

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

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Executive Meeting

Jan. 17-18, 1958

GOSSNER EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN CHURCH IN CHOTANAGPUR AND ASSAM.

CHURCH COUNCIL EXECUTIVE MEETING

JANUARY 17 & 18, 1958.

I. Devotion: Devotion was led by the President Rev. J. J. P. Tiga. Thereafter the meeting was opened for business.

II. Roll Call: The following members were present:-

- | | |
|----------------------------------|-----------------------------|
| 1. President Rev. J. J. P. Tiga. | 5. Member Rev. Itmen Guria. |
| 2. Secretary Mr. N. E. Hero. | 6. " Rev. C. B. Aind. |
| 3. Treasurer Mr. C. M. Hero. | 7. " Rev. J. Kiro. |
| 4. Member. Mr. M. D. Minz. | 8. " Mr. C. M. Tiga. |

9. Hon'ble Member: Rev. H. F. Berutta.

Special invitee - Mr. Mr. P. S. Sokey Member Church Council.

- Visitors:-
1. Prof: Dr. M. Bage.
 2. Prof: S. Surin.
 3. Rev. S. Kula.
 4. Rev. S. Surin.
 5. Cand: Martin Tete.

III. Confirmation of Minutes:

The minutes of the full Church Council meeting of December 10-13, 1957 were read. Council

Res: 1/58: - Resolved that the minutes of the full Church meeting held on Dec: 10-13, 1957 be approved in toto and circulated among members of the full Church Council for confirmation.

IV. Matters arising out of Minutes:

(1) Ref: Res 189/57: Warning to leaders of the so-called North Zone.

Noted that the President has sent warnings to 16 leaders of the so-called North Zone.

(2) Ref: Res; 190/57: Warning to Rev. J. Lakra, Principal, Luth: Theological College, Ranchi.

The President reported that he has sent a warning to the Rev. J. Lakra, Principal, Lutheran Theological College on 3rd January 1958. To this Rev. Lakra replied on 9th January, 1958. It was read before the Executive. After discussion it was decided to invite Rev. J.

Lakra to the meeting of the Executive to day in order to explain his position as in his letter of 9th Jan: '58 Rev. Lakra is challenging the authority of the Church Council.

Rev. Lakra was asked to come to the Executive at 2.30 p.m. to-day the 17th Jan: '58. Instead of coming to the Executive he sent a letter dated today. The Executive examined the two letters from Rev. J. Lakra viz that of 9th Jan: and of 17th Jan: '58.

The Executive finds the two letters of Rev. J. Lakra to be out of point and irrelevant. He has openly and wilfully defied and disrespected the authority which appointed him as Principal of the Lutheran Theological College. The Executive deplores his refusal to come to this meeting of the Executive as requested. The Executive holds that Rev. J. Lakra should explain himself properly.

It is reiterated that the charges brought against Rev. J. Lakra (vide full C.C.'s resolution 190/57) stands.

Res: 2/58: Resolved that the final action against Rev. J. Lakra in accordance with the resolution of the full Church Council (vide Res: 190/57) be postponed.

(3) Burju Synod men garbari: Padri Itmen Guria ne report diya hai ki Burju Mandli tatha Burju Middle School men kai karanon se garbari hai (k) Wahan ke bhaiyon ki shikayat hai ki Burju Mandli ke pracharak se we asantusht hain karan ki unhon ne bhaiyon se Mandli Paisa ke sambandh bat karte kai objectionable baten kahin.

(kh) Synod ne kai karanon se Middle School ke Headmaster Sri Masihdas Hassa ke wahan se badli karne ka phaesla kiya hai. Phir Second Master Sri Elias Perti ko burhape ke karan kam se chhurane ka phaesla kiya hai. In baten se Shikshakon tatha kitne bhaiyon ne andolan shuru kiya hai aur adhikariyon ke nahin mante hain unhon ne girja ana jana band kar diya hai aur Mandli amdani rek liya hai.

Res: 3/58: Sankalp ; Ek Commission niyukt kiya jay jo Burju Middle School tatha Burju Mandli ki garbari ko tay kar de. Is Commission men nininlikhit sadasya niyukt hon:-

1. Prof: Dr. M. Bage - (Convener)
2. Rev. Santosh Surin

(4) Takarma Synod men garbari: Report diya gaya ki Takarma Synod ke Kunsode, Jambura aur Bongram namak Mandliyon men kai baton ke le kar garbari hai. Bartman Kalisha ki garbari ke karan is ashanti ka prabhaw barhte ja raha hai. Kunsode aur Jambura ki garbariyan purani hai. Bongram men sadi bishayak baton ke le kar Mandli men ashanti hai.

