dem Sie baten, nochmals mit Bischof Meyer wegen der Zukunft von P. Kerketta zu sprechen - - das soll gern geschehen; und jenen anderen Brief, in dem Sie mich auf das Protokoll der Sitzung des K3S vorbereiten und besonders bemerken, daß die Leitung Ihrer Kirche wegen des neuen Textes der Terms of Reference und der Resolution zur Frage der Mission anläßlich meines Kommens im Februar ein Gespräch wünscht. Ich kann heute nur sagen, daß ich mich gern dafür bereithalte und zur Verfügung stelle.

Diesen Zeilen beigelegt ist ein Dienstauftrag für unseren Freund Schwerk. Sie wissen ja, daß er erst ab 1. November 1964 vom Kuratorium fest als Nachfolger von Bruder Thiel zum Direktor des TTC berufen worden ist. Was neu an dem Dienstauftrag ist, dessen Text Sie hoffentlich zustimmen können, ist dies, daß wir ihn m.E. beide unterschreiben sollten. So unbiblisch es scheint, zwei Herren zu haben, ist in diesem Falle nicht zu verhindern, daß unser Bruder Schwerk zwei Vorgesetzte hat, sozusagen Sie und mich. Dem trägt dieser Dienstauftrag, den das Kuratorium gebilligt hat, Rechnung. Es wäre schön, wenn Sie nach vollzogener Mitunterschrift ihn persönlich Bruder Schwerk überreichen würden. Vielleicht könnte das sogar im Rahmen eines kleinen Aktus im TTC Fudi geschehen, denn noch befinden wir uns mitten im Monat November, mit dessen Beginn die feste Bestallung von Freund Schwerk in Fudi begonnen hat.

Nochmals sehr herzliche Grüße Ihnen persönlich und allen Freunden

Ihr Ihnen brüderlich verbundener



2 Anlagen

(H. Vol. 28. Jan.)

GOSSNER EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN CHURCH IN CHOTANAGPUR & ASSAM

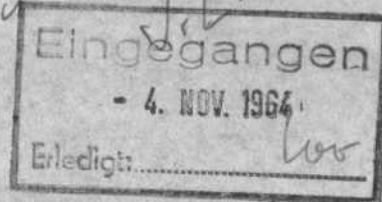
Ref. No. 831/64.

From :-

Rev. Dr. M. Bage,
Pramukh Adhyaksh,
G.E.L. Church.

To,

Dr. Ch. Berg, Director,
Gossner Mission Society,
Berlin - Friedenau,
Handjerystr. 19/20,
Germany.



Dated, the 30th Oct. '64.

Dear Brother Berg,

Our Secretary's Office, I hope, will be sending you soon a copy of the last K.S.S. minutes. From the minutes you will see which matters were taken up in the K.S.S. and to which decision we arrived at. I know that on certain decisions you will be surprised. Therefore I am giving below a few comments on some of them for clarification :-

- (1) Terms of Reference :- The matter of relationship between the younger Churches and its missionaries coming from outside was also discussed by the All Asia Lutheran Conference recently held here. In the light of the discussions we had here it was thought that it would be better if we would give a careful but clear wording. Although not recorded in minutes it was our opinion that we would finalise it at the time when you would be here next year.
- (2) Evangelistic Work of the Gossner Church :-
The K.S.S. is prepared to get the Joint Mission Board's work integrated into the evangelistic work of the G.E.L. Church itself. However, as regards appointing a director in the centre or directors or supervisors in the Anchals the K.S.S. could not be unanimous, particularly because we could not know what amount of financial help one could expect from the Gossner Mission. As there are many practical questions which are connected with its finance, it was considered that the K.S.S. should take final decision only after we have discussed with you on certain questions. It is however definite that the K.S.S. welcomes the abolishment of J.M.B. and is even prepared for it.
- (3) Zeep for each Anchal and support for Anchals with Rs. 12,000/-.
The matter was discussed. The K.S.S. members too felt that the future planning of the Gossner Church should not depend too much on foreign aid. Thus the K.S.S. decided that the question of requesting Kuratorium for Anchal Zeeps and Anchal subsidy was to be dropped. This does not mean that the K.S.S. does not feel their need for Zeeps.

The K.S.S. is very glad to get the information that your visit to Ranchi next year is possible. There will be several matters on which the K.S.S. would like to discuss with you. May God bring you safe to India and bless the Gossner Church through your presence.

With kind regards,

Yours Sincerely,

Encl.: one Receipt
of Rs. 11033.62.

M. Bage
(M. Bage),
Pramukh Adhyaksh, G.E.L.
Church, Ranchi.

drbg/br

Berlin-Friedenau, 15 October 1964

Pramukh Adhyaksh
Rev. Dr. M. Bage
G.E.L. Church Compound

Ranchi / Bihar
India

Dear Brother Bage,

We here in the Gossnerhouse in Berlin-Friedenau bear in mind that there will only be ^{one} more month until the day when brother Junghans/Khuntitoli will be handing over his tasks to you as the chairman of the Board for Developing Projects. We know that this will be a great burden to you, for up to now it is not sure yet whether brother Bruns will obtain his visa. And if he should obtain his visa and go by plane to India, it is not certain, also, if he arrived in time to get instructions from brother Junghans on the most important matters of the ATC.

We are althmore troubled, since we received a good cable from brother Junghans yesterday evening saying that the important licence for the cattle has been granted in full. We have now to consider here in Germany and you in India, too, how we can best handle the work which will be facing us now, in absence of Dr. Junghans who has started the whole matter.

You will surely not only understand, but also very much welcome our decision to send Missionsinspektor Fritz Weissinger from Mainz-Kastel - he has been appointed Missionsinspektor by a mutual resolution of the Kuratorium under the chairmanship of Präses D. Scharf yesterday - to India for a few months. He will travel on a visitor's visa. His main task will be to support Mr. Tomforde during the not easy weeks of change. But brother Weissinger will, however, not be responsilbe for the firm. Mr. Tomforde will surely welcome it very much - all the more, if Mr. Brun's arrival in Khuntitoli will be drawn out - to be able to discuss many problems with brother Weissinger.

We asked brother Weissinger to fly to Ranchi between November 7 to 10 and to go to you immediately. During the first days upon his arrival, he will visit our friends in Ranchi and Fudi, but afterwards, he will go to Khuntitoli. Brother Weissinger will let you know the exact date of his arrival himself.

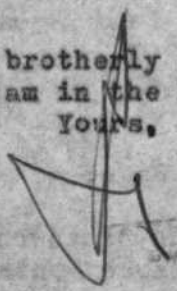
Whilst I have received a kind and brotherly invitation to the Church Assembly which I accepted gratefully, Brother Weissinger cannot have received an invitation from you. But I hope that you will welcome him in view of extraordinary situation which makes trip most necessary. Brother Weissinger will come as friend and helpful brother which will surely not be daubted by anyone in the Gossner Church.

-see over-

I wanted to let you know this decision as soon as possible so that you will receive this letter for the meeting of the KSS and will be able to inform the other brothers about it, together with kind regards from all of us in the Gossnerhouse, especially from Brother Weissinger.

You will be exhausted from the All-Asia-Lutheran Conference, but I hope that you remember those days with gratefulness.

With brotherly greetings,
I am in the Lord
Yours,



cc/ Rev. Kloss
Secr. of KSS

Beschluß-Entwurf

Betr.: Besuch der "Evang.-lutherischen Goßnerkirche von Chota Nagpur und Assam" durch Vertreter der Landeskirchen, in denen die Goßner Mission beheimatet ist.

Der dringende Wunsch, direkte Beziehungen der "Jungen Kirchen" zu den Kirchen in Europa und Nordamerika herzustellen, beherrscht die missionstheologische Diskussion in steigendem Maße während der letzten Jahre. Bei aller Herzlichkeit, die seit längerer Zeit das Verhältnis der Goßnerkirche zum Kuratorium der Goßner Mission bestimmt, hat es auch Präsident Dr. Bage lebhaft begrüßt, wenn aus den der Goßner Mission verbundenen deutschen Landeskirchen offizielle Besucher nach Chota Nagpur kommen und das Leben wie auch die Aufgaben der indischen Bräderkirche näher kennen lernen würden.

Das Kuratorium nimmt gern die ihm dafür zukommende Initiative wahr und beschließt folgendermaßen:

1. Die Missions-Leitung wird beauftragt, darüber mit den in Frage kommenden Landeskirchen entsprechende Verhandlungen aufzunehmen; die Reihenfolge Westfalen-Hannover-Berlin usw. scheint empfehlenswert.

Folgende Gesichtspunkte bittet es, dabei geltend zu machen:

- a) Die Kirchen sollten entscheiden, wen ihrer leitenden Brüder sie um einen solchen Besuchsdienst bitten; denn das Kuratorium wird in eigener Zuständigkeit von seinen Mitgliedern und Mitarbeitern - je nach den Notwendigkeiten der Arbeit - Besucher nach Chota Nagpur entsenden.
- b) Als Zeitpunkt erscheinen die Monate Januar und Februar am geeignetsten.
- c) Die Dauer des Besuchs sollte für ca. 6 Wochen vorgesehen werden.
- d) Die Beherrschung der englischen Sprache ist nicht direkt unerläßlich, aber sehr wünschenswert. Für den Dolmetscher-Dienst Hindi/Deutsch stehen freilich genügend Mitarbeiter in der Goßnerkirche zur Verfügung.
- e) Für die Aufstellung des Programms einer solchen Reise ist die Goßnerkirche ihrerseits verantwortlich; sie wird auch zum Ausdruck bringen, welche Dienste sie von den Besuchern während ihres Dortseins erwartet.

Die Missionsleitung im Goßnerhaus sollte selbstverständlich dem Besucher alle nur mögliche Beratung zuteil werden lassen.

2. Es darf gewiß erwartet werden, daß die Kirchenleitungen bzw. deren Missions-Gremien die Kosten einer solchen Besuchsreise von ihnen entsandter Brüder übernehmen. Sie liegen etwa bei 5. - 6.000 DM für eine Person.

3. Das Kuratorium hofft sehr, daß jährlich - beginnend vielleicht schon 1965 - ein regelmäßiger Besuchsdienst aus Deutschland nach Indien von Kirche zu Kirche beginnt. Er wäre das Äquivalent dazu, daß aus der Goßnerkirche Jahr für Jahr Studenten, Pfarrer und leitende Brüder zu Dienst und Studium aus Indien nach Deutschland kommen. Möchte solche regelmäßige persönliche Verbindung die Gemeinschaft in unserm Herrn Jesus Christus stärken und vertiefen!

15.10.1964

18.9.1964

Pramukh Adhyaksh
Rev. Dr. M. Bage
GEL Church Compound

Ranchi/Bihar
India

Lieber Bruder Bage!

Zum 26.9. kommen unsere allerherzlichsten Segenswünsche zu Ihrem Geburtstag zu Ihnen. Gerade rechtzeitig, bevor Bruder Surin den großen Brief ei Sie einpackt, um morgen heimwärts zu fliegen, denken wir noch daran, daß Sie ein neues Lebensjahr beginnen.

Wie sehr wird es angefüllt sein mit Arbeit und Verantwortung von Tag zu Tag, und jetzt gleich nach Ihrer Ankunft werden viele auf Sie gewartet haben. So wird es Woche um Woche gehen. Gott rüste Sie täglich aus mit Geduld und Weisheit, mit Tragkraft und der Gabe der Führung. Dessen immer wieder zu gedenken, soll uns in Ihrem neuen Lebensjahr wichtiges Anliegen sein.

Auf ein gutes Wiedersehen im kommenden Jahr bin ich in brüderlicher Verbundenheit

Ihr



Gossner Mission
1 Berlin 41 (Heddenau)
Handjerystraße 19/20

Berlin, den 15. September 1964
drbg/br

Pramukh Adhyaksh
Rev. Dr. M. Bage
G.E.L. Church

Ranchi / Bihar
India

Lieber Bruder Bage !

Wir waren vergangenen Montag sehr froh, als uns Bruder Weissinger durchtelefonierte, daß Sie auf dem Wege von Reykjavik gut in Frankfurt angekommen seien und er Sie dann gesund und wohlbehalten auf dem weiten und doch raschen Flug nach Indien zurück verabschiedet habe. Es ist nur ein kurzer Monat für Sie in Europa gewesen und wieviel haben Sie erlebt. Wir waren dankbar, daß Sie mit uns die Tage hier in Berlin waren und wir so intensiv und umfassend alles, woran wir zu arbeiten haben, durchsprechen konnten. Möchten Sie einen guten Anfang bei den Ihren in Indien wieder haben und sich doch ein wenig erholt und erfrischt fühlen. Arbeit wird ja in Hülle und Fülle auf Sie warten.

In der Anlage finden Sie nun die von Bruder Seeberg verfaßte Zusammenfassung unserer Gespräche, von denen außer uns dreien nur noch Bruder Kloss eine Kopie zur vertraulichen Orientierung erhält, so daß er im Bilde ist, was uns durch den Kopf gegangen ist und von uns verhandelt wurde. Er mag Sie auf das eine oder andere ansprechen, aber sonst sind die Dinge nur für ihn bestimmt. Ich werde in den nächsten Tagen einzelne Punkte aufgreifen und dies dann in englisch geschriebenen Briefen tun, während diese Zeilen sicherlich ruhig in deutsch geschrieben sein können.

Diesem Brief ist auch angeschlossen das Grundsatzmemorandum Gossner Kirche / Gossner Mission, das uns auch ein wenig beschäftigte. Zwei Kopien hat Frau Brunner inzwischen ins englische übertragen. Sie mögen zunächst ausreichen, um sie dem einen oder anderen Ihrer leitenden Brüder zur Mitdurchdenkung zu geben. Offiziell braucht sich m.E. ja das KSS darauf noch nicht zu verhalten, zumal die Beratung im Kuratorium noch in keiner Weise abgeschlossen ist, sondern noch seinen sehr intensiven Fortgang nehmen wird.

Und nun von Herzen Gottbefohlen. Mit vielen Grüßen an alle Freunde und in herzlichem fürbittendem Gedenken Ihrer vielfältigen Verantwortung

getreulich verbunden

Ihr

Anlagen

drbg/br
Berlin-Friedenau, 15 Sept 1964

Pramukh Adhyaksh
Rev. Dr.M. Bage
G.E.L. Church Compound

Ranchi / Bihar
India

M E M O I
=====

Subject: Deficit in the Provident Fund of the Pracharaks

During our talks on 27/28th August here in the Gossnerhouse you mentioned that there is a deficit of 5.047 Rs. in the above mentioned fund which is hard to cover by the Gossner Church. The deficit in the Provident-Fund of the pastors has been kindly covered by the LWB in 1963. I promised you to help you in this matter and I am glad to be able to do so.

We shall include this amount in the next remittance to Pastor Kloss who we shall instruct to pay this amount to you resp. the church cash office.

I am sure that you will be relieved by this official news.

cc/ Treasurer of KSS
Rev. Kloss

Gossner Mission
1 Berlin 41 (Friedenau)
Handjerystraße 19/20

drbg/br
Berlin, den 15 September 1964

Pramukh Adhyaksh
Rev. Dr. M. Bage
G.E.L. Church Compound

Ranchi / Bihar
India

MEMO III
=====

Subject: Gossner Kalisha Sangh in 1965

We have also talked about this matter during your stay here in the Gossnerhouse. You kindly and urgently invited me to participate in the Gossner Kalisha Sangh (Church Assembly) at the beginning of the "Passionszeit" 1965. The Kalisha Sangh - after the new constitution - will take place the first time and will assemble representatives of all Synods resp. Ilakas of the Gossner Church. For this reason, there will be no refresher course this year.

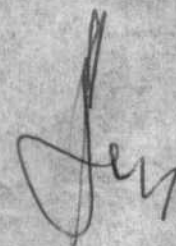
I have decided to accept your kind invitation and am willing to take over the bible work during the week. I should be very grateful if the time for this Assembly could be fixed at the beginning of the "Passionszeit" in March 1965. The KSS will surely set up a special commission to work out the programme and prepare the meeting as much as possible. The spiritual importance of this big meeting for the Gossner Church cannot be valued highly enough.

My present plans - to which the Kuratorium has, however, to give its agreement - are as follows: I would go to Ranchi at the beginning of February 1965 in order to stay there for a few weeks. It may be that the meeting of the German co-workers could be held at the beginning of February, immediately upon my arrival. I hope that this meeting will take place in Fudi. After that, I would pay some visits to the institutions where our German friends carry out their work. I could also visit the one or other synod resp. congregation of the Gossner Church. But, the programme could not be so tight as that of my last visit in 1963/1964.

Anyway, I wanted to tell you how glad I am to see you all again, if it is our God's wish.

Many kind regards to you, all friends and brothers.

cc/ Secretary of KSS
Rev. Kloss



Gossner Mission
1 Berlin 41 (Friedenau)
Handjerystraße 19/20

drbg/br
Berlin-Friedenau, 15 September 1964

Pramukh Adhyaksh
Rev. Dr. M. Bage
G.E.L. Church Compound

Ranchi / Bihar
India

MEMO IV
=====

Subject: Exchange Programme

I. Visitors from the G.E.L.C. to Germany

We also discussed this matter in our talks here in August 1964. We have been very sorry that Rev. Tiga, who should be the first one, according to the resolution of the KSS, to visit Germany and our congregations and give lectures and reports in 1964, has not received our invitations which have been sent to him twice. We received this information from Rev. Tiga. It has been a consolation to us, however, that Principal Rev. Surin has visited our congregations in East- and West-Germany and has further done service in Ostfriesland where he was received heartily.

We expect Adhyaksh C.B. Minz in 1965 and Up-Pramukh Aind in 1966. The period of time to come to Germany would be from the end of June until the beginning of October. We shall send the official invitations to our friends on time, also a certificate stating that we shall pay the whole cost of the journey as well as of the stay in Germany.

One of the reasons to keep up this order is the fact that Rev. Aind cannot come later than 1966, because he will be your successor and will become the next Pramukh Adhyaksh of the Gossner Church on 1st November 1966. He cannot stay away from the Church for three months anymore after that period. On the other hand, the Gossner friends here in Germany are very much interested to get to know your successor with whom there will be a close cooperation for three years. We should, therefore, like to keep up this order and are ready to invite Rev. Tiga once more in 1967, before other friends and leading brothers of the Gossner Church are being suggested by the KSS for further invitations.

II. Visitors from Germany to India

You agreed to my suggestion to submit a resolution to the Kuratorium stating that leading brothers of the German Churches (Regional Churches), who are closely connected with the work of the Gossner Mission and Gossner Church, should be invited to pay a visit to Chota Nagpur. Most probably, the order would be as follows: Westfalen, Hannover, Berlin. We have in mind that these churches will send one of its leading brothers to India every year. They should, then, visit the Gossner Church for 4-6 weeks during the period of perhaps January / February and should obtain a thorough insight into ~~the~~ its daily life. This would surely be of great

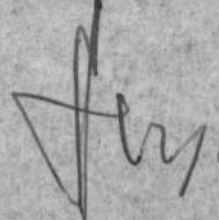
importance to our church in Germany and would also strengthen the aim to have a much stronger bond between the church (in Europe) and the church (in Asia). Please, dear brother Bage, expect an official resolution of the Kuratorium on 14th October 1964. It is not sure, however, whether this plan can be realized in winter 1965 already. But we shall try and endeavour to make such a suggestion, perhaps starting with the church in Westfalen, after we are sure that such a plan is welcomed by you.

III. / IV.

Besides of this exchange, we agreed that six already known brothers should come to Germany for a six-months stay of study, after they have acquired the basic working knowledge of German language. We surely hear from you about it again when a brother is ready to come so that we can invite him officially.

We also want to keep it up to welcome carefully selected students for study in Germany which will be of importance to the students themselves as well as to the Gossner Church. But, I do not want to go into details about it in this letter.

cc/ Secretary of KSS
Rev. Kloss



Gossner Mission

1 Berlin 41 (Friedenau)

Handjerystraße 19/20

drbg/br

Berlin-Friedenau, 15 September 1964

Pramukh Adhyaksh
Rev. Dr. M. Bage
G.E.L. Church Compound

Ranchi / Bihar
India

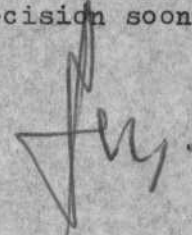
MEMO V
=====

Subject: Assistent Architect for Dipl. Ing. Klaus Schwerk

We both know, dear Brother Bage, that brother Schwerk's work is increasing quickly. I, therefore, should like to inform you of our agreement that you - on consultation with brother Schwerk - can look for an able man who will relieve brother Schwerk of various tasks for the Five-Year-Plan. His salary can and will have to be paid from the budget of the Five-Year-Plan.

We are looking forward to receiving suggestions from you on this matter and would be glad if you came to a decision soon.

cc/ Secretary of KSS
Dipl. Ing. K. Schwerk
Rev. Kloss



Gossner Mission
1 Berlin 41 (Friedenau)
Handjerystraße 19/20

drbg/br
Berlin-Friedenau, 15 September 1964

Pramukh Adhyaksh
Rev. Dr. M. Bage
G.E.L. Church Compound

Ranchi / Bihar
India

MEMO VII
=====

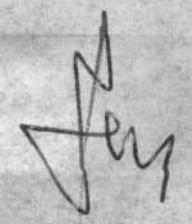
Subject: Support for four Anchals of the Gossner Church with 12.000 Rs.
in the year 1965

This matter, dear Brother Bage, was one of the most difficult during our discussions. Whilst we could give our promise of support regarding your various requests of help for the Budget of the Gossner Church (stipends, Central-Meeting-Place, Blind-Home, Industrial Mission, 10-Year-Plan), we were not quite sure at this point whether it would be good to fulfil your urgent request.

According to our financial memo, we are of the opinion that the Gossner Mission should render help as much as possible in the coming years for the mission-, social- and educational work of the Gossner Church, whilst the LWB should give support for the official functions of the G.E.L.C. What about 1966, if we give the requested 12.000 Rs. for 1965? Would this not become a habit which would be in contradiction to our conception of help to the Gossner Church? We, therefore, doubted whether it would be good to adopt a course by sending 12.000 Rs. which is not for the best to the autonomous Gossner Church in the long run. May I remind you once more that you wanted to think this over again at your meeting of the KSS in October 1964 and wanted to inform us of your opinion. We do not want to get you into trouble, though, but we have to consider what we are doing. This question has to be left open, yet.

In this connection we considered if it is advisable to provide the different Anchals with a Jeep. For a Jeep for the Adhyaksh of an Anchal needs money. If the lack 12.000 Rs. for administration and salaries for the Adhyakshs, how will they provide the necessary money for keeping a car? Please discuss both problems, dear Brother Bage. We do not want to bind ourselves definitely yet, but rather wait of the results of your deliberations. It would be good if you discussed this problem with Dr. Sovik on the occasion of his presence in Ranchi from 8 - 18th October 1964. We expect your reply in this matter, especially.

cc/ Secretary of KSS
Rev. Kloss



Besprechungspunkte mit Präsident Dr. Bage

I. Grundsatzfragen

- a) Wandlungen in der Missionsarbeit - Joint Mission Board - Surguja - Assam
- b) Finanz-Memorandum - und seine Konsequenzen
 - 1. Absprache zwischen Luth. Weltbund u. Goßner Mission
 - 2. Berufung eines Finanz-Advisers
- c) Terms of Reference 1964
- d) Goßnerkirche/Goßner Mission: Memorandum vom 8. Juli
- e) Fünfjahresplan
- f) Die Ereignisse Ende März in den Goßner-Gemeinden

II. Die diakonischen Institutionen

- a) Amgaon/Karimati
 - 1. Ärztlich-pflegerischer Nachwuchs aus der Goßnerkirche
 - 2. Baubeginn Karimati
- b) Khuntitoli
 - 1. Nachfolger Junghans
 - 2. branches
 - 3. Central Meeting Place
- c) Fudi
 - 1. Personalfragen
 - 2. Lehre cum production
 - 3. Verhältnis von Printing Press u. Purulia zum TTC
- d) Blind Home Govindpur
 - 1. Aufbau
 - 2. Personalfragen

III. Nachwuchs-Fragen

- a) Stipendien für Ausbildungsstätten der GELC, besonders im Theologischen College
- b) Stipendiaten in Deutschland
- c) Sekretär des Boards f. education? Personalfrage Dr. Peusch u. Hostel-Bau
- d) Lutheran College in Ranchi ?

IV. Einzelfragen

- a) Besucher aus der GELC in Deutschland
- b) Besucher aus den deutschen Kirchen in der GELC
- c) 2 Stipendiaten auf der Methodist commercial School
- d) Wellesby Church in Calcutta
- e) Beteiligung der GELC an Wrights industrial Mission

f. Präs. Bage
7. März 60.

N. Vorl. mit Anlagen 12. Okt.
f. Kuratorium

Gedächtnisprotokoll

über die Besprechungen, die am 27./28.8.1964 zwischen Pramukh Adhyaksh Dr. Bage und Missionsdirektor Dr. Berg stattfanden

I. Grundsatzfragen

A. Wandlungen in der Missionsarbeit:

Dr. Berg erläuterte noch einmal den Vorschlag des Kuratoriums, den zwischen der Gossner Kirche und der Gossner Mission bestehenden Vertrag über die Arbeit des Joint Mission Boards zu beenden. Vor allem wäre der Kirche dadurch die Möglichkeit gegeben, die Missionsarbeit auch in anderen Gebieten der Kirche zu aktivieren. Dr. Bage erklärte die volle Zustimmung der Kirchenleitung zu diesem Vorschlag. Im KSS wäre der Vorschlag positiv aufgenommen worden und bereits Überlegungen im Gange, wie die zukünftige Missionsarbeit der Kirche auch organisatorisch verbessert werden könnte. Bruder Tiga soll ab 1965 als Direktor des Central Mission Boards der Kirche agieren (daneben freilich noch einen Lehrauftrag am Theologischen College erfüllen). Weiter ist geplant, daß in den einzelnen Anchals vollamtliche "Supervisors" für die dortige Missionsarbeit eingesetzt werden, die zur Berichterstattung gegenüber dem Central Mission Board verpflichtet werden müssen.

Dr. Bage berichtete in diesem Zusammenhang über die Arbeit im Surguja-Gebiet. Unter den Pastoren (nicht bei dem Leiter !) herrsche ein Zwiespalt, ob ein engerer Anschluß an die Goßner Kirche wünschenswert sei. Im großen und ganzen könnte man aber sagen, daß alle Arbeit dort mit dem Ziel getan wird, die zu gründenden Gemeinden der Goßner Kirche zuzuführen. Dr. Berg meinte, daß in dieser Zwischenzeit persönliche Kontakte von seiten der Kirchenleitung (besonders wohl von Bruder J. Lakra) sehr förderlich sein müßten.

Über die Situation in Assam, wo die Gossner Mission für die zukünftige missionarische Arbeit besondere Mittel bereitstellen möchte, berichtete Dr. Bage von Schwierigkeiten. Die Verbindung mit den Brüdern im äußersten Nordosten sei in den letzten Monaten unterbrochen gewesen. Er hoffe, daß der neue Adhyaksh Erfolg haben möchte, die Assam-Gemeinden zu einer größeren Solidarität untereinander und zur Kirchenleitung zu führen. Dr. Bage nahm zur Kenntnis, daß die Gossner Mission vor etwaigen Hilfsmaßnahmen für die Missionsarbeit dort genauere Pläne erwartet, die von den Brüdern in Assam vorgelegt und von der Kirchenleitung geprüft werden müßten.

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Dr. Bage bestätigte im großen und ganzen die Zahlenangaben, die das Finanzmemorandum enthält und die große Bedeutung des Vorschlages, eine genaue Planung für die kommenden Jahre vorzunehmen. Dr. Berg betonte die Notwendigkeit einer exakten, mehrjährigen Planung für die Unterstützung aller kirchlichen Arbeiten in Indien und konsequenterweise die Notwendigkeit einer Absprache zwischen CWM und GM.

Es herrschte völlige Übereinstimmung, daß die Person eines Finanzadvisers sehr bald gefunden werden muß. Während der CWM Sitzung in Uppsala ist ein Vorstoss in dieser Richtung begonnen worden, ob mit Hilfe von Bruder Hafermann in London ein britischer Lutheraner gewonnen werden könnte. Eine solche Lösung würde wegen der Visumschwierigkeiten zu begrüßen sein. Der zukünftige Finanzadviser sollte vor allen Dingen durch das Property Board Finanzquellen erschließen; ferner die Gemeinden und Synoden in Finanzangelegenheiten beraten und schließlich um die Ausbildung von Verwaltungsfachleuten bemüht sein.

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Die Änderung der Terms of Reference wird von Dr. Bage voll unterstützt, der sich an diesem Punkt in Übereinstimmung mit dem KSS weiß. Dr. Berg gibt der Kirchenleitung zu erwägen, ob die Sätze 6 und 7 der bisherigen Terms wirklich wieder in einer neuen Formulierung aufgenommen werden sollten. Jedenfalls sollte der Terminus "missionaries" vermieden werden.

D. Goßnerkirche / Goßner Mission: Memorandum vom 8. Juli

Das Memorandum vom 8. 7. 1964 der Gossner Mission fand bei Dr. Bage ein positives Echo, der ausdrücklich vermerkte, daß er zwar Gelegenheit gehabt hätte, einige der leitenden Brüder kurz zu informieren, aber einer endgültige Antwort der Kirchenleitung nicht vorgreifen wolle.

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Die Gesprächspartner sind sich darüber einig, daß die Planungskommission in Zukunft eine strenge Teilung in der Bewilligung von Projekten vornehmen muß. Der größte Teil der zur Verfügung gestellten Mittel soll der Entwicklung des Landeigentums der Goßner Kirche zugute kommen, vor allen Dingen durch Errichtung von Geschäften und Wohnungen, die kontinuierliche Einnahmen für die Kirchenleitung einbringen. Es müßte erwartet werden, daß mindestens 10 % der investierten Summe als jährliche Einnahme ins Budget der Kirchenleitung zurückfließen. Ein anderer Teil der zur Verfügung stehenden Mittel sollte für Bau- bzw. Reparaturarbeiten an Kirchen, Schulen, Pfarrhäusern und Verwaltungsgebäuden verbraucht werden. Die Planing Commission möchte die prozentualen Anteile des Entwicklungsdienstes gegenüber dem kirchlichen Baudienst genau festlegen. Dr. Berg versicherte, daß der Fünf-Jahres-Plan sich erweitern ließe zu einem 10 Jahres-Plan und daß er die feste Hoffnung habe, jährlich etwa 150.000 Rs. dafür zur Verfügung stellen zu können.

Zur Entlastung von Dipl. Ing. Schwerk schlug er vor, einen indischen Architekten zu suchen, dessen Gehalt (etwa 500 - 600 Rs.) aus diesen Mitteln getragen werden könnte.

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Dr. Bage gab einen kurzen Bericht über die Ausschreitungen, die Ende März in Chota Nagpur stattfanden. Auch einige Gossnergemeinden waren davon betroffen, weil hier und dort gewissenlose Hindu-Führer die Situation in den abgelegenen Dörfern ausnutzten, wo Christen und Nicht-Christen ohne Möglichkeiten der objektiven Prüfung der Lage zum Kampf gegen die Moslems als zum Kampf für die Verteidigung der indischen Nation aufgerufen wurden. Die Kirchenleitung hat sich sofort bemüht, die Gemeinden aufzuklären und das mit Erfolg. Die schriftlichen Aufrufe der Kirchenleitung wurden auch mit Hilfe der Regierung verbreitet. Dr. Bage wurde gebeten, den Text der damaligen Kanzelabkündigung der Missionsleitung zur Kenntnis zu bringen.

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*Dr. Bage
Fehlbes.
Bage*

Die augenblickliche Lage im Krankenhaus Amgaon wurde besprochen. Angesichts der Tatsache, daß Schwester Maria Schatz und auch wohl Schwester Ursula v. Lingen aus dem Dienst ausscheiden und daß mit dem Bau des neuen Krankenhauses Karimati erneut große personelle Anforderungen nötig werden, ersuchte Dr. Berg mit großem Nachdruck die Kirchenleitung, sich mehr als bisher um den Einsatz von christlichen indischen Ärzten und Schwestern zu bemühen. Dr. Bage gab dazu seine Zustimmung, erklärte jedoch einige Schwierigkeiten, die dadurch entstünden, daß sowohl die deutschen Ärzte als auch Schwestern dafür bekannt seien, von sich und anderen Mitarbeitern ein großes Arbeitspensum zu verlangen. Die indischen Mitarbeiter, auch wenn sie qualifiziert seien, hätten immer Sorge, in einem Team mit deutschen Fachkräften zu arbeiten. Sie befürchteten, nicht den Erwartungen entsprechen zu können. Nichtsdestotrotz wolle man sich sehr bemühen, da die augenblickliche Angespanntheit der deutschen Mitarbeiter ja nicht nur in deren Mentalität, sondern in Mangel an Pflegekräften begründet sei.

Der Baubeginn in Karimati wird vermutlich von Herbst 1965 auf Herbst 1966 verschoben werden müssen.

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Für die Nachfolge von Dr. Junghans kann die Gossner Mission noch keinen Namen nennen. Der Vorschlag geht dahin, daß für eine Übergangszeit die erzieherischen Aufgaben von Khuntitoli durch Herrn Tomforde in Zusammenarbeit mit Pastor H. Minj wahrgenommen werden, während Herr Bruns den Farmbetrieb leiten soll. Dr. Bage wird gebeten, die Übergabe der Leitung Ende Oktober in Khuntitoli vorzunehmen. Es sei der Wunsch der Gossner Mission, daß eine Ausweitung der Arbeit von Khuntitoli gestoppt werden möge und für die nächste Zeit keine weiteren Branches erstellt werden.

Dr. Bage berichtete kurz über die Arbeit des Central Meeting Places, wo 1964 zwei meetings stattgefunden haben und für 1965 neun geplant sind.

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Dr. Bage begrüßte die wohltuende Zusammenarbeit zwischen dem Leiter des TTC und ihm. Es sei sein Wunsch, daß die Produktion im TTC nicht vernachlässigt werde, so daß die Hoffnung eines Tages, daß sich die für die Kirche so wichtige Handwerkerschule selbst finanzieren kann, erfüllt werden könnte.

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Der Aufbau des Blind Home - zugleich die Reparatur der Tabita-Schule - soll in den Herbstmonaten begonnen werden. Hinsichtlich der Lehrerinnen sind Schwierigkeiten aufgetreten. Es scheint ratsam zu sein, daß das Blind Home ab 1. Januar 1965 mit einer kleineren Zahl von Mädchen und nur einer Lehrerin beginnt. Im Laufe des Jahres 1965 soll dann eine neue Lehrerin gesucht und ausgebildet werden. Das Kuratorium erwartet bis Oktober / November Angaben über die zu erwartenden laufenden Kosten des Blind Homes.

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A. Stipendien für Ausbildungsstätten der GELC, besonders im Theologischen College

Dr. Bage sprach seinen Dank aus für die Gewährung der Stipendien für die drei theologischen Schulen der Kirche. Da die Kirchenleitung für das Theologische College für 1964 ebenfalls Stipendien vom Lutherischen Weltbund erhalten hat, bittet er, einen Teilbetrag aus den Stipendienmitteln der Gossner Mission für das Theologische College zum Ausbau der dortigen Bibliothek verwenden zu dürfen. Dr. Berg stimmte diesem Vorschlag zu.

B. Stipendiaten in Deutschland

Dr. Bage wurde informiert über die Beschlüsse des Kuratoriums, das sich in seiner letzten Sitzung mit den Stipendiaten der Gossner Kirche in Deutschland befaßt hat. Auf beiden Seiten bestand Übereinstimmung, daß die Zahl der Stipendiaten nicht mehr als etwa sechs betragen sollte und daß in Zukunft die Auswahl in Indien verschärft werden müßte. Die Kirchenleitung werde sich bemühen, eine Ordnung für die Auswahl von Stipendiaten zu verabschieden.

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Dr. Bage erklärte, daß die Goßner Kirche bereit sei, Pfarrer Dr. Peusch als Dozenten an das Theologische College zu berufen; vor allen Dingen auch im Blick auf das Ziel, den Standard zu heben und in absehbarer Zeit die Bachelor-Prüfungen im College abzuhalten. Dr. Bage stimmt dem Vorschlag von Dr. Berg zu, daß Dr. Peusch aufgetragen werden möchte, daneben für den Bau von vier Hostels verantwortlich zu gelten.

D! Lutheran College in Ranchi

Die Arbeiten der vom KSS eingesetzten Kommission, die die Errichtung eines Lutheran Colleges in Ranchi planen sollte, sind noch nicht vorangekommen. Die Gossner Mission sieht sich nicht in der Lage, irgendwelche Schritte zu unternehmen, bevor nicht genauere Angaben darüber vorliegen, wie hoch die Investitionen und die laufenden Kosten sein werden.

IV. Einzelfragen

A. Durch unbegreifliche Mißverständnisse hat die Einladung der Gossner Mission an P. Tiga den Empfänger nicht erreicht. Dr. Berg schlug vor, daß die von der Kirchenleitung festgesetzte Reihenfolge der Besucher eingehalten wird, dabei aber der Besuch von J. Tiga von 1964 auf 1967 verschoben wird.

B. Das Kuratorium der GM will in den befreundeten deutschen Landeskirchen anregen, daß von dort jährlich einer die GELC besucht.

C. Die Verwirrung um die Wellesly Church in Kalkutta scheint nach einem Bericht von Dr. Bage beigelegt zu sein, nachdem offiziell festgestellt ist, daß Pastor Devadas zum Ministerium der Gossner Kirche gehört und dieser ausdrücklich erklärt hat, daß die Gemeinde in Kalkutta eine Gemeinde der Gossner Kirche sei. Es sei eine Vereinbarung getroffen worden,

daß zukünftig nicht nur Gottesdienste in Telugu, sondern auch in Hindi stattfinden sollten; ferner, daß der zweite Pastor der Hindi sprechenden Gossnergemeinde in Kalkutta ebenfalls Wohnung auf dem Compound der Wellesly Church nehmen sollte. Es seien an den Gebäuden Reparaturen nötig, die nach Meinung von Dr. Bage einen Betrag von 5.000Rs. erforderten. Die Planing Commission des Fünf-Jahres-Planes wird eine Entscheidung darüber treffen müssen, ob die Mittel zur Verfügung gestellt werden können.

D. Dr. Bage erklärte seine Bereitschaft, sich dafür einzusetzen, daß die Industrie-Mission unter Rev. Wright nicht nur gewisse finanzielle Hilfen (durch die Gossner Mission), sondern möglichst auch einen Theologen der Gossner Kirche zur Verfügung gestellt bekommt.

Dr. Berg
E. Im Blick auf die Bitte der Gossner Kirche für Ihren Haushalt 1965 bringt Dr. Berg seine Bedenken zum Ausdruck, ob es geraten sei, den Anchals insgesamt 12.000 Rs. zu geben. Mindestens würde das Kuratorium erwarten, daß diese Anforderung eine Ausnahme bleiben solle und die Anchals eine Erklärung darüber abgeben, wie sie diese Beträge 1966 und weiterhin aufzubringen gedächten. Der für 1964 geplante Ankauf eines Jeeps für den Nord-West-Anchal kann aus Geldmangel nicht von der Gossner Mission in diesem Jahr verwirklicht werden. In diesem Zusammenhang wird die ernsthafte Anfrage an die Anchals gerichtet, wie sie die laufenden Unkosten für einen solchen Kraftwagen zu decken dächten, wenn für das Jahr 1965 nicht einmal die Gehälter für die Adhyakshs von den Synoden bereitgestellt werden können.

Dr. Berg
F. Dr. Bage bittet das Kuratorium zu erwägen, ob eine einmalige Hilfe in einem besonderen Fall möglich sei. Das Defizit im Provident-Fonds der Pastoren sei seinerzeit vom LWB gedeckt worden, nicht aber das Defizit aus dem Provident-Fonds der Pracharakas, das eine Höhe von 5.047,-Rs. ausweist.

Berlin, den 11. September 1964

gez. P. Seeberg

Verteiler:

Pramukh Adhyaksh Rev. Dr. M. Bage
Dr. Berg
P. Kloss
P. Seeberg

J. D. M. 21/9.

Gedächtnisprotokoll

Über die Besprechungen, die am 27./28.8.1964 zwischen Pramuks Adhakah Dr. Bage und Missionsdirektor Dr. Berg stattfanden

I. Grundsatzfragen

A. Wandlungen in der Missionsarbeit:

Dr. Berg erläuterte noch einmal den Vorschlag des Kuratoriums, den zwischen der Gossner Kirche und der Gossner Mission bestehenden Vertrag über die Arbeit des Joint Mission Boards zu beenden. Vor allem wäre der Kirche dadurch die Möglichkeit gegeben, die Missionsarbeit auch in anderen Gebieten der Kirche zu aktivieren. Dr. Bage erklärte die volle Zustimmung der Kirchenleitung zu diesem Vorschlag. Im KSS wäre der Vorschlag positiv aufgenommen worden und bereits Überlegungen im Gange, wie die zukünftige Missionsarbeit der Kirche auch organisatorisch verbessert werden könnte. Bruder Tiga soll ab 1965 als Direktor des Central Mission Boards der Kirche agieren (daneben freilich noch einen Lehrauftrag am Theologischen College erfüllen). Weiter ist geplant, daß in den einzelnen Anshals vollamtliche "Supervisors" für die dortige Missionsarbeit eingesetzt werden, die zur Berichterstattung gegenüber dem Central Mission Board verpflichtet werden müssen.

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A. Durch unbegreifliche Mißverständnisse hat die Einladung der Gossner Mission an P. Tiga den Empfänger nicht erreicht. Dr. Berg schlug vor, daß die von der Kirchenleitung festgesetzte Reihenfolge der Besucher eingehalten wird, dabei aber der Besuch von J. Tiga von 1964 auf 1967 verschoben wird.

B. Das Kuratorium der GM will in den befreundeten deutschen Landeskirchen anregen, daß von dort jährlich einer die GELC besucht.

C. Die Verwirrung um die Wellesly Church in Kalkutta scheint nach einem Bericht von Dr. Bage beigelegt zu sein, nachdem offiziell festgestellt ist, daß Pastor Devadas zum Ministerium der Gossner Kirche gehört und dieser ausdrücklich erklärt hat, daß die Gemeinde in Kalkutta eine Gemeinde der Gossner Kirche sei. Es sei eine Vereinbarung getroffen worden.

daß zukünftig nicht nur Gottesdienste in Telugu, sondern auch in Hindi stattfinden sollten; ferner, daß der zweite Pastor der Hindi sprechenden Gossnergemeinde in Kalkutta ebenfalls Wohnung auf dem Compound der Wellesly Church nehmen sollte. Es seien an den Gebäuden Reparaturen nötig, die nach Meinung von Dr. Bage einen Betrag von 5.000Rs. erforderten. Die Planning Commission des Fünf-Jahres-Planes wird eine Entscheidung darüber treffen müssen, ob die Mittel zur Verfügung gestellt werden können.

D. Dr. Bage erklärte seine Bereitschaft, sich dafür einzusetzen, daß die Industrie-Mission unter Rev. Wright nicht nur gewisse finanzielle Hilfen (durch die Gossner Mission), sondern möglichst auch einen Theologen der Gossner Kirche zur Verfügung gestellt bekommt.

E. Im Blick auf die Bitte der Gossner Kirche für Ihren Haushalt 1965 bringt Dr. Berg seine Bedenken zum Ausdruck, ob es geraten sei, den Anchals insgesamt 12.000 Rs. zu geben. Mindestens würde das Kuratorium erwarten, daß diese Anforderung eine Ausnahme bleiben solle und die Anchals eine Erklärung darüber abgeben, wie sie diese Beträge 1966 und weiterhin aufzubringen gedächten. Der für 1964 geplante Ankauf eines Jeeps für den Nord-West-Anchal kann aus Geldmangel nicht von der Gossner Mission in diesem Jahr verwirklicht werden. In diesem Zusammenhang wird die ernsthafte Anfrage an die Anchals gerichtet, wie sie die laufenden Unkosten für einen solchen Kraftwagen zu decken dächten, wenn für das Jahr 1965 nicht einmal die Gehälter für die Adhyakhs von den Synoden bereitgestellt werden können.

