

MESSAGES RECEIVED AT NCCI ON THE SAD DEMISE OF BISHOP DR. TARANATH SAGAR

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E-mails

1. Rev. Dr. P. B. M. Basaiawmoit

A few minutes back, have received information through msg that Bishop Taranath Sagar, President, NCCI has passed away into glory. We had been together in the NCCI Executive Committee during 2004-08 and then had served with him during his Presidentship during 2008-12.

I vividly remember his interjection during the 2004 Tirunelveli Quadrennial and then working together in the Presidium of 2008-12, Bishop Sagar, the President, Sushma, Michael Angeleous and self as Vice-Presidents. We were quite a team and it was difficult times we faced - with court cases against NCCI filed in the Nagpur Bench of the Bombay High Court as well, in the Nagpur District Court. During the 2010 CCA Assembly in Kuala Lumpur, were together along with Sushma Ramaswamy (my co-Vice President) as NCCI delegates.

After the 2012 Bengaluru Quadrennial, we met off and on and the last time, I met him was in New Delhi at the ESHA programme during 26 & 27 August, 2015. We exchanged notes and views at the YMCA, New Delhi during dinner time. And so, it is difficult to digest that Bishop Taranath Sagar is no more with us. As far as I can recollect, Bishop Sagar is the 2nd NCCI President to have passed away while holding office. The earlier one was Bishop Vinod Peter (CNI) during the 2000-04 term but this was Bishop Sagar's 2nd consecutive term. He was also the 2nd Methodist Bishop to be elected for a second consecutive term. Earlier, it was Bishop S. L. Parmar. It is a big loss to the Methodist Church in India and to the ecumenical movement in India, in Asia and globally and more so, his wife who has been his source of strength and encouragement through out their wedded life and the off springs. My heartfelt condolence to you Mrs. Sagar and the children. May the Spirit uphold you and strengthen you, guide you and lead you every step in your pilgrimage with the hope that in eternity, we will be re-united with our loved ones who have gone ahead of us to eternal glory.

Rev. Dr. P. B. M. Basaiawmoit
NCCI Vice-President (2008-12)

2. CCA COMMUNICATIONS

Press Release

Bishop Taranath Sagar Passes Away
19 October 2015

Bishop Dr. Taranath Sagar, senior Bishop of the Methodist Church in India and the President of the National Council of Churches in India (NCCI) passed away at 8.00 p.m. on Monday 19 October 2015. He died of a heart attack in a hospital in Bangalore, India. The funeral service will be held at 11.00 a.m. on Wednesday 21 October at the Richmond Town Methodist Church, Bangalore.

Bishop Sagar has been actively involved in the ecumenical movement during the past three decades through various ecumenical and ecclesiastical organisations in India, Asia and at the global levels. He has been a member of the Executive Committee of the Christian Conference of Asia (CCA) since its last General Assembly held in Jakarta in May 2015. He was first elected to the Central Committee of the World Council of Churches at the Port Allegro Assembly, Brazil in 2006 and for a second term at the Bussan Assembly in 2013. He was the Presiding Bishop of the Methodist Bishop Conference in India, and President of the Asian Methodist Bishops Conference. He served numerous other church and ecumenical organisations in various capacities during the past several years including as the Secretary of the Maharashtra Christian Council, President of the Ecumenical Christian Centre, Bangalore and the United Theological College in Bangalore.

Recalling his ecumenical contributions, Dr. Mathews George Chunakara, General Secretary of the Christian Conference of Asia said that “With the passing away of Bishop Taranath Sagar, the Indian and Asian ecumenical movement lost a committed ecumenist who has been faithfully echoing the concerns and aspirations of the Asian churches in the global ecumenical movement. We thank God for the gifts God bestowed on Bishop Taranath Sagar, who guided the Church and various ecumenical organisations during the past three decades. He was a committed Christian, ecumenical Statesman, staunch defender, who was always raising his voice for justice and dignity of the marginalized and the persecuted. While tirelessly articulating his convictions, Bishop Sagar could relate to all sections of the people, and he spared no efforts to defend justice and dignity”.

Mathews George further added that “such was the personal charisma of Bishop Sagar that he became a servant of God and a leader in the Asian and global ecumenical movement. Bishop Sagar always possessed the strength to be in solidarity with the marginalized, uncompromising even in the face of fierce opposition out of his Christian commitment and convictions.”