Res: 4/58: Sankalp- Ek Commission niyukt ki jay jo Takarma Synod ki Kanaronwan, Jambura aur Bongram Mandliyon ki garbari ke tay kar de. Is Commission men nimin likhit sadasya hon:-

1. Prof: Saban Surin (Convener)
2. President J.J.P. Tiga.
3. Prof. Dr. M. Bage.

(5) Orissa Synod ke Anandpur State ki Mandliyan Ref: Res: 56/81 and 56/81 (K of April 19-22, 1956)

Padri Bijoy Aind ne jor diya ki Anandpur State ki Mandliyon ke bhawish ka bichar kiya jay. Is State ki kuchh Mandliyan Singhum Synod men jana chahti hai. Yah bishay pahile se ata hai. Karjkarini ne achha samjha ki abhi ki sthiti parichit hon taki karrawai thik se ki ja sake.

Res: 5/58: Sankalp:- Padri Christ Bijoy Aind Orissa Synod ke President se arji kiya jay ki we Anandpur State ki Mandliyon men bhraman kar wanhan ki sthiti ke janch kar len aur ek bistrut report Church Council ke den taki awashyak karrawai ki ja sake.

6. Transfer matters: The President reported that he has the information that there is a likelihood of the trouble arising in the Panisani Illaka of the Khutitoli Synod by the transfer of Rev. Samuel Dungdung. He said that the trouble creators and self-seekers will have their way in case Rev. Dungdung leaves the Panisani Illaka during the present situation.

Res: 6/58: Resolved- that transfer of Rev. M. Sanga and Rev. Samuel Dungdung be modified as follows:-

- (a) That Rev. M. Sanga be transferred to the Pracharak's Training School Govindpur in place of Rev. P. D. Sereng,
- (b) That Rev. P. D. Sereng be transferred to the Khutitoli Synod as Acting Synod President in place of Rev. M. Sanga President Khutitoli Synod with his Head quarters at Khutitoli.
- (c) That the transfer of Revs M. Sanga and P. D. Sereng should come into effect from 15th February, 1958.

(6) Pastors' Class: Ref: C.C. Resolution 207/57.

Brothers Borutta and Dr. M. Bage informed the house that Dr. Lokies would like to come to visit the Gossner Church after the rains this year, and then he would like to meet the Pastors in a Conference. His proposal is to start a crusade in the Church beginning with the Pastors' Conference with a view to revive the spiritual life of the congregations. It has much significance as the Church in Germany and the Gossner Church in India would be celebrating the 100th year death anniversary of Fr. Gossner. It is voted that the Pastors' Conference of the Gossner Church has been scheduled to meet from March 10 to 25, 1958 as decided by the Church Council.

The Church Council's decision in respect of the Pastors' Conference was reviewed in the light of the information given by Brothers Borutta and Bage.

Res: 7/58: In view of the fact that Dr. Hans Lokies wants to attend the Pastors' Class of the Gossner Church after rains this year, it is RESOLVED that the decision of the full Church Council in holding the Pastors' Class in March 1958 (vide C.C. resolution 207/57) be rescinded with the approval of the full Church Council (votes be taken by circulation).

Res: 8/58: It is further resolved that in view of the proposed change of the dates of the Pastors' Class, the ordination of Prof: Dr. M. Bage, Prof: Saban Surin and Cand: Matias Surin should take place during the next full Church Council meeting to be held in March or April 1958. Exact dates be fixed by the officers.

(7) The present trouble in the Church: The situation in the Church was reviewed. It was noted that Dr. Bishop Manikam was requested by a resolution of the full C.C. dt. Dec: 10-13, 1957, to accept the Chairmanship of the Commission for drafting a new Constitution for the Church or amending the existing one. Bishop Manikam it is reported is still in the U.S.A. and there seems no immediate possibility of coming back to India soon. Situation in the Church is deteriorating more in the absence of the Commission. The C.C. Executive feels the urgency of this Commission.