F. Dr. Bage bittet das Kuratorium zu erwägen, ob eine einmalige Hilfe in einem besonderen Fall möglich sei. Das Defizit im Provident-Fonds der Pastoren sei seinerzeit vom LWB gedeckt worden, nicht aber das Defizit aus dem Provident-Fonds der Pracharakas, das eine Höhe von 5.047,-Rs. ausweist.

Berlin, den 11. September 1964

Seeberg

Verteilter:

Pramukh Adhyaksh Rev. Dr. M. Bage
Dr. Berg
P. Kloss
P. Seeberg

Berlin-Friedenau, 18th August 64

Up-Pramukh Adhyaksh
Rev. G. B. Aind
G.E.L. Church Compound

Ranchi / Bihar
India

24/8

Re: Letter of Rev. Dr. M. Bage of 28th July 1964 - Ref. No, 671/64

Dear Rev. Aind,

Referring to the above mentioned letter, we are sending you the translations of the memos on the future of Joint Mission Works and on the financial position of the Gossner Church in four copies each, to be circulated to the members of the KSS and to all members of the Evangelistic Board and some other persons.

Yours sincerely,

Brunner
(Secretary)

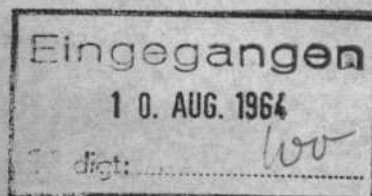
Encl.

GOSSNER EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN CHURCH IN CHOTANAGPUR & ASSAM.

Ref. No. 700/64

From :-

Rev. Dr. M. Bage,
Pramukh Adhyaksh,
G.E.L. Church,



Ranchi, the 4th August '64.

To,

Dr. Ch. Berg, Director,
Gossner Mission Society,
Berlin - Friedenau,
Handjerystr. 19/20
Germany.

Dear Brother Berg,

In your comment on the last K.S.S. resolutions you have mentioned that the Kuratorium sent an official invitation to Rev. J.J.P. Tiga already in March and that you even sent me a copy of it. It is really a matter of regret that neither brother Tiga has received it nor did I. This surprises me. I shall take steps that no letter gets lost here.

So far the K.S.S. is concerned we have resolved that Rev. J.J.P. Tiga, Rev. C.B. Minz and Rev. C.B. Aind be deputed one after another. Now so far the time is concerned, it depends on the Kuratorium when and for which months they are invited.

Hoping to hear further from you.

Yours Sincerely,

M. Bage

(M. Bage),
Pramukh Ashyaksh,
President,
G.E.L. Church, Ranchi.

Copy to :-

Rev. J.J.P. Tiga, Kokor.

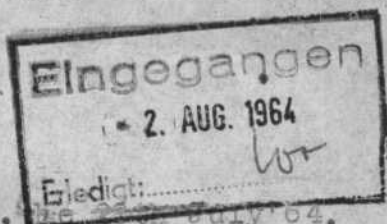
GOSSNER EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN CHURCH IN CHOTANAGPUR & ASSAM.

Ref. No. 671/64

From :-

The Pramukh Adhyaksh,
G.E.L. Church.

Ranchi, 22nd July 64.



To,

The Director,
Gossner Mission Society,
Berlin - Friedenau,
Handjerystr. 19/20,
Germany.

Dear Brother Berg,

Thanks for your letter dated 21.7.64. It is a matter of joy for us to know that we shall get English copy of your letter / Memorandum on the future of Joint Mission Works and on the financial position of the Gossner Church.

It will be appreciated if it is sent as soon as it is translated. I shall leave my instruction to Rev. C. B. Aind, the Up-pramukh Adhyaksh to get more copies of the same here and circulate the same to the members of the K.S.S. and that of the Joint Mission Work to all members of our Evangelistic Board and some other persons interested on Evangelistic work. I would like that they think on the matters and when I shall be back we shall be discussing thoroughly to arrive at definite decisions.

I am leaving Ranchi on the 10th August.

Hoping to see you soon.

Yours Sincerely,

(M. Bage),
Pramukh Adhyaksh,
President,
G.E.L. Church, Ranchi.

Copy to :-

1. Rev. C. B. Aind, Up-pramukh.
2. Office of the K.S.S. Secretary.

drbg/br

Berlin-Friedenau, 21 July 1964

Pramukh Adhyaksh
Rev. Dr. M. Bage
G.E.L. Church

Ranchi / Bihar
India

Dear Brother Bage !

I just received your reply to my various letters and memos which I sent you recently. You are fully informed about our reflections as to how we think about the tasks in the Gossner Church and also about a few important personnel changes - after receiving the minutes of the meeting of the Kuratorium on 8th July 1964.

Thanking you for your reply, I should like to confirm today that - according to your request - the mentioned memos (changes in the constitution on the mission work and the financial situation of the Gossner Church) will be translated into English by our office and will be sent to you in six copies each until the end of August or it will be given to you here.

We know that you will depart soon when our letter reaches you. We do hope that you will have a safe journey and that we shall have blessed meetings and consultations at Upsalla as well as in Berlin.

With kind regards to you and your family - also from my wife -

I am yours,



GOSSNER EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN CHURCH IN CHOTANAGPUR & ASSAM

Ref. No. 614/84

Eingangsgang

21. JUL. 1964

From :-

The Pramukh Adhyaksh,
G.E.L. Church.

Ranchi, the 15th July '64.

To,

Dr. Berg, Director,
Gossner Mission Society,
Berlin - Friedenau,
Handjerystr., 19/20,
Germany.

Dear Brother Berg,

To-day I could go through your several letters received yesterday. Among them I mainly found :-

- (i) Your Comments on several resolutions adopted by the K.S.S. in its session during 14-17th June'64.,
- (ii) The suggestion or proposal of the Kuratorium on the Mission Work of the Gossner Church and the future status of the J.M.B.
- and (iii) Your Memorandum on the Financial situation of the Gossner Church.

So far the statements on items (ii) & (iii) mentioned above are concerned I feel that the Gossner Church will be glad to consider all points seriously and so far possible thoroughly. We would have been very glad if we could get it translated into English. Can this be possible in Berlin? If not we shall try to arrange to get it translated here at Ranchi. The full K.S.S. will meet towards the end of October. Necessary actions will be definitely taken in that meeting in connection with the above matters.

Going through your comments made on different resolutions of the last K.S.S. I am glad to know that the Kuratorium is so much interested in each decision which the K.S.S. makes. All members of the K.S.S. will certainly have the similar joy on knowing this. This shows how deeply the Kuratorium shares the joy as well as the sorrows which the Gossner Church happens to experience.

You have reiterated your willingness to give full support to ~~young men~~ the programme of sending two young ~~men~~ to a Commercial institute at Balasore. The K.S.S. will be very grateful to the Kuratorium for such an attitude. I assure you that necessary action will be taken on this matter.

The draft of the "Terms of Reference" which was placed in the last K.S.S. Samiti meeting has not been taken as final. The K.S.S. will try to give its own wordings to the ideas already expressed in your draft. I am not yet clear whether my colleagues in the K.S.S. will be willing to finalise it in the next full K.S.S. or may be willing to have the opinion of the Kalisha Sangh which will meet in the early months of 1965, on the ground that this involves a matter of general policy. I shall be willing to discuss with you on this when I meet you in Berlin.

Just last evening I met Mr. P. D. Kandulna. He expressed that he has no objection to his son's **joining** service at Khutitoli after his return from Germany. I have asked him to give me ~~this~~ same in writing.

Lastly I must heartily thank you, brother Berg, for your Memorandum you have given on our financial situation. I agree fully to your observations. I appreciate also your suggestions. They find agreement with my own feeling and thinking on the finance of the Church. I hope that it will open way for my discussion on the matter with LWF authorities as well as my people here in India.

With hearty greetings also to Mrs Berg and hoping to see you in Berlin.

Yours Sincerely,

M. Bage

(M. Bage),
Pramukh Adhyaksh,
President,
G.E.L. Church, Ranchi.

Gossner Mission
1 Berlin 41 (Friedenau)
Handjerystraße 19/20

drbg/br
Berlin-Friedenau, 9 July 1964

Pramukh Adhyaksh
Rev. Dr. M. Bage
G.E.L. Church

Ranchi / Bihar
India

Re: Meeting of the KSS at Ranchi on 14-17th June 1964
Point 3c)

Dear Brother Bage,

One day after the Kuratorium I find time to write about another important point of your minutes. It seems of special importance to me.

You refused the offer of W.G. Griffiths, Supdt. Lee Memorial Mission, Calcutta, dated 22 May 1964 because you found the monthly expenditure on the students too high for sending them to a commercial institute in Balasore, Orissa.

We very much regret your decision. I also informed brother Thiel about it during his stay at the Gossnerhouse. There is hardly anything more important for the Gossner Church in the coming years as to obtain young men who have experience in administration.

We should, therefore, like to offer you to pay stipends for the two students also, apart from the stipends for the three theological institutions of the G.E.L. Church, the Theological College, Tabita-School and Pracharak School. This should enable you to send the two students to a commercial institute in Balasore / Orissa. A Sum of Rs. 1200 to 1500 would be needed every year. We assume that only financial matters have been the cause for your refusal, but not the fact that they would get an education in a Methodist training place. You will surely have that much ecumenical spirit to do this.

We are afraid that the young students - if not trained in a christian institute - will more quickly work in the local industry or secular administrative authorities which offer more salary. The students need a special training as well as conviction in the christian faith.

We should, therefore, like to ask you, dear Brother Bage, to send two able young men to Balasore. We shall take over the costs of their study in order to help the Gossner Church in an important matter. We should like to advise you to send the two students as soon as possible so that you may obtain trained men for your various administrative work.

cc/treasurer of KSS
Headmaster Tirky
cc/Secretary of KSS
cc/Rev. Kloss

With kind regards,
Yours,

Christian Jey.

drbg/br

Berlin-Friedanau, 9 July 1964

Pramukh Adhyaksh
Rev. Dr. M. Bage
G.E.L. Chnrch

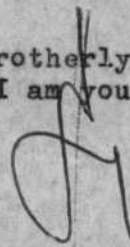
Ranchi / Bihar
India

Dear Brother Bage,

One day after the Kuratorium's meeting I should like to let you know that brother Thiel will not return for service in the G.E.L. Church. It is not sure yet whether there will be another task for him in India one day or whether he will return for service in the Evangelica-Lutheran Church of Hannover. We can talk about details in Uppsala and Berlin in August 1964. But I should like to let you know this fact after the meeting of the Kuratorium yesterday.

Therefore, your talks in Geneva and Uppsala will be all the more important, because it is now time to look for an able man who will be helpful to the Gossner Church in financial- and property matters.

With brotherly greetings,
I am yours,



drbg/br

Berlin-Friedenau, 9. Juli 1964

President of the Gossner Church
Rev. Dr. M. Bage
Ranchi / Bihar / India

Secretary of J.M.B.
Rev. Kloss
Ranchi / Bihar / India

Dear Brothers,

At the meeting of the Kuratorium of the Gossner Mission on 8 July, the mission work of the Gossner Church was discussed in detail according to a draft made by the Gossner Mission. The enclosed document was passed and unanimously resolved. The mission body was requested to officially send it to the President of the Gossner Church and the Secretary of J.M.B. We should be very grateful if the KSS of the Gossner Church accepted the contents and the suggestions of the memorandum so that from 1st January 1965 onwards, we shall have a new basis in the very important task of the mission of the Gossner Church. It may also be of importance to you that my dear predecessor who, together with Rev. Lakra, has worked decisively on the constitution of the J.M.B. in the past, has fully agreed to our draft, although not present at the meeting yesterday.

We should be grateful if the KSS would let us know its decision until the end of this year.

With brotherly greetings,
I am yours,



Enclosure

Entwurf

Zur Frage der Missionsarbeit der Goßnerkirche

Das Kuratorium begrüßt den Beschluß des "Joint Mission Boards" der GEL Church auf seiner Sitzung am 14. Februar 1964 in Ranchi, die Leitung sowohl der Goßnerkirche wie der Goßner Mission möchten ernsthaft überprüfen, ob nicht angesichts der seit einem Jahrzehnt eingetretenen Veränderungen mannigfacher Art Einrichtung, Strategie und praktische Arbeit des JMB einen Wandel ihrer Struktur erfahren und in die Kirche noch stärker integriert werden sollten.

Das Kuratorium ist in der Tat dieser Überzeugung und möchte, indem es dem Ersuchen vom 14.2.1964 nachkommt, dafür folgende Gründe aufführen bzw. Vorschläge unterbreiten.

1. Die Mission ist Aufgabe der ganzen Kirche wie jeder ihrer einzelnen Gemeinden. Diese Erkenntnis entspricht der Sendung der Jünger Jesu Christi durch ihren Herrn.

Da die Goßnerkirche als eine kleine Minderheitskirche inmitten einer überwältigenden Mehrheit von Nichtchristen lebt, haben vollends alle ihre Gemeinden in der Mission ihre Existenz.

2. Ein besonderes "Board für Mission" der Kirche kann darum nur den Auftrag haben und wahrnehmen, alle Kräfte der Kirche für ihre Aufgabe der Sendung zusammenzufassen, die Verantwortung dafür zu wecken, den Gemeinden in der praktischen Arbeit zu dienen und Menschen für den missionarischen Dienst zuzurüsten - - alles, damit die Erkenntnis der Aufgabe vertieft und diese immer planvoller, freudiger und bewußter erfüllt wird.

3. Das vor etwa 10 Jahren von der Goßnerkirche und Goßner Mission eingerichtete und gemeinsam getragene "Joint Mission Board" - wie es denn auch in der jetzt gültigen Verfassung der GEL Church verankert ist - hat in einer bedeutsamen Übergangsperiode die unter 1) und 2) ausgesprochenen Grunderkenntnisse bewußt und lebendig gemacht und trotz und inmitten schwerer Spannungen in der Goßnerkirche den Missionsauftrag wachgehalten wie auch praktisch bewährt: Tausenden von Nichtchristen ist das Evangelium verkündet und vielen der Weg in die Gemeinschaft der Kirche Jesu Christi geöffnet worden.

4. Die Beschränkung auf bestimmte geographische Gebiete für das JMB erscheint aber (cf. 1.) nunmehr überholt. Ebenso sollte der Zeitpunkt sorgfältig erwogen werden, wann die neugewonnenen Christen in den Verband der Kirche bzw. des zuständigen Anchals überführt werden.

Mission
Die Goßnerkirche verzichtet in Zukunft auf ein verfassungsmäßig verankertes Recht der Mitwirkung an der Missionsaufgabe der GELChurch. In voller Freiheit bietet sie vielmehr ihrer Tochterkirche die Mithilfe dabei an.

Träger der Mission ist also fortan die GEL Church allein. *1/2 Zeit*
Die Goßner Mission, nach Lage der Dinge ~~nicht mehr~~ imstande, "Pioniermissionare" im alten Verständnis des Wortes auszusenden, gewährt der Goßnerkirche alle nur mögliche Unterstützung bei dem ihr gestellten ureigenen Auftrag.

+ + +

5. Der praktische Vorschlag des Kuratoriums ist demgemäß der folgende:

- a) Das "Joint Mission Board" beendet mit dem 31. Dezember 1964 seinen Dienst und wird als solches aufgelöst. *Für die Missionarbeit*
b) An seine Stelle tritt ab 1.1.1965 ein Board der GEL Church, das die unaufgebbaren, weiterzuführenden Aufgaben des jetzigen JMB übernimmt.

Ein Direktor, den das KSS der Goßnerkirche wählt, leitet die praktische Arbeit (cf. 2.)

- c) Die Goßner Mission unterstützt die Arbeit des Boards mit einem festen Jahresbeitrag, über dessen Verwendung gewissenhafte Rechenschaftslegung erfolgt. Sie bestimmt einen ihrer Mitarbeiter in der GEL Church, der das Recht hat, in die Verwendung der gewährten Mittel allen erforderlichen Einblick zu erhalten.

Darüber hinaus wäre die Goßner Mission dankbar, wenn zwei ihrer Mitarbeiter als beratende Mitglieder dem neu zu bildenden Board für die Missionsarbeit zugewählt werden würden.

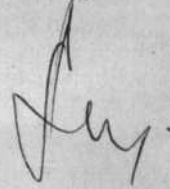
- d) Inwieweit die GELChurch die Missionsarbeit dezentralisiert und gewisse, insbesondere finanzielle Fragen durch die Anchals

regeln und wahrnehmen läßt, unterliegt ihrer Verantwortung und Entscheidung.

- c) Grundlegend erscheint dem Kuratorium, daß mit dieser Neuregelung die Mission der GEL Church nicht geschwächt sondern gestärkt wird und alle ihre Gemeinden, Synoden und Anchals den Auftrag Jesu Christi als ihre ureigene Aufgabe erkennen wie auch praktizieren.

Dabei mitzuhelfen wird der Goßner Mission wichtigstes Anliegen und herzliche Freude sein.

früher, sofortiger Auftrag Juli 1964.



Mission work of the Gossner Church

The Kuratorium welcomes the resolution of the "Joint Mission Board" of the GEL Church at its meeting at Ranchi on 14th February 1964 that the governing bodies of the Goßner Church as well as the Goßner Mission should seriously reconsider whether it would not be advisable in view of the changes of various kinds which have taken place since a decade to change establishment, strategy and practical work of the JMB and have it integrated in the church more strongly.

The Kuratorium is, indeed, convinced of it and should like to state the following reasons resp. submit the following suggestions, according to the request of 14th February 1964:

1. The mission is the task of the whole church as well as of all its congregations. This knowledge corresponds to the sending of the disciples of Jesus Christ by their Master.

Since the Goßner Church - as a small minority church - lives amongst an overwhelming majority of non-Christians, all its congregations have its existence in the mission work.

2. A special "Board for Mission" of the church can, therefore, only have the task to gather all strength of the church for its task of the sending, to awaken responsibility for serving the congregations in their practical work and prepare people for the missionary task - everything for deepening the knowledge of the task and for its being carried out more and more systematically, joyfully and consciously.

3. The "Joint Mission Board" having been established about 10 years ago by the Gossner Church and the Gossner Mission - as it is now rooted in the present valid constitution of the GEL Church - has made the under 1) and 2) mentioned basic knowledge a obvious during an important period of transition and has practised the mission task in spite and during serious tension within the Gossner Church: The Gospel has been preached to thousands of non-Christians and the way has been opened to many of them to the communion of the church of Jesus Christ.

4. It, now, seems to be out of date to limit the JMB to certain geographical districts. (cf 1.). It should also be considered very carefully at which time the newly won Christians should be admitted in the church resp. the concerning Anshals.

In future, the Gossner Mission dispenses of a constitutional laid down right of co-operation on the mission task of the GEL Church. The Gossner Mission rather offers its help to its daughter-Church.

Bearer of the mission is, therefore, the GEL Church alone. The Gossner Mission, at the moment incapable of sending "pioneer missionaries" to India, will give support to the Gossner Church for its task as much as possible.

5. The Kuratorium should like to submit the following practical suggestions:
 - a) The "Joint Mission Board" will finish its work on 31st of December 1964 and will be dissolved therewith.

- b) In place of that, there will be a Board of the GEL Church for the mission work from 1st January 1965 onwards which will take over the tasks of the present JMB.
The KSS of the Gossner Church will appoint a director who will direct the practical work (cf 2.).
- c) The Gossner Mission will support the work of the Board with a fixed annual contribution. An exact statement as to the use of the money has to be made. The Gossner Mission will appoint one of its co-workers in the GELC who has the right to gain an insight into the use of the granted money. Besides of this, the Gossner Mission would be grateful if two of its co-workers were elected as consulting members in the new Board for the mission work.
- d) It is up to the GEL Church how far it will decentralize the mission work and to what extent it will have handled certain administrative, especially financial matters by the Anchals.
- e) The basic fact for the Kuratorium is that the mission of the GEL Church will not be weakened by this new regulation, but will be strengthened and that all congregations, synods and Anchals will consider and practise the command of Jesus Christ as their very own task.

The Gossner Mission will be very happy to render its help to this very great task.

Berlin-Gossnerhaus
July 1964

drbg/br
Berlin-Friedenau, 7 July 1964

KSS G.E.L. Church Ranchi
Attention:
Pramukh Adhyaksh Rev. Dr. M. Bage

Ranchi / Bihar
India

Subject: Minutes of the meeting of the KSS at Ranchi on 14-17th June 1964

Dear Brother Bage,

We are always pleased to receive the minutes of a meeting of the KSS, such as those of the meeting on 14-17th June, because there is hardly a matter which was not discussed and which was not of interest to us. We have taken great interest in all the matters with which you and the other brothers were occupied and have had occasion to think of your questions and troubles.

Let me define my attitude to some of the points:

1. (3b)

I am very pleased that you agreed to my draft of the terms of reference. I fully agree that the Nos. 6 and 7 of the old terms of reference be included in the new one, although the one or other question may arise in this connection which we could discuss during your stay here. What does it mean, however, when written in the minutes: "Approved in principle"? Does this mean that the last word will be said at the full meeting of the KSS and that its agreement is needed? Or will there be another second reading? Or is this not of much importance so that the terms of reference are now valid? And from which period? Would it not be better if we fixed a certain time, for instance 1 October 1964 or 1 January 1965? I should be very pleased to receive your comment on it.

2. (3f)

I already wrote to you regarding the use of the amount of Rs. 1.006,35 for an auditor. I, therefore, need not go into it again.

3. (5iv)

I also gave you my consent regarding the education of four Mikir young men. The first payment will be made in October 1964 and sent to Ranchi, taken from the fund - mission in Assam -.

4. (5Xiii)

It is regrettable that no answer has been given by father Kandulna regarding the stipend for his son Paul. We would¹⁵ have to taken away the +actually stipend from Paul Kandulna if his father does not answer, although we would not very much like to do it. Would it be advisable to write to Shri Paul D. Kandulna again? Or this silence connected with the fact that Mr. P. D. Kandulna has so far given no account as former manager of the property board as to the expenditure of about 9.000 Rs. ? I do hope that things will be settled soon with Mr. P. D. Kandulna.

5. (5 XXiv)

Please fix the date for the Kalisha Sangh - the church council meeting for 1965 which was planned at the beginning of March 1965 - without taking notice whether I can participate or not. It is still uncertain at the moment. I would arrange my trip to your fixed date if it were possible for me to come.

6. (5 xxvi)

The wording in your minutes, concerning the invitation for Rev. Tiga, can be misunderstood. According to the formulation it is not clear whether Rev. Tiga has not said anything to the KSS or whether you did not receive the formal invitation from the Gossnerhouse in Berlin.

I only want to inform you that Pastor Seeberg has sent the official invitation to Rev. Tiga on 23rd March 1964 already and that I sent you copy of this invitation on 27th April 1964. Therefore, the Gossner Mission has invited Rev. Tiga, according to the recommendation of the KSS. We have been surprised that we received no answer from Rev. Tiga. Obviously, he has not said anything to the KSS about it, too. We regret that there is now a vacant place and that no visitor from the Gossner-Church in India will come to our congregations, for it is obviously too late for it now.

7. (8a)

I should like to confirm the matter regarding a training for Mr. Kandulna /Khuntitoli in Japan. I am pleased that the KSS has basically approved to it. The expenses will, indeed, be included in the budget of the ATC for 1965, according to the agreement between Dr. Junghans and myself. But it may be possible that Mr. Kandulna cannot travel before 1966.

8. (8g)

With great interest, we have learned from the minutes that the KSS of the Gossner Church has officially approved of an extension of the term of services of Dr. Junghans. We shall surely receive an official letter about it. This is important for the Kuratorium, because the problems of the management of the ATC will certainly be discussed at the meeting on 8 July as well as on 14th October 1964.

9. (8m)

We also learned with interest that you will be absent from Chotanagpur from 1st August to 13th September 1964 and that Rev. C.B. Aind, Up-Pramukh Adhyaksh, will be in charge of the G.E.L. Church. Please send him my regards.

Pastor M. Seeberg is very much looking forward to seeing you at Uppsala. I shall also be back from my holidays (1st August - 24th August) in order to meet you at the Gossnerhouse in Berlin.

Thank you very much again for sending us the minutes of the meeting of the KSS at Ranchi on 14-17th June 1964. I have also been interested in the various points not mentioned by me in this letter.

drbg/br
Berlin-Friedenau, 29 June 1964

Pramukh Adhyaksh
Rev. Dr. M. Bage
G.E.L. Church

Ranchi / Bihar
India

Subject: Medical doctors and nurses of the GELC for hospital services

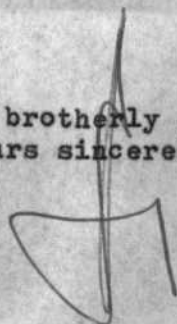
Dear Brother Bage,

May I remind you today of our talks in India regarding the work in Amgaon and the future plans for Karimati. It seems important to us to win young doctors, who belong to the GELC, but who work at other places at present. We also thought of the nurses, coming from congregations of the GELC, but who received a training at Roman Catholic Hospitals and who we should try to make interested and win for the service in their own church. This matter should not be forgotten amongst all the other problems facing us.

I should be very grateful if brothers of the KSS felt specially responsible for it and tried to get in contact with the concerning people, with the aim to win them for service in their own church in places like Amgaon and Karimati later on.

More and more we must try to find able Indian staff for our hospital work.

With brotherly greetings,
Yours sincerely,



drbg/br

Berlin-Friedenau, 29 June 1964

Pramukh Adhyaksh
Rev. Dr. M. Bage
G.E.L. Church

Ranchi / Bihar
India

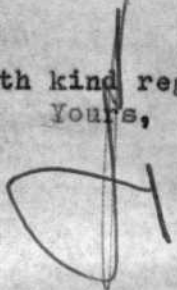
Subject: Miss Anny Diller's cooperation in educational work at Ranchi

Dear Brother Bage,

I should like to give the following comment in reference to a letter from Miss Anny Diller:

I have not only anything against it, but fully agree if Miss Anny Diller follows a wish from your side to do educational work at Ranchi. During our last days in Ranchi and discussions on many problems, we both have not talked about this matter. As I gather from Miss Diller's letter, it seems important to her that I give you my opinion on it.

With kind regards,
Yours,



cc/ Miss Anny Diller

drbg/br
Berlin-Friedenau, 26. Juni 1964

Pramukh Adhyaksh
Rev. Dr. M. Bage
G.E.L. Church

Ranchi / Bihar
India

Subject: All Asia Lutheran Conference to be held at Ranchi from 8-18th Oct.
- Your letter of 20th June 1964 -

Dear Brother Bage,

Your request for helping you in putting the necessary buildings in order for the above mentioned Conference has not come unexpected.

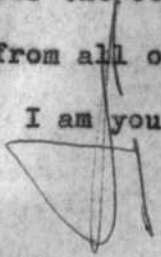
We shall send you another remittance for the Five-Year-Plan in July in continuation to our transfer two weeks ago which was necessary for paying another instalment to the military authorities at the beginning of July.

After consultation with brother Schwerk, please inform me about the amount needed for repairing the Gossner High School for this meeting. It is not necessary for us to see the plans. As soon as we have obtained an estimate from you, we shall send the amount to the account of the Five-Year-Plan at the TTC in Fudi. Anyhow, you could calculate with about 20.000 Rs.

I hope that my letter will assure you ^{that} the works can still be carried out in August and September to be finished for the Conference in October 1964.

With kind regards from all of us in the Gossnerhouse

I am yours,



CC/ Dipl.Ing.
K. Schwerk

Gossner Evangelical Lutheran Church in Chotanagpur & Assam.

Ref. No. 534/64

From :-

The Pramukh Adhyaksh,
G.E.L. Church.

To,

The Director Ch. Berg,
Gossner Mission Society,
Berlin - Friedenau,
Handjerystr. 19/20,
Germany.

Ranchi, the 20th June '64.

Subject :- All Asia Lutheran Conference to be held at
Ranchi.

Dear Brother Berg,

Recently I informed you of the decision of CWM/LWF to hold the All Asia Lutheran Conference at Ranchi from the 8th - 18th October 1964. This gives us of course great pleasure, but at the same time we feel what a great burden it is for the Gossner Church.

The Conference will be held in the Gossner High School where we can have a hall and some rooms attached to it. The rooms will be needed for group discussions.

The problem is that we have to repair the Gossner High School. We have put it in the priority list of the Five Years' Building Programme, but the difficulty is that we have not enough money in the Five Years Building Programme account at present.

May I request you to consider this ^{urgent} need and arrange for some money for this work so that not only the Conference can be held there, but a long pending work of repairing it can also be done. Mr. Schwark will inform you about the amount required for the purpose.

With kind regards,

Yours Sincerely,

M. Bage

(M. Bage),
Pramukh Adhyaksh,
President,
G.E.L. Church, Ranchi,

Copy to :-

Mr. Schwark T.T.C.

drbg/br

Berlin-Friedenau, 10 June 1964

The Pramukh Adhyaksh
Rev. Dr. M. Bage
G.E.L. Church

Ranchi / Bihar
India

Subject: Medical help to pastors of the G.E.L. Church - your letter 3 June

Dear Brother Bage,

I remember well that I gave you my promise for help in this matter and should now like to keep it. I am very sorry that again and again serious sickness occurs among the servants of the church. It cannot be helped in the normal way and therefore, great trouble comes into the homes of the pastors. The brothers and their families understandingly hope for help from their church. For this reason, you must be able to help them.

At the beginning of July, we are sending money to Rev. Kloss. In this amount, a sum of DM 2.000,-- will be included. We shall request Rev. Kloss to transfer this amount in Rupees to your account. This will be a small, special fund available to the President personally for special needs among the pastors and co-workers of the church.

If this fund should come to an end, please inform us about it so that another remittance can be made. We should like you to send us a list of names and the concerning amount of money to whom financial help has been given.

This has similarly been done in the German church when our friends in Switzerland and in USA have granted us money for personal needs among pastors in Germany. in the time after 1945.

With kind regards and blessings,

I am yours,



P.S.

As you will have noticed, I have written to Accountant Horo regarding the amount of 1.006,35 Rs. The matter has been mentioned to you in my letter of 27 April 1964 concerning an auditor for the G.E.L.C.

According to your request, we shall send a copy of our letter, announcing a money transfer, - if this is for official purposes - to the treasurer brother Tirkey / Chainpur.

D.O.

GOSSNER EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN CHURCH IN CHOTANAGPUR & ASSAM.

Ref. No. 487/64

From :-

The Pramukh Adhyaksh,
G.E.L. Church.

To,

Dr. Ch. Berg, Director,
Gossner Mission Society,
Berlin - Friedenau,
Handjerystr. 19/20,
Germany.

Eingegangen

- 9. JUN. 1964
wa

Ranchi, the 3rd. June '64.

Subject :- Medical help to pastors of
the G.E.L. Church.

Dear Brother Berg,

I would like to remind you that you had mentioned to me that you were prepared to provide in your budget a certain amount which can be used for the medical help to the pastors of the Gossner Church on the recommendation of the Pramukh Adhyaksh.

There is one such case at present. Rev. Royan Topno a pastor of the Hazaribagh Synod is seriously suffering from a severe skin disease. The Synod Sanchalak (Synod President) of Hazaribagh has requested the K.S.S. to help him, but we do not have any amount in our present budget for such help.

May I request you to kindly authorise Pastor Kloss to give necessary financial help to this pastor. I know that the financial condition of Rev. Topno is bad. He is really in need of such help.

With kind regards.

Yours Sincerely,

M. Bage

(M. Bage),
Pramukh Adhyaksh,
President,
G.E.L. Church, Ranchi.

Copy to :-

Rev. H. Kloss, Ranchi.

drbg/br

Berlin-Friedenau, den 27 May 1964

Pramukh Adhyaksh
Rev. Dr. M. Bage
G.E.L. Church

Ranchi / Bihar
India

Dear Brother Bage,

I am enclosing a copy of my letter to Adhyaksh Horo which will surely be of interest to you.

I should like to thank you very much that you considered my suggestions for the Gossner Assembly 1965 and accepted the general frame of my deliberations. I think it will be best to talk about this matter during your visit to the Gossnerhouse at the end of August. I hope that I shall then be in the position to promise you my contribution which I cannot do yet today.

With brotherly greetings,
I am yours,

Enclosure

Entwurf

An den
Präsidenten der Goßnerkirche
Rev. Dr. Bage
Ranchi/Bihar
India

Betr.: Stipendienordnung der Goßnerkirche

Lieber Bruder Bage!

Sie wissen, daß wir seit wir hier im Goßnerhaus 8 junge studierende Brüder aus der Goßnerkirche seit Dezember 1962 haben, dazu geführt sind, eine Stipendienordnung seitens des Goßnerhauses aufzustellen. Sie ist seit Ende 1962 in Kraft und hat zweifellos dazu beigetragen, unseren Erwartungen an die Brüder ihre Pflichten und Rechte zuzuordnen.

Es scheint uns, daß die Goßnerkirche selber auf die Dauer eine Stipendienordnung nicht erbehren kann, weil sich immer wieder die Frage erheben wird, unter welchen Grundsätzen und nach welchen Maßstäben die Auswahl für Freiplätze sich vollziehen sollen.

Dabei wird es sicher richtig sein, daran zu denken, daß nicht nur die Goßner Mission in Deutschland solche Plätze zur Verfügung stellt, sondern mehr und mehr auch andere ökumenische Stellen und Bruderkirchen, denen die Goßnerkirche besonders durch den Lutherischen Weltbund verbunden ist (z.B. den lutherischen Kirchen in USA).

Wir dachten jedenfalls, daß es für Sie hilfreich wäre, einen solchen Entwurf einmal zu erhalten, damit Sie ihn mit den Brüdern im KSS beraten können. Da wir ihn in deutscher Sprache schicken, ist dieser Entwurf Material für Ihre eigene Urteilsbildung. Wir würden uns freuen, wenn Sie ihn im wesentlichen so ggeeignet finden, daß Sie ihn - ins Englische übersetzt - als Vorlage für eine der nächsten Sitzungen der Kirchenleitung in Ranchi benutzen können. Sollten Sie stärkere Bedenken oder wichtigere Fragen haben, ist es auch gut möglich, daß wir nochmals anläßlich Ihres Kommens im August nach Europa in Uppsala oder Berlin darüber sprechen.

PS. Bruder Kloss war der Meinung, diesen Entwurf nur auf Stipendiaten, die die Goßner Mission nach Deutschland einlädt, abzustellen. Wir waren aber demgegenüber der Überzeugung, daß es in unserem ökumenischen Zeitalter bei der raschen Entwicklung wohlgetan sei, wenn schon die Goßnerkirche eine solche Ordnung aufstellt, daß sie auch die Möglichkeit von Einladungen an Stipendiaten aus anderen Bruderkirchen grundsätzlich miteinbezieht.

drbg/br

Berlin-Friedenau, 22 May 1964

Pramukh Adhyaksh
Rev. Dr. M. Bage
G.E.L. Church

Ranchi / Bihar
India

Re: Station Ranchi of the radio station Addis Abbeba.

Dear Brother Bage,

In the last weeks the news was spread in all church papers in Germany that LWF is preparing to build up two further radio stations in Asia, that is in Jabalpur and in Ranchi. We here in the Gossnerhouse have been greatly interested to hear the name Ranchi in this connection. We have not received further informations on this matter. Perhaps you will know more about it.

We can imagine that you will be occupied with all the various questions which are connected with the establishment of this station at the Ranchi Compound already now or very soon. You will certainly talk about this plan with brother Seeberg at Uppsala this summer and then with us here in Berlin and express what this will mean for the Gossner Church if this plan will be realized. Should decisions not have been considered or made^{yet} concerning personnel matters and should you on the part of the Gossner Church face the problem to nominate someone, I should very much like to remind you that brother Dr. Peusch, Rourkela, will officially retire from his post in Rourkela at the end of March 1965 since his contract with the "Kirchlichen Aussenamt" will come to an end. As brother Dr. Peusch could be free some time before March 1965, he should be considered for such a work. I personally know from him that he would seriously consider a concerning request to build up such a place. It would also be good if brother Dr. Peusch were given a smaller order to teach at the Theological College at Ranchi, besides his main task to build up the radio station. Our suggestion could be worthwhile to you because this would enable you to give a nomination to director Dr. Aske resp. LWF.

I, however, thought it my duty to inform you about this as soon as possible, so that you know what to do when you have to give your advice. Personnel matters are finally most important in the church work.

With kind regards,
Yours,

cc/ Rev. Kloss
Secr. of KSS



drbg/br

Berlin-Friedenau, 20 May 1964

Pramukh Adhyaksh
Rev. Dr. M. Bage
G.E.L. Church

Ranchi / Bihar
India

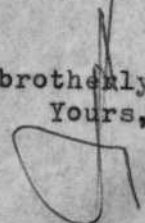
Dear Brother Bage,

Thank you very much for your various informations and your acknowledgement of my letters.

- 1) We were especially interested to read the minutes of the meeting of the officers of the KSS. I have noticed with pleasure that many problems and people - mentioned in the minutes - have become much more familiar to me since my last visit in India. It is very interesting to see how many practical and important matters you are solving in your meetings.
- 2) We are enclosing copy of a letter (in German) to Professor Fischer regarding P. Kerketta.
- 3) We read with interest that the Second All-Asia Lutheran Conference will be held at Ranchi in the middle of October 1964. What an honour for the Gossner Church, but at the same time what a burden and responsibility. You will certainly let us know how we can support you in this important event. We shall hope and pray that it will be a good and strengthening conference for the Lutheran Churches in Asia.
- 4) I should be very glad if you could occupy yourself with the tentative draft for change of Terms of Reference at your meeting in June and let us know, either through brother Kloss or yourself, your opinion on it. It would be good to have your reply on time for our next meeting of the Kuratorium on 8 July 1964.

So much for today. Enclosed you will find brother Seeberg's letter concerning female students at the Theological College in Ranchi.

I am with brotherly greetings,
Yours,



(W. Vorlage: 26. August 64)

GOSSNER EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN CHURCH IN CHOTANAGPUR & ASSAM.

Ref. No. 461/64

From :-

The Pramukh Adhyaksh,
G.E.L. Church.

To,

Dr. Berg, Director,
Gossner Mission Society,
Berlin - Friedenau,
Handjerystr. 19/20,
GERMANY.

Eingegangen

25. MAI 1964

Erledigt:

Ranchi, the 19th May '64.

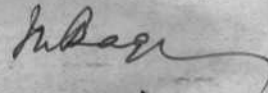
Subject :- Gossner Kalisha Sangh (Church Assembly) in 1965.

Dear Brother Berg,

I thank you very much for your suggestion for the Gossner Assembly which will meet sometimes in 1965. The days you have suggested for study and discussion find our agreement. The K.S.S.S. has asked me to enquire from you the possible time which will suit you. This means that we are expecting your visit during the Conference not only visit, but your contribution by way of giving your address or instruction. On hearing from you we shall fix the time for the proposed Assembly in 1965.

With kind regards.

Yours Sincerely,



(M. Bage),
Pramukh Adhyaksh,
President,
G.E.L. Church, Ranchi.

Berlin-Friedenau, 15 May 1964

Rev. Dr. M. Bage
Pramukh Adhyaksh
G.E.L. Church

Ranchi / Bihar
India

Dear Brother Bage !

We are at the meeting of the co-workers of the Gossner Mission in Beienrode for three days and only miss our brothers from the DDR who could not come to it. Brother Berg sent us your greetings; we took great interest in everything Brother Berg told us from the Gossner Church. We have discussed many problems of your work and your service.

We have especially been concerned about the news of what has happened in Chota Nagpur at the end of March - slaughter and burning down of houses. We have included you in our prayers. We, therefore, missed further details about what has happened because we read in a few German newspapers that Christians have obviously taken active part in the violence, too. We are very worried about the possibility that Christians from the Gossner Church have also been included.

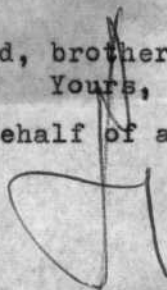
It is difficult for us to believe in the news because we remembered similar occurrences at the proclamation of autonomy of the Republic of India. At that time the christian congregations were praised that they interfered in the murdering between the Hindus and Moslems and thereby practised the message of peace of Jesus Christ.

Please understand, dear brother Bage, our urgent request to let us know soon what has really happened within the Gossner Church and how far the published reports about the active participation of Christians in murder and arson have been true.

We know that you agree with us in our efforts to fulfil the peace message of the New Testament in India, too. May we, therefore, assume that you spoke to the congregations in the critical days or later on ?

From the recent history of our church in Germany we know that in such a situation - as happened in Chota Nagpur - grievous guilt is ascer-^{tained} in the life of the christian congregations on the one hand and obedient confirmation of the belief on the other hand.

With kind, brotherly regards,
Yours,
(on behalf of all brothers)



nicht in dieser Fassung
abgesandt
s. Brief

Entwurf

15. 5. 64

Seeburg / Gossner Mission

3. 5. 64 19. 5.

Liebe Brüder im KSS der Goßnerkirche!

Wir sind für 3 Tage in Beienrode zur Konferenz der Mitarbeiter der Goßner Mission versammelt, auf der wir nur unsere Brüder aus der DDR schmerzlich vermissen. Bruder Berg hat uns Eure Grüße überbracht, und wir haben lebendig Anteil genommen an allem, was er aus der Goßnerkirche berichtete. Viele Fragen Eurer Arbeit und Eures Dienstes haben wir beraten.

Besonders haben uns aber die Nachrichten von dem beschäftigt, was Ende März in Chota Nagpur an Blutvergießen und Niederbrennen von Wohnstätten geschehen ist. So lückenhaft das ist, was wir erfuhren, so scheint doch kein Zweifel daran zu sein, daß auch ^{der} Glieder/Gemeinden der Goßnerkirche sich an Totschlag und Brandstiftung beteiligt haben. Wir sind darüber tief traurig geworden.

Wenn wir Euch darüber schreiben, so tun wir es als solche, die darum wissen, wie schwer sich Christen versündigen können, wenn sie zum Schwert greifen statt dem Frieden zu dienen. Gott hat die Verherrlichung von Krieg und die Tötung von Mitmenschen, bei denen sich die Täter noch vermeintlich im Recht glauben, in schrecklichen Gerichten an uns in Deutschland heimgesucht. Wir möchten unsere Goßnerkirche vor dem Zorn Gottes bewahrt sehen und sagen es deshalb unzweideutig: Es ist schwere Schuld in der Goßnerkirche aufgehäuft worden, wenn wehrlose Mitmenschen unter den Mohammedanern niedergemetzelt wurden, auch wenn deren Glaubensgenossen in Ost-Pakistan schweres Unrecht an hinduistischen und christlichen Mitbürgern taten.

Daß das alles - nochmals, wir kennen keine Einzelheiten - in der Passionszeit geschehen ist, wo das Beispiel unseres Herrn Jesu Christi besonders lebendig jedem Christen vor Augen stehen und zu ihm sprechen sollte, macht die Größe der Versündigung vollends offenbar.

Es war uns tröstlich zu erfahren, daß Ihr zum Frieden gerufen habt und einzelne Brüder in die Gemeinden geeilt sind, um unseres Herrn Willen und Gebot zu bezeugen.

Es ist unsere herzliche Bitte, daß Ihr ein klares Hirtenwort über all_es Geschehene an die Gemeinden richtet, in welchem Ihr Euch über die Schuld beugt und diejenigen straft, die Christi Namen verlästert haben. Statt daß die Goßnerkirche und ihre Gemeinden eine Stätte des Friedens und des Heilens waren, haben sich etliche dem Gesetz des Hasses und der Rache gebeugt und unschuldig Blut vergossen. Jesus Christus aber spricht: "Stecke Dein Schwert in die Scheide"!

Wir erbitten Euch Weisheit, Mut und geistliche Kraft, die Gemeinden recht zu ermahnen. Laßt uns doch wissen, was geschehen ist, und was Ihr getan habt, dem Unrecht zu wehren! Wir gedenken Euer in Fürbitte

gez. Lokies, Berg, Symanowski, Seeberg, Weissinger,
Gohlke und andere Brüder

GOSSNER EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN CHURCH IN CHOTANAGPUR & ASSAM.

Ref. No.

From :-

The Pramukh Adhyaksh,
G.E.L. Church,

To,

The Director,
Gossner Mission Society,
Berlin - Friedenau,
Handjerystr. 19/20,
GERMANY.



Ranchi, the 12th May '64.

Dear Brother Berg,

Thanks for sending me a ^{draft for} tentative change of Terms of Reference. I have also received your letter in connection with the Central Meeting place at Khutitoli, particularly as regards the programme - budget for 1965. I shall send you necessary information in this connection soon.