3. CHIEF MINISTER- MIZORAM

CHIEF MINISTER
MIZORAM



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0389-2322517
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E-mail : cmmizoram@hotmail.com

D.O. NO. CMO. 26/2013/Tue
Dated Aizawl, the 20th October, 2015

Dear *Rev. Dr. Gaikwad,*

It has been a rude shock for all of us in the family to learn of the sudden and untimely death of the Rt. Rev. Dr. Taranath S. Sagar. He has been called Home to glory by the Lord whom he has served faithfully and with deep dedication all his life. However, his passing away is a sad loss not only for his family and his Church, but for the entire Christian community in the country. His contribution for the growth of churches and its unity through the National Council of Churches in India shall be remembered. We recall with pride and admiration our association with the Rt. Rev. Dr. Sagar for the last few years and our meetings in various parts of the country, including in Mizoram and our humble house.

The vacuum caused by his death shall be difficult to fill for a long time. In this hour of grief and sorrow, we pray to the Almighty to grant peace, courage, confidence and fortitude to bear the irreparable loss to all the members of his family and the churches.

We remember the members of his family in our prayers.
May his soul rest in eternal peace.

*With warm regards and best wishes to
you all.*

Yours sincerely,


(LAL THANHAWLA)

Rev. Dr. Roger Gaikwad,
General Secretary,
National Council of Churches in India,
Nagpur, Maharashtra.

4. DIOCESE OF DELHI



DIOCESE OF DELHI

(THE CHURCH OF NORTH INDIA)

1, Church Lane, New Delhi - 110001

(Bishop) 23717471, (Secretary/Treasurer) 23716737, Email : secretaryddc@gmail.com

20.10.2015

To
The Gen. Secretary
N.C.C.I.
Room No. 301
CNI Bhawan,
16, Pandit Pant Marg
New Delhi-110001

**SUBJECT: CONDOLENCES ON THE SAD DEMISE OF RT. REV. DR.
TARANATH S. SAGAR**

Dear Rev. Dr. Roger Gaikwad,
Greetings from the Diocese of Delhi – CNI

It is with a sad note that I write this letter to you to convey the condolences from the family of Diocese of Delhi of the Church of North India on the demise of the President, NCCI, The Rt. Rev. Dr. Taranath S. Sagar.

We realize the loss to the NCCI and hope and pray that the ministry of NCCI may continue strongly in spite of such a setback

We also wish to extend our heartfelt condolences to the family members of Rt. Rev. Dr. Taranath S. Sagar and keep them in our prayers.

With regards

Rev. Mohit H. Hitter
Secretary, DDC

5. PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH OF INIDA



GENERAL ASSEMBLY PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH OF INDIA

Presbyterian Assembly House
Central Ward, Shillong - 793001, Meghalaya, India

20th October, 2015

CONDOLANCE MESSAGE

The General Assembly of the Presbyterian Church of India is deeply shocked and grieved to hear the tragic and sudden demise of Bishop Dr. Taranath S. Sagar, The President of NCCI on 19th October, 2015.

Indeed it is a great loss not only for the family and relatives and his diocese but very much for the National Churches Council of India. We know that under his capable leadership the NCCI is moving from strength to strength in the midst of many issues and challenges.

Our mortal human tongues cannot express how grieved and mournful we are. It is very hard to understand why this has to happen at this juncture, but, as children of God, we believe that it is his will and purpose.

As the General Assembly of PCI, we stand in solidarity with all his dear ones as well as the Churches under his care at this time of mourning and grief. We convey our heartfelt and deepest condolences with our sincere prayers and wish that the Good Lord may be with you all and comfort you at this time of great sorrow.

"May the peace of God, which passes all understanding, keep your hearts and your minds in Christ Jesus." (Phillippians 4:7)

In His Loving Service

Administrative Secretary
Presbyterian Church of India
Shillong-1, India.

Rev. David T. Lhouvum
Sr. Administrative Secretary
PCI

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E-mail: pcishillong@gmail.com



The Bible Society of India

'LOGOS', 206, Mahatma Gandhi Road, Bangalore - 560 001, INDIA

President: The Rev. Dr. P. N. S. Chandra Bose

Vice-Presidents: The Rt. Rev. Dr. P.C. Singh, Mrs. Starla Luke, The Rev. Vanlalbela

Treasurer: The Rev. Premkumar Soans **General Secretary:** The Rev. Dr. M. Mani Chacko

GS/255/L 2515/2015

October 20, 2015

Rev. Dr. Roger Gaikwad
General Secretary, NCCI
National Council of Churches in India
Christian Council Campus
Civil Lines
Nagpur 440 001
Maharashtra

Dear Rev. Dr. Gaikwad,

I was deeply shocked to hear of the sudden passing away of your President, The Rt. Rev. Taranath Sagar. Our sincere condolences to you and the whole of NCCI.