Res:9/58: Resolved to invite Dr.F.Birkeli alternate Chairman-designate to accept the Chairmanship of the Commission for drafting amendments to the G.E.L.Church Constitution. His reply is awaited if he can come within a month from the date of receiving this invitation. In case he can accept the invitation, the Dr.Oberdorfer be invited to accept the Chairmanship of the Commission. His reply too be awaited if he can come within a month from the date of receiving the invitation. In case even Dr. Oberdorfer is not available for the Commission's work, the Church Council should take suitable steps for future action.

Order-A copy of the resolution be sent to Rev.J.A.Kujur for information.

Res:10/58:-Resolved that the President G.E.L.Church be requested to convene a meeting of the signatories of the "Agreement" signed on 17th June, 1957 within this month preferably on 27th January 1958 in order to discuss how far the "Agreement" is being carried out by the contracting parties and whether the "Agreement" has its validity any longer.

Res: 11/58. Resolved further that if the invitation of the President in convening a meeting of the signatories of the "Agreement" is not accepted by the Rev. J.Lakra, Rev. J.A.Kujur, Mr. P.D.Panna and Rev. Z.Khalgho the the officers should execute the decision of the full Church Council (vide resolution 189/57) against 18 leaders of the so-called North Zone. Further, in case the signatories meet and the meeting fails in its purpose; then the full Church Council be called in order to take further suitable action.

Res:12/58:

Resolved that the Commission members appointed by the Church Council be asked to meet frequently in conferences in order to study the Constitution and propose amendments to the existing Constitution.

V. Lutheran Theological College.

The President reported that the Lutheran Theological College, Ranchi has been closed with effect from 8th January, 1958 as recommended by the Seminary Board. In this connection the minutes of the Seminary Board date 7th January 1958 were read. The President explained the situation in detail under which circumstances the College had to be closed for indefinite period.

Res:13. Resolved unanimously to approve of the action of the Seminary Board. The Executive discussed as to whether the College could be re-opened under the present conditions. It was noted that finance was one of the reasons for the closure of the College.

Res:14/58: Resolved that the Lutheran Theological College be re-opened by 10th February 1958 with the following arrangements:-

- (a) that the classes be temporarily held in the Christ Church Ranchi until the litigation regarding the College building i.e.the Rajah Bungalow ends.
- (b). Students to remain temporarily in the old Gossner Hostel The Rajah bungalow and in the guest room of the President's bungalow.
- (c). Kitchen to remain in the Gossner College Hostel outhouses where it was formerly situated.
- (d). Staff to remain where they are now living.

Res.15/58.Resolved that the Board of Management G.E.L. Church Properties be requested to sell out old and saleable trees and the sale proceed be made available for the Lutheran Theological College for tiding over the present financial difficulties.

Res:16/58: Resolved that the L.W.F. be requested to send G.E.L.C.Subsidy for 1st quarter, 1958, as early as possible so that the Church Council can tide over the present financial difficulties. The President be requested to send the letter immediately.

Res: 17/58:Resolved to communicate the resolution No.14/58 and 16/58 to the Seminary Board, the staff and students with a request to be ready for joining the College on 10th February, 1958.

Res:18/58: Resolved to request the President to approach the authorities of the Serampore Senate for obtaining permission for 23 students to appear in their examination during 1958.

VI. Financial matters.

Opening of an account with the United Bank of India Ltd.

Res:19/58: "Resolved that a Banking Account of the G.E.L.Church in Chotanagpur and Assam, Ranchi be opened with the United Bank of India Ltd., Ranchi Branch, and the said Bank be and is hereby authorised to honour cheques, bills of exchange and Promisory Notes drawn, accepted or made on behalf of the Church by Sri C.M.Horo, Treasurer, G.E.L.Church in Chotanagpur and Assam; and to act on any instruction so given relating to the account, whether the same be overdrawn or not, or relating to the transactions of the Church."

Provident Fund: 20/58: Resolved to permit Prof: Saban Surin to open his Provident Fund Account from January, 1958.

Res: 21/58: Resolved to permit Prof: Dr. M. Bage to open his Provident Fund Account from January, 1958.

Sri Daud Toppe's application.

Res:22/58: The application of Sri Daud Toppe for closing his Provident Fund account be postponed for the next meeting.

The meeting closed with a word of prayer.

Approved.

sd/-J.J.P.Tiga,
PRESIDENT. 29.1.58.

sd/- N.E.HORO,
SECRETARY. 18.1.58.