To-day I want to inform you that the Commission on World Mission has decided to hold the Second All-Asia Lutheran Conference at Ranchi from 8th - 18th October '64. We are happy to have this information. But at the same time I imagine what a tremendous responsibility we have if we are to be good hosts for this Conference. In addition to the necessary organisational matters, I am also thinking about the appearance of the big buildings at Ranchi. I feel that we have to take immediate steps for some repairs. We are [^]thinking out what we must take up ~~and~~ and what we really can. I feel the necessity of keeping you informed because it may be that your co-operation in various forms may be needed.

With kind regards.

Yours Sincerely,

(M. Bage),
Pramukh Adhyaksh,
President,
G.E.L. Church, Ranchi.

drbg/br

Berlin-Friedenau, 27 April 1964

Rev. Dr. M. Bage
Pramukh Adhyaksh
G.E.L. Church Compound

Ranchi / Bihar
India

Dear Brother Bage,

Thank you very much for your letter of 15 April which I should like to answer immediately so that you will have my reply in Ranchi at the beginning of May.

I can promise that we shall grant you 1.000 Rs. for appointing an auditor on the assumption that - whenever you will find an able man and take him - five months will be sufficient for checking the bills of the KSS etc.

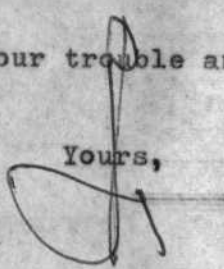
I would suggest to employ him from 1 August 1964 onwards so that he can remain in further employment with you from January 1965, that is if he satisfies expectations. As you wrote in your letter, you will make a provision for him in our budget for 1965 so that we need not pay for him then.

We learned from the KSS minutes that you wanted to ask Mr. Rech to do this work. Has he declined it since brother Thiel has not been able anymore to check the account 1963 ?

If you find that it will be too late to appoint an auditor from 1 August 1964 onwards because you already need the check of the 1963 account for Uppsala, you might perhaps be able to find a solution for the time being so that your choosen man may start with his work at once without being employed with you for the remaining 8 months in 1964.

I hope that my reply will relief you from your trouble and remain with kind regards,

Yours,



1. P.S.

Your request for an invitation for Rev. Tiga has already been fulfilled by P. Seeberg on 23 March 1964. We are enclosing a copy for your information once more.

2. P.S.

Brother Seeberg also wants to let you know - he remembers having written to you about it already - that we also guarantee the stipends for the students for the year 1965; also in the case that there will be more students. We should, however, know on time the figures for 1965.

Enclosure

GOSSNER EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN CHURCH IN CHOTANAGPUR AND ASSAM.

Ref.No. 359/64

From:-

The Pramukh Adhyaksh,
G.E.L. Church.

To,

The Director,
Gossner Mission Society,
Berlin - Friedenau,
Handjerystr. 19/20,
Germany.

Eingegangen

27. APR. 1964

Erliebt:

Ranchi, the 23rd April '64.

Subject :- Exchange programme.

Dear Brother Berg,

Please refer to your letter dated 17.9.63 and also to your talk to the K.S.S. in its session on 13th - 17th Febr. '64. The K.S.S. has agreed to your suggestions and has taken following actions on this matter :-

(1) That Rev.J.J.P.Tiga, Rev.C.B.Minz and Rev.C.B.Aind have been selected to visit Germany in order of preference to give lectures and reports and to visit the congregations connected with the Gossner-workers and for which they will stay there for three or four months.

(2) That the following pastors have been enlisted by the K.S.S. to be sent one by one to Germany for six months, who will study there general works and life in the Congregations and also any particular aspect of the Church work :-

- (1) Rev.D.D.Toppe. ?
- (2) Rev.J.Topono.
- (3) Rev C.S.B. Horo.
- (4) Rev. P.D.Soreng.
- (5) Rev. N.Kullu. (?)
- (6) Rev.M.Tete.
- (7) Rev.S.Kujur.

Out of these pastors, as you have suggested, one who will be the first to acquire the basic working knowledge of German language will be also the first who will be sent.

So far the four months' visit is concerned, Rev.Tiga has already been informed of his selection by the K.S.S. for this year. We are waiting for your invitation to him.

As it is now in all cases, he will be needing a certificate stating that the Kuratorium is prepared to pay the whole cost of his journey as well as of his stay in Germany and that it will not involve any Indian currency in case of his journey or stay abroad. This will be needed for getting a permit from the Reserve Bank of India.

With kind regards.

Yours Sincerely,

M. Bage

(M. Bage),
Pramukh Adhyaksh,
President,
G.E.L. Church, Ranchi.

Copy to :-

1. Secretary, K.S.S.
2. Rev.J.J.P.Tiga.

GOSSNER EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN CHURCH IN CHOTANAGPUR & ASSAM.

Ref. No. 357/64

From :-

The Adhyaksh,
G.E.L. Church.

To,

The Director,
Gossner Mission Society,
Berlin - Friedenau,
Handjerystr. 19/20,
Germany.

Eingegangen
27. APR. 1964
Erledigt:.....

P. Seeburg
for R *27/4*

Ranchi, the 23rd April 1964.

Dear Brother Berg,

Please refer to the letter of brother Seeburg of the 2nd April '64 in which he has mentioned that the Kuratorium of the Gossner Mission is prepared to undertake to find the money needed for the payment of stipends to the students of the three theological training institutions of the G.E.L. Church also in 1965. In this connection I would like to let you know that the number of students reading in 1965 will increase because some new students will be admitted. May I know whether the Kuratorium is prepared to send us full amount for stipends even when the number will be increased.

Your immediate reply will be very much appreciated because without this we cannot finalise our budget draft for 1965 which is being worked out.

With kind regards.

Yours Sincerely,

M. Bage
(M. Bage),
Pramukh Adhyaksh,
President,
G.E.L. Church, Ranchi.

Copy to :-

(1) Hd. Accountant, K.S.S.

drbg/br
Berlin-Friedenau, 23. April 1964

Rev. Dr. M. Bage
Pramukh Adhyaksh
G.E.L. Church Compound

Ranchi / Bihar
India

Lieber Bruder Bage !

Gemäß unserer Absprache in Ranchi lasse ich Ihnen von jetzt ab regelmäßig das Protokoll unserer Kuratoriumssitzung zugehen. Es kommt mit gleicher Post per Drucksache / Luftpost auf den Weg. Einen Teil des Inhalts kennen Sie schon, aber das ganze wird für Sie interessant genug sein, wie wir mit herzlicher Freude das Protokoll der KSS - Sitzung vom 13. - 17. Februar 1964 empfangen.

Stets Ihrer getreulich gedenkend
Ihr

weiß - Gossner

drbg/br

Berlin-Friedenau, 21 April 1964

Rev. Dr. M. Bage
Pramukh Adhyaksh
G.E.L. Church Compound

Ranchi / Bihar
India

Lieber Bruder Bage !

Eben schickt mir Bruder Symanowski einen in USA herausgekommenen Band "The Christian witness in an industrial society". Es ist wirklich schön, daß die englisch sprechende kirchliche Welt jetzt einen unmittelbaren Zugang zu der Arbeit und im Zeugnis unserer Freunde in Mainz-Kastel hat. Das ist sicher auch eine Folge der mehrmonatlichen Reise, die Brüder Symanowski vor über Jahresfrist nach USA gemacht hat und wo er in verschiedenen Kreisen zu Wort kam. Pastor Starbuck, unser Fraternal Worker hier in Berlin und jetzt in Wolfsburg aus USA, hat den Dienst einer gründlichen Einführung in die Aufsätze von Bruder Symanowski geleistet.

Ich lasse Ihnen jedenfalls fünf Exemplare dieses Buches zugehen, die wir auf unsere Kosten in USA gleichzeitig bestellen, damit Sie sie den Brüdern geben, die sie mit Gewinn und innerem Interesse studieren werden.

Da die Gossner Kirche ja so oder so immer mehr Anteil nehmen wird an den Bemühungen von Rev. Wright in Kalkutta und an dem Dienst der Industrie-Mission in der "Ruhr Indiens", werden Sie sicher Brüder finden, die gern nach diesem Band greifen und darüber auch auf Fragen und Probleme stoßen, die verantwortliche Männer der Kirche heute schon durchdenken sollen, damit sie morgen nicht ungerüstet sind, wenn die Welle der Industrialisierung vollends sie erfaßt hat.

Mit brüderlichen Grüßen
bin ich Ihr



Gossner Evangelical Lutheran Church in Chotanagpur & Assam.

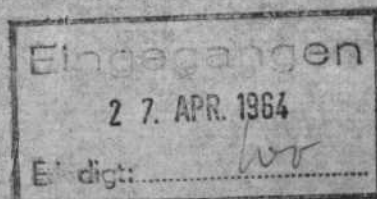
Ref. No. 315/64.

From,

The Pramukh Adhyaksh,
G.E.L. Church.

To,

Dr. Ch. Berg, Director,
Gossner Mission,
Berlin - Friedenau,
Handjerystr. 19/20,
G E R M A N Y.



Dear Brother Berg,

Ranchi, the 15th April 1964.

64

Your letter dated 23rd March' written from Berlin has been received. Thanks to God that you have safely returned to Berlin. In the meanwhile Family Schweske has arrived, we have been informed that also Mr. Rupprecht and his wife have also arrived. We hope that brother Kloss will arrive here by the end of this month along with his wife. Brother Thiel and his wife left Ranchi yesterday for Bombay and then for Germany.

Now when you are back in Germany I want to remind you of what I had talked to you when you were in Ranchi, namely about our need for appointing an auditor for the Church. The K.S.S. has asked me to request you for a certain financial help already in 1964 to enable us to appoint one auditor soon. This will involve approximately a monthly expenditure ~~for~~ ~~the~~ of Rs.200/-. We are going to make a provision for this in our budget for 1965. We shall appoint the auditor already in 1964 but only if the Gossner Kuratorium can help us financially.

As the K.S.S. Samiti is going to meet on 1st - 3rd May '64, it could be a great help for me if I could have your opinion by that time.

With kind regards.

Yours Sincerely,

M. Bage

(M. Bage).
Pramukh Adhyaksh,
President,
G.E.L. Church, Ranchi.

drbg/br

Berlin-Friedenau, 13.4.1964

Rev. Dr. M. Bage
Pramukh Adhyaksh
G.E.L. Church Compound

Ranchi / Bihar
India

Lieber Bruder Bage !

Sie werden gewiß meine an Sie persönlich gerichteten Briefe aus Karachi und aus dem Gossnerhaus Ende März wegen der Synode erhalten haben.

Heute möchte ich Ihnen im Auftrag des Kuratoriums sehr danken für alle Grüße von Ihnen persönlich und von den Gemeinden, die das Kuratorium im Rahmen meines Berichtes am 8.4. entgegen genommen hat, und läßt sie aufs herzlichste erwidern. Das Kuratorium war sehr froh von mir zu hören, wie intensiv ich mich mit den Problemen der Goßner Kirche beschäftigt habe und wieviel Liebe meiner Frau und mir erwiesen worden ist.

Diesen Zeilen sind einige Dokumente und Schriftstücke angeschlossen.

- a) Eine Aufzeichnung über das Problem der Kirche von Rev. Devadas in Kalkutta. Sie erkennen, daß ich auch Dr. Sovik und Bruder Lakra dieses Memo zugehen liess. Es sollte ja m.E. etwas geschehen, damit diese Kirche Ev.-luth. Verkündigung im Zentrum Kalkutta erhalten bleibt.
- b) Der Beschluß über das zukünftige Hospital Karamati ist in großer Einmütigkeit vom Kuratorium gefaßt worden. So haben wir nun freie Bahn zu planen und zu arbeiten, wie ich hoffe, zum Segen der Goßner Kirche.
- c) Das Kuratorium hat es für richtig gehalten, Bruder Kloss detaillierte Arbeitsrichtlinien zu geben. Diese werden gewiß auch Sie interessieren und hoffentlich Ihre Zustimmung finden.

Schwester Marianne Koch und Herr Bruns wurden ebenfalls vom Kuratorium in herzlicher Freude aufgrund Ihrer Einladung ausgesandt und sollen im Herbst in der Goßner Kirche eintreffen, wenn, wie zu erwarten ist, aufgrund unseres Besuches in Bhuaneshwar bei der Regierung von Orissa aufgrund von deren Befürwortung die Visa erteilt sind.

Wir freuen uns auf Ihr Kommen Ende August auf dem Wege von Uppsala. Wie vieles wird es dann wieder zu besprechen geben. Am 8.7. wird sich das Kuratorium mit einer Vorlage über das Joint-Mission-Board sowie mit der Neufassung der terms of reference befassen. Ich hoffe, daß ich Bruder Seeberg nach Uppsala schon die Texte unserer Vorschläge und Gedanken mitgeben kann, damit wir dann darüber in Berlin sprechen können.

b.w.

Wir haben nur wenige kurze andeutende Mitteilungen über die
schmerzlichen Geschehnisse Ende März erhalten. Offenbar waren auch
Goßnerchristen aktiv oder passiv mitbeteiligt an den Dingen.
Möge bald voller Frieden wieder einkehren ! Daß die Leitung
der Goßner Kirche das ihre tut, daß alle Gemeinden dafür wirken,
dessen bin ich gewiß.

Gott schenke Ihnen Kraft und Weisheit, lieber Bruder Bage, in
allen solchen außerordentlichen Situationen !

Getreulich Ihrer gedenkend bin ich mit vielen Grüßen von uns allen
im Goßnerhaus

Ihr

1. Herrn Pastor Seeberg zur Kenntnis
2. Wv. 25.8.1964

Berlin-Friedenau, den 1.4.1964
Wo.

Dr. Christian Berg

zwischen Aden und Suez,
23. März 1964

Handwritten:
S. J. E. Church 1965
A 12/4

Lieber Bruder Bage!

Diesen Brief schreibe ich - in der willkommenen Muße der Schiffsreise in die Heimat - über das Goßnerhaus an Sie persönlich in deutscher Sprache, weil sein Inhalt zunächst nur Ihren persönlichen Überlegungen dient.

Ich war sehr froh, daß Sie mir in den letzten Tagen unseres Zusammenseins in Bhuwaneshwar davon sagten, daß im kommenden Jahr kein Pastorkolleg aber gemäß der Verfassung der Zusammentritt der Synode der ganzen Goßnerkirche mit ca. 150 - 200 Vertretern stattfinden solle. Als ich im Gespräch einige Gedanken zu der Thematik dieser zwar nicht durch ihre Beschlüsse wichtigen, aber geistlich bedeutsamen Tagung äußerte, waren Sie dankbar, diese - noch etwas präzisiert - als Anregung zu empfangen.

Dem will ich hiermit zu entsprechen versuchen. Der Vorschlag ist Material für Sie persönlich und zur Besprechung zu gegebener Zeit mit den leitenden Brüdern.

- Also:
1. Dauer der Synode: 4 Tage
 2. Thema: Die Herausforderung der Goßnerkirche durch das heutige Indien
 3. Bibelarbeit:
 1. Tag: Epheser 2, 1-10
 2. Tag: " 3, 1-13
 3. Tag: " 4, 17-32
 4. Tag: " 6, 10-18

Diese Texte, alle aus einem apostolischen Brief, sind nicht unmittelbar auf die folgenden Tages-Themen bezogen, aber der Zusammenhang ist unschwer herzustellen.

4. 1. Tag: Ist das geistliche Leben unserer Gemeinden gesund?
2. Tag: Ist ihr Zeugnis lebendig und kräftig?
3. Tag: Ist der Dienst (die Diakonie) lauter und von brennender Liebe erfüllt?
4. Tag: Geschieht der unausweichliche Kampf des Glaubens in Einmütigkeit des Geistes?

Die Frageform der Tagesthemen soll die Referenten zu konkreter Rede veranlassen ^{anstatt} zur Darlegung zeitloser dogmatischer Richtigkeiten.

Die Referenten, über deren Auswahl ich keinen Vorschlag machen kann und möchte, müßten also die Goßnerkirche kennen, damit sie nicht bloß reden.

5. Nachmittags sollten 4 Diskussions-Gruppen das am Vormittag Gehörte besprechen und ihr Ergebnis kurz schriftlich festhalten, um es der Leitung der Synode zu übermitteln.
2 - 2 1/2 Stunden sollten zur Verfügung stehen.
6. Die Abende sollten besonders gestaltet werden, etwa
 1. Abend: Berichte aus der Frauen- und Jugendarbeit!
 2. Abend: Er sollte Zeugnissen und Erfahrungen aus der Missionsarbeit gehören.
 3. Abend: Warum nicht aus der Arbeit von Amgaon und Fudi, Govindpur und Khuntitoli lebendig berichten?
 4. Abend: Hier vielleicht von ökumenischen Begegnungen erzählen, die Leute der Goßnerkirche gehabt haben (in Indien, Deutschland, USA, Schweden etc.).
7. Wenn Sie die Synode von Mittwoch bis Samstag einer Woche ansetzen, sollten Sie als Präsident am Sonntag noch Abschluß-Gottesdienst halten.

Schön wäre es, wenn eine kleine Gruppe den Ertrag der Synode in einer geistlichen knappen Botschaft formulieren würde, die Sie im Gottesdienst verlesen und durch den Gharbandu zu allen Gemeinden käme.

Ich weiß nicht, ob dies ein zu strenges, unindisches Arbeitsprogramm ist, aber so könnte die Synode geistlich für die Goßnerkirche viel bedeuten.

Lassen Sie uns, lieber Bruder Bage, wenn Sie nach der CWM Sitzung in Schweden nach Berlin ins Goßnerhaus kommen, über dies Ganze nochmals sprechen. Es könnte sein, daß diese Synode 1965 eine ähnliche aufbauende Bedeutung für die Goßnerkirche und den Zusammenschluß ihrer Gemeinden während Ihrer Amtszeit als Präsident haben könnte, wie offenbar der Refresher Kurs für die Pastorenschaft es in diesem Jahr gehabt hat.

Herzlich und brüderlich verbunden bin ich
Ihr
(gez.) Christian Berg

f.d.R.

Wt
Sekretärin

Gossnersche Missionsgesellschaft

Postscheckkonto: Berlin West 520 50

Bankkonto: Berliner Bank, Dep.-K. 4

1 Berlin 41

Konto-Nr. 7480

1 Berlin 41 (Friedenau), am

Handjerystraße 19/20

Telefon: 83 01 61

Eph. 3, 1-13 Randier, 9.3

Thema: Gewaltenteilung für die beiden jüdischen Künste

1) Die Stoffart ist pluriel (Vs 3,4,9) und Reichtum ..

Sepherim = fünf Briefe fortgesetzt; Kinnicht sondern die Offenbarung d. Jais
Kinichum = in der Fülle der Welt; den ersten Buchstaben gab
(act 17)

Kinderpark: a) Stoffkasten (rein pädagog.)

6. were killed by them (was in the Pacific)

c) King's Highway (Reformation Road)

d) Die Fülle (20. Jahrhundert)

e) Ring Reorganisation (Aldolsp. 19. Lehrbuch) Kap. 13, 2

4) Die blauschwarze Wunde

Feb 2nd 1917 - Silent protest
Against the
War for Mexico!!

2.) KsG. finden = Mitarbeiter & Mitgesoffen & Mitarbeiter
in der alten fränkischen Heide!!

3.) Vs 10. Lege die Hände der Waise schon und
der Schwachen Erkennung in Griff!!

Kritik = Anfang } des neuen Hofstättung
Fragezeichen
Modell


 Mission

Gossnersche Missionsgesellschaft

Postschekkonto: Berlin West 520 50

Bankkonto: Berliner Bank, Dep.-K. 4

1 Berlin 41

Konto-Nr. 7480

1 Berlin 41 (Friedenau), am

Handjerystraße 19/20

Telefon: 83 01 61

10.3.1965
Reise

Der Kampf ist flüchtig & die Waffengewalt ist flüchtig

Der Kampf wird überprüfbar. Falsch alleine nur flüchtig Waffengewalt
geht! Offensivplan! Dynamisch!!

nicht Kraft ohne starke Formationen (Waffen, Geld, Macht)!

ἀρχαί = Herrschaften

ἐκδοσίαι = Steuern

κοινὸν κράτος = Weltkaiser

πρωτεύουσα ἐκδοσίων = Hauptstadt des Reiches

Wirtschaftswissenschaften
Historie

2.) Die Römische

Geographie des Reiches

Nach dem Reich

Nach dem Reich

Nach dem Reich

Nach dem Reich

Nach dem Reich

3.) Die Römische (im Teil N. Kampfes)

Prinzip des Kampfes

Prinzip des Kampfes

Prinzip des Kampfes

Prinzip des Kampfes

Gossnersche Missionsgesellschaft

Postscheckkonto: Berlin West 520 50

Bankkonto: Berliner Bank, Dep.-K. 4

Berlin-Friedenau,

Konto-Nr. 74 80

Berlin-Friedenau, am

Handjerystraße 19/20

Telefon: 83 01 61

Eph. 2, 1-10

I.

Der grundsätzliche Wandel von der Schrift-Trauer zum figuralen Schrift

- 1) Was heißt tot (1, 5) oder erlöst?
- 2) Welcher ist der Wandel und figuraler Schrift?
- 3) Wann schaffen wir neuen Werk?

II.

Eph. 3, 1-13

Die Schrift für die Frieden und Kunst werden

- 1) Es gibt eine neue Schrift der Schrift { das Wort zu Hand
geordnet
gesehen
Alles
- 2) Die Frieden-Mitglieder der Schrift werden der Schrift
- 3) Die Schrift, Kunst, Modell und Träumen der Schrift { Schrift-Kunst!!
Schrift-Kunst!!

III.

Eph. 4, 17-32

Folgen und Folgerungen der Schrift zur Schrift

- 1) Die Schrift wird Schrift und Schrift, sondern Schrift in Schrift
- 2) Die Schrift, Schrift, Schrift, Schrift und Schrift
- 3) Die Schrift, Schrift, Schrift, Schrift und Schrift

IV.

Eph. 6, 10-24

Die Schrift der Schrift und der Schrift

- 1) Die Schrift, die Schrift, die Schrift, die Schrift, die Schrift
- 2) Die Schrift:

Schrift der Schrift

Schrift: Schrift

Schrift: Schrift

Schrift: Schrift

Schrift: Schrift

Schrift: Schrift

Schrift

Schrift

Schrift

Schrift

Schrift

Schrift
- 3) Die Schrift für den Frieden der Schrift

"Diakonisches Jahr" auch in Polen

Landesbischof Dietzelbinger auf dem Jubiläumstreffen der Aktion

epd Neundettelsau, 22. April. Das zehnjährige Bestehen des "Diakonischen Jahres" wurde mit einem Treffen von über 200 ehemaligen Teilnehmerinnen dieses freiwilligen Dienstjahres in der Diakonissenanstalt Neundettelsau gefeiert. Der bayerische Landesbischof D. Hermann Dietzelbinger, der vor zehn Jahren als damaliger Rektor der Diakonissenanstalt Neundettelsau zum ersten Male zum "Diakonischen Jahr" aufgerufen hatte, konnte darauf verweisen, daß bisher in der Bundesrepublik 7 000 junge Menschen, darunter 500 Männer, ein Jahr ihres Lebens für den Dienst am Nächsten geopfert haben. Auch im europäischen Ausland hat die Aktion Schule gemacht. Selbst in der kleinen lutherischen Kirche Pölens, berichtete Bischof Dietzelbinger auf dem Jubiläumstreffen, habe er einige Diakonische Helferinnen angetroffen, die in der armenigen Baracke eines polnischen Diakonissen-Mutterhauses ihren stillen Dienst an Alten und Kranken taten. Dietzelbinger betonte, daß es bei der Einrichtung des Diakonischen Jahres nicht in erster Linie um zusätzliche Arbeitskräfte und um eine Entlastung der Schwestern, sondern um den Dienst an dem jungen Menschen selbst gegangen sei. Der Präsident des Diakonischen Werkes "Innere Mission und Hilfswerk" der EKD, Dr. Theodor Schöber, bezeichnete das "Diakonische Jahr" als eine "Praxis des gelebten Glaubens", die den Gegenbeweis liefere gegen die Legende, daß die Diakonie und der Dienst an den Schwachen eine Sache von Gestern sei.

24 Pfarrerinnen in Baden

Von 567 Gemeindepfarrstellen der evangelischen Landeskirche 514 besetzt

epd Karlsruhe, 22. April. Von den 567 Gemeindepfarrstellen im Bereich der Evangelischen Landeskirche in Baden waren am Jahresende 1963 nach einer jetzt veröffentlichten Statistik 514 ordnungsgemäß besetzt. Die vakanten Ämter wurden durch Nachbapfarrer, Vikare, Ruhestandsgemeindepfarrer, Missionare oder Pfardiakone versehen. Neben den Gemeindepfarrern gibt es insgesamt 175 Pfarrer der Landeskirche, von denen 49 ihren Dienst in landeskirchlichen Pfarrstellen tun und allein 16 zu diakonischen Anstalten, Werken und Einrichtungen abgeordnet sind. 54 Pfarrer stehen im Staatsdienst als Dozenten, Religionslehrer, Mitarbeiter oder Strafanstaltsgeistliche. Die Zahl der Pfarrerinnen im Bereich der badischen Landeskirche belief sich am Jahresende auf 24, von denen 13 in unmittelbarem landeskirchlichen Dienst und neun als Religionslehrerinnen im Staatsdienst tätig waren.

Telefonseelsorge für Messiasgäste

epd Hannover, 22. April. Während der Industriemesse vom 26. April bis 4. Mai wird sich die evangelische Telefonseelsorge in Hannover in erhöhter Einsatzbereitschaft befinden, da erfahrungsgemäß mancher Messegast oder Aussteller fern von seinem Heimatort eher bereit ist, über seine persönlichen Nöte und Sorgen zu sprechen und Rat und Hilfe zu suchen. In der hannoverschen Telefonseelsorge, die in den drei Jahren ihres Bestehens 16 000 Anrufe zu verzeichnen hatte, stehen im Tag- und Nachtdienst etwa 50 ehrenamtliche Mitarbeiter, Männer und Frauen verschiedener Altersstufen, Geistliche, Ärzte, Sozialologen, Psychologen und Angehörige anderer Berufe. Die Telefonseelsorge geschieht unter absoluter Verschwiegenheit und ist in Hannover unter der Nummer 663 096 zu erreichen. (4/85 FS-Voraus 22.4.)

Gossner Evangelical Lutheran Church

CHOTANAGPUR & ASSAM.

Rev. Dr. M. BAGE

Pramukh Adhyaksh

G. E. L. Church, Ranchi

Rev. C. B. AIND

Up-Pramukh Adhyaksh

G. E. L. Church Rajgangpur, Orissa.

Shri H. SAMAD Secy.

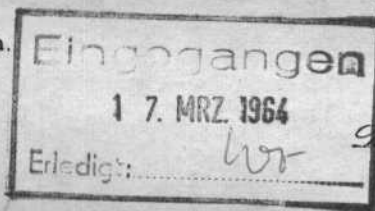
G. E. L. Church Kadma

Khunti Dist. Ranchi,

Shri C. A. TIRKEY Treas

G. E. L. Church Chainpur

RANCHI.



Ref. 131/64

To

The Director,
Dr. A. Sovik,
LWF/ DWM
17 route de Malagnou,
Geneva, Switzerland.

3. M. 4/4

Subj:- Audit of the G.E.L.Church A/C for 1963

Dear Sir,

For last three years Mr.W.Thiel had been authorised by the LWF to audit the G.E.L.Church account. This time, as Mr.Thiel is going on furlough towards the end of this month, he has expressed his inability to audit the G.E.L.Church account.

May I request you to immediately authorise some one to audit our account. Either some one from South may be deputed by the FELCI or if you authorise Mr.Paul Rech who is now in-charge of the Technical Training Centre, Phudi may do the audit work.

Waiting for your immediate reply.

Memo NO 132-135/64

CC/ to Dr.Ch.Berg, Gossner Mission
Bishop Manikam, President FELCI
Mr.W.Thiel, Director TTC, Phudi
KSS Treasurer's Office.

Yours sincerely,



psb/br

Berlin-Friedenau, 6 February 1964

Rev. Dr. M. Bage
Pramukh Adhyaksh
G.E.L. Church

Ranchi / Bihar
India

Dear Brother Bage !

Thank you very much for extending an invitation to sister Marianne Koch on behalf of the Gossner Church. Please forward to the KSS at its next meeting greetings from the Gossnerhouse and express our readiness to help building up the service in the sense of diaconia in the Gossner-Church. Meanwhile, we have sent applications for visa to Dr. Rohwedder in Amgaon. Since the applications have to be submitted via Cuttack, it is possibly the best way.

We are very glad about the news from Ing. Werner Thiel that the Indian Government has granted a visa for Mr. Schwerk and his family. Brother Schwerk will start with his work for the Five-Year-Plan in India in the middle of April 1964. May I kindly request you, dear brother Bage, to ask from the KSS an official invitation for Mr. Schwerk.

The hospital in Amgaon asked us - as you know - to send them a technical leader for the manifold tasks. We have found an expert in Mr. Rupperecht who has also been granted a visa already. He wants to start with his work at the end of March. I should also like to ask for an invitation for this co-worker in Amgaon.

Since the work in Khuntitoli will be extended to the nearby villages by founding co-operative associations, it will be necessary to have another expert. I assume that Dr. Junghans himself as well as brother Berg have talked to you about this plan. We hope to have found such an agricultural technician in Mr. Bruns from Ostfriesland. May we also request you to extend an invitation for him although discussions between Mr. Bruns and the Gossner-Mission in Berlin are still going on.

Thank you very much for your letter of 29 January 1964 in which you state figures of the students admitted in the three Theological Institutions. As soon as the detailed information - after the KSS - meeting - is sent to us we shall send a remittance for the scholarships.

With kind regards and best wishes for your work in the Gossner-Church

I am yours,

cc/Dr. Berg
Dr. Junghans
Dr. Rohwedder

5/7

GOSSNER EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN CHURCH IN CHOTANAGPUR AND ASSAM.
RANCHI.

Rev. Martin Seeberg,
Gossner Mission Society,
Berlin-Friedenau Handjerystrasse 19/20
Germany.

Dear Brother Seeberg,

I am acknowledging herewith your letter of December 5, 1963 which was placed for consideration in the KSS Executive Committee.

We are indeed sorry to learn that Sister Ursula Von Lingen has to decide to return back to Germany due to health reasons. We are really grateful to the Gossner Mission for lending her services in the hospital at Amgaon. We would like her back if that could be possible, but that would depend upon her and her Doctor's certification. However, we would be glad to have Sister Marianne Koch as her successor. To that effect the Executive Committee of the KSS has resolved to invite Sister Marianne Koch through the Gossner Mission to take up Sister Ursula's work in the Hospital at Amgaon. (Copy enclosed).

I am, therefore, on behalf of the Gossner Church extending an invitation to Sister Marianne Koch through the Gossner Mission to come to the G.E.L. Church in India and join the staff of the Amgaon Hospital as a successor to Sister Ursula Von Lingen. I would also request you to kindly help her in securing her travel documents and send her in 1964 spring time so that work does not suffer in the Hospital. In the meantime, please send me details about her so that we can support her application for an Indian Visa here.

I am sending a copy of this letter to Sister Marianne Koch which contains an invitation to her for her information. We shall be awaiting her arrival in India.

With greetings,

Yours in the service of the Lord,

CC/ Sister Marianne Koch.

M. B. B.

3 8/1964
G.E.L. CHURCH



The Rev. Dr. M. Bage, Pramukh Adhyaksh
Gossner Evangelical Lutheran Church
Kadma, Khunti, Dt. Ranoni
Bihar, India

January 13, 1964

Dear Brother Bage:

Thank you for your letter of December 7, 1963 in which you enquire regarding the division of the DWM grant of US \$ 23,005.15 to the various budget items of your church for 1964.

You will recall that the full request from the GELC to CWM for 1964 was US \$ 31,785.15. The grant of US \$ 23,005.15 is therefore US \$ 8,780.00 less. This reduction was recommended for the following reasons:

- a. The financial report of 1962 of the GELC showed a credit balance of Rs. 39,887.75 (or US \$ 8,376.43), and
- b. The special projects listed under VI in the GELC 1964 budget proposals were recommended for transfer to your five-year program.

This means that the grant from CWM for 1964 may be used towards any of the budget items except those listed under section VI - Special Projects.

With kind regards.

Sincerely yours,

Ruben A. Pedersen

cc: Dr. Berg
the Treasurer K.S.S., GELC

From:

W.Thiel,
Financial Adviser,

To:

Rev.Dr.M.Bage,
Pramukh Adhyaksh.

Re: Stypends for students for economical studies.

Dear Brother Bage,

I have got from Dir.Dr.Berg sanction of the re-imbursement of the costs for two stypends for two youngmen who are willing to study Economics, especially Book-keeping and Accountancy, with School qualification not lesser than Matriculation ~~with~~ 1st Dn.

These two youngmen, to whom we would like to send to College for two years study, they should give a bond to the Church to stay atleast for 5 years with in our Church Organisation as Accountants, after some years experience, as Auditors.

Would you kindly try to find a way for announcing this matter through out the Church and ask for applications in writing with all details and personnel datas to my address, reaching latest 31st Jan, '64, and we would then place the whole matter before the K.S.S. meeting in Febr'1964 for its decision.

Yours,

W.Thiel

c.c.to: Dir.Dr.Berg.,
Camp: Fudi.

P. Seeberg
Is it likely risky!
Accountancy abstract!

Fudi;
21, Dec, '63.

JH 15/7

1/19/64

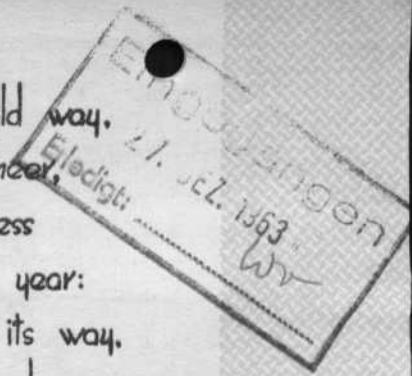




From: -

Rev. M. Bage
Ranchi

Keep Christmas in the grand old way.
Fill up your house with cheer,
Find all the festive gladness
That's known this time of year:
And when the season's passed its way,
And the New Year lies ahead,
May good health, joy and fortune
Guide each step you tread.



Berlin-Friedenau, 19 December 1963

Dear Brother Bage !

We heartily send you our greetings from our house and wish you a joyous Christmas. Here and at your home, the word will again become true: " For God so loved the world..." What joy does it mean to belong to this world ! Which freedom is opening to us when we burst open the closed circles ! We do not wish to celebrate Christmas at a quiet, remote place, but in the midst of God's beloved world, in order to preach here the great joy that has befall all men through Jesus Christ.

Yours in the Lord,

W

psb/br

Berlin-Friedenau, 10 December 1963

Rev. Dr. M. Bage
Pramukh Adhyaksh
G.E.L. Church

Ranchi / Bihar
India

Dear Brother Bage !

There is another important information for you/ Brother Schottstädt
will be arriving in Ranchi (airport) on 18 of December at 8.40 a.m.

With kind regards,

Yours,

SM

Ref. No. 342/63.

From :-

Rev. Dr. M. Bage,
Prémukh Adhyaksh,
G.E.L. Church,
Ranchi.

To,

Dr. Berg, Director,
Gossner Mission,
Berlin.

Eingegangen

- 7. NOV. 1963

Erladigt:

Kuratorium

Baum!

Mr. Hammer 6

to send

1/7

Ranchi, the ^{2nd} 4th Nov. 1963.

Dear Brother Berg,

Thanks for the message you have sent, and which was read out by brother Thiel in the Church when we, all the new Adhyakshes along with members of the Ranchi Congregation were assembled for thanks giving service to God in memory of the day when the first four Missionaries fixed their tent in the present Church Compound to preach the Gospel of our Lord and which has brought such fruits that the Gossner Church exists to day. Through your message one could feel the living tie which the Gossner Church has with the brethren in Germany in their Lord. Brother Ekra is away for a Conference but as soon as he is back the message will be conveyed..

May God strengthen this tie for His Glory.

With kind regards.

Yours Sincerely,

M. Bage
4/11/63

Prémukh Adhyaksh.

Aus Ranchi kam zu unserer Freude sehr rasch ein Echo des Dankes. Präsident Dr. Bage antwortete folgendermaßen:

Liebe Brüder ! Haben Sie von Herzen Dank für das Grußwort, daß Sie uns im Namen des Kuratoriums gesandt haben. Bruder Thiel hat es in der Christus-Kirche verlesen, als wir, und zwar alle neu gewählten Adhyakshs mit der Gemeinde in Ranchi zum Dankgottesdienst versammelt waren. Wir begingen die Erinnerung an jenen zweiten November vor 118 Jahren (1875), an dem die ersten 4 Missionare ihr Zelt auf dem heutigen Gelände der Goßner-Kirche aufschlugen, um das Evangelium von unserem Herrn zu predigen. Welche Früchte hat es gebracht, daß heute die Goßner-Kirche lebt ! Aus Ihrer Botschaft konnten wir das lebendige Band spüren, welches unsere Goßner-Kirche mit den Brüdern in Deutschland in dem Herrn verbindet. Bruder Lakra konnte nicht unter uns sein, weil er an einer Konferenz auf den Philippinen teilnehmen mußte. Aber sogleich nach seiner Rückkehr wird er Ihre Botschaft erhalten.

Möchte Gott dieses Band zwischen uns stärken zu seiner Ehre !

Mit herzlichen Grüßen bin ich Ihr Ihnen
getreulich verbunder

Dr. M. Bage
Präsident der Goßnerkirche

22. Oktober 1963

An das
KSS der G.E.L. Church

Ranchi
Bihar / India

CSS
Secr. of KSS
Präs. Lakra
Dr. Bage
Ing. Thiel

Liebe Brüder in unserem Herrn Jesus Christus !

Ende dieses Monats ist ein bedeutsamer Einschnitt im Leben Ihrer Kirche. Unter der neuen Verfassung findet der erste Wechsel im leitenden Amt der Goßner-Kirche statt: Pastor Lakra wird als ihr Präsident mit dem 31. Oktober zurücktreten; Pastor Dr. Bage wird mit dem 1. November die oberste Verantwortung übertragen werden. Aus diesem Anlaß gedenken wir Ihrer aller in unserer Bruderkirche in Indien in besonderer Liebe und mit herzlicher Fürbitte.

Wir danken Bruder Lakra - vollends, wenn er als nunmehr Siebzigjähriger in den Ruhestand treten sollte - für allen Dienst in langen Jahrzehnten, den er den evangelischen Christen und Gemeinden der Goßner-Kirche erwiesen hat. Gott segnet bis in die Ewigkeit hinein, was an Zeugnis und Dienst für ihn getan wurde. Gott deckt in vergehender Barmherzigkeit zu, was von uns gefehlt und versäumt versäumt wird. In den letzten drei Jahren seiner Leitung ist die Einheit der Goßner-Kirche zu unserer tiefen Freude wieder kräftiger geworden; neue Aufgaben sind in Angriff genommen. Die Republik Indien hat unserem Bruder hohe Ehre für seinen Dienst widerfahren lassen. Gottes Güte geleite ihn auf den letzten Stationen seines Lebensweges und erhalte ihm die Liebe und die Dankbarkeit in allen Gemeinden der Goßner-Kirche !

Wir gedenken Bruder Dr. Bages mit herzlichen Segenswünschen im Blick auf die Übernahme seines hohen, verantwortungsvollen Amtes. Unser Herr rüste ihn aus mit äußerer und innerer Kraft ! Er schenke ihm Weisheit, zu leiten und allen Dienst für unseren Herrn zu brüderlicher Gemeinsamkeit aller Gemeinden, ihrer Diener und Glieder zusammenzufassen ! Wir erbitten ihm Vollmacht, zu trösten, zu mahnen und zu strafen, Frieden zu stiften und freudig das Evangelium von unserem Heiland zu bezeugen. Das lebendige und lebendig machende Wort unseres Gottes sei ihm Waffe und Schutz ! Gottes Gnade sei mit Ihrem neuen Präsidenten an jedem Tag seines Dienstes !

Es war uns eine herzliche Freude, beide Brüder in diesem und im vergangenen Jahr bei uns gehabt zu haben. Jesus Christus, gestern, heute und in Ewigkeit derselbe, halte uns verbunden in Ihm !!

Für das Kuratorium

Präses D. Scharf

Für die Missions-Leitung

Dr. Berg

P. Seeberg

drbg/br

Berlin-Friedenau, 21 Oct 1963

To the
KSS of the
Gossner-Evang.-Luth. Church

Ranchi / Bihar
India

Dear Brethren in our Jesus Christ ,

At the end of this month, there will be an important turning point in the life of your church. The first change in the leading position of the Gossner-Church will take place under the new constitution: Pastor Lakra will be retiring as your president at the 31st October 1963; responsibility will be transferred to pastor Dr. Bage from 1 November 1963 onwards. On this occasion, we shall think of you all in our brother church in India with special love and with kind intercession.

We should like to thank brother Lakra - especially, as he should now - seventy years of age - retire from active life - for all his service he has done for so many years for the evangelical Christians and congregations in the Gossner-Church. God is blessing until eternity what service has been done for Him. God is concealing in forgiving mercy what will be missed by us. In the last three years of president Lakra's leadership, the unity of the Gossner-Church has - to our great joy - become stronger again; new tasks are being done. The Republik of India has given great honour to brother Lakra for his manifold service. May the grace of our God be with him in the last stages of his life and keep him the love and the gratefulness in all the congregations of the Gossner-Church !

We remember brother Dr. Bage with kind blessings in view of his taking over the responsible leadership. May our Lord equip him with the outer and inner strength ! May He give him wisdom to lead and gather all service for our Lord for brotherly unity of all congregations, its servants and members ! We request for him full powers to console, to warn and to punish, to keep peace and joyfully preach the gospel of our Lord. The living word of our God may be his weapon and protection ! May the divine grace of our Lord be with your new president every day of his service !

It has been a great pleasure to us to have had both brothers with us this year and in the last one. Jesus Christ, the same yesterday, today and in eternity, may keep us together in Him !

For the Kuratorium

For the mission-leading

Präses D. Scharf

Dr. Berg

P. Seeberg

Vermerk zum Besuch Dr. Bages in Deutschland August / September 63
=====

Am 2. September machte Dr. Bage in meiner Begleitung einen Besuch im Lutherischen Kirchenamt der VELKD. Dr. Bage wurde sehr freundlich empfangen, und der Besuch verlief in einer sehr harmonischen Atmosphäre. Das Hauptgesprächsthema war der Besuch Dr. Bages in der DDR. Er wurde nach seinen Eindrücken in den von ihm besuchten Gemeinden befragt. Gesprächspartner war der Präsident des Lutherischen Kirchenamtes Lic. Keller-Büschemenger und Oberkirchenrat Klapper.

Am 3. September wurde Dr. Bage im Evang. Luth. Landeskirchenamt Hannover durch Oberlandeskirchenrat Bunnemann begrüßt. In einem einstündigen Gespräch wurden verfassungsrechtliche Fragen erörtert, nachdem Dr. Bage dieses Thema angeschnitten und aufgrund der vortrefflichen Erfahrungen in der Hannoverischen Landeskirche in dieser Hinsicht um Rat und Hilfe gebeten hatte. Dieser Unterredung schloß sich eine Besichtigung des Landeskirchenamtes an.

Am 9. September hatte das Evang. Landeskirchenamt von Westfalen Dr. Bage nach Bielefeld eingeladen. An dem Gespräch mit Dr. Bage nahmen Präses Dr. Wilm, Oberkirchenrat Schmidt und Vizepräses Dr. Thimme teil. Das Zusammensein war sehr freundschaftlich und hilfreich für alle Seiten. Das Gesprächsthema drehte sich um die missionarische Aufgabe der Goßner-Kirche in Indien.

Schubert

Berlin-Friedenau
psb/br
16. Oktober 1963

f. d. A.

1) Hr. Bage

4) VELKD

3) LKA Hannover

4) LKA Bielefeld

Generalkonsul Dr. H. Ruete
Generalkonsulat
der Bundesrepublik Deutschland
Consulate General
of the Federal Republic of Germany
Calcutta
RK V 3 - 88/7

Calcutta, den 12.9.1963
1/3 Brabourne Road
Tel. 22-5752/55



Herrn
Missionsinspektor P. Seeberg
Gossnersche Missionsgesellschaft
1 Berlin-Friedenau
Handjerystrasse 19/20

Sehr geehrter Herr Seeberg!

