

**GOSSNER EVANGELICAL – LUTHERAN CHURCH
IN CHOTANAGPUR AND ASSAM**

GELC ARCHIVE

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MEETING

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- Minutes of the full KSS meeting on 19-23rd June 1984.

G. E. L. CHURCH IN CHOTANAGPUR AND ASSAM.

Minutes of the Full KSS Meeting dated 19-23rd June 1984.

1. The meeting opened with devotion led by the Chairman the Rev. Dr. M. Bage, Pramukh Adhyaksh. He expressed happiness that the full KSS is meeting at Rajgangpur.

2. Roll Call- The following members attended :-

- | | | | |
|-----|--|---------------|---------------|
| 1. | The Rev. Dr. M. Bage, Pramukh Adhyaksh | | |
| 2. | " " S. Mohan M.G. Up-Pr. Adhyaksh | | |
| 3. | " " S.K. Jojo- Orissa Anchal | | |
| 4. | Shri Paulus Topno member | Orissa Anchal | |
| 5. | " B. Minz | " | " |
| 6. | The Rev. M. Tete | " | Madhya Anchal |
| 7. | Shri A. Lakra | " | " |
| 8. | The Rev. S. Toppo | " | N.W. Anchal |
| 9. | " " O. Toppo | " | " |
| 10. | Shri P. Topno | " | " |
| 11. | " E. Manz | " | " |
| 12. | The Rev. C.S.R. Topno | " | S. E. |
| 13. | " " M. Barjo | " | " |
| 14. | Shri E. Dang | " | " |
| 15. | " B.K. Barrom | " | " |
| 16. | The Rev. C.S.B. Hora | " | Assam Anchal |
| 17. | Shri G. Tiru | " | " |
| 18. | Mrs. M. Minz | " | Mahila |
| 19. | The Rev. Dr. C.K. Paul Singh | Special Inv. | |

Apologys was received from Rev, J, Kullu- Madhya Anchal.

Absentees :- one from Madhya Anchal and two from Assam Anchal.

With above attendance there was quorum.

The meeting was therefore called to order. Rajgangpur congregation welcomed the KSS members.

3(a)- Coming to the next item in the circulated agenda serious initial objection was raised that :-

- i) The Minutes was circulated among the members.
- ii) was published in the Bharbandhu
- iii) was acted upon without confirmation and visitors were included in the attendance.

It was submitted that the circulation and action thereon was as per universal practice and that it was not published in the Bharbandhu as was made out.

This did not satisfy the members and the Samiti members were left to confirm the Minutes after necessary corrections.

The KSS Samiti thereupon heard the Minutes and after removal of the names of visitors and corrections here and there confirmed.

- (b) In the resumed sitting after lunch there was discussion on
i) the Agenda. An approved agenda was taken up. According to this
the third item viz amendment to the constitution as proposed
by sevenmen committee was taken up.

It was unanimously agreed that only one viz the proposal
to extend the duration of membership and of office at all
levels of the Church organisation from three to five years.

- ii) Accordingly it was unanimously Resolved that the tenure or
duration of membership and of office at all levels of the
Church organisations be extended from three to five years.
iii) Resolved further that necessary corrections to substitute
words and figures three years by words and figures five
years be made in the constitutions wherever they occur.
iv) Resolved also that this amendment be made effective from
first of November 1984.

It was earlier informed that all Anchals except the
Madhya Anchal had sent in their opinions on the proposed
amendment. It was agreed that despite nonreceipt of opinion
from M. Anchal consideration for amendment on noncontroversial
articles could be made.

With the above amendment it was resolved that suggestion be
made to the next KSS to take up the proposals for amendments of
other articles.

Doubts were voiced as to whether the benefit of extension
of the tenure of office from three to five was available to the
incoming Pramukh Adhyaksh i.e. the present Up -Pramukh Adhyaksh
All agreed that the benefit of amendment as to the period of
five years was available to him.

4(a) Matters from last minutes :- KSS Samiti of 24/25.2.1984.

- i) Shri A. Lakra Headmaster Khutitoly High School reminded that
the G.M. wanted a policy decision on the question of priority
of projects and endorsement of their plan. After discussion
considering the fact that people in Chotanagpur are still in
backward in all respects education is still a valid question
for their development. Science education has assumed great
importance.

- ii) The KSS therefore resolved that priority be given to all
projects relating to science education.