We praise God for the life and ministry of Bishop Taranath Sagar. Praying that God will give you the needed grace, strength and wisdom at a time like this.

Please be assured of our prayers on your behalf.

With many blessings,

Sincerely in His service,

Rev. Dr. M. Mani Chacko
General Secretary

Pk/

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7. METHODIST CHURCH OF NEW ZEALAND



Methodist Mission and Ecumenical **Methodist Church of New Zealand Te Hahi Weteriana o Aotearoa**

Director: **Rev. Prince Devanandan**

Private Bag 11-903 Ellerslie

Auckland 1542

Aotearoa New Zealand

Phone (64-9) 571 9142 Fax (64-9) 525 4346

Email: princd@methodist.org.nz

20 October 2015

To NCC India and the Methodist Church in India

We are deeply saddened by the news of the demise of Bishop Taranath Sagar. Bishop Sagar has been a great leader of the Ecumenical Movement, not only in India but in Asia and at the global platform as well.

We are sad to note that the Indian and the Asian ecumenical movement have lost a committed and faithful servant of God who stood by Jesus' prayer of "They may all be one so that the world may believe..." Bishop Sagar was a prophet in his message to call for justice and to voice the concerns of the marginalised. His contribution to the Asian Ecumenical Movement with his wonderful leadership skills is irreplaceable. At the last general assembly of Christian Conference of Asia in May 2015 in Jakarta Bishop Sagar facilitated the proceedings of the extra ordinary general assembly to pass the new constitution of Christian Conference of Asia. His skills and the way he could give leadership in a large constituency of this magnitude portrays how God has been using his servant to work for God's reign.

The demise of Bishop Sagar leaves behind a space that cannot be filled with such calibre and skill.

We in the Methodist Church of New Zealand Te Haahi Weteriana o Aotearoa express our sympathies from the bottom of our hearts to Mrs Sagar and his extended family and to NCC India. We also convey our condolences to the Methodist Church in India.

May the soul of Bishop Sagar rest in peace.

Sincerely,

Rev. Prince Devanandan
Director - Mission and Ecumenical Board

our mission is for people to have life and have it abundantly

8. WILLIAM STANLEY

Dear Dr.Roger,

We are deeply shocked and saddened to hear the sudden demise of Rt.Rev.Dr. Taranath Sagar on 19th October 2015 at Bengaluru. We express our heartfelt condolence to the bereaved family members, colleagues and friends. At this time of mourning we pray to the Almighty to give moral strength, courage and support to all the members of the family, kith and kin, colleagues and friends. It is a great loss to the global ecumenical family and Bishop Sagar will be remembered for his committed and dedicated service to humanity that he carried a message of love, peace and justice to all human and nature which needs to be sustained and continued with a hope for ever. Our Prayer to God and wish his soul to rest in eternal peace in the abode of Almighty.

In Solidarity,

William Stanley

on-behalf of IRDWSI, ODAF, FCFC and Oikotree.

9. MS JYOTSNA RANI PATRO

Dear Dr Roger Gaikwad

We the Utkal Christian Council family are shocked to hear the sad news of departing of our dear leader Bishop Dr Taranath Sagar , the President of NCCI . He left us when

NCCI is on her new ventures . We pray almighty to give His heavenly consolation to the bereaved members of his family and his Church .

Jyotsna Rani Patro

Secretary UCC
on behalf of all member churches

10. REV. MAR ATSONGCHANGER

Dear Ecumenical Friends,

Its a sad news for all of us to hear the final call of Bishop Sagar, for eternal rest. As the President of the NCCI he has rendered commendable leadership all through the various times. Indeed he was a colleagues and a friend to one and all. I sincerely convey the deepest sympathy to his wife and all Methodist Church members from NCCI, and all its partners at this time of bereavement. May his soul be RIP.

I beg your pardon for my inability to be present in person, yet my prayer with you all.