Es tut mir leid, dass ich heute erst dazu komme, Ihnen für Ihr Schreiben vom 26. Juli zu danken. Wir haben uns in der Zwischenzeit jedoch, wie von Ihnen erbeten, bei den zuständigen indischen Stellen für Herrn Dr. Bage eingesetzt, und - wie ich jetzt höre - ist die notwendige Genehmigung von der indischen Reserve Bank auch am 17.8.1963 erteilt worden.

Ich freue mich über diese positive Entscheidung und bin mit freundlichen Grüßen

Ihr sehr ergebener

024 Telegramm

Deutsche Bundespost Berlin

16 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20 21 22 23 24 25 26 27 28 29 30 31 32 33 34 35 36 37 38 39 40 41 42 43 44 45 46 47 48 49 50 51 52 53 54 55 56 57 58 59 60 61 62 63 64 65 66 67 68 69 70 71 72 73 74 75 76 77 78 79 80 81 82 83 84 85 86 87 88 89 90 91 92 93 94 95 96 97 98 99 100
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BERLINFRIEDENAU =Übermittelt
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Eingegangen

19. AUG. 1953

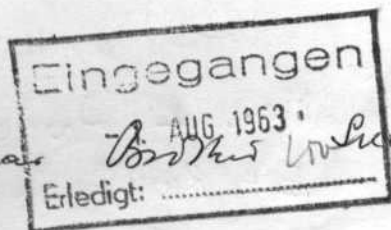
Erledigt: *wo*

BAGE WOHLBEHALTEN EINGETROFFEN PROGRAMM GEHT BIS 23.8. =

SCHOTTSTAEDT +

Für dienstliche Rückfragen

BAGE 19 23.8. +



Camp, Helsinki,
30.7.63

Dear Brother Lieburg,

Excuse me that I have delayed in informing you about the final decision of the Budget-Committee. Since I left Stavanger serious stomach trouble arose. Anyhow I have reached Helsinki and ~~as~~ ~~on~~ just the next morning I got myself admitted in to the hospital. To-day I am a little better.

The CWM has sanctioned the full amount requested for including cost for pastors' Refreshment-Course and Tent! But, Rs 12000.- as regards the Anttusa Hostel and Anttusa Training has been allotted to Five Years' Building Program. Besides, on account of the Co. balance of Rs 30000.- on 31.12.62 nearly \$ 5000.- has been deducted. If this be not correct then the Gosner Church has to write to Geneva and they will need to

Please inform me about my permit -

Yours sincerely
M. Bay

Helsinki

bei Mrs. L. Juselius,
Et. Rantatie 14
den 30. Juli, 63

Lieber Pastor Seeborg!

Erlauben Sie bitte, wenn ich auf diesem Papier schreibe,
ich bin rechtzeitig hier angekommen. Wie Sie von Bages
Brief erfahren werden, ist er krank geworden. Hier hatte
ich am Anfang etwas Schwierigkeiten, weil Dr. Bage
meine alle papiere hat. Aber jetzt ist alles erledigt.
Nur Bruder Kerckhof ist hier angekommen, wir hoffen
dass andere Brüder auch bald kommen werden.
Ich freue mich sehr, dass ich gut angekommen bin,
ich hatte überall Freunde - Gossner Freunde, aus Schweden,
land, Finnland usw.

Grüßen Sie bitte alle in Gossner Haus recht herzlich
von mir,

Ihr
Paul Singer

26.7.1963
P.Sbg/Wo.

An das
Generalkonsulat der Bundes-
republik Deutschland
1/3 Brabourne Rd.
Calcutta/India

Sehr geehrte Herren!

In der Anlage finden Sie die Kopie eines Briefes, den wir an die "Reserve Bank of India" geschickt haben. Der Vizepräsident der Evangelisch-lutherischen Goßnerkirche von Chotanagpur und Assam, Dr. M. B e g e , ist zur Zeit auf der Vollversammlung des Lutherischen Weltbundes in Helsinki. Da die Goßnerkirche in Indien sehr enge Verbindungen mit zahlreichen Landeskirchen in Deutschland hat, haben wir ihn eingeladen, anschließend 4 Wochen Besuche bei den Kirchenleitungen und in den Gemeinden zu machen, die mit der Arbeit der Goßner-Mission verbunden sind. Herr Dr. Bage konnte von den indischen Stellen bis jetzt noch keine Aufenthaltserlaubnis dafür erwirken, da die erforderlichen Unterlagen wegen der Bestreitung der entstehenden Kosten von uns noch nicht nach Indien übersandt waren. Dieses haben wir in dem erwähnten Brief nachgeholt und hoffen, daß die Reserve Bank of India nun die Genehmigung für den Aufenthalt vom 11. August bis Ende September gewährt. Damit wir dessen sicher sein können, daß diese für uns so wichtige Angelegenheit in möglichst kurzer Zeit erledigt wird, haben wir die Bitte an das Deutsche Generalkonsulat, ob es eine Möglichkeit sieht, in dieser Sache befürwortend zu intervenieren. Wir wären Ihnen zu großem Dank verpflichtet, wenn Sie das Ihnen Mögliche veranlassen könnten.

Mit verbindlichen Grüßen
Ihr sehr ergebener


(Missionsinspektor P. Seeberg)

Anlage

26.7.1963
P.Sbg/Wo.

D/ Deutsches Generalkonsulat, Calcutta

To
The Reserve Bank of India
Exchange Control Department
7 Chowringhee Road
Calcutta/India

Subject: Extension of permit for stay abroad for Rev. M. Bage
Ref.: "P" form No. ECCA Pass 5881/2-63 dated 20th July 1963

Dear Sirs,

As Rev. Dr. M. B a g e is going to attend the Assembly of the Lutheran World Federation to be held at Helsinki, Finland from July 30 - August 11, the Goßner-Mission in Germany is very anxious to have him as her guest for nearly one month after the Helsinki conference is over so that he can visit some of our congregations which know him well since he was here for his study abroad.

The Lutheran World Federation, 17, route de Malagnou, Geneva, Switzerland, has already undertaken to pay the full air travel fare for Rev. Bage from Bombay to Helsinki and back, along with the required subsistence cost till the 11th August 1963. Accordingly, you have granted for Rev. Bage permit to stay abroad till 11.8.63 as per "P" form No. ECCA Pass 5881/2-63 dated 20th July 1963 approved by your office.

As we are inviting Rev. Bage to be our guest, we the Goßner-Mission loco Berlin 41, Handjerystraße 19/20, Germany, hereby certify take to meet all the expenses which will be incurred on account of Rev. Bage's stay in Germany as a guest of the Goßner-Mission till the end of September 1963. There will be no involvement in Indian Currency for Rev. Bage's maintenance abroad.

We request the Reserve Bank of India to honour this letter of ours and extend the permit for Rev. M. Bage's stay abroad till the end of September 1963.

We shall be grateful for your co-operation in this matter.

Yours faithfully,

Sbg.
(Inspector of the Goßner-Mission)

Proposal
(Such a letter be please sent to Reserve Bank of India from Gossner Mission)

To
The Reserve Bank of India
Exchange Control Department
7 CHOWRINGHEE ROAD
Calcutta.

Subject: Extension of permit for stay abroad
for Rev. M. Bage.

Ref. - 'P' form No. EC.CA.PASS 5881/2-63
dated 20th July 1963.

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P.T.O.

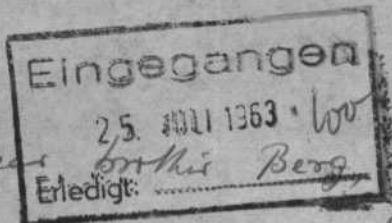
As we ~~have~~ are inviting Rev. Bage to be our guest, we the Gossner-Mission, 1000 Berlin⁴¹, Handjerystrasse 19/20, Germany, hereby ^{certify} ~~confirm~~ take to ~~pay~~ meet all the expenses which will be incurred on account of Rev. Bage's stay ~~in~~ in Germany as a guest of the Gossner-Mission till the end of September 1963. ~~that~~ There will be no involvement in Indian Currency for Rev. Bage's maintenance abroad.

We request the Reserve Bank of India to honour this letter of ours and extend the permit for Rev. M. Bage's stay abroad till the end of September 1963.

We shall be grateful for your co-operation in this matter.

Yours faithfully,

Director,
Gossner-Mission



Dear brother Berg

On way to
Camp, Stavanger, Norway,
the 22nd July '63.

As I did not have any letter from you the Gossner-mission stating that the Gossner-mission is ready to undertake the responsibility of meeting my maintenance-cost in Germany during my proposed stay, the Reserve Bank of India has granted me permit to stay abroad only upto 11th Aug. '63. Please therefore immediately write a letter with the content as proposed in my draft attached herewith and send the same to the Reserve Bank of India, Calcutta along with my letter written to the Reserve Bank.

Please also write a fresh invitation letter for me and a copy of the same also be attached with the letters to be sent to the Reserve Bank of India.

As the time is too short, it may be necessary that the Gossner-mission writes also to the German Consulate in Calcutta to explain the matter to the Bank people so that they take prompt action and send the reply before the duration of my present permit expires.

With hearty greetings to all
from

Yours sincerely,
J. Bage

Note: Your invitation letter should have a date of 23rd July
since my letter to the Bank is of 24th July.

Durchschriftlich Herrn P. Seeberg!

XXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXX

in der DDR

, am 22.5.1963
Scho/En

Eingegangen

- 4. JUNI 1963

Eingedr.

Wt

Herrn Dr. B a g e

K a d m a P.O. Khunti

Dr. Ranchi - I n d i a

Sty 3/15

Lieber Marsalan,

durch unsere Freunde habe ich gehört, daß Du als Vertreter der Gossner Kirche an der Tagung des Lutherischen Weltbundes in Helsinki teilnehmen wirst. Soviel ich weiß, ich die Tagung am Sonntag, den 11.8. zu Ende. Im Anschluß daran möchten wir Dich gern als Gast hier in der DDR haben, und ich lade Dich hiermit herzlich ein, vom 12.8. - 25. 8. unser Gast zu sein. Wir möchten uns bemühen, Dir die Lutherstätten zu zeigen, ebenso einige Gemeinden, die mit der Gossner-Mission in der DDR enge Verbindung haben. Du hast sicher von Präsident Lakra gehört und weißt um seine Eindrücke, die er hier bei uns gewonnen hat.

Dein Besuch ist für uns sehr wichtig, denn die direkte Verbindung von der Gossner Kirche in Indien zur Gossner-Mission in der DDR ist noch nicht fest genug hergestellt und kann von daher noch nicht kräftig ausgebaut werden. Bitte schicke uns so schnell wie möglich die 4 beigelegten Karten ausgefüllt und mit Paßbildern versehen zurück, damit wir hier Deinen Besuch bei den staatlichen Stellen vorbereiten können.

In der Hoffnung, recht bald von Dir Antwort zu haben, grüße ich Dich herzlich

Dein

4 Anlagen

(Bruno Schettstädt)

drbg/br

Berlin-Friedenau, den 2nd May 1963

The Vice-President of the Gossner-Church
Rev. Dr. Bage

P. Seeborg

Ranchi / Bihar
India

2) Mit der Bitte, Bruder Schottstädt bei
nächster Gelegenheit zu orientieren.
6) Wir sollten uns über das Programm der
Reise im Westen noch klare Gedanken
machen.

Dear Brother Bage,

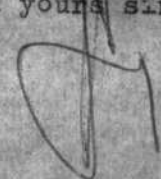
Thank you very much for your letter of 22nd April in which you gave us clear information about the time of your journey. We are now certain that we shall have you as our guest immediately after the General Assembly from the middle of August until the middle of September. I should like to mention two things:

- 1) We want to try that you can fly directly from Helsinki to East-Berlin in order to be with Brother Schottstädt and our friends in the DDR for about 8 days. It will be his task to see to it whether you can really be at his disposal from 15/16th August until 23/24th August.
- 2) From 25th August until 15th September you will be at our disposal here in West-Berlin and for a few places in West-Germany. Rev. Seeborg, who will represent the Gossner-Mission at the CWM-meeting in Stavanger, will bring you a schedule and will speak with you about it so that you might have the possibility to express further wishes. This schedule will also include a visit to Brother D. Lokies, who, as we hope, will have moved in his new house at the border of Hannover. Since you should not only be in Ostfriesland for a few days but also in Hannover, this visit should not be of much trouble.

Many people will be very glad, dear Brother Bage, to see you here again. Many matters will have to be discussed. We are very much looking forward to seeing you here.

With kind regards to you and the brothers
from all of us here in the Gossnerhouse,

I am yours sincerely,



P.S.

I forgot to mention that I will go to India at the end of November. Brother Hemrom as secretary of the KSS sent me a hearty welcome resolution of your church .

GOSSNER EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN CHURCH in CHOTANAGPUR & ASSAM

Memo No. . . . 242/63

From

Rev. Dr. M. Bage, Up-pramuka Aany.,
G.E.L. Church.

Camp Kaunti, the 22nd April '63

TO

Dr. Berg, Director,
Gossner-Mission,
Berlin - Friedenau,
Germany.

Eingegangen

29. APR. 1963

Erledigt:

Ref.- Dr. Bage's visit to Germany

Dear Brother Berg,

Many thanks for your letter dated, the 8th April. As I already expressed in my first letter I wrote in reply to your invitation for my visit to Germany, I am really anxiously looking forward for the time when I shall be again in Germany for some weeks. I was planning to give some weeks for my stay in Germany already before the Helsinki conference starts, but as there is some delay in obtaining my passport, I am afraid, it may not be possible. Besides, only recently I received a letter from Dr. Sovik inviting me to attend also the D.W.M. meeting to be held at Stravanger, Norway from the 18th July. Thus all my programmes for Germany have to be suspended till the Helsinki conference is not ended. I have planned to leave Helsinki already on the 13th August. Thus I may reach Berlin latest by the 16th August. I am, therefore, prepared to give one full month i.e. from the 16th August to the 16th September for your disposal, so that I may be back here latest by the 25th September. Of course, I take it that within the proposed one month I shall have the opportunity also to meet some friends in Berlin.

I need not mention that I am specially anxious to see Dr. Lekies and his family. I do not know whether they are still in Berlin or they have already shifted to Hannover. Any way I hope that it will be possible for me to meet them.

Since we have heard about your proposed visit to the Gossner Church in coming October we are looking forward for your visit with special joy. I hope that the K.S.S. has already informed you of the joy the K.S.S. had when your letter in this connection was read out.

With all kind regards

Yours sincerely,

M. Bage
29/4/63

Berlin-Friedenau, den 9 April 1963

The Vice-President of the Gossner-Church
Rev. Dr. Bage

Ranchi / Bihar

India

Dear Brother Bage,

Firstly, many thanks for all kind regards which brother Weissinger and Rev. Seeborg gave me from you. I was very glad to hear that you - inspite of all your work - took so much time to accompany brother Seeborg on some of his visits to the congregations of the Gossner-Church.

We shall now have the pleasure to see you here in Germany in the summer of this year, before my wife and I come to India at the end of the year. I should like to refer to our correspondence we had in October/November last year. I was then very glad to hear that you accepted our invitation and that you had the intention to visit us, either before or after the assembly of the Lutheran World Federation in Helsinki, for a few weeks. Spring is now, at last, coming after having spent a very cold winter and it is now time to write again about our plans. I am hoping, dear brother Bage, that you can spare 10 days of your time for the Gossner-work in East-Germany and spend the remaining time in Berlin and West-Germany. Especially, the service in East-Germany will, doubtlessly, be a great pleasure to you, because our friends and many congregations there are especially looking forward to receiving a visitor and representative of an Asian brother church, particularly from our Gossner-Church.

First possibility:

I would suggest, if you can spare some time before Helsinki and then again after Helsinki, that you visit East-Germany for about 8-10 days before the assembly, because you can have a direct flight from East-Berlin to Helsinki. We would then await you in West-Berlin after the assembly and would prepare a few visits to West-Germany with receptions of the one or other church leading; similar, as we have done it with brother Lakra.

Second possibility:

If you have to go to Helsinki straight away, because of preparatory meetings, we would have to share the remaining weeks between East- and West-Germany. No doubt, brother Schottstädt will succeed to obtain a visa for you for entry into the "DDR". Brother Lakra received such a visa last year.

The intention of this letter is, dear brother Bage, to hear from you whether you can already say how much time and which weeks you have for our disposal. At the same time, this letter should express, how much we are looking forward to seeing you.

I should like to have a meeting of the Kuratorium during your presence here so that all brothers could welcome the old friend and the future president of the Gossner-Church.

With brotherly regards,
Yours sincerely,

cc/ Rev. Kloss
Secr. of KSS

P.S.

I just hear that it does not suit our friends in East-Berlin for some reason that you go there before the assembly. They want you to come after Helsinki, that is, if such a visit to the DDR is possible. If you have time for Germany before the assembly in Helsinki, we should use it for Berlin or West-Germany.

Dear Brother Hans,

Firstly, many thanks for all kind regards from brother Wolfgang and his family. I was very glad to hear that you - I assume - are all well - back so much time to accompany brother Wolfgang in some of his visits to the congregations of the Gossner-Mission.

We shall now have the pleasure to see you here in Germany in the summer of this year, before my wife and I come to India at the end of the year. I should like to refer to our correspondence as had in October/November last year. I was very glad to hear that you accepted our invitation and that you had the intention to visit us, either before or after the assembly of the Gossner-Mission in Helsinki, for a few weeks. During the last, coming winter having spent a very long time in Berlin, it is now time to write again about our plans. I am happy, dear brother, that you can spare 10 days of your time for the Gossner-Mission in East-Germany and spend the remaining time in Berlin and West-Germany. Especially, the service in West-Berlin will, I think, be a great pleasure to you, because our friends and many congregations there are especially looking forward to receiving a visitor and representative of an other brother church, especially from our German church.

First possibility: If you can spare some time before Helsinki and then again after Helsinki, say for about 10-15 days before the assembly, because you can have a direct flight from Helsinki to Berlin. We would then await you in West-Berlin after the assembly and would arrange a few visits to West-Germany with a reception at the Gossner-Mission church in Berlin. As we have some light duties during

Second possibility: If you have to go to Helsinki straight away, because of other duties, then we would have to make the journey from Berlin to Helsinki and back for you. We would then await you in West-Berlin after the assembly and would arrange a few visits to West-Germany with a reception at the Gossner-Mission church in Berlin. As we have some light duties during

The intention of this letter is, dear brother Hans, to hear from you whether you can spare some time and what time and what way you have for our Helsinki. At the same time, this letter should express, how much we are looking forward to seeing you.

I should like to have a meeting of the Gossner-Mission in your presence here in Berlin and brothers could welcome the Gossner-Mission and its president to the Gossner-Mission.

Yours faithfully,
Hans Gossner

cc: Rev. Floss
Secr. of the

W. Kohl 15. April 63

GOSSNER EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN CHURCH in CHOTANAGPUR & ASSAM
SOUTH EAST ANCHAL, KADMA (Khunti)

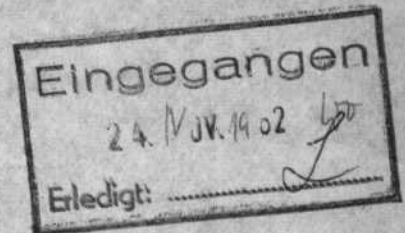
Memo No. 328/62

From

Rev. Dr. M. Bage, Adhyaksh,
S. E. Anchal.

To

Dr. Berg, Director,
Gossner Mission,
Berlin.



Khunti, the 19th Nov. 1962.

Re: Dr. Bage's visit to Germany in 1963

Dear Brother Berg,

Many thanks for your letter dated the 8th October inviting me to visit Germany on my way to Helsinki. I am very glad to receive this invitation as I myself was thinking ~~of giving~~ of giving some time to stay in Germany during my Helsinki journey. Certainly, I am prepared to stay for some time in Germany and to visit some congregations on my way to Helsinki and if possible also on my way back from there. As regards the definite period and dates of my stay in Germany I shall write you in early 1963.

I am very glad to hear that Pastor Seeberg is arriving Ranchi on the 21st Nov. We have already made programme for his visit to some of the main stations within next two months.

Thanks to our heavenly Father that the Advent and Christmas are drawing near. My remembrance of my happy Advents in Germany are quite alive. I, therefore, wish you all blessed and happy Advent as well as Christmas.

With best regards

Yours sincerely,

M. Bage
19/11/62

Copy to:

1. The Pramukh Adhyaksh, G. E. L. Church, Ranchi.
2. The Secretary, K. S. S., G. E. L. Church, Ranchi.

Berlin-Friedenau, 8th October 1962
Dr.Bg/Wo.

The
Vice-President of the Gossner Church
Rev. Dr. Bage
Ranchi/Bihar

re.: Your visit to Europe next year

Dear Brother Bage,

During the last weeks and months when Brother Lakra was here as President of the Gossner Church we often thought of you - not only with regard to your responsibility in the Gossner Church during his absence but also to the fact over which we rejoice that you have been elected by the Church Government to attend the Lutheran World Federation Assembly in Helsinki as delegate of your church, after which on your return to India you will assume from October 1st the responsibility for the church as president.

We already ask you to consider combining with your visit to Helsinki a stay of a few weeks in Germany and I have the pleasure and the honour to invite you formally in the name of the Kuratorium of the Gossner Mission. So many friends of the Gossner work in Germany will be delighted to see you again, and the Kuratorium hopes to welcome you here too. We do hope that at least you can visit some of the congregations here.

I am already suggesting some of the plans in general:

- a) perhaps you could come to West-Germany for about a fortnight before your journey to Helsinki
- b) we would appreciate it very much if you could visit the East-German Gossner work and its congregations directly after Helsinki, as you will probably have no difficulty in flying from Helsinki direct to East-Berlin. As President Lakra's visit to East-Germany was such a success, I am sure he can arrange the possibility for you as his successor to make this visit, providing of course that the present situation in Germany will not have wholly changed.
- c) if after that you would be able to give West-Germany another 10 - 14 days that would be a great joy to us. But of course we understand that you will want to be back in the Gossner Church between the 15th and 20th September 1963 before you take over the leading office in it.

I am writing all this so early so that you can make your plans beforehand. Ten months will have passed very soon, so I am sure it is not too early to pronounce this our hearty and fraternal invitation now.

Cordial greetings from the Gossner House and the many who often ask about you

I am
yours sincerely,

CC/Secr. of KSS
Rev. Kloss

Gossner
Mission

The
Vice-President of the Gossner Church
Rev. Dr. Bage
Ranchi/Bihar

re: Your visit to Europe next year

Dear Brother Bage,

During the last weeks and months when Brother Lakra was here as President of the Gossner Church we often thought of you - not only ~~xxxxxxxxxx~~ with regard to your responsibility in the Gossner Church during his absence but also to the fact over which we rejoice that you have been elected by the Church Government to attend the Lutheran World Federation Assembly in Helsinki as delegate of your church, after which on your return to India you will assume ^{from Oct 1st} the responsibility for the church as president, ~~from 1 Oct. on.~~

We already ask you to ^(consider combining) ~~xxxxxx~~ with your visit to Helsinki a stay in ~~xxxxxx~~ of a few weeks in Germany. and I have the pleasure and the honour to invite you formally in the name of the Kuratorium of the Gossner Mission. So many friends of the Gossner work in Germany will be delighted to see you again, and the Kuratorium hopes to welcome you here too. ^{We do hope that} ~~IX~~ at least you ~~xxxxxx~~ can visit some of the congregations here.

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- c) if after that you would be able to give West-Germany another 10 - 14 ~~days~~

b.w.

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I am writing all this so early so that you can make your plans beforehand. Ten months ^{will} have passed very soon, so I am sure it is not too early to pronounce this our hearty and fraternal invitation already. ~~not~~

Cordial greetings from the Gossner-House and the many friends who often ask about you

I am

yours sincerely,

Entwurf

An den
Vizepräsidenten der Goßner-Kirche
Rev. Dr. Bage
Ranchi/Bihar

Ihr
Betr.: Besuch nächstes Jahr in Europa

Lieber Bruder Bage!

Wir haben in den vergangenen Wochen und Monaten während der Anwesenheit von Bruder Lakra als des Präsidenten der Goßner-Kirche sehr oft Ihrer gedacht; sowohl Ihrer Verantwortung in der Goßner-Kirche während seines Fortseins wie auch voller Freude der Tatsache, daß Sie nach dem Beschluß der Kirchenleitung im kommenden Jahr als Delegierter Ihrer Kirche an der Vollversammlung des LWB in Helsinki teilnehmen werden, um dann nach Rückkehr ab 1. Oktober, wie wir unterrichtet wurden, die Verantwortung als Präsident Ihrer Kirche zu übernehmen.

Wir möchten Sie schon heute herzlich bitten, im Zusammenhang mit Ihrer Reise nach Helsinki einige Wochen des Aufenthalts in Deutschland vorzusehen, und im Auftrag des Kuratoriums der Goßner-Mission habe ich die Ehre und Freude, Ihnen in aller Form dafür eine Einladung auszusprechen. Wie viel Freunde im Goßnerwerk Deutschlands werden sich freuen, Sie wiederzusehen - das Kuratorium hofft, Sie in seiner Mitte begrüßen zu können. Wenigstens einigen Kirchen und Gemeinden sollten Sie einen Besuch abstatten können. Das ist unsere Hoffnung.

Für Ihre Pläne mache ich Ihnen schon heute in etwa folgenden Rahmen-vorschlag:

- a) Es wäre schön, wenn Sie vor der Reise nach Helsinki vielleicht 14 Tage in Westdeutschland sein könnten.
- b) Sehr gut wäre es, wenn Sie unmittelbar von Helsinki das Goßnerwerk Ost und die Kirchen besuchen würden, weil es wahrscheinlich ohne größere Schwierigkeiten erreichbar sein wird, daß Sie sogleich von Helsinki nach Ost-Berlin fliegen.

Der besonders gelungene Besuch Präsident Lakras im Ostteil

Deutschlands wird sicher auch Ihnen als seinem Nachfolger die Möglichkeit schaffen, diesen Besuch vorzusehen, natürlich unter der Voraussetzung, daß sich die gegenwärtigen politischen Verhältnisse in Deutschland nicht grundlegend verändert haben.

- c) Wenn Sie dann noch ^{dem} ~~im~~ Westen anschließend 10 - 14 Tage schenken können, so wäre uns das eine herzliche Freude. Natürlich verstehen wir, daß Sie rechtzeitig zwischen dem 15 u. 20. September 1963 wieder in die Goßner-Kirche zurückgekehrt sein möchten vor Übernahme des leitenden Amtes dann.

Ich schreibe dies alles so rechtzeitig, lieber Bruder Bage, damit Sie schon vorher disponieren können. Zehn Monate verfliegen schnell, und so ist es gewiß nicht zu früh, diese herzliche und brüderliche Einladung schon heute ausgesprochen zu haben.

Mit herzlichen Grüßen aus dem Goßnerhaus und vielen Freunden, die häufig nach Ihrem Ergehen fragen, bin ich

Ihr Ihnen brüderlich verbundener



7/563 R
Eingegangen

20. JUNI 1962

Erledigt:

G. E. L. Church, Kadma,
Khunti (P.O.), Dt Ranchi.
Dated, the 15th June 1962.

30.5.63 418
Dear Brother Lokies,

You might have sometimes heard through Mr. W. Thiel about one Sub-divisional Officer who is at present at Khunti and is much helpful to Mr. Thiel in his works at Phudi. He is taking great interest in making researches about the life and works of Birsa Munda. He needs certain informations for this. ~~Kanattix~~ Recently he had approached me and asked whether he could get any material from our Church Library either here at Ranchi or at Berlin. May, I therefore, request you to ask someone to find out the "B BIENE" where following informations can be available :-

1. Biography of Birsa Munda.
2. Education of Birsa at Burju, Chaibassa and Ranchi.
3. His life and religious activities.
4. Causes of Birsa Uprise.
5. Agrarian Troubles
6. Missionary activities in the period 1882-1895
7. Anti-Christian activities in that period.
8. Famine of 1895 and Small Pox epidemic of 1897.
9. Break-up of Mundaari Kautkati.
10. About the British activities in this reference.

The Sub-divisional Officer who has asked for these informations is of opinion that Birsa could not be anti-missionary, there might have been a certain factor which led to his anti-missionary activities.

We shall be waiting for your reply.

Hearty greetings to you all from my family and myself.

Yours sincerely,

M. Bage
15/6/62

Rev. Lakra

Berlin-Friedenau, 13 Nov 1964

Khuntitoli P.O. Simdega
Dt. Ranchi / Bihar
India

Brother Junghans has forwarded to us the letter of the Consulate General of India in Berlin addressed to you in which you have been asked whether you can share a part of the expenditure incurred on the medical treatment of Mini.

We are very glad that Mini has passed her examination and has now started studying medicine at the University in Berlin. We hope that she will study with pleasure and that she will one day finish her studies with a good note.

With kind regards,
Yours in the Lord,

17

drbg/br

Berlin-Friedenau, den 14.4.1964

Rev. Joel Lakra
G.E.L. Church Compound

Ranchi / Bihar
India

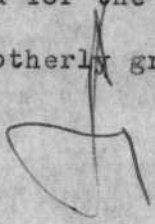
Dear brother Lakra !

Mrs. Berg and I have safely arrived home again, and I am back in the Gossnerhouse. Certainly, I very often remember vividly all friends and many congregations in Chota Nagpur. I also bear in mind your course of life without your late daughter and your service in Khuntitoli which - as I hope - will begin this summer. May I thank you again for all your friendliness and brotherly fellowship, especially in the days of Singhani, Lohardaga, Gumla, Chainpur and above all in Ambikapur. They have been unforgettable days and experiences for me.

Mini was well when I met her. She has bravely endured the loss of her sister and is studying busily.

May I send you the enclosed memo to your information, too ? I want to send it to you, too, because I talked to you about it in detail and because you know the matter best. I hope that the Gossner-Church will soon do something in order to save the church in the centre of Calcutta for the Gossner-Church.

With brotherly greetings,



Enclosure



No. CN-52/64

P. Lakshy

GENERAL
CONSULATE OF INDIA
BERLIN W 15
JOACHIMSTALER STRASSE 28
27th February 1964.

Subject: Hospitalisation of Miss Mini Lakra, Indian national.

Dear Sir,

The local authorities inform us that they have taken over expenses on illness of your daughter Miss Mini Lakra who was admitted in the Senatorium Birkenhaag. They would like to know if you are in a position to share a part of the expenditure incurred on the medical treatment of Miss Lakra. In the meantime we are finding out from them the amount spent on Miss Lakra's treatment.

Yours faithfully,

Orwazay
(D.S. Kamtekar)
Consul General

Shri R.J. Lakra,
Evangelic Luthern Church,

RANCHI.

*Sein Schreiben sind ein sehr gutes
Gedächtnis. Und Sie bitte nachsehen wo
man es mit der Gesundheit!*

W.

Gossner Evangelical Lutheran Church

HEAD QUARTER CONGREGATION, RANCHI.

Rev. J. LAKRA, M. A., B. D., S. T. M.

Pramukh Adhyaksh and Pastor

Rev. J. A. KUJUR Asst. Pastor

Rev. S. KULA Asst. Pastor

Rev. A. BARA Asst. Pastor

Rev. J. LUGUN Asst. Pastor

Candidate D. LAKRA.

Dated Feb. 11 1964

Dear Mrs. Seeberg,

The Lord God our Heavenly Father has called my dear daughter Mani Lakra unto heavenly rest on the 5th Feb. 1964. Now this news may be too shocking to Mini. Therefore we decided that we write to you and you inform her and hand over the other letter to her. Kindly call her to you and do the needful.

The Lord is helping me. Dr. Mrs. Berg are at Ranchi now.

Take care of Mini as your own sister in Christ.

Kind regards and wishesahay.

Yours Sincerely

J. Lakra

From Seeborg.

psb/br

Berlin-Friedenau, 20 February 1964

Rev. Joel Lakra
G.E.L. Church

Ranchi / Bihar
India

Dear Brother Lakra !

Since my wife is still in hospital and is not able to answer your letter personally, I should like to do it on her behalf. We were very shaken about the news of the death of your daughter Mani. Please accept our deep sympathy. We remember your daughter very well whom we met often during our stay in Ranchi. In believing in Jesus Christ, please do accept this serious personal way of life, too. Concerning Mani, his good will is fulfilled.

I asked Mini to come to me on Monday evening. She came into my room as gay as ever. I, then, had to tell her the serious and sad news. She was very sad but took it bravely. We shall certainly take care of Mini, especially after my wife returned from hospital.

With kind regards and thinking of you in these days,

I am yours,

SM

G. E. R. Church
From - Rev. J. Lakra Ranchi
31/12/63

Dear Bro. and Mrs. Seeberg, 30/11
Your very fine

Christmas greeting for which
sincere and hearty thanks. We
reciprocate the same to you and
wish you a real blessed and
happy New Year.

Dr. and Mrs. Borg are with
us now. Also Pastor Schottadt
of East Berlin is with us. It gives
us a great pleasure to have
representatives of our brothers
and sisters from Germany more
so, from both Germany, whom
we unite here in the Gossner
Church, in the love of our dear
Lord Jesus Christ. The three
guests give us great joy.

We got the news of Mimi
from our guests, and we
were very glad that she
now completes her language
and Humanity's Course. We
are very anxious that she
begins her Medical Course.
She selected Medicine for her
life profession and we all
want to see her a doctor.
If she takes any other
course, we cannot use
her services in India. Her
study in Germany will be
without any value, for we
cannot utilise her.

I may even suggest that
if she is not admitted into
a German Medical Course,
she may kindly be deputed
to English or American Medi-
cal College. If she is not
admitted to a Medical course

I am afraid she will be extremely disappointed and almost shocked. I have not written to her much regarding the matter. I only told her to be patient and fulfil all the requirements for admission to the Medical Course.

Please do all you can for her admission to the Medical Course, either in Germany or if German University cannot take her in Great Britain or America, even Canada.

Please give our greetings to the whole Gossner Family, including the students.

May God bless you and keep you and give you His peace. Yishusahay
Yours Sincerely
J. Lekra

BY AIR MAIL

हवाई पत्र

AEROGRAMME

NO ENCLOSURES
ALLOWED



Pastor Martin Lecoq

Gossner Mission House

Berlin - Friedrichs

Handjensstr. 19/20

West Germany

Conn - 66

Sender's name and address:

Rev. J. Lekra
G.E.L. Church
Ranchi Bihar
India

To open cut here

Berlin-Friedenau, 19. December 1963

Dear Brother Lakra ,

We heartily send you our greetings from our house and wish you a joyous Christmas. Here and at your home, the word will again become true: "For God so loved the world..." What joy does it mean to belong to this world ! Which freedom is opening to us when we burst open the closed circles ! We do not wish to celebrate Christmas at a quiet, remote place, but in the midst of God's beloved world, in order to preach here the great joy that has befall all men through Jesus Christ.

Yours in the Lord,

SM

Eingegangen
- 5. DEZ. 1963
Erledigt: _____

J. d. 7. SM 57/12. Gossner Evangelical Lutheran
Ein Christlicher Ranchi
APR - 3 1963
Ranchi India
30/11/63

From Rev. J. Lakra

My dear Dr. Hunst,

Your letter of 4-11-63
addressed to Dr. Berg translated
into English, reached me in due
time.

I thank you heartily for
this letter. I personally and the
whole Gossner Church deeply
appreciate the gift of the machine
for a Printing Press. This machine
will always remind us of your
good self. The Press has now been
fixed in its new home at Ranchi.

I am also glad to learn that
your generous act has been extended
to the Lutheran World Federation and
I can fully understand your inability

to present me with a car. At present
I do not know how much travelling
I shall have to do in my new
post. I may have to call meetings
also in different parts of Church
in five states of India. If and
when you are able to help, you
may kindly remember me. I shall
let you know if I have to do
enough of travelling.

I still remember the very
pleasant time I had with you in
your home and your love towards
me and the Gossner Church will
ever remain in our hearts.

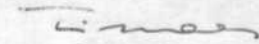
once more thanking you
sincerely,

Ever in the Lord
Yours most sincerely
J. Lakra

DER BEVOLEHMÄCHTIGTE
DES RATES DER EVANGELISCHEN KIRCHE
IN DEUTSCHLAND AM SITZ DER RUNDEN
REPUBLIK DEUTSCHLAND
53 BONN • VENUSBERGWEG 4

m.d.B. um Kenntnisnahme überreicht.

i.A.



10.8.11
From Rev. Joel Lekra

G. E. L. Church
Ranchi
Eingegangenen
- 3. DEZ. 1953
30/11/53
Erledigt:
OK

Dear Brother Berg,

Ranchi is eagerly waiting for your and Mrs. Berg's arrival. The first programme is ready and distributed among people concerned.

I have directly addressed a letter to Dr. Kruusik and give the important portion of the letter, as follows:-

"I thank you heartily for this letter. I personally and the whole Gossner Church, deeply appreciate the gift of the machine for the Printing Press. This machine will always remind us of your good self. The Press has now been fixed in its new home at Ranchi. I am also glad to learn that

your generous act has been extended to the Lutheran World Federation and I can fully understand your inability to present me with a car. At present I do not know how much travelling I shall have to do in my new post. I may have to call meetings also in different parts of the Church in five States of India. If and when you are able to help, you may kindly remember me. I shall let you know if I have to do enough of travelling.

I still remember the very pleasant time I had with you in your home and your love towards me and the Gossner Church, will ever remain in our hearts.

Once more thanking you sincerely."

I am sending the letter direct

for I am afraid you might
leave Germany before the letter
reaches you. Anyhow I am
risking this letter and I trust
you will receive it.

I am eagerly waiting for
Bro. Jungmann's arrival. He
makes arrangements for my
accommodation at Rhentitz.
Thence until his arrival I
must work from Ranchi.
I just finished the Bihar
Christian Council meeting
at Ranchi. Now I am pre-
paring for an ecumenical
meeting of Pastors from
Industrial centres, finan-
ced by the National Christian
Council sponsored by the
N.C.C. to be held at Ranchi
also.

Hoping to meet you
soon

Ever in the Lord
Yours sincerely
H. Lepke

BY AIR MAIL

हवाई पत्र

AEROGRAMME

NO ENCLOSURES
ALLOWED



The Reverend Director

Dr. Christian Berg
Gossner Mission

Berlin-Friedenau
Handjergstr. 19
West Germany

Comm - 66

Third fold here

Sender's name and address -

Rev. H. Lepke
G.E.C. Church
Ranchi
Bihar
India

To open cut here

drbg/br
Berlin-Friedenau, 7 Nov 1963

Rev. Joel Lakra
G.E.L. Church

Ranchi / Bihar
India

Dear Brother Lakra !

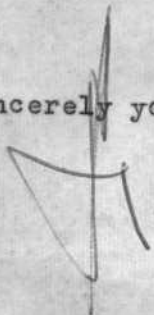
Enclosed we are sending you the translation of a reply of Bishop Kunst which we received today. You will surely be sorry about its contents. On the other hand, you will be pleased about the brotherly and kind tone of our friend from which you can see how he still remembers gratefully your visit last summer.

From my side, I can only ask you to accept this decision and to know that you will also be able to do blessed service in Khuntitoli without having a car to your own disposal.

We have been very pleased to hear of the good and blessed service on 2 November, the Goßner-Day, in Ranchi although, unfortunately, you had to be absent. We also got to know about the results of the elections in the four Anchals. May God bless the work of the brothers.

We shall see each other again in a few weeks. I am hoping that our meeting and our talks will again be done in the spirit of hope and confidence that our Lord is doing good to us and that we can still do many things in His service to His honour.

Sincerely yours,



Encl.

DER RAT DER EVANGELISCHEN KIRCHE IN DEUTSCHLAND

Bonn, 4 November 1963
Venusberg 4

Herrn
Missionsdirektor Dr. Christian Berg

Berlin 41
Handjerystraße 19/20

Dear Brother Berg ,

I gratefully remember your visit with president Lakra. I was thankful for the substantial talk I had with our friend from the Gossner-Mission. It meant very much to me in the different talks I had with the German Government and with the diplomats in Bonn of what I heard of India in general from president Lakra and also of what he told me about his responsibility and tasks. I was happy that I was able to help him a bit by presenting him a machine for the printing press in Ranchi.

It will be a pleasure to president Lakra to know that he can still do the important tasks of the leader of the central-meeting-place in the Gossner-Church. His ability and his abundant experiences will - in this important post - be a blessing to the co-workers of the Gossner-Church.

In your letter you asked me to give president Lakra a car to his disposal. You know me long enough to understand: If I had the opportunity to fulfil this wish it would be done with pleasure immediately. But, a few months ago, I signed a contract with the Lutheran World Federation. All means at my disposal will be distributed together with the Lutheran World Federation in Geneva. I, therefore, have not got any possibility anymore to give immediate help as I could do before.

I kindly ask you, dear brother Berg, to let to know president Lakra, why I cannot fulfil his wish. I do hope it will not be too great a disappointment to him in view of the fact that in future he will mainly have to do his work in the courses and meetings in the new central-meeting-place. I sincerely ask president Lakra to keep - as up till now - his good and brotherly opinions of me.

With kind greetings,
I am yours,

D. Kunst

DER RAT DER EVÄNGELISCHEN KIRCHE IN DEUTSCHLAND

DER BEVOLLMÄCHTIGTE AM SITZ DER BUNDESREPUBLIK DEUTSCHLAND

53 BONN, DEN 4. November 1963
VENUSBERGWEG 4
FERNSPRECHER 5 11 41/42



Herrn
Missionsdirektor Dr. Christian Berg

1 Berlin 41
Handjerystraße 19/20

*Freuen
sich als
Johann
7/11*

Lieber Bruder Berg !

Mit Dankbarkeit erinnere ich mich Ihres Besuches mit Herrn Kirchenpräsident Lakra. Ich war dankbar für das inhaltsreiche Gespräch, das ich mit unserem Freund von der Goßner-Mission führen konnte. Es hat für manches Gespräch mit der Bundesregierung und mit den Diplomaten in Bonn viel für mich bedeutet, was ich von Herrn Kirchenpräsident Lakra im allgemeinen über Indien erfuhr, und auch, was er mir von dem Bereich seiner Verantwortung und Aufgaben berichtete. Ich war glücklich, daß ich ihm ein wenig durch das Geschenk einer Maschine für die kirchliche Druckerei in Ranchi helfen konnte.

Es wird für Herrn Kirchenpräsident Lakra selber eine Freude sein, daß er den wichtigen Dienst des Leiters des zu errichtenden Rüstzeitenheims der Goßner-Kirche noch versehen kann. Seine Tüchtigkeit und seine reiche Erfahrung werden an dieser wichtigen Stelle den Mitarbeitern der Goßner-Kirche von Segen sein.

Sie tragen mir mit Ihrem Brief die Bitte vor, Herrn Kirchenpräsident Lakra ein Auto zur Verfügung zu stellen.

Sie kennen mich lange genug, um zu wissen: Hätte ich die Gelegenheit, dieser Bitte zu entsprechen, würde es sofort nur mit Freuden geschehen. Aber ich habe vor einigen Monaten einen Vertrag mit dem Lutherischen Weltdienst unterschrieben. Alle mir zur Verfügung stehenden Mittel werden in Zusammenarbeit mit dem Lutherischen Weltdienst in Genf vergeben. Ich habe also keine Chance mehr, unmittelbar tätig werden zu können wie bisher. Ich bitte Sie sehr herzlich, lieber Bruder Berg, Sie möchten Herrn Kirchenpräsident Lakra verständlich machen, warum ich seiner Bitte nicht entsprechen kann. Ich hoffe, die Enttäuschung wird ihm deshalb nicht so schwer sein, weil er in Zukunft seine Aufgabe im wesentlichen in den Kursen und Freizeiten in dem neuen Rüstzeitenheim haben wird. Ich bitte Herrn Kirchenpräsident Lakra aufrichtig, mir wie bisher seine gute und brüderliche Gesinnung zu bewahren.

Mit herzlichen brüderlichen Grüßen bleibe ich

Ihr getreuer

I. Rumpf.

POST

SPEZIAL-POST

V e r m e r k

für Ing. Thiel

Dieser Brief beschäftigt sich mit der Zukunft von Bruder Lakra, wie Sie gewiß vernommen haben. Offenbar hat das KSS einen Beschluß gefaßt, den es uns noch nicht förmlich mitgeteilt hat. Wir sind hier ganz froh, daß er seine Tätigkeit von Ranchi nach Khuntitoli verlegen wird und dort hoffentlich noch gesegneten Dienst tun kann.