The project of Khutitoly High School for building for
science block is therefore endorsed to the G.M. for donor
agencies.

- iii) Development plans in general also came for discussion:-

Resolved that the Anchals draw up plans suited to their area
for study and endorsement by the KSS.

- (b) Appointment of Superintendent in KSS Office:*

... and the members were very unhappy that the KSSS decision

in Feb 1984, at Tezpur for advertisement regarding appointment of KSS office Superintendent was not carried out.

Resolved that the same be done immediately. Advertisement calling for applications be made and appointment made by 15th Sept. 1984.

Applications be called from persons with experience of office administration for more than 10 years.

They should be graduates.

Retired persons within two years of their retirement may be considered for appointment on contract of one year renewable for one year at a time.

Pramukh Adhyaksh is authorised to constitute a selection committee.

5) Reports :-

a)- Pramukh Adhyaksh (i) His written report was read out and accepted for discussion.

He underscored following points :-

Financial situation of the central office- KSS- non achievement of the targeted figure of Atam Palan collection. Properties in the church centre- Anchal relationship.

GEL Church and North West GEL Church relationship, Central office, future of the retiring Pramukh Adhyaksh.

After discussion :- Resolved that steps for achievement of targeted figure (Atam Palan) be made.

Financial Rules be finalised and implemented.

In the proposed seminar on finance. Anchal Mahila and Youth Ilaka and Anchal Treasurers, leaders be invited.

ii) On Property resolved that a seminar under the auspices of the UELCI who should be requested for assistance for seminar be arranged for discussion and implementation of development plans in the church progress of plan for the main road Ranchi was informed to the members.

iii) Commission on Lohardaga and Karimati -

It was felt that the commission find time to settle the matter on this session itself.

As regards Lohardaga case the commission having expressed its inability to do anything in the matter in its verbal report.

Resolved that Rev. H. Tirkey be transferred to the Board of Property Office at Ranchi releasing Rev. P. Bage who goes back to the North Western Anchal. This will take effect from August 1, 1984.

Rev. H. Tirkey will move first and to have one week's briefing from Rev. Bage.

(b)- Reports of Adhyakshes :-

- 1) Orissa Anchal :- In his written report the Adhyaksh touched upon-
- i) interference still by Madhya Anchal in Jhurmul Congregation,

Resolved that the two Adhyakshes jointly visit the Congregation as was decided in the KSSS meeting on Feb 24-25, 1984, and settle the case.

- ii) Unsatisfactory progress in the Mission Field was mentioned for which he gave his reasons.

- i) engagement of non-Oriya knowing Pracharaks.
- ii) They are not properly trained
- iii) Lack of interest in Mission work.

It was directed that these and other short comings be removed i.e. well trained and properly motivated Oriya knowing Pracharaks be deployed.

On property he mentioned that the property drawn up plans be worked out for development.

- 2) Madhya Anchal :- In his oral report the Adhyaksh informed of the danger from the Govt, as was found from a proposal for an establishment of a Harijan Colony in our property. Progress in the building of the church at Khutitaly and Baghima was mentioned. He informed that steps for protection of jungle are being taken.

3) North Western Anchal :-

- i) In his oral report the Anchal Adhyaksh informed about beginning of mission work at Nepal. He informed that the congregation at Satighata where two Kharia families and one Routia family have been baptised.

He also informed about the organisational work being set-up viz diaspora congregations at Allahabad, Mirzapur and other places in UP, Rajasthan and Haryana Census of the Anchal of the Anchal was given as there are-

292 congregations ministered by 33 pastors, 230 Pracharaks, Pracharika. There are 5681 families, 30719 members (Baptised) and 13161 confirmed members steps for improvement of spiritual life through seminars, Bible Classes etc are being taken.

It was hoped that the Anchal will be self reliant financially very soon.

- ii) He visited Delhi in May this year. He submitted his oral report that the Delhi Congregation needed help for some more months.

Resolved that the assistance be confirmed till December 31, 1984 and that no further assistance will be given beyond this date.

Monthly Receipts and Expenditure statements should be introduced upon.

iii) Ordination of two Pracharaks - Proposal of -

He placed before the KSS a proposal - as resolved by the Anchal Samiti on 13.6.84 that Sarbshri Ohma Lakra and Nelson Topna be after two month short course traing in the G.Th.C be ordained.

The proposal be approved. The Anchal adhyaksh to contact the Acting Principal about the short course training.