Es steht kaum zu erwarten, daß Dr. Kunst persönlich ein Auto für Rev. Lakra bewilligen wird, aber ich will dessen offizielle Antwort zur gegebenen Zeit in aller Form mit der wahrscheinlich negativen Auskunft übersenden.

Jedenfalls bitten wir Sie, dem KSS für das Gehalt von Rev. Lakra während der nächsten zwei Monate 500 Rs. zur Verfügung zu stellen, die Ihnen bei der nächsten Geldsendung ersetzt werden. Sollte das KSS ein höheres Gehalt festsetzen, sind Sie ermächtigt, diese Zulage ebenfalls bereitzustellen.

Wir sind im übrigen sehr gespannt, welches das Ergebnis der Wahlen für die leitenden Ämter in der Gossner-Kirche gewesen ist, die wohl im Laufe des Monats Oktober überall erfolgt sind.

Mit herzlichem Gottbefehlen
bin ich Ihr



Berlin, den 1.11.1963
drbg/br

cc/ Herrn Salkowski

mit der Bitte darauf zu achten, daß dieser Betrag in der Überweisung per Monat Dezember einbezogen wird. Er ist zu entnehmen aus dem Budget 1964, Kap. II, A 1 b, und, weil schon 1963 verausgabt, unter "Rechnungsabgrenzungsposten" zu führen.

31. Oktober 1963

Herrn
Bischof D. Kunst

53 B o n n
Venusbergweg 4

Lieber und verehrter Bruder Kunst !

Ich weiß, daß ich Ihnen Mühe mache, aber unser Freund Rev. J. Lakra - seit 1. November 1963 Präsident a.D. der Goßner-Kirche - fragt mich jetzt brieflich zum dritten Mal, wie es mit dem Wagen stünde, den Sie Rev. Lakra vergangenes Jahr bei Ihrem sehr freundlichen Empfang unseres Goßner-Häuptlings als Möglichkeit vor die Augen gemalt haben bzw. den er als die dringende Realisierung Ihres Gastgeschenks ansah.

- / Die erste Anlage zu diesen persönlichen Zeilen ist die offizielle Anfrage an Sie, deren Kopie ich Rev. Lakra (ins englische übersetzt) schicken muß, damit er erkennt, daß ich meine Pflicht getan habe;
- / die zweite Anlage ist der Entwurf eines Schreibens, wie ich es gern von Ihnen hätte, um es Bruder Lakra weiterzusenden. Unter allen Kundigen besteht nach wie vor diskussionslose Einmütigkeit, daß Ex-Präsident Lakra einen Wagen zu seiner Verfügung nicht bekommen sollte, weil er sowohl kostenmäßig als auch wahrscheinlich kirchenpolitisch nur Unheil anzurichten in der Gefahr stehen würde.

Mit der Bitte um Verständnis für unsere asiatischen Brüder

stets Ihr



Anlagen

31. Oktober 1963

Herrn
Bischof D. Kunst

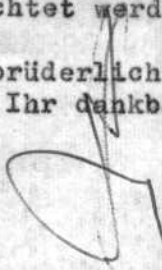
5300 Bonn
Venusbergweg 4

Hochwürdiger Herr Bischof, lieber Bruder Kunst !

Im Spätsommer vorigen Jahres hatten Sie die große Freundlichkeit, den Präsidenten der Goßner-Kirche, Rev. Lakra, in meiner Begleitung zu empfangen. Ihr warmes Interesse für die Aufgaben des ersten Dieners der Goßner-Kirche steht ihm und mir noch lebendig in Erinnerung. Sie waren überdies so freundlich, Präsident Lakra ein größeres Gastgeschenk zu dezidieren und entschieden sich nach Empfang mehrere Vorschläge dafür, für die neu aufzubauende kirchliche Druckerei in Ranchi eine Maschine zu schenken, die im Laufe dieses Jahres nach glücklicher Ankunft in Indien aufgestellt wurde und demnächst zu arbeiten beginnt.

Sie sahen es als möglich an, vielleicht ein Jahr später (also 1963) auch den zweiten Vorschlag zu berücksichtigen, der darauf hinauslief, dem Präsident der Goßner-Kirche zu einer Motorisierung zu verhelfen. Darf ich in aller Bescheidenheit anfragen, zugleich im Namen von Rev. Lakra, ob diese Möglichkeit heute noch für Sie gegeben ist, nachdem das Jahr 1963 sich dem Ende zuneigt ? Sie würden zweifellos unserem Freund in Chotanagpur eine große Freude bereiten. Er hat das leitende Amt am 1. November 1963 in die Hände eines Nachfolgers übergeben und ist von der Kirchenleitung in Ranchi zum Leiter eines Rüstzeiten-Heims bestellt worden, das auf dem Gelände unserer Lehrfarm in Khuntitoli errichtet werden soll.

Mit brüderlichen Grüßen
bin ich Ihr dankbar verbundener



Entwurf

Lieber Bruder Berg !

Ich erinnere mich noch gut Ihres freundlichen Besuches mit Kirchenpräsident Lakra und denke gern an das inhaltsreiche Gespräch zurück, das ich mit unserem Freund von der Goßnerkirche führen konnte. Es war mir außerordentlich aufschlußreich, was ich von ihm allgemein über Indien erfuhr und was ich von dem Bereich seiner Verantwortung und Aufgaben hörte. Es war mir auch durchaus eine Freude, daß ich die Möglichkeit hatte, der Goßnerkirche durch ihn eine Maschine für die kirchliche Druckerei in Ranchi zu schenken.

Darüber hinaus nehme ich es als gute Nachricht, daß Rev. Lakra nach seiner Pensionierung als Kirchenpräsident noch den wichtigen Dienst des Leiters des zu errichtenden Rüstzeiten-Heims der Goßnerkirche in Khuntitoli versehen kann. Offenbar ist unser Freund noch rüstig und kann aus seiner reichen Erfahrung an dieser wichtigen Stelle den Mitarbeitern der Goßnerkirche von Segen sein.

Leider habe ich in diesem Jahr nicht so die Möglichkeit, wie ich gehofft hatte und persönlich wünschen möchte, großzügige Hilfen zu gewähren, so daß Ihre konkrete Bitte für Rev. Lakra leider nicht für mich erfüllbar ist. Ich bitte sehr um Verständnis und Nachsicht dafür. Ich möchte auch meinen, daß Rev. Lakra in seiner jetzigen Position nicht so dringlich auf ein Fahrzeug angewiesen ist, wie andere leitende Brüder der Goßnerkirche; daß vielmehr seine wichtige Funktion darin besteht, in seiner pastoralen Aufgabe in Khuntitoli den dortigen Kursen und Freizeiten zu dienen.

Mit der Bitte, Bruder Lakra, den ich um Verständnis für meine Situation bitte, umso herzlicher grüßen und ihm meine Segenswünsche übermitteln zu wollen

bin ich

(31.10.1963)



Berlin-Friedenau, 31 October 1963

Pramukh Adhyashkh
Rev. Joel Lakra
G.E.L. Church

Ranchi / Bihar
India

Dear Brother Lakra,

I was very glad to receive your hand-written letter of 24 October 63 in which you told me about your departure for the East-Asia-Christian meeting at the Philippines. It is very good that - for the Gossner-Church - you can participate in the important consultations of this ecumenical union of the East-Asian-Churches.

There are a few points which I should like to mention:

- 1) I am as well as all here in the Gossnerhouse are moved that this letter will be the last one addressed to you as Pramukh Adhyashkh. Officially, your function as president of the Gossner-Church is ending today although you have handed over charge to brother Dr. Bage already before. Präses Scharf and I have expressed to the KSS our blessings on the occasion of the change of position. But today, I want to tell you personally again how grateful I am to you that you could do this job in faith and devotion in the last three years and that during this time, a greater unity and peace could be achieved in the Gossner-Church.
- 2) We thought very much of you yesterday when your daughter Mini returned from the university with joy and happiness since she has passed her examination so that the regular education can start now. May it be the begin of a constant spiritual growth so that step by step she is getting more and more known of her new profession which she will once do to the blessing of her fellow-men in India.
- 3) You can see from the enclosure that I have written to Bishop Kunst regarding your question. We have translated the letter into English, and I do hope to be able to send you a kind reply of Bishop Kunst.
- 4) I am very glad that you have decided personally for Khuntitoli and that obviously the KSS has agreed to the plan. Up till now, we, however, we have not yet received an official information about this resolution from the KSS and its agreement to the building of a central-meeting-place in Khuntitoli. This is the condition for our taking actions for it should not be an establishment from Germany but an establishment of the autonomous Gossner-Church for which we will gladly give our help. But, perhaps, this information about the official resolution is on way to us. Otherwise, dear brother Lakra, please ask them to do so.
- 5) The same is with your salary. We have been thinking that from November 1963 - December 1964 your position, function and the concerning salary has not been put in the central budget of the Gossner-Church. That is why we shall pay your salary for those 14 months. From 1 January 1965 onwards, the Gossner-Church has to pay your salary in Khuntitoli itself. In any case, the Gossner-Church

- 5) has to state immediately how much your salary will be according to the pay role of the Gossner-Church which we shall pay for those 14 months concerning the building of the central-meeting-place.

I am sending brother Thiel copy of this letter. I herewith authorize him to send the KSS altogether 500,- Rs. for the months November and December 1963 so that the KSS is able to pay you for your service in Khuntitoli.

I do hope that this will be satisfactory to you and that you will understand why I like to take this procedure in handling this matter.

- 6) Brother Junghans is extremely busy. He wants to get 10 cows and one bull for Khuntitoli. We are expecting him back in Berlin on 12 November so that he can participate in the meeting of the Kuratorium on 13 November 1963. I can only hope that brother Junghans has informed you about his changed schedule because he is thinking of going back to Khuntitoli in the second half of November. Then, the erection of a central-meeting-house and a flat for Mr. Tomforde has to be taken up quickly. In no case will brother Junghans be back in Khuntitoli on 12 November 1963.

I am glad that we shall see each other soon again and like to send you regards from Mrs. Berg, the members of the Kuratorium and from myself, dear brother Lakra. May God be with you and bless your new task.

With brotherly greetings,
Yours,

cc/ Ing. Thiel

Translation !

31 October 1963

Bishop D. Kunst

B o n n
Venusbergseg 4

Right Reverend Bishop, dear Brother Kunst !

In the late sommer of last year you were so kind as to receive the president of the Gossner-Church, Rev. Lakra, who was accompanied by me. President Lakra as well as I still remember your warm interest you showed in the tasks for the first servant of the Gossner-Church. Above all, you were so kind to designate a bigger present to president Lakra. After having received different proposals you decided to present a machine for the newly to built up printing press in Ranchi which could be put up during this year after a good arrival in India and which will soon begin to work.

You thought it possible - perhaps one year later (that is in 1963) also to consider the second suggestion of getting a motor car for the president of the Gossner-Church. May I ask very modestly, also on behalf of Rev. Lakra, whether you have still this possibility after the year 1963 is coming close ? You would surely please our friend in Chotanagpur very much. On 1 November 1963, he has handed over the leading position into the hands of his successor and has been appointed leader of a central-meeting-place by the church government. This central-meeting-place will be erected at the site of our Agriculture Training Centre in Khuntitoli.

With brotherly greetings,
I am yours gratefully,



Camp Calcutta
From - Rev. J. L. Latorre Bishop House

Dear Bro. Beng

29. OCT. 1963

24/10/63

Edgits

31

I am on my way
to Manila for the S.E.A. Christian
meeting. I fly tomorrow morn-
ing, reaching there in the
evening via Bangkok.

Great changes will happen
in the Gossner Church in
November. I have already
handed over charge to Bro.
H. Bage. We both met
in my office and I led
in a word of prayer and
handed over charge in
writing.

The KSS appointed me
Director of the Religious
and Social Development

Centre Khentitoh, just
as you suggested in
your letter. from Nov. 1
1963. They have requested
you for subsidy for
my salary.

At present my
four children will stay
at my old residence
in the Gossner High School
compound but I must
live at Khentitoh. I
shall be waiting for Bro
Jungbans for proper
accommodation etc.

I wonder if it is
time for you to remind
Bishop Kuust of Bonn
regarding conveyance.
I shall need conveyance

for visiting centres
throughout the Gosner
field.

I shall return to
Ranahi by the 7th of
November.

I have not heard
anything about the
date of arrival of
Bro. Junghans. ~~It~~
is proposed to call

4) a meeting of Pastors from
different Churches at
Ranahi for Nov. 12.

I wish Bro. Junghans
to be here. He had sug-
gested the date. Kindly
convey the news to him.

With cordial Christmas
greetings of Fellowship to
Mrs. Berg and self and
Kura Mission members.
for my wife
M. K.

BY AIR MAIL

हवाई पत्र

AEROGramme

NO ENCLOSURES
ALLOWED



The Rev. Dr. Christa Berg
Gosner House
Berlin Friedenau
Handjiryst. 12
West Germany

Cons - 68

Sender's name and address:

Rev. J. Lakra
G.E.C. Church
Ranahi
Beihar
India

To open cut here

drbg/br

Berlin-Friedenau, 18 Sept 1963

The
Pramukh Adhyaskh
Rev. Joel Lakra
G.E.L. Church Compound

Ranchi / Bihar
India

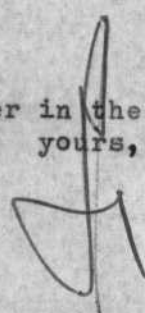
Subject: Thanks to some regional churches in Germany and personal words in connection with the change in the presidency of the Gossner-Church

Dear Brother Lakra,

Recently, you reminded us once more that you would be grateful to obtain letters of thanks to some regional churches on the beginning of November, the last month of your presidency of the Gossner-Church.

I am trying today to send you these drafts which you might send - after careful consideration - at the beginning of November. They will surely call forth great pleasure and will deepen the tie to the Gossner-Church and yourself.

Ever in the Lord
yours,



Encl.

Gossnersche Missionsgesellschaft
Berlin-Friedenau
Handjerystraße 19/20

drbg/br

Berlin-Friedenau, 17 Sept 1963

The
Pramukh Adhyaskh
Rev. Joel Lakra
G.E.L. Church Compound

Ranchi / Bihar
India

Subject: Exchange

Dear Brother Lakra,

Our world has indeed become smaller. The traffic of today allows us to get in closer contact with the Gossner-Church in India. Mutual visits for study, lectures and getting to know each other better also belongs to it.

Brother Dr. Bage was of the opinion - to which we agreed - that it would perhaps not be good to have a brother from the Gossner-Church (as pastor H. Minz) here in Germany for many years. It would rather be better that more brothers of the Gossner-Church had the opportunity of visiting the German church and the Gossner-Mission for a short time so that the younger generation of the pastors of the Gossner-Church gets to know us deeper. On the other hand, maybe in the coming years, if peace remains, some brothers from the Gossner-Mission may ask to visit the Gossner-Church for a short time in order to obtain a lively impression of its situation. My precise questions are:

- 1) Would the KSS agree to it that every year during the period of say 1st April to 30th September a pastor visited Germany and that he studied special matters of the church work here during these six months (diaconical or youth work, publicity or academical work or congregational life etc.) church industrial work etc.)?
- 2) Would the Gossner-Church be willing to send us another brothers for three or four months every year who gives lectures and reports and visits the congregations of the Gossner-work?

The Kuratorium would basically be willing to pay the costs for travel and stay for two brothers who are selected carefully, if we received your positive answer to the matter. We feel that such an exchange would be a special blessing for strengthening our mutual ties.

Please inform me about the opinion of the church on this matter so that we can plan for our budget and also know that we may have already have the pleasure next year of welcoming one or two brothers here in Germany.

With kind regards,
Yours,

cc/ Up-Pramukh Dr. Bage
Ing. Thiel
Secr. of KSS

drbg/br

Berlin-Friedenau, 16. September 63

The
Pramukh Adhyaskh
Rev. Joel Lakra
G.E.L. Church Compound

Ranchi / Bihar
India

Subject: My visit to India

Dear Brother Lakra !

We should like to thank you and the KSS of the Gossner-Church for sending us your substitute brother Dr. Bage for the Gossner-work here in Germany for four weeks and that you did without him for his urgent work in India.

It was useful and helpful that he spoke at many places in the East as well as in the West, just as you did at the end of last year. It was also good that we had time for intense talk. The Kuratorium has also welcomed him on 6th September and has carefully listened to the report he gave.

In some time, I shall take up the various points we talked about with brother Dr. Bage. Maybe, they can be handled still during your period of office as president of our beloved Gossner-Church or maybe it will be done in the period of office of brother Dr. Bage.

I should like to give you a rough plan of my visit as I talked about with brother Dr. Bage.

12.12.63 Arrival in Bombay - immediate flight via Calcutta to Ranchi.

15.12.63 Inauguration of TTC Fudi

16.-31.12.63 present in Fudi/Ranchi and 1-2 days visit in Govindpur,

2.-10.1.1964 visit to Khuntitoli (also noted a visit to the nearby congregations).

10.-20.1.64 visit to Amgaon (also noted a visit to the nearby congregations); from 18 to 20 th January conference of the German co-workers in the Gossner-Church.

At the end of January - visit of one of the mission districts of the Gossner-Church.

At the beginning of February - Visit to the Anchal Assam for about 10 days.

At the end of February - pastoral conference. I am willing to hold a few lectures about the diaconical movement at this conference. There is also time for extensive talks with the Indian colleagues.

b.w.

That is, dear brother Lakra, the general frame of my visit I talked about with brother Dr. Bage. My departure will be on 14 March 64 from Bombay. Maybe, the possibility will arise for me to travel via South of India at the beginning of March (Madras, Nettur), but details have not been made for it yet. There is a possibility of putting in desirable details within this frame work.

Anyhow, I wanted to let you know our thoughts about the use of my time in India. Mrs. Berg and I are wishing that our trip will be blessed and protected by God as well as fruitful for the Goßner-church and the Goßner-Mission.

Ever in the Lord,
Yours,

Christian Berg

cc/ Up-Pramukh Dr. Bage

Ing. Thiel

Secr. of KSS

Gossnersche Missionsgesellschaft
Berlin-Friedenau
Handjerystraße 19/20

drbg/br
Berlin-Friedenau, 16 Sept 1963

The
Pramukh Adhyaskh
Rev. Joel Lakra
G.E.L. Church Compound

Ranchi / Bihar
India

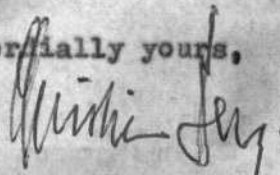
Subject: Cars for the Anchals

Dear Brother Lakra,

Brother Dr. Bage expressed the urgent necessity in his report before the Kuratorium to make the budget of the Gossner-Church in all fields up to the budget of the church management in Ranchi-independent of foreign support so that the Gossner-Church and its congregations will pay themselves for the indispensable expenditures. Dr. Bage therefore asked that brotherly places (Gossner-Mission, LWF etc.) will support more intense the different tasks in the coming years and that they will relieve the Gossner-Church. In the opinion of Dr. Bage there also belongs the outfit of a motor car for the leading brothers in the four Anchals in order to relieve their pastoral service and their visitation tasks. The Kuratorium has accepted this necessity. It will follow the request in the way that - in the coming years - it will make it possible for one Anchal after the other to obtain such a car. The Anchal with the biggest congregations and church members should be the first. Therefore:

1. I should like to receive an answer about the costs for a suitable car.
2. I want to have the assurance that the running costs (salary or expenditures for driver, petrol, gas and for the necessary reparations) will be secured in the budget of the different Anchals. The Gossner-Mission here in Berlin can by no means take care of the running expenditures. It must have the assurance that - while buying the expensive cars - they must be carefully looked after.
3. Please note that the concerning amount will be available not before the 1st October 1964 in the budget of the Gossner-Mission. The first car will be available after the monsoon next year. The Gossner-Mission would be glad to fit out the four Anchals with such a car in the years 1964-1967. It would also be pleased to relieve the visitation tasks of the Adhyaskhs and thereby intense them.

Cordially yours,



cc/Up-Pramukh Dr. Bage
Ing. Thiel
Secr. of KSS

Berlin-Friedenau, 19th August 1963
Dr.Bg/Wo.

The
Pramukh Adhyaskh
Rev. Joel Lakra
G.E.L. Church Compound
Ranchi/Bihar
India

Dear Brother Lakra!

After 5 weeks absence from the Gossner House in which I attended conferences and was on holiday in West-Germany, I have at last found time to deal with the two letters of 25.7.63 you wrote to me and Brother Seeberg.

In these few weeks several things have happened that deserve a few lines.

1.) In the first place I have greetings to send you from Mini, whom Mrs. Berg and I visited last Sunday. We were glad to find her well recovered and good spirits. The long lying-cures are doing her good. The nurse was very satisfied with her, and at the time she has a very nice room-mate who takes care of her very kindly. So I think her father in the distance can be reassured, and we will pray to God that He restore her to full health by the time the new university term begins.

2.) I was very glad to gather from your letter that you were also very satisfied with the last meeting of the KSS. If in comparison with the past years the discussion of important and difficult matters were mostly held in a spirit of fellowship, I can understand your feeling of relief, when, after days of a long conference everything ended successfully and in harmony.

3.) I was also very glad to hear from your letter and the copy of a letter from Geneva that the ecumenical boards in India have supplied you with a considerable amount of food for those who are in need owing to the bad harvest of last year. May you be able to cope well with the task of distribution and to refresh and give joy to many destitute people.

4.) We are of course much troubled about the serious illness of Brother Junghans. I was already in my holidays when the message came. He is already under way and we hope to have him here by the end of the month as well as can be expected under the circumstances. I hope the Kuratorium and Brother Junghans himself will not have to make too grave decisions. But we will let you know about that in time, dear Brother Lakra. We hope Mr. Tomforde will be able to continue the work in Khuntitoli satisfactorily.

5.) I am all the more worried about Brother Thiel who has far too much work on his hands, and I have been uneasy about this for some time. The Property Board and the conducting of the building-up in Phudi demand an enormous amount of work of him. I would therefore be very grateful to Padma Shri, if he would use the authority

of his person to see that Brother Thiel is disburdened where that is really possible: i.e. that Mr. Schwert receives a visa in near future in order to disburden Brother Thiel in the tasks of the 5-year-plan. I hope you can understand how very important that is, and you would receive in Mr. Schwert a really devoted Christian fellow-worker in Ranhi.

I thank you also, that you have supported the application for a visa for the Rupprechts, and are still doing so.

6.) The grants of BROT FÜR DIE WELT for Amgaon and Phudi - the last instalment - were given in the beginning of July. We hope that both institutions will be so strengthened by this grant that they can carry out their useful work in the Goßner Church.

7.) As to your request concerning the student in Munich, we receive similar requests almost weekly. These things soon became known, and we must stop at this point, and as Goßner-Mission we cannot have our whole work for your church hampered by these things. I must ask you to understand our reserve in this matter.

Thank you for having taken the trouble to inform Brother Seeberg on your part of the regulation of correspondence with the autonomous church. I had asked him to leave the matter of the Bethesda-school in Stavanger wholly to our brothers in the Goßner Church. So we are both of the same opinion, as I can see from your letter, how hazy on the part of Mr. Horo the financial side of the Question is.

I am sorry to say that we have not yet a word from Brother Bage personally, except that he had to go to the hospital. We can only hope that it is nothing serious and will soon pass over. At the moment we also do not know whether he has been able to go to East-Germany. We, at least, have no news, although many are waiting for him, above all we in the Goßner House.

So much for to-day. The weeks and months fly past. Autumn is near and will bring many important things for both of us. But more about that later.

God bless you!
Yours sincerely

This morning we got a cable that he has well arrived in East-Germany and travels with Brother Schottstädt as you last year.

20. AUG. 1963

Encl:

100

Dear Bro Berg,

I hope you have received all the official actions taken by the KSS, from an office of the Secretary who is to communicate all the actions of the KSS to the persons and offices concerned. There is just one thing which perhaps has escaped your notice. I had also mentioned it in my letter to you. That is the amount of Rs 400/- (four hundred) and odd which was my expense last year during my visit at Neuen-dettelsau, which I had requested the Kuratorium to kindly pay. This amount was

deducted out of our sanctioned amount by the KSS. Now the Kuratorium may kindly pay to the KSS and make up this deduction.

Today I am writing from Calcutta where I have come to attend an important meeting regarding the Industrial Belt of Chotanagpur. Perhaps you remember Mr. Wright of 16 Sudder Street Calcutta who met you in Germany last year. Mr. Wright spoke to you of an Academy in the Industrial Belt of India which obviously is Chotanagpur. We are having a meeting to consider these matters. I shall inform you what we

gleide. Bro. Junghe will
also speak to you about
this matter. Dr. Junghe
would like to have the
Academy at Rhenish
We shall have more conver-
sance about this matter.
I have not yet thanked
some of our good friends like
Dr. Harnst of Bonn. You
have to send me a draft.

I might also remind you
that I must hand over charge
of the office of the Prussian
Folkshochschule on the 1st of November,
1965, to my Bro. Dr. Bage. I
would like to know when you
arrive here exactly.

Kindly write to me as you
have not written to me for some
time. Cordial greeting of Yishe
Shalom to you and Mrs. Berg.
Yours very truly,
H. H. H.

BY AIR MAIL

हवाई पत्र

AEROGRAMME

NO ENCLOSURES
ALLOWED



FOR QUICK
YOUR PACKETS
USE



The Rev. Dr. Christian Berg.
Gossner Mission
Berlin, Friedenau
Handjerystr. 120
West Germany

Cora - 68

Third fold here

Sender's name and address:

Rev. J. J. J.
G. C. Church
Ranch

Zur Übersetzung

Seeberg u. R. 3. Kt.
14/8.

Rev. Joel Lakra

.....

Lieber Bruder Lakra!

Nach fünfwöchiger Abwesenheit vom Goßnerhaus zu Vorträgen, Sitzungen und anschließender Erholung in Westdeutschland komme ich heute endlich dazu, auf Ihre beiden Briefe einzugehen, die Sie am 25.7. an Bruder Seeberg und mich geschrieben haben.

In den wenigen Wochen ist wieder allerlei geschehen, worauf es sich lohnt, mit einigen Sätzen einzugehen.

1. Zunächst aber möchte ich Ihnen herzliche Grüße von Mini ausrichten, die Mrs. Berg und ich am Sonntag besucht haben. Zu unserer Freude fanden wir sie schon recht erholt und fröhlichen Mutes. Die langen Liegekuren tun ihr dort gut. Die Krankenschwester sprach sich sehr zufrieden über Mini aus. Sie hat zur Zeit auch eine nette Zimmergenossin, die sich recht um sie kümmert. Ich glaube also, daß der Vater in der Ferne nach dieser Richtung hin beruhigt sein darf, und wir wollen Gott bitten, daß er ihr bis zum Wiederbeginn des Studiums die volle Gesundheit schenkt.

2. Mit herzlicher Freude entnahm ich Ihrem Brief, daß Sie auch über die letzte Sitzung des KSS wiederum sehr befriedigt waren. Wenn im Vergleich zu früheren Jahren die Beratung wichtiger und schwieriger Punkte in meist brüderlichem Einvernehmen erfolgt, so kann ich Ihnen nachfühlen, wie Sie nach jeder größeren mehrtägigen Sitzung darüber erleichtert sind, daß alles harmonisch und erfolgreich verlaufen ist.

3. Ebenfalls hat mich erfreut, aus Ihrem Brief und der Kopie eines Schreibens aus Genf entnommen zu haben, daß die ökumenischen Stellen in Indien Ihnen noch eine beträchtliche Naturalhilfe an Lebensmitteln für Notleidende infolge des letztjährigen Ernteausfalls zur Verfügung gestellt haben. Möchten Sie die Aufgaben

der Verteilung gut bewältigen und viele Elenden erquicken und erfreuen können.

4. Mit großer Sorge haben wir natürlich die ernstliche Erkrankung von Bruder Junghans aufgenommen. Ich selber war schon im Urlaub, als diese Mitteilung kam. Er ist ja schon unterwegs, und wir hoffen, ihn Ende dieses Monats den Umständen entsprechend einigermaßen wohl hier zu haben. Hoffentlich sind es nicht ernstere ~~Entschlüsse~~ Entschlüsse, die das Kuratorium und Bruder Junghans selbst fassen müssen. Aber darüber werde ich Sie dann rechtzeitig unterrichten, lieber Bruder Lakra. Hoffentlich kann Herr Tomforde die Arbeit in Khuntitoli befriedigend weiterführen.

+ dem Pad-
ma Shri

5. Um so mehr bin ich natürlich, zumal ich diese Sorge schon seit einiger Zeit habe, wegen Bruder Thiels Arbeitsüberlastung nicht ohne Bedenken. Das Property Board und die Leitung des Aufbaus in Phudi mit allem, was beide Dinge bringen, sind schon eine immense Arbeitslast für ihn. Darum wäre ich⁺ sehr dankbar, wenn er das Gewicht seiner Persönlichkeit mit in die Waagschale wirft, daß die Entlastung für Bruder Thiel an dem Punkt, wo es wirklich geschehen kann, erfolgt: Daß Herr Schwerk in nächster Zeit das Visum erhält, um in den Aufgaben des Fünfjahresplans Bruder Thiel zu entlasten. Ich hoffe, Sie erlauben es, wie wichtig das wäre, und Sie bekommen in Herrn Schwert wirklich einen hingabefreudigen christlichen Mitarbeiter nach Ranchi.

Ebenso danke ich Ihnen dafür, daß Sie sich für das Visum von Rupprechts ebenfalls miteingesetzt haben und es weiterhin tun wollen.

6. Die beiden Bewilligungen von BROT FÜR DIE WELT für Amgaon und Phudi als letzte Rate sind Anfang Juli erfolgt. So hoffen wir, daß beide Institute so gekräftigt werden können, daß sie ihre segensreiche Funktion in der Goßnerkirche ausüben können, ~~daß~~

7. Was Ihre Bitte wegen des Studenten in München betrifft, so häufen sich ähnliche Bitte jetzt Woche für Woche. Wir kommen schnell ins Gerede und müssen an diesem Punkt stoppen. Wir können auch nicht als Goßner-Mission unsern gesamten Dienst für Ihre Kirche durch diese Dinge beeinträchtigen lassen. Jedenfalls bitte ich Sie zu verstehen, lieber Bruder Lakra, daß wir an diesem Punkt äußerste Zurückhaltung üben müssen.

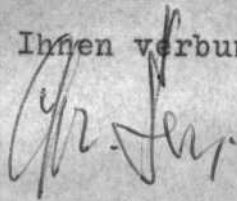
Endlich vielen Dank dafür, daß Sie sich die Mühe genommen haben, Bruder Seeberg auch Ihrerseits über die Regelungen des Schriftverkehrs mit der autonomen Kirche zu schreiben. Ich hatte ihn gebeten, die Sache wegen der Bettesda-Schule in Stavanger ganz den Brüdern von der Goßnerkirche zu überlassen. So haben sich unser beider Beurteilungen getroffen, weil ich aus Ihren Zeilen entnehme, wie unklar von Mr. Horos Seite die Angelegenheit noch finanziell ist.

Leider haben wir von Bruder Bage noch kein persönliches Wort gehört, außer, daß er das Hospital aufsuchen mußte. Wir können nur sehr hoffen, daß es eine leichtere, vorübergehende Krankheit ist. Wir wissen zur Stunde auch nicht, ob er nach Ostdeutschland hat reisen können. Hier liegen jedenfalls keine Nachrichten vor, obwohl viele auf ihn warten, in erster Linie wir im Goßnerhaus.

Soviel für heute. Die Wochen und Monate fliegen schnell dahin; der Herbst kommt schnell heran, und er wird für Sie und für mich ja wichtige Dinge bringen - aber davon ein ander Mal.

Für heute herzlich Gottbefohlen

sets Ihr Ihnen verbundener



From - Rev. J. Lakera

G. E. Church

Mission Inspector Seeberg,
Gossner Mission.

Ranchi

25/7/63.

Dear Bro Seeberg,

your letter of 16-7-63.

many Thanks.

Yes, Minie wrote to me
about her medical Examination.

I feel sure she will progress
by the grace of God and by the
love and care you are taking
of her. Many thanks to you and
Mrs. Seeberg.

Please inform Mr. R. Kerketta,
I have already written to the
L.M.S. about his expenses and also a
request to Dr. Berg. I am again
writing to the L.M.S. office at Helsinki.
I hope there will be no difficulty.

I find you have addressed
a letter to Mr. R. E. Horo, Assistant to
the Secretary. I am glad you have
sent a copy to me.

Now according to the policy
adopted ^{here} only the Prannath Adhyaksh
has to correspond officially with all our

Foreign offices including the
Secretariat and L.M.S. The
Secretary has to communicate
the actions and resolutions of
the K.S.S. to all concerned. In
the Secretary's absence the
Assistant to the Secretary
communicates but the
Assistant has no status
constitutionally. Therefore any
reply which you would
give, please address to
the Secretary who will bring
the matter to the K.S.S. or
to me if urgent for answer.
Some weeks ago Mr. R. E. Horo
had sent an appeal to Dr.
Sovik secretly for Rs 25,000/-
as Secretary of a school. Dr.
Sovik sent back that app-
eal to me which I ^{informed} presented
the K.S.S. Mr. Horo has not
accounted for Rs 37,000/-
which he received from the

P.S. Please ask Mr. R. Kerketta
to contact the Executive Secretary L.M.S. at Helsinki.

Government more than a year ago. The KSS reminded him for six times, but he keeps musing. Last effort to get the account of Rs 37,000/- was made by Dr. H. Bage who also failed. That is why I am writing to caution you, for this is the second time you have written to him and this time purely on money matters. You may talk to Dr. Bage about Mr. H. E. Horro's conduct regarding the sum of Rs 37,000/- We are having the KSS meeting in the third week of August at Rajgungpur. We are attending to the wise matter of the Reipsprichts. The papers are with me now. It goes very slow as you know. However, we shall do our best. The ~~Hodgkinson~~ congregation is peaceful now. Please pray for us. My greetings to the Gossner family in Berlin. Yours sincerely
H. Lakra

BY AIR MAIL

हवाई पत्र

AEROGramME

NO ENCLOSURES
ALLOWED



Pastor Martin Seeberg
Gossner Mission
Berlin - Friedenau
Hindenburgstr. 17
West Germany

Conn - 68

Third fold here

Sender's name and address:-

Rev. Joel Lakra
G.O. Church
Rancho Bichar
India

Dr. Bage
& Khor.

From Rev. J. LaPra G.E.L. Church
Ranchi
25/7/63.

Eingegangen

30. VII. 1963.

Erledigt:

Dear Bro. Beeg.
Did not hear from
you for some time, as you have
been away for holidays as
mentioned in Pastor Seeberg's
letter addressed to me.

We had a very impor-
tant R.S.S. session before the
departure of Dr. Bage. You will
get the minutes.

The Delhi Relief Committee,
which is the Relief Agency of the
National Christian Council of India,
aided by Church World Service
of the N.C.C. and the Lutheran
World Relief of the D.R.G., are
working here for the relief
of the famine stricken people.
They are preparing to start
school feeding and hard
manual labour for selected

projects in the famine areas.
The Gossner Church is the
main agency of the Relief
Committee. The Director him-
self visited the area and
appraised himself of the situation.
We have the next R.S.S. session
at Raigarh from August
20, 1963.

There is one matter
about which I had a talk
with Dr. Choe when he
visited us more than a
month ago. He had to con-
sult you about the matter,
and I do not know whether
he has done it.

The Chairman of the
Legislative Council of the
Upper House of the Bihar
Govt. has a son at Munich
in the Engineering Dept.
He has to send ²⁷⁰⁰⁰ about two
to three thousand rupees

only to this son. He asked
me whether the Gossner
Mission could not pay
this amount to his son
and the Chairman
pays the equivalent
amount to the Church
or Joint Mission Board
here. I do not know
what to answer and
so I requested Dr.
Ohse to consult you.
Will you kindly
advise me?

Inspector Seiberg wrote
to me of Miss's staying
in a Sanatorium. I am
sure by God's grace and by
your care and love, mine
will progress.

Kind regards
Yours in the Lord
J. Seiberg

BY AIR MAIL

हवाई पत्र

AEROGRAMME

NO ENCLOSURES
ALLOWED



Dr. Christian Berg Director
Gossner Mission
Berlin-Friedrichs
Hardenbergstr. 19
West Germany

CORR - 66

Sender's name and address:

Rv. J. Seiberg
Gd. Church
Ranchi Bihar
India

To open cut here

Rev. Lakra

Dear Brother Lakra!

After 5 weeks absence from the Gossner House in which I attended conferences and was on holiday in West Germany, I have at last found time to deal with the two letters of 25.7.63 you wrote to me and Brother Seeberg.

In these few ~~thin~~ weeks several things have happened that deserve a few lines.

1.) In the first place I have greetings to send you from Mini, whom Mrs Berg and I visited last Sunday. We were glad to find her well recovered and in good spirits. The long lying-cures ~~is~~ are doing her good. The nurse was very satisfied with her, and at the time she has a very nice room-mate who takes care of her very kindly. So I think her father in the distance can be re-assured, and we will pray to God that He restore her to ^{full} health by the time the new university term begins.

2. I was very glad to gather from your letter that you were also very satisfied with the ^{last} meeting of the KSS. If in comparison with the past years the discussion of important and difficult matters were mostly held in a spirit of fellowship, I can understand your feeling of relief, when, after days of ^{a long} conference ~~ended~~ ^{(in harmony.} everything ~~went off harmoniously~~ and successfully, and

3.) I was also very glad to hear from your letter and the copy of a letter from Geneva that the ecumenical boards in India have supplied you with a considerable amount of food for those who ~~suffer~~ are in need owing to the bad harvest of last year. May you be able to cope well with the task of distribution and to refresh and give joy to many destitute people.

4) We are of course much troubled about the serious illness of Brother Junghans. I was already in my holidays when the message

b. w.

came. He is already under way and we hope to have him here by the end of the month as well as can be expected under the circumstances. I hope the Kuratorium and Brother Junghans himself ~~will~~ will not have to make too grave decisions. But we will let you know about that in time, dear Brother Lakra. We hope ~~brother~~ Mr. Tomforde will be able to continue the work in Khutitoli satisfactorily.

5) ~~That this is in accordance with my anxiety~~ I am all the more worried about Brother Thiel who ~~is working~~ has far too much work on his hands, and I have been uneasy about this for some time. The Property Board and the conducting of the building-up in Phudi ~~demand enormous work of him~~ demand an enormous amount of work of him. I would therefore be very grateful to Padma Shri, if he would use the authority of his person to see that Brother Thiel is disburdened where that is really possible: i.e. that Mr. Schwerk receives a visa in near future in order to disburden Brother Thiel in the tasks of the 5-year-plan. I hope you ^{can} understand how very important that is, and you would receive in Mr. Schwerk a really devoted Christian fellow-worker in Ranchi. I thank you also, that you have supported the application for a visa for the Rupprechts, and are still doing so.

6) The grants of "Brot für die Welt" for Amgaon and Phudi - the ^{hope} last instalment - were given in the beginning of July. We ~~both~~ that both institutions will be so strengthened by this grant that they can carry out their ^{useful} ~~beneficial~~ work in the Gossner Church.

7) As to your request concerning the student in Munich, we receive similar requests ~~week by week~~ ^{almost weekly}. These things soon become known, and we must stop at this point, and as Gossner Mission we cannot have our whole work for your church hampered by these things. I must ask you to understand our reserve in this matter.

Thank you for having taken the trouble to inform Brother Seeberg on your part of the regulation of correspondence with the autonomous church. I had asked him to leave the matter of the Bethesda-school in Stavanger ~~whole~~ wholly to our brothers in the Gossner Church. So we are both of the same opinion, as I can see from your letter, how hazy on the part of Mr. Horo the financial side of the question is.

I am sorry to say that we have not yet a ~~perplex~~ word from Brother Bage personally, except that he had to go to the hospital. We can only hope that it is nothing serious and will soon pass over. At the moment we also do not know whether he ~~is~~ has been able to go to ~~the~~ East-Germany. We, at least, have no news, although many are waiting for him, above all we in the Gossner House.

So much for to-day. The weeks and months fly past. Autumn is near and will bring many important things for both of us. But more about that later.

God bless you!

yours sincerely,

This morning we got a cable
 that he has ^{well} arrived in Essen
 and travels with him as far
 last year.
 Thanks God!

Zur Übersetzung

Rev. Joel Lakra

.....

Lieber Bruder Lakra!

Nach fünfwöchiger Abwesenheit vom Goßnerhaus zu Vorträgen, Sitzungen und anschließender Erholung in Westdeutschland komme ich heute endlich dazu, auf Ihre beiden Briefe einzugehen, die Sie am 25.7. an Bruder Seeberg und mich geschrieben haben.

In den wenigen Wochen ist wieder allerlei geschehen, worauf es sich lohnt, mit einigen Sätzen einzugehen.

1. Zunächst aber möchte ich Ihnen herzliche Grüße von Mini ausrichten, die Mrs. Berg und ich am Sonntag besucht haben. Zu unserer Freude fanden wir sie schon recht erholt und fröhlichen Mutes. Die langen Liegekuren tun ihr dort gut. Die Krankenschwester sprach sich sehr zufrieden über Mini aus. Sie hat zur Zeit auch eine nette Zimmergenossin, die sich recht um sie kümmert. Ich glaube also, daß der Vater in der Ferne nach dieser Richtung hin beruhigt sein darf, und wir wollen Gott bitten, daß er ihr bis zum Wiederbeginn des Studiums die volle Gesundheit schenkt.

2. Mit herzlicher Freude entnahm ich Ihrem Brief, daß Sie auch über die letzte Sitzung des KSS wiederum sehr befriedigt waren. Wenn im Vergleich zu früheren Jahren die Beratung wichtiger und schwieriger Punkte in meist brüderlichem Einvernehmen erfolgt, so kann ich Ihnen nachfühlen, wie Sie nach jeder größeren mehrtägigen Sitzung darüber erleichtert sind, daß alles harmonisch und erfolgreich verlaufen ist.

3. Ebenfalls hat mich erfreut, aus Ihrem Brief und der Kopie eines Schreibens aus Genf entnommen zu haben, daß die ökumenischen Stellen in Indien Ihnen noch eine beträchtliche Naturalhilfe an Lebensmitteln für Notleidende infolge des letztjährigen Ernteausfalls zur Verfügung gestellt haben. Möchten Sie die Aufgaben

der Verteilung gut bewältigen und viele Elenden erquicken und erfreuen können.

4. Mit großer Sorge haben wir natürlich die ernstliche Erkrankung von Bruder Junghans aufgenommen. Ich selber war schon im Urlaub, als diese Mitteilung kam. Er ist ja schon unterwegs, und wir hoffen, ihn Ende dieses Monats den Umständen entsprechend einigermaßen wohl hier zu haben. Hoffentlich sind es nicht ernstere ~~Bese~~Entschlüsse, die das Kuratorium und Bruder Junghans selbst fassen müssen. Aber darüber werde ich Sie dann rechtzeitig unterrichten, lieber Bruder Lakra. Hoffentlich kann Herr Tomforde die Arbeit in Khuntitoli befriedigend weiterführen.

+dem Pad-
ma Shri

5. Um so mehr bin ich natürlich, zumal ich diese Sorge schon seit einiger Zeit habe, wegen Bruder Thiels Arbeitsüberlastung nicht ohne Bedenken. Das Property Board und die Leitung des Aufbaus in Phudi mit allem, was beide Dinge bringen, sind schon eine immense Arbeitslast für ihn. Darum wäre ich⁺ sehr dankbar, wenn er das Gewicht seiner Persönlichkeit mit in die Waagschale wirft, daß die Entlastung für Bruder Thiel an dem Punkt, wo es wirklich geschehen kann, erfolgt: Daß Herr Schwerk in nächster Zeit das Visum erhält, um in den Aufgaben des Fünfjahresplans Bruder Thiel zu entlasten. Ich hoffe, Sie erlauben es, wie wichtig das wäre, und Sie bekommen in Herrn Schwerk wirklich einen hingabefreudigen christlichen Mitarbeiter nach Ranchi.

Ebenso danke ich Ihnen dafür, daß Sie sich für das Wisum von Rupprechts ebenfalls miteingesetzt haben und es weiterhin tun wollen.

6. Die beiden Bewilligungen von BROT FÜR DIE WELT für Amgaon und Phudi als letzte Rate sind Anfang Juli erfolgt. So hoffen wir, daß beide Institute so gekräftigt werden können, daß sie ihre segensreiche Funktion in der Goßnerkirche ausüben können, ~~daß~~

7. Was Ihre Bitte wegen des Studenten in München betrifft, so häufen sich ähnliche Bitte jetzt Woche für Woche. Wir kommen schnell ins Gerede und müssen an diesem Punkt stoppen. Wir können auch nicht als Goßner-Mission unsern gesamten Dienst für Ihre Kirche durch diese Dinge beeinträchtigen lassen. Jedenfalls bitte ich Sie zu verstehen, lieber Bruder Lakra, daß wir an diesem Punkt äußerste Zurückhaltung üben müssen.

Endlich vielen Dank dafür, daß Sie sich die Mühe genommen haben, Bruder Seeberg auch Ihrerseits über die Regelungen des Schriftverkehrs mit der autonomen Kirche zu schreiben. Ich hatte ihn gebeten, die Sache wegen der Bethesda-Schule in Stavanger ganz den Brüdern von der Goßnerkirch zu überlassen. So haben sich unser beider Beurteilungen getroffen, weil ich aus Ihren Zeilen entnehme, wie unklar von Mr. Horos Seite die Angelegenheit noch finanziell ist.

Leider haben wir von Bruder Bage noch kein persönliches Wort gehört, außer, daß er das Hospital aufsuchen mußte. Wir können nur sehr hoffen, daß es eine leichtere, vorübergehende Krankheit ist. Wir wissen zur Stunde auch nicht, ob er nach Ostdeutschland hat reisen können. Hier liegen jedenfalls keine Nachrichten vor, obwohl viele auf ihn warten, in erster Linie wir im Goßnerhaus.

Soviel für heute. Die Wochen und Monate fliegen schnell dahin; der Herbst kommt schnell heran, und er wird für Sie und für mich ja wichtige Dinge bringen - aber davon ein ander Mal.

Für heute herzlich Gottbefohlen

sets Ihr Ihnen verbundener

Berlin-Friedenau, 16. Juli 1963
P.Sbg/Wo.

Rev. J. Lakra
The Pramukh Adhyaksh
G.E.L.Church
Ranchi/Bihar
India

Dear brother Lakra,

greetings from the Gossner-house first for you personally.
Dr. Berg has his holidays at this time, but he will be back in August.

Certainly you have expected already a notice about your daughter Mini. She herself has told me that she wrote to her father to inform him about her illness. Indeed, it is a matter of fact, that these news were not only surprising to you but also to us. At the occasion of a serial-examination Minni was found to have a slight kind of tuberculosis. The doctor in charge directed us that Mini should spend some weeks in a hospital. So we arranged her stay in a good one beginning with the 29th July.

We hope that she will get her certificate of the language-examination few days before this date. The studies begin in November, so she will have a lot of time for recover and recreation. Of course we shall visit her from time to time. Please, don't worry about this.

Today there is her birthday. We all in the Gossner-house shall have a fine day.

Yours sincerely

Hopkins

+in Berlin

PS. Today we received a letter from Dr. Rohwedder, Amgaon; he told us that he went to their local officials with the papers of Mr. and Mrs. Rupprecht. He got the advice to send the papers to the "Ministry for foreign affairs" but thought it better to forward them to you first. Would you please kindly see to this matter? We all know how long it always takes to get these things done. But we think your influence is quite big since you have been in New Delhi this year.

P. Kerketta

Berlin-Friedenau, 16. Juli 1963
Handjerystr. 19/20

The
Pramukh Adhyaksh
G.E.L.Church
Ranchi/Bihar
India

Dear Sir,

It seems that LWF office-now Box 30, Helsinki, Finland - is waiting for the application to be made by you for my maintenance during the conference (30 July - 11 August 1963) in Helsinki.

I hope you will send it to the office as soon as possible.

Yours faithfully

P. Kerketta

Copy: LWF, Genf
z.Bd. Frä. H. Cierponski
Herrn Salkowski wg. Bevorschussung

GOSSNER EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN CHURCH IN CHOTANAGPUR & ASSAM.

Ref.No. 212063.

Dated Ranchi the 26th June 1963.

From :- Rev. J. Lakra M.A., B.D., S.T.M.,
The Pr-mukh Adhyaksh (President),
G.E.L. Church, Ranchi.

To,

Dr. Gerda Voss,
Administration Assistant,
Office of the Executive Secretary,
The Lutheran World Federation,
Box 30, Helsinki,
Finland.



Dear Bro. Gerda Voss,

Your letter dated June 19, 1963, many thanks.

We have several correspondence with the Geneva Office regarding Mr. Paulus Kerketta as Official Visitor to the Fourth Assembly of the L.W.F., but there has been a slip regarding a direct request for travel and other costs.

Therefore I hereby do apply to the Department of World Mission L.W.F. and request them to kindly extend their kind help to Mr. Paulus Kerketta and kindly meet the travel and all other costs in connection with his attendance at the Fourth Assembly of the L.W.F. at Helsinki and also at the Pre-Assembly student Conference at Jarvenpaa. The Gossner Church is not in a position to meet these costs.

If any emergency arises, kindly refer the matter to Dr. Christian Berg, Gossner House Berlin.

Thanking you in anticipation.

Yours in the Lord.

J. Lakra
The Pr-mukh Adhyaksh (President),
G.E.L. Church, Ranchi.

Memo No. 213/63.

CC to Dr. C. Berg,
to Mr. Paulus Kerketta.

GOSSNER EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN CHURCH IN CHOTANAGPUR & ASSAM.

Memo No. 210/63.

Dated 26th June 1963.

From :- Rev. J. Lekra M. A., B. D., S. T. M.,
The Premukh Adhyaksh (President),
G. E. L. Church, Ranchi.

To,

Messrs R. J. Lekra,
H. S. Horo,
I Berlin 41,
Hendjerustrasse 19/20,
West Germany.



SM 47-63

Dear Brothers,

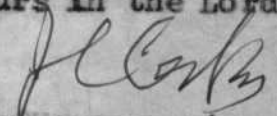
Your letter dated the 15th June 1963, thanks.

I went through the copy of the letter you wrote to Mr. Jan Koeimen. I am satisfied that you are attending the LYEP Conference to be held in Helsinki and also the Assembly.

I trust everything is O.K. If any thing is wanting please inform Dr. Berg.

God bless you.

Yours in the Lord,


The Premukh Adhyaksh (President),
G. E. L. Church, Ranchi.

Memo No. 211/63.

CC to :-

✓ Dr. C. Berg.

GOSSNER EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN CHURCH IN CHOTANAGPUR AND ASSAM.

Ref.No. 216/63.

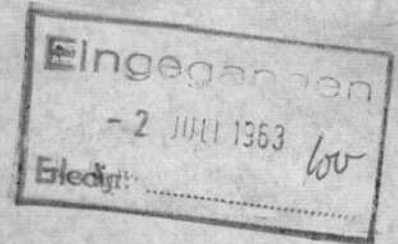
Dated Ranchi the 26th June 1963.

From :- Rev. J. Lakra M. A., B. D., S. T. M.,
The Pramukh Adhyaksh (President),
G. E. L. Church, Ranchi.

To,

Dr. C. Berg,

Dear Bro. Berg,



No. 216/63
This is to request that you will please arrange for Mr. C.K. Paul Singh for his extra expenses such as visas, pass port etc. and other misc. expenses.

I ~~would~~ ^{emergency} would also request that you will also please help other Gossner delegates, and visitors in attending their various conferences for which they have been selected if there will be any ~~arrangement~~ ^{emergency} of help required.

Thanking you.

Yours very sincerely,

J. Lakra
The Pramukh Adhyaksh (President),
G. E. L. Church, Ranchi.

Memo No. 217/63.

CC to Mr. C.K. Paul Singh.

drbg/br

Berlin-Friedenau, 14. Juni 1963

Rev. J. Lakra
The Pramukh Adhyaksh
G.E.L. Church

Ranchi / Bihar
India

Dear Brother Lakra,

Thank you very much for your personal lines which you sent me from Patna where you have obviously been for important talks. I have been very glad to hear that you are well and that you work restlessly.

Let me take up a few points of your letter.

1. By same mail, I am sending you per air-mail our last BIENE from which you can see that your pictures with President Dr. Radhakrishnan and Premier Minister Nehru on the occasion of your honour in New-Delhi in the middle of April have been shown to the whole Gossner-family. Thus, your picture decorates once more our Gossner-paper. You will surely be glad about it.
2. I was glad to hear that you sent letters of thanks to BREAD FOR THE WORLD and to Oberkirchenrat Riedel in München as well as to DÜ in Stuttgart. We shall certainly receive copies of it. I shall send you some more drafts in August in which you will thank the churches of Berlin, Hannover and Westfalia for their contribution to the Five-Year-Plan. This will surely be a good effect for the realization and continuation of the plan which is only in the beginning stage and for which the churches have to contribute more considerable amounts.
3. I shall also write to Dr. Kunst in August after his return from his holidays in July.
4. Brother Thiel already informed me about the honourable visit of the Governor of Bihar to Fudi. It is very good that the highest authorities show so much interest in the further building up of the TTC in Fudi.
5. The Kuratorium is remembering your important meeting in the KSS of the Gossner-Church from 30 June onwards. We wish that you will pass good resolutions under the leading of the Holy Ghost.
6. I was very interested to hear that you are thinking of moving to Khutitoli for retirement after the 1st November. I am sure that Dr. Junghans will be very pleased about it and that he will see it as an honour. So I do hope that he will be able to help you building up a house. I can imagine that - after the long years in Ranchi - it would be good for you to spend your years of retirement in the country-like surroundings of Khutitoli and in the midst of the life of the Agriculture Farm. You have such good contact with Dr. Junghans so that you will surely be able to settle the necessary matters for such a decision yourself.

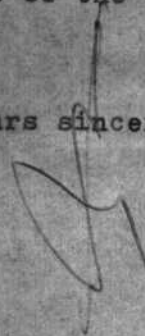
7. It would be good if you received further support from the CWS for the famine situation which will obviously be hardest in July and August.

On Wednesday, we had a good evening in the congregation in Zehlendorf with Gründlers who talked to many people about the work in Amgaon. Unfortunately, Mrs. Gründler is ill and it is feared that she suffers from tuberculosis. So our friends here in Germany do also have their sorrows.

Dr. Lokies wrote us a pleasing letter from Hannover. He seems to have recovered a bit from the strains of the last months. He will preach at many "Missionsfeste" on Sundays in the near future.

We send you many regards from us all here in the Gossnerhouse. We are also eager to work for the common sake of the Gossner-work for the honour of our Lord.

Yours sincerely,



From Rev. J. Lahri Patna

Eingegangen

12. JUNI 1963

Erledigt: now

Dear Bro. Berg,

I finished almost every part of the Church visiting preaching and teaching except Assam whither I could not go as there was shortage of time. of course I visited Assam and Sooras last year.

On the whole, with all her earthly weaknesses, I found the Gossner Church alive. The Holy Ghost is active throughout and the Gossner Church is spreading all around. She is carrying out the command of her Lord and Master Jesus Christ. certain weakness has been admitted into the Ministry by ordaining 19 un instructed Pastors about 4 years ago. Christianity has come into this part of India the

13/6/63
seeberg
Klass 3. 11/6
for R. 11/6
may and live.

We have sent words of thanks for Bavaria and Bred for the World Action. What about the Church Councils of Tristfabia and Hannover and Lippe? so we not write anything to Berlin-Brandenburg. How about thanking Drs. Thurst and Zimmerman? This reminds me of Dr. Thurst's offer of last year which you had to remind him. As the year rolls away I am thinking of these. Please do the needful.

Perhaps the most important KSS session is beginning on the 28th June. I am ordaining more than half a dozen Pastors on the 30th during the session and I would ask the Presbyterians to pray for us for the whole session. Governor of Bihar visited Phuch last week, but he was too busy to go round.

The Lord has not yet revealed His Will about myself after the 31st of Oct 1963 when I complete my tenure of office as Praramukh Sahyoksh. Is it possible for you^{now} to suggest? Bro. Jirughans and I are consulting together but still we are not clear. You said last year that we had enough time to think. But now the time appears to be too near. I hope you have thought through. I have had no time to build a hut of my own. I must stay in the Church House with my younger children.

I am writing to Minie. She has not written to me ever since the Lokies left the Gossnerhaus.

I hope to get famine relief aid from the Church World Service which you sent my appeal. Two officers were sent to assess the situation and they are fully satisfied.

I am now in Patna attending some important meetings.

With kind regards,

Bro. Jirughans
J. Chikha

BY AIR MAIL

हवाई पत्र

AEROGRAMME

NO ENCLOSURES

ALLOWED



The Rev. Dr. Christian Berg
Gossnerhouse
Berlin - Friedenau
Handjersstr. 19
West Germany

Corr - 66

Third fold here

Sender's name and address :-

Rev. Jirughans
G.E.C. Church
Ranchi, Bihar
INDIA

To open cut here

drbg/br

Berlin-Friedenau, 14. Juni 1963

Rev. J. Lakra
The Pramukh Adhyaksh
G.E.L. Church

Ranchi / Bihar
India

Dear Brother Lakra !

I am pleased to send you, the Gossner-Church and all leading brothers greetings and good wishes from the Kuratorium on the occasion of its meeting on 11 June; in reply to your regards given to Rev. Kloss. But, above all, I want to inform you about the following resolution:

"After a report was given by the "Missionsleitung" about the course of life as well as of the professional and inner qualifications of Dipl. Ing. Schwerk / Berlin and after Mr. and Mrs. Schwerk introduced themselves to the Kuratorium, his appointment to the service of the Gossner-Mission from autumn 1963 onwards is herewith pronounced. This is done on the premises that the government of India will grant the necessary visa for staying and working in India.

The appointment has been made in view of the special tasks being necessary because of the Five-Year-Plan of the Gossner-Church. It shall, + of course, be done with the understanding of its church management and after its agreement.

"The "Missionsleitung" settles details of the contract, order of service and departure. It shall especially be looked at it that our co-worker, brother Thiel, will perceptibly be relieved of his heavy pressure of work by the cooperation of Dipl. Ing. Schwerk; especially as the application for his visa has to be made through the TTC in Fudi.

The Kuratorium already today asks for the blessings of our God for sending out our new co-worker. It thanks Mr. and Mrs. Schwerk for their confidence and readiness to enter service for the Gossner-Mission. "

I know from an information from brother Thiel that the name of Dipl. Ing. Schwerk was already mentioned to the KSS on the occasion of its important meeting in the middle of March. I hope that you will soon send us your official consent and your invitation for Mr. and Mrs. Schwerk so that all preparations can be made for sending them out in autumn this year. We found in Schwerts able and skilled workers as well as devoted christian servants who love to do the work as fraternal workers in the Gossner-Church.

b.w.

We are sending documents and certificates of Schwerks to brother Thiel so that he, in connection with you, can apply for the necessary visa after consent has been given by the KSS. Brother Thiel can thus give you further details about our future co-workers.

We do hope that we shall render you a good and blessed service by sending out these important colleagues.

On behalf of the Kuratorium, I remain with best wishes,

Yours ever in the Lord,

cc/ Secr. of KSS

Ing. Thiel

Berlin, den 12. Juni 1963

Rev. J. Lakra
The Pramukh Adhyaksh
G.E.L. Church

Ranchi / Bihar
India

Dear Brother Lakra,

Together with the older missionaries, Rev. Klimkeit and Rev. Borutta, we are at the Kuratoriumssitzung here in Berlin and have talked about the work in India and Germany in detail.

We have thought a lot of you, especially as we got to know your daughter Minnie. She has recovered well from her illness. We hope that she is taking up her studies with pleasure and will finish them one time.

We do hope that Minnie will be with us in Westkilver and Dünne in September and are looking forward to this visit.

Yours,

gez. P. Hesse
P. Böhle
H. Lakra

drbg/br

Berlin-Friedenau, den 22. Mai 1963

V e r m e r k für Herrn Ing. Thiel

(außerhalb der Beantwortung Ihrer Schreiben)

Betr.: Schreiben von Kirchenpräsident Lakra an DÜ

Aus Gesprächen mit Freunden von DÜ und vom Diakonischen Werk in Stuttgart ist mir deutlich geworden, daß es wohlgetan ist, wenn Kirchenpräsident Lakra als leitender Mann der Goßnerkirche einmal einen summarischen Dankesbrief an DÜ im Blick auf die von dort ausgesandten Mitarbeiter schreibt.

In der Anlage gebe ich Ihnen einen Entwurf in die Hand, den Sie bitte mit sehr freundlichen Grüßen an Bruder Lakra übergeben mögen (Kopie zum Verbleib für Sie), damit er auf Kopfbogen von ihm übertragen und an DÜ gesandt wird. Ich hoffe, Sie und er können ohne wesentliche Änderungen einverstanden sein. Jedenfalls wird unserem Gesamtanliegen bei DÜ mit einem solchen Brief sicherlich gedient sein.

Sollte sich bei Lakra eine nicht zu erwartende andere Reaktion einstellen, berichten Sie mir gewiß darüber.

Anlage

Ranchi,

President of the Evangelical-Lutheran
Gossner-Church of Chotanagpur and Assam

To
Arbeitsgemeinschaft evangelischer Kirchen
in Deutschland
DIENSTE IN ÜBERSEE

Stuttgart-O
Gerokstraße 17
Germany

Gentlemen, dear Brethren in Christ,

For many years I have been in the service of our Lord Christ a -
lately as president of the "Evangelical-Lutheran Church of Chota-
nagpur and Assam". Before this year comes to an end, I shall retire
from my office and shall place my responsibilities into younger hands.

My church, in which I grew up through the grace of our Lord and which
I could serve my whole life, owes its existence to the Gossner-Mission
and to many loyal people sent out on behalf and service of our Lord
Jesus Christ.

At the end of my duties in our ecumenical century, it belongs to my
fine and especially strengthening experiences that other church centres
have also given their love and helpful support to our Gossner-Church
here in India - apart from our mother, the Gossner-Mission in Berlin.

Federation

Together with the Lutheran-World-~~League~~, there, above all, belongs
the "Arbeitsgemeinschaft evangelischer Kirchen für Dienste in Übersee"
in recent years. As chairman of the "Boards for developing projects"
of our church, I indeed realize the extraordinary, unexpected help
given to us by "Dienste in Übersee. It is my sincere wish to express
my deepest thanks to you today.

In agreement with our friends in Berlin, you sent Mr. Tomforde, teacher
on agriculture, to the "Agriculture Training Centre in Khuntitoli".
Furthermore, you sent engineer Kelber and Mrs. Kelber, Mr. and Mrs.
Adomeit as well as architect Götz for building up the "Technical
Training Centre" in Fudi and for its very great task in the midst of
the industrial revolution of our area.

Together with my leading brothers of the Gossner-Church, I value very much that these friends, willing for christian service, came to India and spend some years of their lives in order to help the autonomous Gossner-Church in its significant task.

I heard with great pleasure that Mr. Mittenhuber will leave for India at the end of this month in order to undertake important tasks as specialist in the printing press in Ranchi; furthermore that Mr. Rech will do special work in Purulia. We are expecting him at the end of this summer. The government of India has understandingly granted a visa to both brothers.

I was also told that Mr. and Mrs. Rupprecht from Bavaria want to give their help to our prosper^{ous}ing-hospital in Amgaon / Orissa and that Mr. Lichtenberger wants to join the staff at Fudi. What a pleasure it will be for me to welcome these brothers in the Gossner-Church towards the end of this year! They are, indeed, all very heartily welcome, and I do hope that they will all work and live amongst us with joy.

It-is-for

For us - as we hear of many developments in tragically separated Germany and as we shall always very gratefully remain with the mother-country of the reformation - it is, indeed, an extraordinary strenghtening for our belief in our Lord Jesus Christ to recognize from the willingness of these young people to come to India that also today the gospel in Germany is a strength which makes people willing to serve for the Kingdom of our Lord.

today
I wanted to express this to you in deep gratefulness. The almighty God may bless your service abundantly.

cc/ 1. Herrn Superintendent Wolckenhaar
Direktor of Ecumenical Division
with personal greetings in
remembrance of my visit in Hannover.

2. Gossner-Mission in Berlin
at the attention of Missionsdirektor
Dr. Berg

Ever in the Lord
Yours sincerely,

drbg/br

Berlin-Friedenau, 9 May 1963

Rev. J. Lakra
The Pramukh Adhyaksh
G.E.L. Church

Ranchi / Bihar
India

Dear Brother Lakra !

It was good to receive your kind letter of 4 May and know that you are well; had good consultations with the Officers and Adhyakshs; welcomed Adomeits and have a girl-friend for your daughter Minie in prospect. Our German co-workers - as you can see them at their work - are obviously doing their duty.

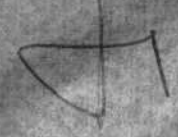
We have heard with special interest and sympathetic joy of your honourable reception in New Delhi. It was a great pleasure to look at the pictures sent to us for which we should like to thank you very much indeed. What a great day it was for you, dear Brother Lakra ! Yet, it is good that you keep your person in the background, honour our Lord for everything and realize that through your person the whole Gossner-Church and Christianity, especially amongst the Adivasis, were given honour and appreciation.

This eventful day in New Delhi will remain in your memory for long, and we are glad with you. We have published the news, together with a picture of yours, in our last BIENE.

We shall soon see Rev. Kloss as well as Brother Gründler here. We are also looking forward to having Brother Bage here with us for four weeks after the Assembly in Helsinki, just as you stayed with us here for ten weeks last year.

The 6 May was a busy day. Dr. Lokies had to move out of his flat. The furniture were taken by van to Hannover. We shall be welcoming Seeberg's here in two weeks.

With kind regards to you and all Brothers,
Ever in the Lord,
Yours,



P.S.

We shall try to get blocks of the pictures.

GOSSNER EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN CHURCH IN CHOTANAGPUR AND ASSAM.

Ref. No. 146/63.

Dated Ranchi the 4th May 1963.

From :- Rev. J. Lakra M. A., B. D., S. T. M.,
The Pramukh Adhyaksh (President),
G. E. L. Church, Ranchi.

To,

The Rev. Dr. C. Berg,
Director Gossner Mission Society,
Berlin-Friedenau,
Hendjerystr. 19/20,
West Germany.



Dear Bro. Berg,

Ever since the New Delhi affairs, I have had no rest not even a time to write to you or even to Minie. Only yesterday we finished the Officers' and Adhyakshas' meeting. The budget for 1964 is ready. The Treasurer will send copies to all concerned. A girl friend for Minie is almost selected but not yet finalised. She may accompany Bro. Junghans in August or so.

Bro. Bage is getting ready for Helsinki. Mr. Paul Singh gets his necessary help from the L. W. F. They will correspond with you.

We received the Adomits last Sunday. They are putting up in Mr. Thiel's Bungalow. The Klosses left last week. The visa for Mr. Mittenhouwer is not yet made sure. All our German co-workers are busily engaged in their different walks of life.

Now, something about New Delhi affairs. The Government of India called me to New Delhi defraying all my expenses in this connection. I presented myself at the Government House on the 17th April along with all those who were to receive different kinds of honour before the high dignitaries of the Government. The first among us was our good friend Governor Zakir Hussain now the Vice-President of India. Each one of us was led to the President's throne by two military men, when the President pinned the Medal on each one of us and presented a certificate signed by the President. In my certificate the following words are printed in Hindi signed by the President. I render here the English version "Joel Lakra" I the President of India Sarvepalli Radhakrishnan in honouring you for your personal merits, offer you the Padmashri."

Padma Shri means the Lotus of All Blessings. After the ceremony Mr. Nehru and others came to congratulate us on our receipt of the national honour.

I must say that I do not deserve any honour personally. It is Christ working through me and using me having bought an unworthy man by His blood. All honour and glory only to the Lord Jesus.

The next day i.e. on the 18th April Mr. David Munzani a Member of Parliament from the Gossner Church was married to a New Delhi Christian girl and I was made the direct host at the Reception. We invited Mr. Nehru and few other dignitaries of New Delhi at the Reception. Mr. Nehru generally avoids social functions but this being an Adivasi Christian wedding, he accepted the invitation and I received him and others. The first item on the programme was Prayer and I led the Prayer with the reading of Psalm 121. Mr. Nehru was very attentive to the Prayer.

For your use I am sending some pictures. If you can get blocks of these pictures I shall be glad to have, if possible. *Elisabeth*

With kindest regards.

Ever in the Lord,
Yours very Sincerely,

Encl-6.

J. Lakra
The Pramukh Adhyaksh (President)
G. E. L. Church, Ranchi

MEMBER OF PARLIAMENT

(LOK SABHA)



New Delhi

(Married)

Mr David Munzri, Member of Parliament, India, married in ~~here New Delhi~~ on the 18th April to ~~Dr~~ Sheila McLaren in New Delhi on the 18th April 1963.

Mr Munzri was elected from Lohardaga Parliamentary Constituency in Bihar. The marriage reception was attended by Prime Minister Nehru, the Communication Minister Mr Jagjwan Ram, Mrs Violet Alva, Deputy chairman of the Rajya Sabha, Deputy Food Minister A.M. Thomas, Mr Raghunath Singh, Secretary of the Congress Parliamentary Party and others.

Eingegangs

- 3 - APR 1963

Erledigt: _____

The Rev. Joel Lalra, Pramukh Adhyaksh
Gossner Evangelical Lutheran Church
Church Compound, Bihar, North India

April 30, 1963

Dear Pramukh Lalra:

It is my duty to report to you a rather difficult action taken by the GEM Executive Committee with reference to subsidies to the Gossner Church. I quote from the minutes:

- "b) It was reported that the ex-secretary of the Property Board of the GELC, Mr. Kandulua, has not responded to repeated requests that he hand over his accounts and banking authority to his successor in office. The Executive Committee

RESOLVED: That payment of subsidy to the GELC be withheld until notice is received that this action has been taken."

I should be very happy to hear from you what the most recent developments have been so far as Property Board management goes. I do hope that this action taken by GEM might have the effect of exerting pressure on the ex-manager of the Property Board. I hope that you will let us know immediately of any developments which will make it possible to resume remittances of the subsidy to your Church.

With best wishes.

Sincerely,

Arne Sovik

cc: Mr. C.B. Aind, Treasurer
Mr. W. Thiel

Er. Berg ✓

(Third copy)

Rev. J. Lakra, Ranchi

13 April 1963

Telegram

The whole Gossner-Family in Germany sends the Padma Shri, Rev. J. Lakra, heartfelt congratulations. Highly glad about the honour from the Indian Government for our friend and brother,

Lokies, Berg, Seeburg

Brüfitelegramm am
11.4. aufgegeben 31

psb/br
Berlin-Friedenau, den 9.4.63

Rev. J. Lakra
The Pramukh Adhyaksh
G.E.L. Church

Ranchi / Bihar
India

Subject: Brother Schottstädt's trip to the Gossner-Church

Dear Brother Lakra,

For the time being, the trip of brother Schottstädt to the Gossner-Church has to be cancelled. I should like to inform you about it after having been in East-Berlin. But this does not finish the matter yet. Brother Schottstädt is hoping to realize his plan of coming to India in autumn of this year, under the assumption that you - as the inviting church - ask once more at the Indian Embassy in Moscow whether there is basically the possibility of Brother Schottstädt's visiting India, that is in coming autumn. Brother Schottstädt told me that the Indian Embassy in Moscow has not given an answer to the concerning travel agency of the DDR. That's why his plan of coming to India last winter could not be realized. It would be good if you could clear up the matter of Brother Schottstädt's entry into India once more at the Indian Embassy in Moscow.

With kind regards,
Yours sincerely,

SM

drbg/br
Berlin-Friedenau, den 2.4.63

Rev. J. Lakra
The Pramukh Adhyaksh
G.E.L. Church

Ranchi / Bihar
India

I was very glad to hear so quickly about the meeting of the KSS and get to know the most important points which you discussed and about which we already corresponded. I am very pleased that all points were included and now taken care of.

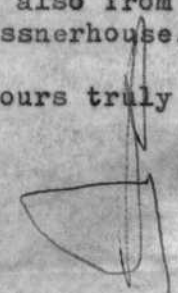
+article
You will receive an official congratulation telegram from the Gossner-Family in Germany on 17th April. But, already today I want to tell you how deeply pleased I am about your obtaining the great honour from your Government in view of your work for so many years for the good of the Indian people. It is obvious that you did this as disciple of Christ. It is also certain that the whole Gossner-Church will be honoured in public. We shall publish a corresponding information in our "Biene", and the Gossner-Family will share in the joy about it.

Concerning point 9 of your letter of 22 March, I should like to ask you, dear brother Lakra, to wait writing letters to the different churches. Before the end of October, I shall make a suggestion as to how to thank the different churches best. I think that this time is better than now because you could at the same time you could take your leave as president of the Gossner-Church from the church managements which welcomed you so friendly in Germany last year. At the same time, it is a good opportunity to introduce your successor in the offices of the German brother churches. I shall not forget this point, but write to you about it at the end of September or at the beginning of October.

Minie is gay and obviously healthy again. At a festive gathering yesterday, I was glad to see how well she was. She also passed her first examination of German in spite of her illness for 4 weeks, so that you need not worry about her. It would be good if you could soon state someone who is able to share the study with Minie here in Germany.

With kind regards, also from Mrs. Berg, and from us all here in the Gossnerhouse,

I am yours truly and brotherly,



GOSSNER EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN CHURCH IN CHOTANAGPUR & ASSAM.

Ref.No. 87/63.

Dated Ranchi the 22nd March 1963.

From :- Rev. J. Lakra M. A., B. D., S. T. M.,
The Pramukh Adhyaksh (President),
G. E. L. Church, Ranchi.

To,

Director Christian Berg,
Gossner Mission,
Berlin - Friedenau,
Hindjery str. 19/20,
W. Germany.

Eingegangen

27. MRZ. 1963

Erledigt: *low*

Dear Brother Berg,

We just finished one of the most important KSS meetings and perhaps the best thus far. It was most interesting and useful Session. All members were present and I could place all matters which you have sent to me and in due course of time you will have the extract of the minutes.

But in the meantime I would like to let you know some of them.

1. We have formed a strong committee to deal with the Pension Fund Rules and Regulations.

2. We have duly dealt with the sum of D.M. 25000/- the Refugee and the Famine Relief Fund received from you.

3. We have formed a strong committee for the Gossner College to prepare the Plan and Estimate, as suggested by you. I hope this matter is given due importance from your end.

4. We have gratefully noted your kind suggestion to find a girl companion for Minie and we are going to advertise for a girl student.

5. Miss Schmidt begins her work at once from Govindpur.

6. We are taking strong action to get the census figures for 1962.

7. While we were in Session, I received your Communication regarding your kind offer of the services of Bro. Borutta. We then came to know that all arrangements were made by the Theological Board in consultation with Bro. Kloss, to carry on his work in the College during the absence of Bro. Kloss. We were satisfied with the arrangement they made and did not want to disturb their arrangements and so you need not make any arrangement for sending Bro. Borutta whom personally, I would very much like to see in India, with Mrs. Borutta. I am going to write to them also. KSS also thanks you for the kind offers.

8. I had not yet let you know that the Government of India has recognised my services to the Indian nation by conferring on me the title of Padma Shri on the Republic Day (Jan. 26). In the State of Bihar I am the only one who has been honoured with this award. I am to receive the Investiture on the 17th April at New Delhi. Also the German Council General of Calcutta congratulated me on behalf of the German Government and on behalf of himself. I am enclosing a copy of his letter to me which you may use in your publication if you like. Our Church becomes more known and appreciable through this award of the Government of India.

9. I am going to write to all those persons and bodies to thank them for this generous gift of money on different accounts.

10. I had a very good Session of the East Asia Christian Conference of the W. C. C. at Madras

11. Now Bro. Kloss is preparing for departure on furlough and we are glad to have so many fraternal workers among us from Germany. May God bless our tie of love and fellowship.

12. Many thanks for what you are doing for Minie. Yes you are her father on the spot now. Many thanks for all who are taking so keen interest in her welfare. I hope she has returned from the Hospital by this time. May God bless her abundantly.

13. Yes, the K.S.S. sends hearty welcome to Mrs. Berg and yourself. We were all delighted to learn of your impending visit. We whole heartedly invite you both. Please let us know the exact date of your arrival. We shall make the Tour Programme, before your arrival.

14. One more important item. My last visit to Germany was financed by the L.W.F.(DWM). But one tenth of the expenses was to be met by the Gossner Church. I did not know then, how much it was. But I had requested you to pay the amount from the Gossner Mission and you had expressed your willingness to pay it up. Now the DWM or CWM has calculated and fixed it at Rs. 408/88 naya paise (four hundred and eight and 88 naya paise). The LWF has already deducted this amount from our Budget account and sent the report to us. Now our request is that you will be pleased to send this amount (Rs. 408-88 N.P.) to the G.E.L. Church and oblige.

Affectionate greetings to Mrs. Berg and self. Greetings to the whole Gossner House and Kuratorium.

With kindest regards.

Ever in the Lord.

Yours very Sincerely,

J. Laksh

The Pramukh Adhyaksh (President),
G.E.L. Church, Ranchi.

Encl-1

TRUE COPY.

GENERALKONSULAT
DER BUNDESREPUBLIK DEUTSCHLAND

Calcutta-1, January 31, 1963
1/3, Brabourne Road.

My dear Mr. President,

On behalf of the Government of the Federal ~~ix~~ Republic of Germany and also on my own behalf I wish to convey to you my sincere congratulations for the presentation of the Padma Shri Award. This high honour is a well deserved expression of the gratitude of the people of India for your untiring activity in the field of social welfare work.

I gladly avail myself of this opportunity to convey to you my best wishes for good health and for many more years in office to the benefit of the people of India.

Please accept, Mr. President, the expression of my highest esteem.

Yours very sincerely,

Sd. H. Ruete,

(Dr. H. Ruete)
Consul General.

The Reverend
Mr. Joel Lakra,
President,
Gossner Evangelical Lutheran Church,
R a n c h i

Kopie

Vermerk für Herrn Salkowski

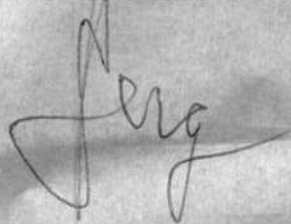
Betr.: Übernahme von 1/10 der Kosten für die Deutschlandreise
Präsident Lakras 1962

In einem Brief vom 22.3.63 schreibt Rev. Lakra an mich:

"Mein letzter Besuch in Deutschland wurde durch den LWB finanziert, aber 1/10 der Ausgaben sollte von der Goßner-Kirche getragen werden. Ich wußte nicht, wie hoch der Betrag war, aber ich hatte Sie gebeten, diesen Betrag doch freundlich seitens der Goßner-Mission zu übernehmen. Sie hatten im Goßnerhaus dazu die Bereitschaft erklärt. Nun hat man seitens CWM/Genf festgestellt, daß es sich um einen Betrag von 408,88 Rps handelt. LWF hat diesen Betrag bereits von unserem Budget abgezogen und uns entsprechend Bericht gesandt. Es ist jetzt unsere verständliche Bitte, diesen Betrag der Goßner-Kirche zukommen zu lassen."

Da Rev. Lakra im Recht ist, bitte ich den entsprechenden Betrag von 350.- DM an Pastor Kloss auf den Weg zu bringen, dem ich Durchschlag dieses Vermerks an Sie übersende, damit er ihn bei der Kasse der Goßner-Kirche unter Verständigung von Präsident Lakra noch vor seiner Abreise einzahlen kann.

Berlin, 2.4.1963
Dr.Bg/Wo.



Kopie/ Rev. Kloss mit der Bitte, den Betrag erwarten zu wollen und entsprechend zu verfahren.

GOSSNER EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN CHURCH IN CHOTANAGPUR & ASSAM.

Ref No. 88/63.

Dated Ranchi the 22nd March 1963.

From :- Rev. J. Lekra M.A., B.D., S.T.M.,
The Pramukh Adhyaksh (President),
G.E.L. Church, Ranchi.

To,
Pastor Martin Seeberg,
Gossner Mission,
Berlin - Friedenau,
Hindjerystr. 19/20,
West Germany.

Dear Bro. & Mrs. Seeberg,

Allow me to thank you both for the kind letter of appreciation of your visit to us. I placed your letter to the K.S.S. and the members were very glad to hear from you. It is hoped that you will repeat your visit. We are glad that we have some good friends in far away Germany who know us personally.

Yes, my task is a difficult one here as you saw, but by the grace of God and with your prayer I hope to carry on. Of course, now I must hand over my office to Bro. Bage next November 1963 and by that time we are hoping to receive Dr. & Mrs. Berg with us here. Please pray for me how I must serve the Lord after November next.

Thank you very much for taking care of Minie. I thank every one who is caring for Minie. I hope she is improving. I am also writing to her.

The K.S.S. has finished its Session and now I am going to Khutitoly to see the ~~harmful~~ Famine Condition.

God bless you in your new undertaking.

Kind regards.

Yours very Sincerely,

J. Lekra
The Pramukh Adhyaksh (President),
G.E.L. Church, Ranchi.

287
H. Berg
2/1
J. A.

se/br

Berlin-Friedenau, March 7, 63

Rev. J. Lakra
The Pramukh Adhyaksh
G.E.L. Church

Ranchi / Bihar
India

Dear Brother Lakra,

On 2nd of March my wife and I returned to Germany healthy and safely so that we could give a first short report about the life and the service in the Gossner-Church at the Kuratorium - meeting on 5 March. Brother Schottstädt, East-Berlin, received also a similar report on the following day.

It is now my sincere wish to thank you personally for your hospitality shown to us and the brotherly reception in the Gossner-Church. Every day I am thinking of the many visits which we paid to the congregations of the Gossner-Church and of the many good talks which we especially had with you as the president of the Gossner-Church. With great gratefulness I noted again and again that you carry out your tasks for the Gossner-Church in the love of our God and that you - as a servant of the Gospel - render your whole life to the Gossner-Church.

Our personal contact with you will remain a very good remembrance to us. May God bless your further work and the growth of the whole Gossner-Church.

I have seen that your position in the Gossner-Church is not an easy one. Therefore, I shall try to share all the difficulties which you might be facing in future.

I, especially, remember gratefully our trip to the Surguja-District and everything that you have shown and told us. We know that this all was not only the task of the Gossner-Church but that you personally identified yourself with this work and this service.

Once again, also on behalf of my wife, many thanks for everything.

Let there be a bond between us in the service for the gospel and Jesus Christ.

Fraternal greetings,
Sincerely yours,

drbg/br

Berlin-Friedenau, 7 March 1963

Rev. J. Lakra
The Pramukh Adhyaksh
H.E.L. Church

Ranchi / Bihar
India

Dear Brother Lakra,

The Kuratorium of the Gossner-Mission passed two resolutions at its meeting yesterday which I want to convey to you today.

- 1) We have received long reports about the work of the Gossner-Church, delivered to us by Rev. Seeborg and Diakon Weissinger. The following decision was reached:

"The Kuratorium wants to express its thanks to the KSS, the president Rev. J. Lakra, the Vice-president P. Dr. Bage and all the congregations and institutions of the Gossner-Church for having received the German co-workers of the Gossner-Mission with such brotherly love and hospitality and giving them the opportunity of getting to know the work and service of our brother church. Undoubtedly, this has strengthened the connections and the love between us.

I am glad, dear brother Lakra, to give you this resolution and should like to ask you to pass it on to the brothers in Ranchi and to all those who are concerned with it.

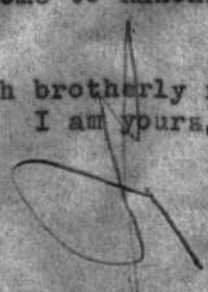
- 2) The second reached resolution is as follows:

"The Kuratorium requests Director Dr. Berg and Mrs. Berg to visit the Gossner-Church for three months in autumn of this year; on the assumption that this visit will be welcomed by the Gossner-Church, its president and its management.

The Kuratorium is convinced that Dr. Berg as successor of D. Lokies should have an early opportunity of getting to know the tasks of the Gossner-Church as early and extensively as possible.

I should be very grateful to you not only to hear your personal echo but also that of the KSS whether you agree to this visit. It would be a great pleasure to me and Mrs. Berg to come to Ranchi and the Gossner-Church in November of this year.

With brotherly regards,
I am yours,



cc/Rev. Kloss
Secr. of KSS

Zur Übersetzung

Rev. Lakra

Das Kuratorium der Goßner-Mission hat auf seiner gestrigen Sitzung 2 Beschlüsse gefaßt, die ich Ihnen heute sogleich übermitteln möchte.

eingeschränkt { 1. Wir haben längere Berichte aus der Arbeit der Goßner-Kirche durch die Brüder Pastor Seeberg und ^{Dietrich} Weissinger empfangen, und es wurde beschlossen: Das Kuratorium dankt dem KSS, dem Präsidenten Rev. J. Lakra, dem Vizepräsidenten P. Dr. Bage und durch sie allen Gemeinden und Institutionen der Goßner-Kirche, die mit solcher brüderlichen Liebe und Gastfreundschaft die deutschen Mitarbeiter ^{Dr. Dietrich} aufgenommen haben, indem ihnen Gelegenheit gegeben wurde, die Arbeit und den Dienst unserer Bruderkirche umfassend kennenzulernen. So sind zweifellos die Bande der Liebe und Verbundenheit zwischen ihr und uns in unserem gemeinsamen Herrn verstärkt worden. }

Ich freue mich, lieber Bruder Lakra, Ihnen diesen Beschluß mitteilen zu können und bitte Sie herzlich, ihn den in Ranchi versammelten Brüdern und durch sie an alle, die es angeht, weiterzugeben.

2. Der andere Beschluß, der gefaßt wurde, hat folgenden Wortlaut:

eingeschränkt { Das Kuratorium ersucht Direktor Dr. Berg und Mrs. Berg, im kommenden Herbst einen 3 monatlichen Besuch unserer Goßner-Kirche in ihren Arbeitsplan aufzunehmen; und dies unter der Voraussetzung, ^{AP} der Goßner-Kirche, ihrem Präsidenten und ihrer Leitung dieser Besuch willkommen ist. }

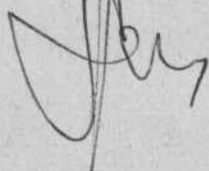
Das Kuratorium ist davon überzeugt, daß Dr. Berg als Nachfolger von D. Lokies Gelegenheit ^{hat} haben sollte, den Dienst und die Aufgaben der Goßner-Kirche so umfassend wie möglich kennenzulernen.

Indem ich Ihnen auch diesen Beschluß übermittle, wäre ich Ihnen natürlich sehr dankbar, nicht nur Ihr persönliches Echo, sondern eine Antwort vom KSS zu bekommen, ob Sie ~~damit~~ mit diesem Plan meines Besuchs einverstanden sind. Es wäre mir und Mrs. Berg eine große Freude, im November d.Js. nach Ranchi und in die Goßner-Kirche

kommen zu dürfen.

Mit brüderlichen Grüßen bin ich

Ihr

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to be 'J. Kloss', written over the word 'Ihr'.

D/ Rev. Kloss
Secr. of KSS

drbg/br
Hannover, 7 March 1963

Rev. J. Lakra
The Pramukh Adhyaksh
G.E. Church

Ranchi / Bihar
India

Re: Substitution for Rev. Hermann Kloss in the theological seminary in Ranchi

Dear Brother Lakra,

The Kuratorium has noted from the reports of Missionsinspektor P. Seeborg that it is hardly possible to find a substitute for Rev. Kloss in his teaching in the theological seminary during his absence for one year. I do not know what the KSS or the concerning board thinks in this matter. I suggested to Rev. S. Surin as the principal of the seminary - a few months ago - to ask the Lutheran World Federation for a guest-lecturer for a period until April 1964. I do not know whether this has been done and has been successful. There are certainly many difficulties because the concerned person must be able to teach in Hindi.

Yesterday, the Kuratorium has now thought of the possibility to help our dear brother church in that way as to send a substitute for Rev. Kloss at least from October 1963 until April 1964. The possibility was discussed to send Rev. Borutta as substitute to Ranchi. The Kuratorium would try to procure a six-months vacation from the Evangelical-Lutheran Church in Hannover for P. Borutta.