4) SE Anchal - (a) In his oral report the adhyaksh informed that

- i) The Anchal will be celebrating Silver Jubilee of the Anchal in 1985 for which a budget of Rs 600,000 including a endowment of Rs 1.5 lacs has been been worked out. The project envisages disposal of lands at several places. The Anchal is advised to come with the proposal through the Board of Property.

(b) He pointed out

the need for interAnchal transfer of some pastors and related problem of postings of pastor at Jamshedpur.

It was reported that the request of Andaman for school, hostel and hospital to strenthen the existence of GELC in Andaman was returned by the Gossner Mission.

Resolved that the project request be endorsed to the G.M.

(c) Inter Anchal Transfer - After discussion resolved that on release by the South East Anchal services of the Rev. CD Jojo Jashipur is placed at the disposal of the Orissa Anchal. On release by Orissa Anchal services of Rev. M. Tete Rairakhil placed at the disposal of the SE Anchal for posting in Andaman.

These transfer will take effect from first of Oct. 1984.

5. Assam Anchal - Main points made by the adhyaksh in his oral report are -

i) Living under a different socio-economic and geographical environment the church members there are handicapped in so many ways. Financially the Anchal is trying to be self reliant.

ii) Mission work - One congregation in the Mission Field has come into being. Many new converts have been made.

A parish comprising several congregation in the Mission Field on experimental basis been constituted.

iii) Development projects like pisciculture, agriculture, horticulture etc are being worked. Serious thoughts on the question of survey on the debtedness and mortgages of lands are being given for preparing projects.

iv) He wanted green signal for educational projects viz High school at Tinsukia and College at Tezpur.

- v) for Bathaibhanga the Anchal could come forward with definite development project

The Anchal is short of pastors as a result of which four parishes are going without proper pastoral care.

The Sabha was also informed that nine JEL Church origin Lutheran Congregations who have joined the GEL Church need an Oriya knowing preferably Kotpad trained pastor for ministry in the above nine Congregations.

The KSS, noting the need will be on the look out for such a pastor and request other Anchals for help. The KSS also learnt with happiness that 90% of the ex A.L. Church members have come back and of the two courts cases ~~them~~ one has been decided in Anchal's favour and in respect of the other because the Dongihill congregation has come back to GELC the case has been withdrawn.

vi) Ordination of Pracharaks - Noting that the Anchal is in need of five pastors and noting further that Candidate Shri R. Lakra has already been recommended for ordination the Anchal proposed for ordination of two well trained and experienced Pracharaks is approved. Accordingly resolved that apart from Cand. R. Lakra, Shri Paul Khess Christianpara and another to be named later br offer two months short course training to be arranged locally at Tezpur by the Anchal Adhyaksh, be ordained.

v) KSS- Anchal relationship - As discussed earlier in Feb 1984 at Tezpur the Anchal is free to make suggestions for special provisions to give concrete shape to their requirements.

6) Report from Ministerium - The Ministerium's report was received for information only of the Sabha.

7) Matter from Boards -

(a) (i) Board of Evangelism and Literature-

The report was received with thanks for discussion. He expressed difficulties on the question of operation of Bank A/Cs.

Resolved that henceforth the Director BEL will operate Bank A/C concerning funds meant for the Board either with the Treasurer or the Pramukh Adhyaksh the prime signatory being the Director BEL.

ii) As regards Anchals it was decided that the Anchals will bring forward resolution for joint operation of the Bank A/C relating to their Mission Fields by Supervisor with one of Anchal officers.

iii) Publication of books - After discussion resolved that Nayaniam and Purana Niyam for which some amounts have been received from the UELCI be re-edited and published.

Resolved further that work of the re-editing be done through the G.Th.C. staff and that the Acg. Principal G.Th.C. be requested to release member or members of the staff for the purpose i.e. re-edition work.

b) Budget - This was presented by the Pramukh and discussed. In view of the absence of the accountant who alone could explain certain queries.

Resolve that Finance Committee examine the Budget and come forward with suggestions to cover deficit.