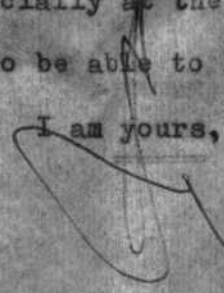
I, therefore, should like to ask you and the KSS resp. the concerning board for the theological seminary the following questions today:

- 1) Do you - on the part of the autonomous Gossner-Church - actually want help in this whole matter? Or did you already think of a possible other solution?
- 2) If you want the support of the Kuratorium in this matter, would you agree to our sending P. Borutta for a period of six months from October 1963 until April 1964 to work as a lecturer at the theological seminary?

I should be very grateful to you, dear brother Lakra, if you brought those two matters before the KSS which is just meeting now, and if you let me know an answer as soon as possible so that I could continue with the surely not easy negotiations with Hannover. It is not quite easy to obtain a six-months holiday for P. Borutta, especially at the present shortage of pastors.

With brotherly regards and hoping to be able to help you in this matter,

I am yours,



cc/Rev.Kloss
Secr. of KSS

Zur Übersetzung

Betr.: Vertretung für Pastor Hermann K l o s s im theologischen Seminar- *Ranchi*.

Lieber Bruder Lakra!

Aus den Berichten von Missionsinspektor P. Seeberg hat das Kuratorium entnommen, daß es ~~sicher~~ sehr schwer tragbar ist, wenn die Lücke durch die einjährige Abwesenheit von Pastor Kloss in seiner Unterrichtstätigkeit im theologischen Seminar nicht gefüllt wird. Ich weiß nicht, welche Gedanken sich das KSS oder das zuständige Board in dieser Sache gemacht haben. Ich habe Rev. S. Surin als principal des Seminars vor einigen Monaten in einer Korrespondenz empfohlen, doch den LWB wegen eines Gastdozenten bis April 1964 anzufragen. Ob das geschehen ist und zum Erfolg geführt hat, weiß ich nicht. Es stößt ja sicherlich auch auf große Schwierigkeiten, weil der Betreffende in Hindi unterrichten können muß.

Nun hat gestern das Kuratorium auch die Möglichkeit erwogen, unserer liebe Goßner-Kirche in der Weise eine Hilfe anzubieten, daß es sich bemüht, wenigstens vom Oktober 1963 bis April 1964 einen Ersatz zu stellen, indem es Pastor Borutta als stellvertretenden Dozenten nach Ranchi entsendet. Es würde sich darum bemühen, für Herrn P. Borutta einen halbjährigen Urlaub in der Evangelisch-lutherischen Kirche Hannovers zu erwirken.

Meine präzisen Fragen an Sie und das KSS bzw. an das für das theologische Seminar zuständige Board sind ~~deshalb~~ heute:

1. Ist Ihnen seitens der autonomen Goßner-Kirche in dieser ganzen Frage überhaupt eine Hilfe von Wert; oder haben Sie schon Ihrerseits etwaige Ersatzlösungen vorgesehen?
2. Wenn eine Unterstützung des Kuratoriums in dieser Frage willkommen ist, wären Sie mit der Entsendung von P. Borutta für den Zeitraum eines halben Jahres vom Oktober 1963 bis April 1964 mit dem klaren Auftrag der Tätigkeit als Dozent am theologischen Seminar einverstanden?

Ich wäre Ihnen sehr dankbar, lieber Bruder Iakra, wenn Sie diese beiden Fragen vor das ja gerade tagende KSS bringen ~~wär-~~
~~den~~ und mir baldmöglichst eine Antwort zukommen lassen würden, damit ich die sicherlich nicht ganz einfachen Verhandlungen mit Hannover weiterführen kann. Bei dem Pfarrermangel ist es heute nicht einfach, einen halbjährlichen Urlaub für P. Borutta zu erwirken.

Mit brüderlichen Grüßen und in der Hoffnung, daß wir Ihnen auch in dieser Frage möglicherweise werden helfen können, bin ich

Ihr



Copie: (Rev. Kloss
Secretary of KSS)

941-147 7.3.63

Eingegangen
15. FEB. 1963

15. FEB. 1963

Erledigt

From Rev. J. Lakso

S. E. L. Church

Ranchi.

2/2/63

Dear Bro Berg

Kurt J. 3.

As the KSS meeting has been postponed till the 12th of March next I have not been able to write to you on many matters. But I would like to inform you on some ~~some~~ matters where we are.

1. I along with other officers have formed a strong committee with Bro Klass as convenor to distribute the Relief fund of Rs. 25,000/- This committee begins to work immediately.

2. Received the 100,000/- sum for the five years plan. Work has started in the Ranchi Compound. As the Military could not leave an compound due to Emergency we are facing some difficulty regarding the establishment of the Press.

3. The Church has approved a very

hearty welcome to all our fraternal workers from Germany who have recently arrived here. Mr. Tomford also has arrived whom I have welcomed alone. He is learning Hindi at Ranchi.

4. Regarding Sister Schmidt I shall write to you later with details. Home for the Blind and Crippled Girls and Women becomes the Fourth Project under the Development Board Sister Schmidt being the Directress. It works in close cooperation with the Tabitha School. I hope we agree so far.

5. I have had somewhat hard time in the Headquarters congregation. But by the guidance of the Holy Spirit I have been able to keep the status quo. Messrs J. J. P. Fige and M. E. Hono are

engaged in creating mischief, but they have failed thus far. They are beyond repair. They do not care for any body's letter, written either by Bishop Meyer or by you. Only God can intervene as He has done thus far. He will keep the Gossner Church.

6. The Gossner College will take its shape gradually. But we must take the time by its forelock. We do not want to miss the bus. If we do not start it we may lose our first property. But there are persons waiting in faith on both ends, in India and in Germany too. May God's will be done.

7. Glad to know that our Indian students are doing well, among them Miss. God bless them.

8. Riquier's father passed away at 82 due to old age. The Lord give peace to Riquier. I gave burial yesterday (10/11/63)

9. Cordial greetings to the Lokies, the Kiraatons and to the Gossner family. Ever in the Lord
Yours very sincerely
J. C. Meyer

BY AIR MAIL

हवाई पत्र

AEROGRAMME

NO ENCLOSURES
ALLOWED



Rev. Dr. Christian Berg

Director Gossner Mission

Berlin - Friedenau

Handjerystr 19/20
West Germany.

CORR - 66

Third fold here

Sender's name and address:-

Rev. J. C. Meyer
G. S. S. Church
Ranchi, Bihar
India

drbg/br
Berlin-Friedenau, 1. 3. 1963

Rev. J. Lakra
The Pramukh Adhyaksh
G.E.L. Church

Ranchi / Bihar
India

Dear Brother Lakra,

Yesterday I gave my approval - acting for the far away father in India - to an operation on the appendix of your daughter Minnie. Mr. Kula, too, underwent an appendectomy a few weeks ago. Mr. Kula recovered from the operation very well, and we hope that your daughter Minnie will do the same. We do hope that you will get direct news from Minnie as to how she is feeling.

We want to thank you very much for your two letters, the one from Ranchi, the other one from Gurukul/Madras which told me about your various thoughts, questions and experiences. When Rev. Seeberg returns from India next week for the meeting of the Kuratorium on 5th March, he - as well as brother Weissinger - will send me your warm greetings for which I want to thank you already today. I also want to thank you and the Gossner-Church that you received our two brothers as well as the other German fellow-workers so warm and hearty.

I also hope that the visit of brother Sovik has run smoothly and that you had a good conference in the South of India.

I shall send you separate letters concerning the college and the home for blind and crippled girls, which you will receive before the KSS meeting. ^{that you}

I am very grateful to you for considering the matter of the census of the Gossner-Church for 1961 as well as for 1962 so much and that you see to it that we receive the latest figures. You are really *right* when you say that courage, faith and prayer are the pillars on which a church is built. I should like to add the holy ^{ghost} who gives us the power and the witness of our Lord to act in his name.

to it

We can only hope that the Gossner-Church and its servants will see ^{more} and more that selfishness, party spirit and weariness is disappearing.

May God bless you at the next meeting of the KSS. May God enlighten you that you will solve all question for the good of the Gossner-Church.

Please give my regards to all brothers as I am sending yours regards to the Kuratorium next week.

With brotherly greetings,
I am yours,

Gossnersche Missionsgesellschaft
Berlin-Friedenau
Handjerystraße 19/20

Berlin-Friedenau, den 25 Febr 63

Rev. J. Lakra
The Pramukh Adhyaksh
G.E.L. Church

Ranchi / Bihar
India

Re: Plan of the Gossner-College

Dear Brother Lakra,

I was very pleased to hear that the director of the Department for World Mission in the Lutheran World Federation, Dr. A. Sovik, paid you a visit. I am looking forward to hearing from him about your work.

Maybe, you also discussed with him the plan for the Gossner-College, mentioned in the records of your last meeting under IX. I want to tell you today that the Kuratorium is still ready to receive your plans and estimate of the necessary expenses. Since you, together with the brothers, in the KSS, obviously find this matter urgent, the Kuratorium here will help you when it has plans which are practicable. I do understand that - concerning the place on the church compound of the Gossner-Church - one cannot hesitate too long without venturing to lose it.

I want to encourage you, dear Brother Lakra, to carry on with the plans so that we shall have a clear picture of your plans here in the Gossner-house and then in the Kuratorium.

My letter, written some time ago, was not a refusal of this plan but it should have been a question whether you will have the necessary time and strength in order to give this matter the necessary attention. Obviously, you are able to do it. We are now anxiously waiting for your suggestions in order to support them, if at all possible.

With warm brotherly greetings,
I am yours,

cc/Rev. Kloss
Secr. of KSS

drbg/br

Berlin-Friedenau, den 25.2.1963

Rev. J. Lakra
The Pramukh Adhyaksh
G.E.L. Church

Ranchi / Bihar
India

Re: Fund of Rs. 30.000 for Tabita-School

Dear Brother Lakra !

I was very interested in the report of the KSS meeting from 22nd - 24th January 1963 sent to me by the secretary of the KSS, Rev. M. Hemrom.

I was very pleased to read that the KSS has come to a resolution concerning the famine relief, and I am also glad about the grateful echo of the remittance of the first amount towards the Five-Year-Plan. Above all, I am grateful for the decision at the second meeting concerning sister Hedwig Schmidt which put me into a position to be able to transfer the fund of DM 25.000 to the secretary of finance of the "Boards for developing projects". This has been done today. You made clear decisions as to sister Hedwig Schmidt's task, her residence and her functions for the building of the home for Blind and crippled Girls and Women. It is good that this important duty will be done under an independent managing committee in cooperation with the Tabita-School under the Board for developing projects, with sister Hedwig Schmidt as director.

Since the KSS has made such clear decisions, I do not, today, want to ask any more questions but will express my sincere hope that the work of our dear sister Schmidt will be blessed. I am also glad that inspite of this duty, sister Hedwig Schmidt will also be occupied with the literature work of the Gossner-Church.

Again, dear Brother Lakra, I am very glad that you have come to this decision, especially in view of sister Hedwig Schmidt. The mentioned amount is on its way to brother Thiel.

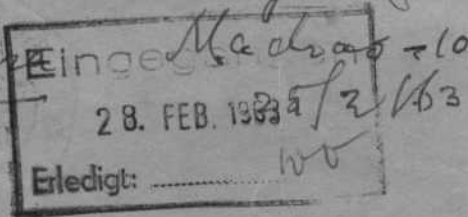
With best wishes to all brothers in the KSS
whom you meet again at the next meeting from
12th - 19th March,

I am yours sincerely,

cc/Secr. of KSS
Mr. Ing. Thiel
Sister Schmidt

Gurukul
Helly's Road

From Rev. J. Lohr



Dear Bro. Berg,

You can see how I am simply moving from one end of our Church to the other yes even from one end of India to the other. My constant motion has rendered me unable to reply to many of your letters. Since November I have had no rest.

We arranged for Bro. Mos. Seeburg's tour programme and I had to see that he got to every place we wanted. I personally accompanied them to Madhya Pradesh. I specially wanted to show them how we have made new converts in Surguja. Time was too short for Madhya Pradesh. It was not possible

for them to proceed to Assam. I am sorry for it. By now they must be back to Germany. Dr. Sovik was here last week and we informed him of the Development Projects. There are five permanent projects as you know: They are T.T.C.A.T.C. Amgarn Hospital, Home for the Blind and crippled girls and women and the Gossner College. The last two have not yet taken shape. But all lovers of the Gossner Church including Dr. Sovik have a good word to say. I wish the Gossner College to take shape during my term of office as Promark. It needs courage, faith and prayer. On these three pillars the Gossner Church has been built. I find it is only the vision of one or two which leads to great things. He at Madras, there is a

meeting of South East Asian
Christian Conference, called
Situation Conference arranged
by the W. R. C. in order to con-
sider the future of Missions
and Churches ^{in South East Asia}. You will know
the outcome of the Conference.
Last time ^{at the Federation meeting} as you know we
welcomed closest co-operation, but
we of the Gossner, opposed the idea
of merger.

We supplied some census
figures of 1961 to Bro. Seeburg but
the real 1962 figures are getting
ready. I am pressing the Secretary
of the office which is responsible for the
census.

I met all our German coun-
cillors and found them happy. At
Amgarn, they complained of the dearth
of Indian girls for nurses. Now I
have taken up that question and have
sent several. They will have to refuse
some, for they will be too many.

I return only on the 10th March and
the RSS meeting begins from the 12th
March. I shall be able to write to you
only after RSS meeting. My love and greeting
to all members of the Gossner family
and all members of the church in the land. Yours truly
J. H. H. H.

BY AIR MAIL

हवाई पत्र

AEROGRAMME

NO ENCLOSURES
ALLOWED



Rev. Christian Berg,
Gossner Mission House
Berlin - Friedenau
Handjerystr. 19.
West Germany.

CONF-66

Sender's name and address:

Rev. J. H. H.
G. H. C. Ranchi
Bihar, India

To open cut here

drbg/br

Berlin-Friedenau, 7. 2. 1963

Rev. J. Lakra
The Pramukh Adhyaksh
G.E.L. Church

Ranchi / Bihar
India

Re: Famine in Bihar

Dear Brother Lakra,

After having been absent for a while to hold lecturers down in Bavaria, I should like to write to you again on the above mentioned matter. In a few days, I have to go to conferences and lectures again, this time to Westfalia and Stuttgart.

In November 1962 you wrote to me about the expected famine in Bihar because of a bad harvest. Because of this threat, I managed to receive a gift of DM 25.000. At the same time, I sent a letter to Lutheran World Service in Geneva and informed them about the expected famine. In my letter addressed to you I mentioned that I would find it advisable if you contacted the representatives of the Ecumenical Agencies in India on this matter. I do not know whether this has been done. Anyhow, Rev. Eugene Ries, Lutheran World Federation in Geneva, sent me a letter dated 28 January 63 which you might also have received in copy. Yet, to be sure, I am sending you another copy of this letter from India addressed to Rev. Eugene Ries.

Without your statement, dear brother Lakra, I shall not be able to clear up the contradiction between your urgent appeal and the information from A. Jethro and send it to Rev. Ries. Who is actually right in judging the situation? Was it, perhaps, not necessary to try to get help for you? This would be annoying.

I should be very grateful if you could inform me about the contradictory information. It would be advisable if you sent a copy of your letter to Rev. Eugene Ries in Geneva - Lutheran World Federation, Rev. Eugene Ries, 17, route de Malagnou, Geneva - so that he will see his way clear, too. It might be good if you got into contact with Director Jethro resp. Rev. Paul Lall before in order to come to an agreement in judging the situation in Bihar.

I should be pleased if you could tell me for what you want to use the gift of DM 25.000,--.

With best wishes, also from the Gossnerhaus and
brother D. Lokies,

I am yours,

Encl.



As from
E. Church
Ranchi
2/1/63.

I am on my way to
Guntur in South India, in order to
attend the Federation meeting from
the 4th Jan. With me are going
Bro. Bage, Mr. C. A. Firby and
Adhyaksh Hind representing
S. East, N. West and Orissa
Churches. We return by the 11th
Jan. and at once I accompany
the Seeborgs to Lohardaga, Rumbh
tola, Ghutbahar, Jashpur-
nagar, Dehkhola, Darta Pani
and Ambika Pur.

The Seeborgs have finished
the first part of their programme,
North West, South East and

Orissa Churches. They also went
to Rourkela and Angam.
After Christmas they returned
for the meeting of the German
Co-workers which started on
the 28th Dec. I addressed the
meeting at the very begin-
ning. They dispersed after 30th
having had a Communion Service.

Due to the Assam dis-
turbance the K35 meeting has
been postponed till sometime
in February, but the Officers
and Adhyakshs are going
to meet on the 22nd Jan. in
order to consider certain
urgent matters.

Mr. N. E. Hoss who is in the
Secretaries Office, failed to supply
me the Census figures al-
though he told me that he

he sent them to the Lokration
Office in Geneva. Now I
must wait till I return
from my tour to supply
you the figures. I am
very sorry for this. I
hope even the figures of 1962
will come by the end of Jan.
as Mr. Harold tells me.

I hope Mini and others
are getting along all right.
I received one letter from
her.

Wishing you a Happy
New Year. Greeting to the Lokration
Gossner House inmates and
Mrs. Berg and self. Pray
for me and give a happy day.
Kind regards,
Love the Lord
H. C. Berg

BY AIR MAIL

हवाई पत्र

AEROGramme

NO ENCLOSURES
ALLOWED



Dr. Christian Berg,
Gossner Mission House,
Berlin-Friedenau
Hindenburgstr. 19
W. Germany

Conn - 66

Third fold here

Sender's name and address:-

Mrs. J. C. Berg
G. E. L. Church
Ranch, Bihar
India

(W. Vol. 1, Feb.)

THE LUTHERAN WORLD FEDERATION

LUTHERISCHER WELTBUND - LUTHERSKA VÄRLDSFÖRBUNDET - FÉDÉRATION LUTHÉRIENNE MONDIALE

DEPARTMENT OF WORLD SERVICE

Director: Rev. Bruno Muetzelfeldt

Administrative Secretary:
Valdemar Törner

Secretary for Minority Churches:
Rev. Paul Hansen

Secretary for Stewardship and
Congregational Life:
Rev. Richard N. Nelson

Secretary for Resettlement and
Material Relief:
Rev. Eugene Ries

Route de Malagnou 17, GENEVA
Telephone 36 71 30
Cable: LUTHERWORLD-GENEVA

1. February 1963



Dr. Christian Berg,
Director,
Gossnersche Missionsgesellschaft,
Berlin-Friedenau
Handjeristrasse 19/20
GERMANY

Dear Dr. Berg,

Enclosed please find a photocopy of a letter which has just reached us in connection with the appeal from Bihar for assistance against threatening drought and famine.

We would appreciate receiving your comments at this date, as the information available is rather contradictory.

Very sincerely,

Eh
Eugene Ries

Encl.

cc: Miss Urbig.

COMMITTEE ON RELIEF & GIFT SUPPLIES

NATIONAL CHRISTIAN COUNCIL OF INDIA

NEW DELHI

Ref: Letter No. PR/BIHAR-FAMINE/63/001755

28th Jan. 1963.

Rev. Eugene Ries,
Secretary for Resettlement and Material Aid,
The Lutheran World Federation,
17, Route De Malagnon,
Geneva, Switzerland.

Dear Rev. Ries:

Your letter of the 7th Dec. 1962 addressed to Douglas W. Cook is in front of me in which I read a very alarming news from Rev. J. Lakra regarding the expected draught and famine in certain areas which are in Chotanagpur and where Gossner Lutheran Church is operating. This alarming news was being examined by our own agency when I received your letter of 18th Jan. 1963 addressed to Dr. Christian Berg and I thought that I should contact the Government to verify the situation in Chotanagpur and around. I have contacted the Under Secretary, Mr. Thakore of the Ministry of Food and Agriculture, Government of India on this point and he categorically said that the Government is not aware of such a situation in Bihar. We are, however, still waiting to hear from our own agency. In any case if there is a draught in that area, we are bound to hear from the Regional Christian Council who have got a very active Secretary in Mr. Paul Lakhan Lall. I am sending a copy of this letter to him also.

With kindest regards,

Yours sincerely,

A. Jethro,
Director.

AJ/as

c.c. Rev. Paul Lakhan Lall, Secretary, Bihar Christian Council, Old Nagmetia House, Gaya, Bihar State.

drbg/br

Berlin-Friedenau, 15 Jan 1963

Rev. J. Lakra
The Pramukh Adhyaksh
G.E.L. Church

Ranchi / Bihar
India

Re: Arrival of Mr. Tomforde

Dear Brother Lakra,

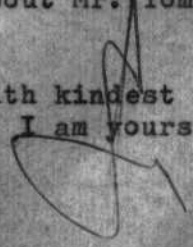
I am pleased to be able today to announce to you as the president of the G.E.L. Church and the leaders of your church - following my letter of 5 October 62 - the arrival of Mr. Tomforde via Bombay/Rourkela in Khutitoli at the of January. The government of India granted him the visa at the beginning of December.

I am convinced that Mr. Tomforde will be an able co-worker as teacher for agriculture in Dr. Junghans' team. You will surely give him a warm welcome. Please, take his coming to India as another sign how much the Kuratorium of the Gossner-Mission is trying to help the beloved Gossner-Church in its many tasks by sending able German fellow-workers.

Many thanks for the confidence you have in us here in Germany for choosing the right co-workers.

Please inform the KSS officially about Mr. Tomforde's arrival.

With kindest regards,
I am yours,



cc/Akte Tomforde

drbg/br

Berlin-Friedenau, 15 Jan 1963

Rev. J. Lakra
The Pramukh Adhyaksh
G.E.L. Church

Ranchi / Bihar
India

Re: Arrival of Mr. Tomforde

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I am pleased to be able today to announce to you as the president of the G.E.L. Church and the leaders of your church - following my letter of 5 October 62 - the arrival of Mr. Tomforde via Bombay/Rourkela in Khutitoli at the of January. The government of India granted him the visa at the beginning of December.

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Please inform the KSS officially about Mr. Tomforde's arrival.

With kindest regards,
I am yours,



cc/Akte Tomforde

Berlin-Friedenau, 14.11.1962

Pramukh Adyaskh
Rev. J. Lakra
G.E.L. Church

Ranchi / Bihar
India

Re: Scholarship-regulation for students of the Gossner-Church in the Berliner
Missionshouse

Dear Brother Lakra,

The Kuratorium of the Gossner-Mission - allow me to say the "autonomous Kuratorium" remembering our many talks during your stay here - has approved of working out regulations for our young brothers from the Gossner-Church. This decision which we are enclosing was reached shortly before arrival of the four students who are now here. We think it necessary to inform the KSS about it and also send it to the scholarship committee for careful consideration. For this reason, we are enclosing five copies in English and for the German brothers and co-workers giving advice, three copies in German. We should recommend that you have handed out these copies officially.

The more we take our responsibility on the students sent to us as a great task, which should also contribute to strengthening our brother church in India, the more we find it necessary to put up a clear regulation.

We are also enclosing important instructions about the time-table for admission to universities in Berlin. This is also an important paper for the Gossner-Church for possible further requests to the Kuratorium to take also in the future more qualified students here in Berlin. I recommend it to the scholarship committee for careful attention, too.

Finally, I should like to point out once more that it seems very important to us to take care whether the students eligible for a scholarship have already close connections in India (married or engaged). In every single case it is to be considered very carefully whether it is justifiable to separate married or engaged couples for many years. I mention this according to an experience already made. Anyway, it is stated under 8) in the regulation that in such cases we have to correspond about it before and come to an agreement before accepting the concerning student and giving him the support by the Gossner-Mission in Germany for many years.

I heartily hope that this regulation will also contribute to a clear order between our two autonomous bodies - the Gossner-Church and the Kuratorium in Berlin.

With kind regards,
I am yours,



Encl.

cc/ Secretary of KSS
Rev. Kloss

Bisher nur in diesem 1 Exemplar, da es sich von Zeit zu Zeit ändern kann. Wir bitten, das Stipendienkomitee auf seiner nächsten Sitzung entsprechend zu unterrichten. Änderungen werden wir jeweils mitteilen.

Richtlinien für ausländische Studienbewerber zwecks
Zulassung zum Studium an den Berliner Universitäten

I. Voraussetzungen für die Zulassung:

a) Nachweis der Hochschulreife

1) -

Dieser Nachweis kann erbracht werden durch das deutsche Reifezeugnis - 2) durch ein dem deutschen Reifezeugnis gleichwertiges Abschlußzeugnis einer ausländischen Lehranstalt.

In der Praxis werden der B.A. (1st and 2nd class) oder das Immediate Certificate und alle darüberliegenden Zeugnisse (M.A. usw.) als ausreichend angesehen. Als nicht ausreichend gelten das Pre-University und Pre-Professional Certificate. Des starken Andranges ausländischer Studienbewerber wegen findet eine ziemlich genaue Sichtung der Unterlagen statt und nach der Eignung anhand der eingereichten Unterlagen wird eine Auswahl vorgenommen. (Besonders streng an der T.U.).

b) Ausreichende deutsche Sprachkenntnisse

Jeder Bewerber muß vor Beginn seines Studiums eine besondere Prüfung über seine Kenntnisse in der deutschen Sprache ablegen. Vom Bestehen dieser Prüfung wird die endgültige Zulassung abhängig gemacht. Es wird angestrebt, daß der Bewerber wenigstens einen Sprachkurs am Goethe-Institut besucht hat - Dauer eines Kurses 12 Wochen.

c) Mindestalter von 18 Jahren.

II. Zulassungsverfahren

Das Zulassungsverfahren für ausl. Studenten läuft über das "Akademische Außenamt der Freien Universität" bzw. die "Außenkommission der T.U.". Alle Unterlagen sind an diese Stellen einzureichen.

- a) Für das Sommersemester (Vorlesungsbeginn 2. Mai) müssen die Bewerbungsunterlagen spätestens am 28. 2. ;
für das Wintersemester (Vorlesungsbeginn 2. Nov) spätestens am 31. Juli vorliegen.

- b) Da der Zulassungsausschuß erst im März (für das Sommersemester) bzw. August (für das Wintersemester) zusammentritt, ist mit dem Zulassungsbescheid im allgemeinen nicht vor Anfang April bzw. Anfang September zu rechnen. Das bedeutet, daß für die Beschaffung der Visa, Pässe usw. nur ein Monat zur Verfügung steht.

III. Bewerbungsunterlagen

An Bewerbungsunterlagen sind einzureichen:

- 1) ein ausgefüllter Fragebogen der entsprechenden Universität
- 2) ~~Beglaubigte~~ Fotokopien der Schulzeugnisse mit der beglaubigten Übersetzung in deutscher, englischer oder französischer Sprache, (sofern das Zeugnis in einer anderen Sprache abgefaßt ist)
- 3) Zeugnis über deutsche Sprachkenntnisse
- 4) Lebenslauf in deutscher Sprache
- 5) 4 Paßbilder

Eine Bearbeitung der Bewerbung erfolgt nur, wenn alle erforderlichen Unterlagen bis zu den unter IIa angegebenen Daten vorliegen.

Zu den Richtlinien:

Von unserer Seite aus ist zu bemerken, daß, wenn das die einzige Möglichkeit wäre, eine Zulassung an einer Berliner Universität zu erreichen, es unmöglich erscheint, in dieser kurzen Zeit (1 Monat) die Pässe und Visa zu bekommen. Darum werden wir versuchen und haben es bei der FU ja auch schon erreicht, daß eine einmal ausgesprochene Zulassung auch für das nachfolgende Semester Gültigkeit behält. Damit besteht dann eine Frist von etwa $3/4$ Jahr, die dann wohl zur Beschaffung der notwendigen Papiere ausreichen dürfte.

Da ausreichende deutsche Sprachkenntnisse erforderlich sind, ist es wohl unumgänglich, diese hier in Deutschland zu erwerben. Am besten ist es, wenn die Bewerber vor Antritt des Studiums hier mindestens einen Kursus am Goetheinstitut absolvieren könnten. Ein Kursus dauert 12 Wochen, so daß mit einer Ankunft in Berlin ca. 4 Monate vor Beginn des Studiums gerechnet werden muß.

14.1.63

Fe:br

drbg/hr

Berlin-Friedenau, 12 Jan 1963

Rev. J. Lakra
The Pramukh Adhyksh
G.E.L. Church

Ranchi / Bihar
India

Re: One further female student for Germany

Dear Brother Lakra,

Brother Lokies looked after the students here in the Gossner-House very much during Christmas and New Year. He has observed something and wants me to write to you about it.

He is convinced that it would be good if your daughter Minnie had another Indian female student here in Berlin. Do you think it is possible to get another able student who could come to Germany soon? A young girl like your daughter Minnie away from home should have a companion of about the same age who comes from the same country. We here took also always care that the girls from the Gossner-Church going to Salzuflen were not alone, but at least two.

I should be grateful if you could discuss this question at the next meeting of the scholarship committee of your church. I think that this observation D. Lokies made is quite note-worthy and could imagine that your daughter Minnie would in the long run feel more at home if she had another female student from India here. Otherwise she would depend too much on the male students. A girl does have many things which it would like to talk over with another girl.

We here in the Kuratorium would give preference to the nomination of a girl-student for a scholarship who has the necessary qualifications.

I am sincerely yours,

drbg/br

Berlin-Friedenau, 11 Jan 1963

Rev. J. Lakra
The Pramukh Adhyaksh
G.E.L. Church

Ranchi / Bihar
India

Dear Brother Lakra,

Thank you very much for your two letters. In one letter you wished me a Happy Christmas, in the other you sent me good wishes for the New Year. May I also wish you all the best for this year, dear brother Lakra. I remember with pleasure last year and our time we spent together. Again, this year we shall have to decide many things together. I am looking forward to it and also to the visit I hope to make at the end of this year to India.

Your daughter Minnie is keeping well. At the moment we have very cold weather but Minnie is wearing the appropriate clothes. Every time one meets her, she is smiling with joy which she has obviously inherited from her father.

I am enclosing a copy of a letter sent to the Lutheran World Federation together with the forms which you will surely discuss with the KSS.

I heard with pleasure from brother Kloss that you know about the visit Bishop Hans wants to pay to Germany. We want you to know, however, that we have invited him again by letter. Bishop Meyer already invited him in autumn 1961 when he was in India.

I am very concerned that you use the gift of 25.000 DM for the needs in Chotanagpur as careful as possible.

Many thanks for the copy of your letter to Director Wallmann. I hope you set up a small able committee for help in which the one or other German co-worker will also be engaged. Feeding in schools in the most threatened places and feeding for old people and such people who did not harvest anything, is surely a very good thing.

Did you have a good conference of the federation of lutheran churches in North India ?

I read in our newspapers that you talked of a closer co-operation - if not to speak of merger. Is that really so ?

What was the result of the conference with Rev. Aske of the station Addis Ababa "Voice of the Gospel" ?

I am very grateful that you take care so much about the census of the Gossner-Church. It is really good if we could have the exact numbers here in Germany during the first quarter of this year. There are many people who are interested in the development of the Gossner-Church.

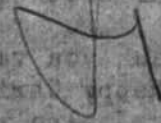
Thank you very much that you have taken part in the conference of the German co-workers and that you addressed them.

b.w.

I hope that the new German people sent to India will feel at home quickly - under the Gossner-Church as her new mother. I should also like to hear about the work of Schwester Hedwig.

I hope that your visits in the congregations will have a good echo. I am also looking forward to brothers Seeburg and Weissinger's return who will surely send me your personal greetings.

I am sincerely and brotherly,
Yours,



GOSSNER EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN CHURCH CHOTANAGPUR & ASSAM.

Ref.No .449/62.

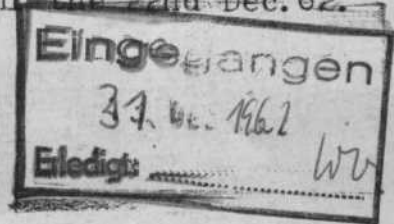
Dated Ranchi the 22nd Dec. 62.

From,

Rev. J. Lakra M. A., B. D., S. T. M.,
The Pramukh Adhyaksh (President),
G. E. L. Church, Ranchi.

To,

Dr. Christian Berg,
Director, Gossner Mission Society,
Berlin - Friedenau,
Handjerystr - 19/20,
West Germany.



Dear Brother Berg,

I shall send you the census figures as soon as it is gathered from materials received in the Secretary's Office. I am reported that the figures are already sent to the Federation Office. But I am doubtful whether all the figures are sent to the Federation Office. So I have ordered for a full census report of 1961. I hope I get all figures of 1961 and shall be able to send them to you before the New Year.

I find the office has already sent a circular letter for the census report of 1962. I think by the end of January 1963, I may be able to supply you with the 1962 census figures.

Glad to learn that the four students reached Berlin safe. God bless them all.

Best wishes for the New Year.

Yours Sincerely,

The Pramukh Adhyaksh (President),
G. E. L. Church, Ranchi.

Dr. Künze
Körperlich auffallend
W. Vorl. 1. Fabr. 1963

31. 12.

3. 1. 1963

Z. W. Vorl. 18. März

GOSSNER EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN CHURCH IN CHOTANAGPUR & ASSAM.

Ref. No. 444/62.

Dated Ranchi the 20th Dec. 62.

From,

Rev. J. Lakra M. A., B. D., S. T. M.,
The Pramukh Adhyaksh (President),
G. E. L. Church, Ranchi.

To,

Director Pastor Wallman
" Aktionsgemeinschaft
für die Hungenden "
Berlin - Charlottenburg,
Jebensstrasse, 3
West Germany.

Dear Director Wallman,

Before the happy festival of Christmas which reminds us of God's inestimable love to humanity in sending His dear Son to be the Saviour of humanity, I received the good news of your loving gift of 25000 D.M. seven thousand for Assam and eighteen thousand for the relief of threatening famine in Bihar. This is a great relief to the authorities of the Gossner Church.

In this part of India most of the population is agricultural and this year due to utter lack of rain crops failed badly and the whole population shall be on verge of starvation unless special arrangements are made by the Government. I have consulted high Government officials and they have assured me that food grain will be brought from other parts of India and they will be available to the inhabitants of this area. But this food grain would be sold which the poor public will not be able to buy for lack of money. So your gift will come in opportune time and will give relief to so many hungry people. A report of the use of the money will be sent to you in due course of time.

In the meantime let me thank you and your Organisation with deep sense of gratitude to God and to Aktionsgemeinschaft.

With kindest regards and best wishes of the Season.

Ever in the Lord,

Yours most Sincerely,

The Pramukh Adhyaksh (President),
G. E. L. Church, Ranchi.

Kunge
S. J. Korgay
Officer Adhyaksh
are Wallman
31/12

No. 450/62.

copy to Mr. Berg



Lord, we pray thee, send forth reapers,
Hear us, while to Thee we cry.
Send them now the sheaves to gather,
Ere the harvest-time pass by.

Gossner
Mission

Dear Rev. Director Berg,

December '62.

Wish you a merry Christmas
and a bright and prosperous New Year.

My Parents ~~are~~ evacuated
from Teypur on the 24.th Nov. They went to
Nowgang. Father has written that they have
gone there with as much things as they
could carry themselves. So they are in great
difficulty especially as the Winter cold
increases. I do not know where they will
be at Christmas.
May father has written me

"How shall they hear without a preacher?"
Rom. 10:14.

"HERE AM I; SEND ME." Isa. 6:8.





और नये साल में शान्ति हो

And in the New Year peace

not to come to Assam for X,mas. So
 I shall spend Christmas at J. wind pier.
 Many, many thanks for
 remembering me on my birthday. I did
 not celebrate it as my people in Assam
 having such a hard and an unhappy
 days. Wish you all the best.

Gospel Stationery Depot
 Ivy Cottage,
 Landour, Mussoorie,
 U. P., India

No. 8-A

Sincerely,
 Daisy Hemroni.

आपको बड़ा दिन मुबारक हो

May Christmas be blessed to you



Rev.M.Henrom, Adhyaksh. G.E.L.Church, Tezpur, Assam, India.
December, 19th 1962

Dear Dr.Berg,

The new born Divine Child in the manger gives me opportunity to send this greetings Card of Christmas. I trust you all have been worried about us in the last month. Indeed we were in the danger of life due to war. We were homeless from 21st Nov. to 14th December. We had innumerable hardships during this period. Brother Kloss rendered relief work unto us. We incurred an expenditure of about Rs3200/ for this period. We have returned back to Tezpur on the 14th December. I am awfully grateful to you and the kuratorium as a whole to help us with prayers. Indeed the prayers were not in vain but the Lord responded to these prayers favourably. We cannot but thank God for these mercies. May He be praised for ever. I heartily wish you all the joys and peace of Life of the Divine Babe in the manger. With kind regards and all best wishes to all of you for the Blessed season.

Your humble servant the Master,
M. Henrom

BEST WISHES

FOR A

Merry Christmas

AND A

HAPPY NEW YEAR

From *M. Henrom*



GOSSNER EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN CHURCH.
KENDRIYE SALAHKARI SABHA

Secretary
G. E. L. CHURCH

Ref. No: 375/62-KSS-78

Date 19.12.62.....

G. E. L. CHURCH OFFICE
RANCHI, BIHAR.

To,

Dr. Christien Berg,
Director Gossner Mission Society,
Berlin Friedenau 19/20
West Germany.

Re:- Appeal for refugees in Assam and for famine condition
in Behar.

Dear Brother Berg,

I am acknowledging herewith your letter of 12th December 1962 addressed to the Pramukh Adhyaksh and copy to the Secretary KSS. In the absence of the Secretary I thank you for your efforts in securing a substantial help for the refugees of Assam and for people to be affected due to famine conditions from the " AKTION SGEMEINSCHAFT FUR DIE HUNGERNDEN " The Officers will send you a report as desired by you.

Greetings to you and to Director P. Wallmann.

Yours sincerely,

K. S. Singh
Asstt. to the Secretary,
G. E. L. Church.

Berlin-Friedenau, 12. 12. 1962

Rev. J. Lakra, M.A.
The Pramukh Adhyaksh
G.E.L. Church

Ranchi / Bihar
India

Summa
for the League of Nations - May 1963
who is distributing - May 1963

Re: Your appeal for help for refugees from Assam and for threatening famine in Bihar

Dear Brother Lakra,

I took your appeal in your letter of 17 Nov very seriously. I looked for possibilities to help you in this calamity which will be facing you.

I am very glad to be able to inform you that I received a considerable amount of money for it. The "Aktionsgemeinschaft für die Hungernden", Berlin-Charlottenburg, Lebensstraße 3, which was founded by Präses Dr. Kreyssig many years ago, and to which distribution committee I belonged myself in the past, has - according to the vote of Director Pastor Wallmann, my successor in the central office of the Hilfswerk in Berlin - given DM 7.000 for help of refugees in Assam and DM 18.000 for the relief of the threatening famine in Bihar, making a total sum of

DM 25.000.

I hope that you will receive the equivalent amount in Rupees through Rev. Kloss at the end of this year or at the beginning of January. May I remind you that in catastrophes we do not only help Christians, that is members of our own belief, but everyone who is in urgent need without difference of faith and political conviction. This should also be done in your case now. The money doubtlessly comes mainly from Protestants but also from people of other faith.

In this connection, I should like to recommend you to take up connections with the representative of the Lutheran World Federation or the World Council of Churches in India and ask them for possible help - probably by sending "surplus commodities" from the American Brother Churches. A combination of the financial help from us and the material help from the big ecumenical unions could in my opinion be very effective. By such combination, the Gossner-Church could really give an effective relief of the needs.

I am very glad that I could give you such good news shortly before Christmas.

I should be very grateful if you could send a report about the use of the money. This report should be addressed to the "Aktionsgemeinschaft für die Hungernden", Berlin-Charlottenburg, Lebensstraße 3, but it would be best if you sent it to the Gossnerhaus here, not later than 31 May 1963.

Your signature ^{on the report} is therefore important because I gave your urgent appeal sent to me as an explanation for receiving the money. The more exact your report about the use of the money is the greater will be the confidence of the German public in the efficiency of the Gossner-Church.

cc/Direktor P. Wallmann

With warm greetings and Yishu sahay,

Secretary of KSS

Rev. Kloss

Filed: 31 May 1963

ever yours,

Gossner

Feb 3. 1915.

G.S.M. Church.

Ranchi
12/12/14

3.5. A. J. 1915
J. H.

Dear Bro. Berg,

At last we can explain
the four students Messrs Lingray, Paula,
George Silver Jubilee, Regina, Christ.
Harding, Hoo and our Mini.

Now they will be in your
care & supervision. Perhaps they will require
more clothing, but used "while they are in
Rome, they must do as Rome does." Mini will
wear Sari always. With regard to the rest,
she will have German costume. For the
boys, the German wear will suit them in
every respect.

The delay in sending them was
due to confusion in Passport affair. 21-
needed personal presence in the Passport
office in Calcutta for the clarification of some
unnecessary points raised. The Reserve Bank
of India did not create any trouble this
time. The India-China border had nothing
to do with the departure of the four students.
God helped us in every way. May God be
with them and bless them.

With kind regards.

Yours sincerely
J. C. Berg

P.S. Kindly distribute the
Christmas cards and oblige.
J.C.

Berlin-Friedenau, 6 December 1962

Rev. J. Lakra
The Pramukh Adhyaksh
G.E.L. Church

Ranchi / Bihar
India

Re: Conference about extension of Addis Ababa Broadcasting Station to
north-west India

Dear Brother Lakra,

The letter from Director S. Aske, Addis Ababa, about which we spoke in
Neuendettelsau at the end of August, is still on my desk.

Dr. Aske suggested that a conference of the representatives of the Lutheran
Churches in north-west India should take place at the beginning of December
at which he would be present in order to consider the whole question
thoroughly.

According to his letter of 10 October, he did call this conference for this
time.

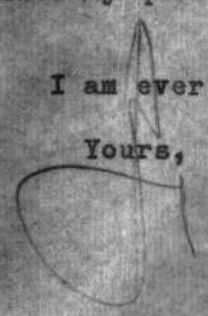
Now my question: Has this conference really taken place at that time or has
it been cancelled or postponed for a later date because of the present
situation in India. I could imagine that this meeting may not have been
called because of the difficulties in the air transport.

But if it has been called after all, I should like to know its results
and recommendations and would also be very much interested in the decisions
of the leaders of the Lutheran Churches.

I should be very glad if you could answer my questions in one of your
next letters.

I am ever,

Yours,



drbg/kze.

Berlin-Friedenau, 5 December 1962

Rev. J. Lakra,
The Pramukh Adhyaksh
G.E.L. Church

Ranchi / Bihar
India

Dear Brother Lakra,

It was very good to hear from your last letter that all the visitors have arrived safely and that you have welcomed Seebergs and Brother Weissinger.

We were also glad that - after all - you have decided to send Brother Schottstädt an invitation. It now depends on him what use he will make with it at the official authorities in the DDR. Obviously, Brother Schottstädt is very pleased about his opportunity of visiting the Gossner-Church in India. We can only hope that he will be successful in obtaining a visa.

I have been very pleased about your reply concerning the gift from Bishop D. Kunst. He really sent a very friendly and understanding letter.

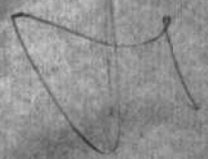
We happily received the good news about the safe arrival of the machines in Ranchi. The efforts of Brother Thiel, especially now in view of the existing difficulties in India, were therefore not in vain.

I would suggest that you write a few lines of thanks to Dr. Kunst which you put in an envelope addressed to my address here in the Gossnerhouse. The letter would be translated here and then sent to Dr. Kunst who does not understand English.

May God give you a blessed time in Advent and at Christmas, dear Brother Lakra. It will be days and weeks of emotion for you because you will be reminded of your dear wife who died in December last year.

Thinking of you all, I am ever

Sincerely Yours,



GOSSNER EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN CHURCH IN CHOTANAGPUR & ASSAM.

Ref. No. 407/62.

Dated Ranchi the 1st December 1962.

From,

Rev. J. Lakra M. A., B. D., S. T. M.,
The Pramukh Adhyaksh (President),
G. E. L. Church, Ranchi.

To,

Dr. Christian Berg,
Director, Gossner Mission Society,
Berlin - Friedenau,
Handjerystr - 19/20,
West Germany.

Eingegangen
- 5. DEZ. 1962 W
Erledigt:

Dear Bro. Berg,

I am extremely glad and thankful to God for the kind letter of Bishop D. Kunst dated Oct. 16, 1962. I do not know whether it is now time that I write a letter of thanks to the Bishop. Kindly advise me.

I think he made a very wise move by granting help first to the Printing Machine. It is a timely help. The Press itself is already here at Ranchi and we are making arrangement to accommodate it. Perhaps we shall be at a deficit of about Rs. 20,000 or so, I am not quite sure just now. Any how Bishop Kunst's help completed our programme of a modern Press and its accessories. May God be praised.

With kind regards.

Yours Sincerely,

J. Lakra
The Pramukh Adhyaksh (President),
G. E. L. Church, Ranchi.

drbg/kze.

Berlin-Friedenau, 29 11 1962

Rev. J. Lakra
The Pramukh Adhyaksh
G.E.L. Church

Ranchi / Bihar
India

Re: Plan of a Lutheran College in Ranchi

Dear Brother Lakra,

I refer to your letter of 17 November concerning the establishment of a college in Ranchi.

At the moment I doubt very much whether under the present circumstances the work on such a plan can be continued. It now seems to me that the Gossner-Church has to collect all its strength to counteract the serious consequences resulting from the war in Assam and the threatening famine in Bihar. If God shows us such a priority of our duties, we should not try to split up our strength in order to carry on with other also important work. This is my first urgent point.

Besides you will understand that the Kuratorium is basically willing to accept the plan for the foundation of an evangelical college - according to your urgent appeal. The Kuratorium hopes to find means outside the grants given for the Gossner work when a plan has been handed over which can be put into practice.

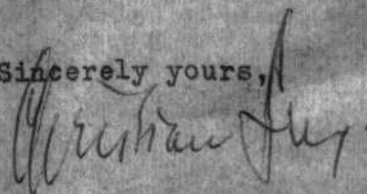
Up till now we have not got any Mark resp. any Rupee here in the Gossner-work for the college plan. I am therefore very sorry that I cannot send you the 30.000 Rs. you asked for.

I do not think that at the moment one should try to insure a Government approval and deposit a sum of Rs. 25.000 for it. In my opinion it is now important to work out a plan in a small board which - when it is ready and practical - one could then submit to the public in Bihar and in Germany. And after they have been approved then and the money for the plans is available, one could then try to get the approval of the Government.

Maybe you can use the grant you received from the Westfälische Kirche for the preliminary acts for the start of your college.

Again, we have no Rupee here for the college plan and I doubt very much whether one should under the present circumstances continue working on it very much.

Sincerely yours,



cc/ Rev. Kloss
Secr. of KSS

drbg/kze.

Berlin-Friedenau, 28 11 1962

Rev. J. Lakra
The Pramuks Adhyaksh
G.E.L. Church

Ranchi / Bihar
India

Re: Threatening famine in Bihar

Dear Brother Lakra,

This is a very serious problem, and during your visits in the different centres you could see yourself how dangerous the food situation is in Bihar and especially in the district of the Gossner-Church. You are surely right when you write that the climax of the famine will be in Spring next year.

Immediately upon receipt of your letter, I passed on the news to Lutheran World Service in Geneva and suggested that the secretary for India together with the Gossner-Church should again examine the situation. They should then put up a plan which states the measures which are to be taken to make effective help possible.

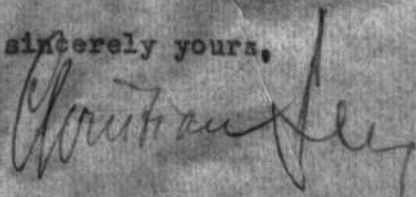
If it should really come to it that many thousands of people will be affected by the famine, we shall need the support of many churches which are united in the Lutheran World Federation.

We shall already inform our friends in the next issue of the "Biene" about the dangerous situation and try to awake their helpfulness. If the situation should really become so bad as it now seems, I hope that our campaign BREAD FOR THE WORLD will give help after proper measures have been taken up by you to lessen the famine.

In short, dear Brother Lakra, I want to assure you as well as the leading brothers of your church that we shall do all that is possible for us to help you.

It would be good, however, if you could already think of what steps should be taken by the Gossner-Church for effective help and what sort of help you want.

I am sincerely yours,



cc/Rev. Kloss
Secr. of K33

drbg/kze.

Berlin-Friedenau, 28 Nov 1962

Rev. J. Lakra
The Pramukh Adhyaksh
G.E.L. Church

Ranchi / Bihar
India

Re: Pension Fund

Dear Brother Lakra,

On 24 November we already received your letter of 17 Nov 1962 and today I should like to answer in different letters the points you mentioned in your letter.

May I state again the situation in regard to the pension fund:

The amount of DM 50.000,-- as essential support for the pension fund, which exists but has to be strengthened, has neither been decided by the Kuratorium nor is it a "gift" from Missionsdirektor, Dr. Berg, if we obtain that money during the coming year.

I myself do not do anything without informing the Kuratorium. In our talks I said that I would try to obtain financial help for this important task from the Gossner friends and churches connected to the Gossner-Mission in Germany. I have not, however, promised this gift of DM 50.000,-- up till now because I do not exactly know whether I shall really obtain the amount when one comes to think of the many other tasks in the Gossner-Church. That is why I said: "I shall try." And I am glad that the grät from Dr. Zimmermann is a first sign of the efforts and a part of the amount of DM 50.000,-- resp. 60.000 Rs. we hope to obtain.

Nevertheless, it is good that the KSS examines the whole question of the pension fund; sets up a board to work out the rules and regulations for the administration of this fund; brings together the different small funds which may exist so that gradually there will be only one effective pension fund which we shall try to support with pleasure in the future.

I do hope, dear Brother Lakra, that I have made quite clear by this letter what we want to work for.

Sincerely yours,

cc/Rev. Kloss
Secr. of SS

Rev. J. Lakra
The Pramukh Adhyaksh
G.E.L. Church

Rev. Kloss zur Kenntnis

Ranchi / Bihar
India

Re: Census of the Evangelical-Lutheran-Gossner-Church in Chotanagpur and Assam

Dear Brother Lakra,

Already my predecessor, Director D. Lokies, has been worried for some time that we do not exactly know how many members the Gossner-Church in India has. He has asked a couple of times but either received no answer at all or only an unsatisfactory reply. For some time, therefore, we have to use "about-figures" for our work in Germany.

This situation could be understood when one thinks of the struggles and tension in the last years which, however, have by now been mostly overcome. But now we should have more exact figures.

The Lutheran World Federation will certainly also be interested in them especially in view of the Assembly in Helsinki in August 1963.

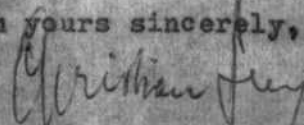
Because of the fact that up till now we cannot give any exact number, many people here in Germany think that we have still not overcome the split in the Gossner-Church. Because for what other reason would the clergymen and the different districts refuse to give us the right figures? It is even going so far here that because of this the question is raised whether one should support the Gossner-Church.

Please do understand, dear brother Lakra, that we in the Gossnerhaus do not want to know this for the sake of curiosity but that it is of great importance for the promotional work of the Gossner-Werk here in Germany. It demonstrates also the unity of the church if one can give exact figures of its members.

Because of this, I should be very glad if you could give us the figures soon. We really do not need them for anything else except for the purpose of telling our parishes and churches in Germany: "The Gossner-Church in India is so big, has so many parishes and so many members. Please do not refuse your support."

I do hope you will realise the importance of this question in my letter.

I am yours sincerely,



2d/1/white

GÖSSNER EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN CHURCH IN
CHOTANAGPUR & ASSAM.

Ref.No. 392/62.

Dated Ranchi the 23rd
Nov. 1962.

From,

Rev. J. Lakra M. A., B. D., S. T. M.,
The Pramukh Adhyaksh (President)
G. E. L. Church, Ranchi.

To,

Miss H. Schmidt,
Gossner Mission,
Berlin-Friedenau - Handjarystr. - 20,
West Germany.

Dear Miss Schmidt,

In reply to your two letters I must thank you first for both and I let you know with joy that we are waiting for your return. You will stay at Ranchi and the Home for the Crippled and Blind Girls and Women will be situated at Govindpur connected with Tabita School. We shall have to rebuild the houses of Tabita School and make major repair in the small building which we are taking from the Congregation for the Home. You will have to come and see to it that this project is carried out.

The rest we shall talk and organise when you are actually here.

Yours sincerely,

J. Lakra
The Pramukh Adhyaksh (President)
G. E. L. Church, Ranchi.

Copy to :-

Dr. Christian Berg.

GOSSNER EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN CHURCH IN CHOTANAGPUR & ASSAM.

Ref.No. 394/62.

Dated Ranchi the 23rd Nov.1962.

From,

Rev. J. Lakra M.A., B.D., S.T.M.,
The Pramukh Adhyaksh (President),
G.E.L. Church, Ranchi.

To,

Dr. Christian Berg,
Director, Gossner Mission Society,
Berlin - Friedenau,
Handjerystr. 19/20,
West Germany.

Dear Brother Berg,

Your letter dated 13-11-1962, thanks.

Yesterday we had the pleasure to welcome Pastor and Mrs. Seeberg and Brother Weisinger together. The three guests met in Calcutta and they came to Ranchi together. Brother Weisinger is going to Khutitoly to-day and on to Pourkella and Amgaon. He will come back to Ranchi before Christmas for German Co-Workers Conference.

The Seebergs are beginning their tour with Govindpur. We have prepared a tour programme for them up to the end of the year. All three are happy and healthy. Their greetings to you.

Now we shall be looking forward for the arrival of the Kelbers and Mr. Götz.

The political situation in India is not yet encouraging but the Government is prepared to face it with courage and grit. After I received your last letter I sent the letter of invitation to Dr. Schottstadt leaving the rest at his own discretion.

I find Brother Barutta is prepared to come out to India with some Cinema programme and his coming has received your blessing. I heartily welcome Brother Barutta,

With kind regards and cordial greetings
and Vishusahay.

Yours very Sincerely,

J. Lakra
The Pramukh Adhyaksh (President)
G. E. L. Church, Ranchi

GOSSNER EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN CHURCH IN CHOTANAGPUR AND ASSAM.

Ref.No. 373/62.

Dated Ranchi the 17th Nov.1962.

From:-

Rev. J. Lakra M. A., B. D., S. T. M.,
The Pramukh Adhyaksh (President),
G. E. L. Church, Ranchi.

To,

Dr. Christian Berg,
Director, Gossner Mission Society,
Berlin - Friedenau,
Handjerystr. 19/20,
West Germany.

Eingegangen

24. NOV. 1962

Erledigt: _____

Dear Brother Berg,

1
Your kind letter of Nov. 7, 1962 many thanks. Dr. Zimmermann informed me of his generous gift of DM 10000 and now the information comes from you. I have already sent a letter of thanks to him and a copy to you. I trust you have received the copy. This amount will be added to your gift of Rs. 60000/-. The rules and regulations for the administration of this fund will be made by the K. S. S. which sits next January. I note the correction you suggest and I have already informed Dr. Bage and others of the correction in the resolution of the K. S. S. regarding the gift of Rs. 60000/- towards the Pension fund. I understand this is the gift from Mission Director Dr. Berg. It is not a promise from the Kuratorium of the Gossner Mission. Many thanks for pointing out the error.

2
About the College I have already contacted Dr. Wolf who is ready to help us as much as he could in the matter. I have asked the Principal of the Government College here to draw up a plan of the Proposed College who expressed his ready willingness to help us with the plan and the estimate of the College. The K. S. S. has not yet formed a Board but has asked me to take preliminary actions for it and I am doing so.

3
In Ranchi University Circle it is felt that the required deposit of Rs. 25000/- in order to start a new College may be made at an early date at the University in order to insure Government approval before any other New College applies for approval. I wonder if you could not send about Rs. 30000/- for the preliminary acts for the start of our College. The amount will cover the required deposit of Rs. 25000/- and miscellaneous expenses counted therewith.

As the K. S. S. is not sitting now I want to place before you a very important matter that is affecting this area where our Christians are in majority. I went round visiting the different centres delivering messages from Germany and I found that crops have failed miserably this year. It did not rain enough and there was no other means to supply water for the fields, there being almost no irrigation system in this part of the countries. Crops died for want of water and a great famine is sure as Brother Junghans informed you some weeks ago.

On behalf of the K. S. S. I approach the Kuratorium to take early action if you please so to counteract this great calamity which is sure to come. The Government of India is certainly ready to take measures but I am afraid our Government is too much disturbed by the Chinese invasion and may not be able to do enough to help us. Therefore after consulting some leaders I am writing this appeal for help. Kindly let me know if the Kuratorium can take some steps in this connection.

With cordial greetings and Yishusahay to Director and Mrs. Lokies, self and other members of the Kuratorium.

Ever in the Lord,
Yours Sincerely,

J. Lakra
The Pramukh Adhyaksh (President)
G. E. L. Church, Ranchi.

Rev. J. Lakra, M.A., B.D., S.T.M.
The Pramukh Adhyaksh
G.I.E.L. Church

Ranchi / Bihar
India

Re: Invitation for Brother Schottstädt

Dear Brother Lakra,

Your letter concerning brother Schottstädt arrived only a few hours before the Kuratorium is meeting.

We can fully understand that - under the present complications and difficulties you hesitate to send the invitation to brother Schottstädt. As I heard, this fact will not surprise him. Already tomorrow I have an opportunity of letting him know about it so that he is not waiting for a letter from you anymore.

When I think of the fact that you have the visits of Rev. Seeberg and his wife as well as brother Weissinger ahead of you, it is much better that brother Schottstädt will come to India later when the situation has changed to the better so that at his visit you in the Gossner-Church will be completely at his disposal.

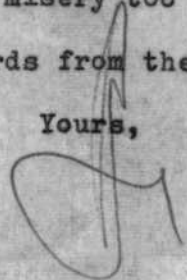
Well, this is now clear: Brother Schottstädt will not wait for an invitation at the moment.

Every day our newspapers bring articles about the unusual situation in the conflict between China and your country. You can imagine how much - especially now - we think of you all, our brother-church and also its staff from Germany. Nevertheless, Dr. Rohwedder and sister Maria Schatz left at the beginning of November for India and sister Hedwig Schmidt, Mr. and Mrs. Kelber as well as Mr. Götz will leave on 1st December.

We do pray that your country will be saved from bad civil convulsions and that the daily life will not be hit by misery too much.

With kind regards from the Gossnerhaus, I am

Yours,



3. d. Angewiesen
17/11

Eingegangen
15. NOV. 62
Erledigt: _____

The Rev. Joel Lakra, Pramukh Adhyaksh
Gossner Evangelical Lutheran Church
Church Compound, Bihar, North India

November 12, 1962

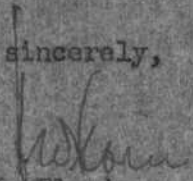
Dear President Lakra:

I thank you very much for your friendly letter of October 24. Yes, the amount covering the loss in the Provident Fund in the amount of US \$1,680.00 also had been cleared at the last GWM meeting. You will remember, that we have allocated this amount to the current 1962 Budget and by now you probably will also have received a check in that amount.

I remember with great gratitude our last GWM meeting at which I had the privilege to become acquainted with you. May God bless you in your continued work in the GELC.

With hearty greetings and best wishes.

Yours sincerely,


Hans W. Florin

cc: Dr. C. Berg

HWF/hk

Dr.Bg/Kze.
Berlin, 7 November 1962

Pramukh Adyaksh
Rev. Joel Lakra
G.E.L. Church

Ranchi /Bihar
India

Re: Gift from Vicepresident D. Zimmermann, Berlin, for the Gossner-Church

Dear Brother Lakra,

Today I am referring to a pleasant matter which is connected with your visit to Vicepresident D. Zimmermann on the evening before your departure from Berlin.

He promised you the generous amount of DM 10.000 for personnel needs in the Gossner-Church. I was informed about it by a copy of the concerning letter addressed to you.

Further discussions with president Zimmermann showed that he agreed with special pleasure to my suggestion to use this amount for the foundation of a pension funds of your church. We have talked about that a few times during your stay here in Germany and have also corresponded about it afterwards. As I learned from the records of your church-meeting at the beginning of October, you have informed the brothers in the KSS about it.

We have already received the sum of DM 10.000 in the Gossner-Mission in Berlin-Friedenau. We do hope that other churches connected to the Gossner-Mission will also contribute to the amount during the year 1963 so that one day there will be quite an amount of money at the disposal of the pension funds to be opened by your church.

It is of importance now that the board to be set up by your church will work quickly and will also work out the regulations for the foundation of a capable pension funds so that we shall be in the position to support it financially from the home church.

I am extremely glad that our discussions about this important matter start showing results, and I hope it will be for the good of the Gossner-Church and its servants.

Brotherly and sincerely,
Yours,

P.S.

Mr. Schottstädt asks to send him the invitation for his trip to India as soon as possible.

cc/Secretary of KSS

Rev. Kloss

Vizepräsident D. Dr. Zimmermann

mit herzlichem Dank für erfolgte Überweisung und Hilfe in dieser wichtigen

Frage.

P.S.

In this connection I should like to say a few words about the minutes of the KSS meeting from October 2nd - 6th, III.2 and ask for official correction, if possible.

The Kuratorium of the Gossner-Mission has never been engaged in the question of a support for the pension funds of the Gossner-Church and therefore could not make any promises.

Only Missionsdirektor Dr. Berg has talked about this matter with the president of the Gossner-Church and has shown great interest in this case. He promised to do his best for obtaining the amount of 50 - 60 000 Rupies but only if the Gossner-Church sets up a functional board which also works out clear regulations which will be put into action by the KSS for the Gossner-Church.

It seemed important to me to correct this erroneous formulation in the minutes.

Dr. Berg.

cc/Rev. Kloss
Secretary of KSS

a3

GOSSNER EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN CHURCH IN CHOTANPUR & ASSAM.

Ref.No.341/62.

Dated Ranchi the 6th Nov.62.

From,

Rev. J. Lakra, M.A., B.D., S.T.M.,
The Pramukh Adhyaksh (President),
G.E.L. Church, Ranchi.

To,

Dr. Christian Berg,
Director, Gossner Mission Society
Berlin - Friedenau,
Hendjerystr. 19/20,
West Germany.



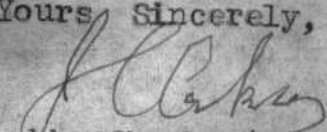
Dear Brother Berg,

I am glad you have approved the letter which I want to send to Dr. Schottstadt. Due to the abnormal political situation in India, I would wait now. If you also agree that my invitation to Dr. Schottstadt should wait for some^{-time,} please advise me and kindly let Dr. Schottstadt know somehow that due to above mentioned reason the invitation to him from India is delayed. It may be a little difficult for you to contact Dr. Schottstadt, but I do hope you will manage to send him the information.

Many cordial greetings and Yishushey.

Yours ever in the Lord.

Yours Sincerely,


The Pramukh Adhyaksh (President),
G.E.L. Church, Ranchi.

Dr. Bg/Kze.

Berlin, 5 November 1962

Pramukh Adyaskh
Rev. Joel Lakra—
G.E.L. Church

Ranchi / Bihar
India

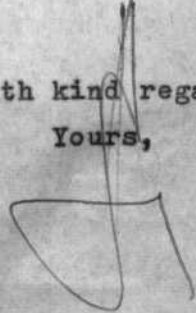
Re: Gift from Prälat D. Kunst, Bonn

Dear Brother Lakra,

Shortly before your departure I gave you my letter addressed to our friend D. Kunst in Bonn concerning the various suggestions for his generous gift which he promised us at the reception in his office on 7th September. Today we received his answer which I am enclosing in original as well as a translation into English. I do not hope that it will disappoint you.

It is very good to think that - because of your personal talk with D. Kunst - you have contributed an essential part, in form of a printing machine, towards the new equipment of the printing press in Ranchi.

With kind regards,
Yours,



Encl.

Berlin-Friedenua, 20th October 1962
Dr.Bg/Wo.

Pramukh Adyaksh
Rev. Joel Lakra
G.E.L. Church
Ranch/Bihar
India

Dear Brother Lakra!

What a real joy, to receive your letters from 13./15. of October; and some time ago your good word from Calcutta after your happy arrival in India. Also Brother Hemrom confirmed the receiving of my letters on behalf of the KSS. Thanks also to him!

The personal message, how you found the situation in the church, was especially welcome to Brother Lokies and me. How good is our Lord in the protection of his Church and his servants. Let us be thankful to Him!

Later more, if I shall have an english writing secretary from November.

Your letter to Brother Schottstädt is excellent; sent it to him! God may give him open doors from the DDR to India and the dear Gossner Church!

Brotherly and sincerely
Yours



PS. Bad happenings only this, that the Visa for the Rohwedders and Mr. Tomforde did not come. So we had to cancel their Ship-places. God knows, at what time their departure will be possible.

Translation

Der Rat der Evangelischen Kirche in Deutschland
Der Bevollmächtigte am Sitz der Bundesrepublik Deutschland

B o n n , 16th October 62
Poppelsdorfer Allee 96

Herrn
Missionsdirektor
Kirchenrat Dr. Christian Berg

Berlin 41
Handjerystraße 19/20

Dear Brother Berg,

I remember the visit of our brother, president Lakra from India, very gratefully. I told him upon his departure that I should like to give our guest a gift. I should very much like to fulfill both your wishes but let me give the printing machine preference. You told me that a German expert will go to India next spring in order to take over the vocational training of a few young people from India. Nothing lessens the love and the eagerness for the work more as the lack of enough implements. But I mean that we should not forget your first suggestion. May be there will be an opportunity for it next year or the year after.

Please write to brother Lakra and give him my warmest regards. I want him to know that we shall share his duties in the obligation of our faith.

With kind regards,

Yours,

D. Kunst

W. Vol. 8. Jan 63

GOSSNER EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN CHURCH.

PRAMUKH ADHYAKSH

Rev. J. Lakra

G. E. L. Church

RANCHI, BIHAR.

UP-PRAMUKH ADHYAKSH

Rev. Dr. M. Bage

G. E. L. Church

CHAIBASSA, SINGBHUM, BIHAR.

SECRETARY

Rev. M. Hemrom

G. E. L. Church Tezpur

DT. DARRANG, ASSAM

TREASURER

Rev. C. B. Aind

G. E. L. Church

Raj-Gangpur,

DT. SUNDARGARH, ORISSA

Ref. 299/62.

Dated 15th Oct. 1962.

To,

Dr. Christian Berg,
Director, Gossner Mission Society,
Berlin.

Dear Brother Berg,

Many thanks for your ten letters all dated Oct. 5, 1962 and one dated Oct. 8, 1962 on various subjects.

I hope you received my letter which I addressed to you just when I landed at Calcutta on the 24th of September 1962. This was just an acknowledgement with thanks of all your kindness and hospitality during my stay in Germany. As I do not see any reference to that letter in your correspondence I fear you did not receive that letter. Any way please accept my heartfelt thanks for every thing you did for me during my stay in Germany.

As soon as I arrived at Ranchi the KSS met according to a previously circulated notice and the meetings continued till the end of the last week and thus these your letters were received just after the KSS meetings were over. And so I could not place them before the KSS. However I shall do my best to comply with your wishes as much as I could do as the Pramukh Adhyaksh of the Gossner Church. *Later they will be placed before the KSS.*

1. Visit of Mission Inspector Pastor Seeberg and his wife to the Gossner Church :-----

On my verbal report the KSS has already resolved to give a hearty welcome to the Seebergs when they come to us in the Gossner Church. We shall do our best to help him to receive a "vivid impression of the and work, the tasks and problems" of the Gossner Church. They are most cordially welcomed.

2. Visit of Diakon Weissinger to the Gossner Church :-----

In my verbal report I informed the KSS of the visit of Brother Weissinger too and the KSS welcomes Diakon Weissinger with similar warmth of cordiality. Brother Weissinger and I have talked together at Mainz-Kastel about his programme and I am waiting to hear from him.

3. Invitations to Sister Schmidt, Dr. Rohwedder, Architect Götz, Engineer Kelber and Mr. Tomforde :-----

These fellowworkers in the G.E.L. Church are most cordially welcomed. The KSS knows about their coming and will be eagerly waiting for their arrival as soon as possible. I met them in Germany and assured them that they will be amongst their own brothers and sisters in India and that they should feel quite at home in the Gossner Church. The KSS is equally cordial and happy to receive them with open arms.

GOSSNER EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN CHURCH.

PRAMUKH ADHYAKSH

Rev. J. Lakra

G. E. L. Church

RANCHI, BIHAR.

UP-PRAMUKH ADHYAKSH

Rev. Dr. M. Bage

G. E. L. Church

CHAIBASSA, SINGBHUM, BIHAR.

SECRETARY

Rev. M. Hemrom

G. E. L. Church Tezpur

DT. DARRANG, ASSAM

TREASURER

Rev. C. B. Alnd

G. E. L. Church

Raj-Gangpur,

DT. SUNDARGARH, ORISSA

- 2 -

Ref.

Dated.....

4. Conference of the German fellowworkers of the Gossner Church:-----

This is a routinal matter and you told me about it in Germany. These fellowworkers need certain consultations and mutual understanding amongst themselves and so they must meet together as you suggest, twice at Ranchi beginning with this year ending in December. Brother Borge and my self shall be glad to attend the Conference on one of the mornings and speak to them about the current problems of the whole Gossner Church and discuss with them the questions arising.

5. Service of Sister Hedwig Schmidt :-----

You and I have already talked together ^{about} Sister Schmidt's work. It is definite that she will not live in Govindpur. She will have to live either at Ranchi or any where outside Govindpur and her main work will be to organize a Home for the Blind and Crippled girls and Women in connection with the Tabitha School. Her side activities will be determined when she is here.

6. Special Gift of Rs. 30000/- for the Tabitha School in Govindpur:-----

The KSS was expecting this money according to previous correspondence with Director Lokies. With this money improvements will be made on the Tabitha School buildings, so that blind and crippled girls and women could be taken in and cared for. The neighbouring house will be acquired and renovated. The KSS will have to submit to you the plan and estimate of the proposed improvements. As the KSS will sit next only in January 1963 we shall have to wait for the plan and estimate.

7. Pension fund of the Gossner Church :-----

The KSS heard my verbal report of this fund with deep sense of gratitude. This gave a great relief to the KSS. In my verbal Report I mentioned this Gift in figures as you mentioned it to me at Rs. 60,000/- in DM 50000. I would request you to mention these figures to confirm my report. The KSS will frame rules and regulations regarding this fund and will submit a copy of the same to you.

8. Beginning of realisation of the five year plan of the Gossner Church :-----

The KSS with grateful thanks acknowledges the kind gift of the Mother Church in Germany in an offer to repair the Church buildings, bungalows and School Houses and to help in building urgent new accommodations of the Gossner Church. In the offer the Gossner Church sees in concrete form the motherly affection of the Church in Germany. With Brother Thiel we presented a budget of Rs. 1500000/- fifteen hundred thousand rupees and that became the basis of the five year plan. In my report I have already mentioned this. I would request you to kindly confirm this fact also. We shall be waiting for Brother Thiel to come back from Germany to make concrete beginning of the five year plan. I personally have already informed brother

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TREASURER
Rev. C. B. Alind
G. E. L. Church
Raj-Gangpur,
DT. SUNDARGARH, ORISSA

Ref.

- 3 -

Dated

brother P.D. Panna regarding your views about the building supervisor and brother Panna receives the information in a very fine spirit. He is ready to help his church in any way possible without being employed as building supervisor. We must wait for Brother Thiel to take the next step.

9. Evangelical Lutheran College :-----

The KSS considers the gift of an Evangelical Lutheran College as a great boon of the Church in Germany and receives the news with the greatest joy and gratitude. This will really complete "a most comprehensive programme of a Church in the Mission field" as Dr. Thimme said in the meeting. On behalf of the KSS I would ^{earnestly} request the Mother Church to give effect to the scheme at a very early date. The KSS will form a Board and will submit to you a Plan and Estimate of the Proposed College. We have wonderful gift of land at Ranchi and this gift of God might be taken away from us if we let this property waste by keeping it without use. Throughout the Mother Church I have made appeal for this great Institution. I hope to contact Dr. Wolf on this matter. I expect direct help from the Ranchi University authorities among whom we have the Governor of Bihar as Chancellor of the University.

10. Invitation to Rev. Schottstadt East Berlin :-----

I am glad to hear from you about the visit of Brother Schottstadt to the Gossner Church. I have written to him from Calcutta on the 24th September 1962 but I have not received any reply from him. Perhaps my letter to him also went astray as my letter addressed to you on the same date.

One of my objects to visit the DDR was to establish connection between the DDR and the Gossner Church. I placed this matter before Mr. Zeigewasser and he was not unwilling to accept my request when I prayed that he might allow Brother Schottstadt to visit the Gossner field. Now my duty is to send an invitation to Brother Schottstadt. The KSS most cordially welcomes Brother Schottstadt. I am sending the invitation just now. But I am not quite sure if he receives my letters. This may also go astray. But I send a copy of the same to you.

The Official action on all the above points will be taken by the KSS wherever required at its next meeting in later part of January 1963 and you will know each action taken by the KSS in due course of time.

With kind regards and cordial greetings of Yishusahay to you and to all the members of the Kuratorium,

Yours Sincerely,

Memo No. 300/62.

Copy to Secretary,
KSS.

J. Lakra
Pramukh Adhyaksh (President)
G. E. L. Church, Ranchi.

File VI

GOSSNER EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN CHURCH.

PRAMUKH ADHYAKSH
Rev. J. Lakra
G. E. L. Church
RANCHI, BIHAR.

UP-PRAMUKH ADHYAKSH
Rev. Dr. M. Bage
G. E. L. Church
CHAIBASSA, SINGBHUM, BIHAR.

SECRETARY
Rev. M. Hemrom
G. E. L. Church Tezpur
DT. DARRANG, ASSAM

TREASURER
Rev. C. B. Aind
G. E. L. Church
Raj-Gangpur,
DT SUNDARGARH, ORISSA

Ref. 298/62.

Dated 13th Oct. 1962.

To,

Dr. Christian Berg,
Director, Gossner Mission Society,
Berlin.

Dear Brother Berg,

Many thanks for your letter dated 5th Oct. 1962 giving me ~~the~~ a confidential information regarding the Mission Work in the Gossner Church. As we have already talked on the subject in Germany I clearly understand what you intend to say in this letter. I can see the great caution you take in introducing the subject. The sudden disclosure of your plan will disturb the mind of some persons on the field here. Therefore it requires tact and caution in handling this matter. You will take definite action by and by.

You would have expected a stormy KSS by all the letters which you received from here while I was in Germany. But God acted wonderfully. The atmosphere is clear without any sign of disturbance. The timely action on your part writing a stern letter to Rev. J. J. P. Tiga has done this wonder. You hammered at the very root of the cause of disturbance and God has blessed your work. I am most thankful for this situation. All the evils are cooked in the same kitchen. It needs firm action to control the situation. I need your help also in future to keep down the evil forces which at times disturb the Gossner Church. Any constructive action on behalf of any member of the Gossner Church I shall welcome, even it may cause some disturbance for the time being. But disturbances caused only by mischief for the sake of mischief should be suppressed with firm action. The world has plenty of mischief every where.

The last KSS meetings were so fine peaceful and helpful to the Gossner Church.

With kind regards.

Yours Sincerely,

J. Lakra
Pramukh Adhyaksh (President)
G. E. L. Church, Ranchi.

GOSSNER EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN CHURCH.

PRAMUKH ADHYAKSH
Rev. J. Lakra
G. E. L. Church
RANCHI, BIHAR.

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DT. DARRANG, ASSAM

TREASURER
Rev. C. B. Aind
G. E. L. Church
Raj-Gangpur,
DT SUNDARGARH, ORISSA

Ref. 237/62.

Dated the 13th Oct. 62.

To,

Dr. Schottstadt
Berlin No. 55
Dimitroffstr, 133
Germany.

3. J. Korgaun

Dear Brother Schottstadt,

I have great pleasure to invite you heartily in the name of the whole Gossner Church to visit our Church. In September 1962, I had the possibility to perform a journey through in DDR and have got many impressions of the Church life, and of the political life too. I wish that the contact between the Gossner Church in India and the Church in the DDR grows and that we have more visits mutually.

I have seen the Gossner Mission in the DDR as a work of the ~~Gossner~~ ~~XXXX~~ Church. I have the wish that their work may help also in future, concerning the mutual information and on account of this I most heartily invite you.

I beg you to come next December and January and study our situation concerning the ecclesiastical and political life. Your visit certainly will help both Churches and also will be help for the peace in the world. Your friend Carl Ordnung with whom you are invited by the Methodist Church in New Delhi is also heartily welcomed in our Church.

I hope your political Institutions will help you in the same way as they helped me during my stay in the DDR.

Fraternally Yours,

Pramukh Adhyaksh (President),
G. E. L. Church, Ranchi.

Copy to Dr. Berg for any
remark and return. This has
not yet been dispatched to
Bro. Schottstadt.

J. Lakra
Pramukh Adhyaksh (President),
G. E. L. Church, Ranchi.

Berlin-Friedenau, 5th October 1962
Dr.Bg/Wo.

Pramukh Adhyaksh
Rev. J. Lakra
G.E.L. Church
Ranchi/Bihar - India

re.: Service of Sister Hedwig S c h m i d t

Dear Brother Lakra,

May I remind you that on your own personal initiative you invited Sister Hedwig S c h m i d t to enter the service of the Gossner Church again as fellow-worker. The Kuratorium hesitated at first, but then you pronounced the invitation, and managed to procure a visa for her very quickly.

In consideration of the responsibility we bear for Sister Hedwig we of the Kuratorium who are willing to bear the expence of her journey and her work, we beg you heartily to give us a clear assignment for her work. The only directive she has been given by the directors of the Gossner-work in Germany, is, that she is not to live in Govindpurl. For the rest she is to be at the service of the church government in respect to her work. The possibilities for her work lie in the following direction:

- a) She has prepared herself to help the Tabita Scheel organise a service for blind girls. I could imagine that that would be the main field of work she would be assigned to for the beginning.
- b) Beside this I am sure it would be important in view of Sister Hedwig's experience and knowledge of languages, to engage her in certain literary undertakings.
- c) It may become more and more important to give her a clear assignment for Women's work within the whole area of the Gossner Church. So probably Ranchi would be the most suitable place for her to live in.-To make it short, I would be very grateful if you would give me the possibility to inform the Kuratorium very soon how you intend to define the assignment for Sister Hedwig. I am sure that will not be possible before she has come to you at the end of this year, and you will have consulted not only the KSS but also Sister Hedwig herself.

In any case we shall accompany her work in the Gossner Church with our sincerest good wishes and expectations.

Fraternal greetings

Yours sincerely,

cc/ Secretary of the KSS
Rev.Kloss

Lakra Betr. Dienst von Schw. Hedwig Schmidt

Service
re: ~~Work~~ of Sister Hedwig Schmidt

Dear Brother Lakra,

May I remind you that on your own personal initiative you invited Sister Hedwig Schmidt to enter ~~the~~ the service of the Gossner Church again as fellow-worker. The Kuratorium hesitated at first, but then you pronounced the invitation, and managed to procure a visa for her very quickly.

In considering ^{ation} of the responsibility we bear for Sister Hedwig we of the Kuratorium who are willing to bear the expenses of her journey and her work, ^{we} I beg you heartily to give us a clear assignment for her work. The only directive she has been given by the directors of the Gossner work in Germany, is, that she is not to live in Govindpur. For the rest she is to be at the service of the church government in respect to her work. The ~~working~~ ^{for her work} possibilities lie in the following direction:

a) She has prepared herself to help the Tabita School ~~establish~~ or-
ganise a service for blind girls. I could imagine that that would
be the main field of work she would be assigned to for the beginning.

b) Beside this I am sure it would be important ⁱⁿ ~~view~~ ^{of} Sister
Hedwig's experiences and knowledge of languages, to engage her in ^{cer-}
~~literary~~ ^{literary} undertakings.

c) It may become more and more important to give her a clear assignment
for Women's work within the whole ^{area} ~~sphere~~ of the Gossner Church. So
probably Ranchi would be the most suitable place for her to live in.
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you will have consulted not only the KSS but also Sister Hedwig herself.

In any case we shall accompany her work in the Gossner Church with
our sincerest ^{good wishes} ~~wishes~~ and expectations.

Fraternal greetings

yours sincerely,

Ist 1959 Soll 1960 Soll 1961

Übertrag 1.492.859,31 1.502.000 1.851.500

Sächliche Ausgaben
Titel 3

Geschäftsbedürfnisse
1. Grund- und Oberschulen 7.112,24 7.500 10.000
2. Gymnasium 2.365,45 2.500 2.500

Inventar und Geräte (Erhaltung und Ergänzung)
Titel 4 x) 1. Grund- und Oberschulen 11.427,34 10.000 12.500
2. Gymnasium 1.690,59 3.000 3.500

Unterhalt und bauliche Veränderung der Schulgebäude
1. Grund- und Oberschulen 7.079,32 26.500 30.700
2. Gymnasium 3.723,-- 4.400 3.300

Titel 6
Bewirtschaftung der Schulgebäude
I Allgemeine Betriebskosten

a) Heizung, Licht
1. Grund- und Oberschulen 40.673,49 49.000 55.000
2. Gymnasium 9.610,77 18.000 19.000

b) Betriebsmittel für
Wasserverbrauch, Reinigungs-
mittel, Versicherungen,
Grundsteuern usw. 18.782,66 24.000 27.000

c) Mieten an Dritte
Spandau, Ev. Johannesschiff
Steglitz, Mittelstr. 27.000,-- 27.000 42.400
Steglitz, Schlossstr. 1.920,-- 1.920 3.000
Gebühren für ermietete
Räume 3.102,20 2.000 2.000

Übertrag 1.630.346,37 1.680.820 2.064.320

x) Vermerk:

Die Titel 4 und 5 sind gegenseitig deckungsfähig.

Zur Übersetzung

Entwurf

(Anschrift Präs. Lakra)

Betr.: Dienst von Schwester Hedwig S c h m i d t

Lieber Bruder Lakra!

Ich darf Sie daran erinnern, daß Sie in einer besonders selbständigen Initiative Schwester Hedwig S c h m i d t zum erneuten Dienst als Mitarbeiterin in der Goßner-Kirche eingeladen haben. Im Kuratorium hier bestand noch Zögern, aber dann haben Sie die Einladung ausgesprochen und eine rasche Erteilung des Visums erwirkt.

Um der Verantwortung des Kuratoriums ~~willen~~ für Schwester Hedwig ~~willen~~, das gern bereit ist, die Kosten für ihre Ausreise und ihren Dienst zu übernehmen, bitte ich Sie nun herzlich, einen klaren Dienstauftrag für sie mitzuteilen. Von der Leitung in der Goßnerarbeit hier in der Heimat hat sie nur die klare Anweisung, nicht in Govindpur Wohnung zu nehmen. Sonst soll sie sich in ihrer Arbeit ~~ihren~~ ^{den} Anweisungen ^{der Kuratoriums} zur Verfügung halten. Die Möglichkeiten liegen etwa in folgender Richtung:

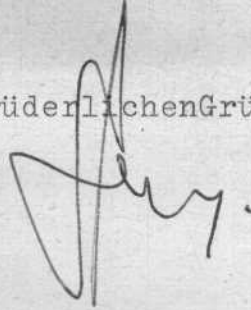
- a) Sie hat sich darauf gerüstet, der Tabita-Schule zu helfen, einen Dienst an erblindeten Mädchen mitaufzubauen. Ich könnte mir sehr wohl denken, daß das zunächst der Hauptinhalt ihres Dienstauftrags sein wird.
- b) Daneben wird es sicher wichtig sein, Schwester Hedwig um ihrer Erfahrung und ihrer Sprachkenntnisse willen für gewisse literarische Aufgaben heranzuziehen.
- c) Es könnte je länger je mehr auch wichtig sein, sie für die kirchliche Frauenarbeit im Gesamtbereich der Goßner-Kirche mit einem klaren Auftrag zu versehen. ~~Um~~ Deshalb wäre wahrscheinlich Ranchi der geeignete Wohnort für sie.

Kurzum, ich wäre sehr dankbar, wenn ich das Kuratorium in absehbarer Zeit davon unterrichten könnte, wie Sie den Dienstauftrag für Schwester Hedwig gestalten möchten. Das wird gewiß erst möglich sein, wenn Sie Ende des Jahres bei Ihnen ^{ge}kommen ^{sein} wird und Sie

nicht nur mit dem KSS, sondern auch mit ihr selbst darüber gesprochen haben werden.

Wir begleiten jedenfalls ihre Mitarbeit in der Goßner-Kirche mit besonders herzlichen Segenswünschen und Erwartungen.

Mit brüderlichen Grüßen!

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to be 'F. J. Gossner', written in a cursive style.

Berlin-Friedenau, 5th October 1962
Dr.Bg/Wo.

Pramukh Adhyaksh
Rev. J. Lakra
G.E.L.Church
Ranchi/Bihar - India

re.: Visit of Diakon Weissinger in Mainz-Kastel to the Gossner-Church

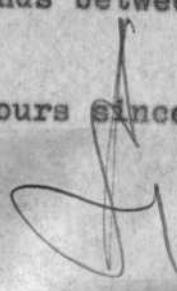
Dear Brother Lakra,

Besides Mr. and Mrs. Seeberg, I have to inform you and through you the KSS and the whole church that another visitor is coming to see you within the coming weeks. It is Diakon Weissinger from Mainz-Kastel who is starting for a journey of about 10 weeks to some countries and their churches in Asia. He will have time for about a four-weeks visit to the Gossner-Church.

As he has been connected with the Gossner-work since more than 10 years and knows a lot about you, I am especially pleased that he now has the opportunity to visit you. Please welcome him heartily and let him receive an impression of the special problems of your work, especially where they are caused by the rapid industrial development in the district of Ranchi.

He will let you know the exact date of his arrival himself, because it is not yet fixed. Only I wanted to let you know of his coming officially. May he be a messenger of joy to you and us at home to strengthen the bonds between us.

Yours sincerely,



co/ Secretary of the K.S.S.
Rev. Kloss

An Lakra

President

re. *Visit of Diakon Weissinger in Mainz-Kastel to the Gossner-Church*

Dear Brother Lakra,

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He will let you know the exact date of his arrival himself, because ~~it~~ is not yet fixed. Only I wanted to let you know of his coming officially. May he be a messenger of joy to you and us at home to strengthen the bonds between us.

yours sincerely,

Ist 1959 Soll 1960 Soll 1961

Übertrag 1.492.859,31 1.502.000 1.851.500

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Unterhalt und bauliche Veränderung

der Schulgebäude

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Titel 6

Bewirtschaftung der Schulgebäude

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Steglitz, Schlossstr.

Räume Gebühren für ermietete

.....

1.630.346,37 1.680.820 2.064.320

x) Vermerk:

Die Titel 4 und 5 sind gegenseitig deckungsfähig.

Zur Übersetzung

Entwurf

An den
Präsidenten der Evang.-Luth.Goßner-Kirche
Rev. Joel Lakra
Ranchi/Bihar
India

Lieber Bruder Lakra!

Abf. / Außer dem Ehepaar Seeberg habe ich Ihnen und durch Sie den Brüdern im KSS und ~~den Brüdern~~ in der ^{Goßner}Goßner-Kirche noch einen weiteren Besucher im Verlauf der kommenden Zeit anzuzeigen: Herr Diakon Weissinger aus Mainz-Kastel wird sich ab Anfang November zu einer etwa 10wöchigen Reise in einigen Ländern und deren Kirchen in Asien aufmachen. Er wird auch Zeit haben, etwa 4 Wochen die Goßner-Kirche zu besuchen. Da er seit über 10 Jahren dem Goßner-Werk angehört und viel von Ihnen weiß, ist es mir eine große Freude, daß sich jetzt die Gelegenheit zu diesem Besuch ergeben hat. Nehmen Sie auch ihn mit Freuden auf und lassen Sie ihn Einblick gewinnen in die besonderen Probleme der kirchlichen Arbeit; insbesondere, soweit sie durch die rasche industrielle Entwicklung im Großraum Ranchi gegeben sind.

Das genaue Datum seiner Ankunft wird der Ihnen noch selber mitteilen, weil es heute noch nicht feststeht. Aber ich wollte Ihnen doch rechtzeitig und in aller Form von seinem Kommen Mitteilung machen. Möchte auch er für Sie und uns in der Heimat ein Bote der Freude sein, der die Verbundenheit zwischen uns verstärkt.

Mit brüderlichen Grüßen bin ich

Ihr