8. Letters i) West Bengal Pastors Conference at St. Thomas School Calcutta from 7 to 11 Jan 1985 -

The GELC Congregation around Calcutta may think of sending delegates.

ii) The KSS noted that UELCI has taken a decision to start B.D classes from June 1985 at Gurukul, Madras. Noting that there is possibility of stipends for two students from GELC resolved that we send students to Gurukul when it is started.

iii) NCCI & WCC letters -

Proposed integrated Theological Training School and Rural government Development Programme under a new name of the New Life Light Centre at Govindpur was considered and approved. Further resolved that preferred services to the Centre by the Rev. Dr. M. Bage is thankfully accepted. Participation of Rev W. Jacob and Mrs. Jacob in the Centre is most welcome

iv) NCCI letters Christian Education Council of India -

The letter was received.

Resolved that Anchals be requested to send participants at Calcutta from 16th to 19th October 1984. Copies of the letter be sent to the Anchals for action

v) Forum for Christian concern for People's Struggle -

The letter was received. Resolved that Rev. C.S.R. Topno Adhyaksh SE Anchal be requested to attend the conference from 14 th to 16th August 1984 at Delhi.

vi) The Sabha was informed that the Rev. Albert Minz has been granted Scholarship for study for doctorate in Singapore.

vii) The Sabha learned with happiness that the Rev. R. Dang has been confirmed in absentia Ph.D. degree in Biblical Studies by Union Theological Seminary in Virginia USA. The KSS congratulates Rev. Dr. R. Dang on his success.

viii) Transfer of money - The members were reminded that on our request the GM has agreed to transfer Theological Education money to India.

Resolve that the Finance Committee look into it from I. Tax point of view and that the fund on receipt be put in the fixed deposit A/C.

9) GEL Church Bank A/Cs:- Operation- Resolved that henceforth the Treasurer KSS will jointly operate all the A/Cs of the Church in different Banks either with the Pramukh Adhyaksh or with the prime signatory being the Treasurer.

10. Seminar for Book keeping & Accountancy- Resolved that in view of the retirement of Rev. C.B. Minz, a Seminar for imparting training in calculation and maintenance of A/C relating to Provident fund, Pension, Pay fixation and Madiral fund be organised on 17th and 18th July 1984 at Ranchi.

Trainees including the Anchal Adhyakshas, Treasurers and MF Supervisors and other concerned to arrive at Ranchi on 16.7.84.

Rev. C.B. Minz will be relieved of responsibility of PF & Pension, Medical fund from first of Sept 1984.

11. Declaration of Candidates :-

The followings who will be declared candidates on 27.6.84 are posted as under :-

- | | | | |
|-----|---------------------|--------|-------------|
| 1. | Shri P.D. Kerketta | - | N.W. Anchal |
| 2. | " Nirmal Soreng | " | " |
| 3. | " Epharain Khess | " | " |
| 4. | " Anand Bahurai Nag | " | " |
| 5. | " Cyprian Jaria | S.E. | Anchal |
| 6. | " Israel Purti | " | " |
| 7. | " Masihprakash Haro | " | " |
| 8. | " Naiman Dang | " | " |
| 9. | " Obed Kongari | Orissa | Anchal |
| 10. | " S.S. Dang | " | " |
| 11. | " John Dang | " | " |

12(a)- Shri Hardugan Tiru- Assam Anchal-

To overcome certain difficulties in declaration of candidates.

Resolved that with effect from next year the G.T.C. may be requested to inform the Pramukh Adhyaksh and the Secretary Minister, um two months ahead of the close of the academic year of the college and the Secretary Ministerium arranges for test for declaration of candidates before the students leave Ranchi.

- (b) Rev. Yakub Lakra - His claim for extension of service and for payment of salary was discussed.

Resolved that since he has already retired and has been collecting his pension, his claim is rejected.

- (c)- Panjika 1985- Resolved that Rev. Belas Lakra and Rev.P.D. Burh be requested to undertake the preparation of the Panjika for 1985.

Resolved further that they be paid honorarium of Rs. 150 each.

- (d) Revivalist minister for Germany - Anchals be requested to send names for selection of candidates for Germany latest by 16.7.84.

The officers and available Adhyakshas will do the selection.

The members were informed that the the Pramukh Adhyaksh will be abroad at Budapest (Hungary) for LWF Assembly and will be visiting East Germany as well as West Germany to participate in Kuratorium meeting between July 19 to September 25, 1984.

Noted as for Constitutional provision the Up-Pramukh Adhyaksh will be the Acting in his place.

The meeting closed with prayer by the chairman.

Read and confirmed

Sd/- Rev. Dr. M. Bage
Pramukh Adhyaksh
23.6.84

Sd/- P. Topno
23.6.84
Secretary