Sincerely yours

Revd. Dr. Mar Atsongchanger
Vice President, NCCI
Executive Secretary Ao Baptist Church Association (ABAM)

11. MR. H. S. WILSON- FTESEA

We were shocked and saddened to hear passing away of Bishop Sagar. My only extended engagement with Bishop Sagar was during the visit of Indian delegation to China in November 2014 and I fondly remember the friendly and gracious ways he engaged with the Indian group as well as the Chinese colleagues we met in a few congregations, church institutions, theological seminaries, and the Chinese government officials for Religious affairs. I have referred several times to few photos we posted on this trip in our website: www.ftesea.org when we talked about the China visit and Indian delegation members.

It is our prayer that God give the needed strength to his family members, office, church, ecumenical colleagues, and to all his friends/well wishers to bear this irreplaceable loss, and to continue the ministry that Bishop has been engaged in church and society.

Shanti/Peace

H.S. Wilson
Executive Director, FTESEA

12. ANGELIOUS MICHAEL- Jeypore Evangelical Lutheran Church

To
Rev. Dr. Roger Gaikwad
General Secretary
National Council of Churches in India
Nagpur

Dear Dr. Roger,
I can not believe that Bishop Dr. Taranath Sagar has passed away. I am shocked and saddened to hear this tragic news. I had the privilege of working with him from 2008 to 2012 as Vice President of NCCI during his first Presidential tenure. His able leadership had guided NCCI through difficult times. He had profound engagement in the worldwide ecumenical movement. I remember all good moments I spent with him on and off the meetings. He was kind enough to host several NCCI's meeting at his place in Bangalore. That reflected his deep commitment for the movement.

His sudden death has caused great loss to the ecumenical communities around the world, particularly to NCCI.

I join the behaved family in this time of grief and pain. at the same time, I thank God for blessing the Ecumenical Movement in India through his potential leadership.

My deepest condolence and prayer

kindest regards

Angelious Michael
Coordinator
Partnership Desk &
Youth Desk
Jeypore Evangelical Lutheran Church
Jeypore-764 001, Koraput Dist
Odisha - INDIA
Ph: +91-6854-231440(off)

13. REV. DR. RATHNAKARA SADANANDA

To:
General Secretary
National Council of Churches in India

With sadness and shock, we received the news of the passing away of Bishop Dr. Taranath Sagar, Senior Bishop of Methodist Church in India and the President of the National Council of Churches in India. Bishop Sagar was one of the tall Ecumenical leaders of India who was the proponent of wider ecumenism and worked diligently for that goal during the past 3 decades through various ecumenical and ecclesiastical organizations in India, Asia and at the Global level. The encouraging move from the Methodist Church in India to initiate the discussion to be part of the Communion of Churches in India was the result of his envision. In his passing away, CSI has lost a good friend, and a valuable partner in mission. The Churches in India and in Asia lost a powerful voice which represented the marginal communities with genuine commitment.

On behalf of Church of South India, the Moderator, Most Rev. Dr. G. Dyvasirvadam, the Deputy Moderator, Rt. Rev. Thomas K. Oommen, the Treasurer, Adv. Robert Bruce and the General Secretary, Rev. Dr. D. R. Sadananda, express deep condolences on the demise of Bishop Sagar and pray that the presence of the comforting spirit of the Lord be upon his wife Mrs. Padma Sagar and his son and daughter and their families.

RATHNAKARA SADANANDA

REV.DR. D.R. SADANANDA
General Secretary, CSI &
Hon. Secretary, CSITA
CHURCH OF SOUTH INDIA
SYNOD SECRETARIAT

14. CH. R. P. MANI KUMAR

Dear Rev. Gaikwad,

I am distressed at the news of the passing away of former Chairperson and the present ECC Council Member Rt. Rev. Dr. Taranath Sagar on October 19, 2015. As I understand he was a godly man with sterling virtues and will be deeply mourned by the NCCI Committee.

May I tender our deepest condolences from my personal behalf and on behalf of the National Council of YMCAs of India. Our prayers for the peaceful repose of the soul in heaven and for strength to the bereaved family in this hour of tragedy.

Ch.R.P. Mani Kumar
National General Secretary
The National Council of YMCAs of India
Bharat Yuvak Bhavan
Jai Singh Road, New Delhi-110001
Mobile : +91-9654370580
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15. GLADSTONE R. RAJESH KUMAR

Dear Dr. Gaikwad

We convey our deepest condolences from Normisjon as the NCCI lost its very dynamic President Bishop Taranath Sagar. I and my wife had a very close working partnership with the Methodist Church in Andaman Islands under the leadership of Bishop Taranath Sagar and we maintained a long-standing friendship with him beyond our denominational boundaries. His active involvement in the mission initiatives of the Church is very much remembered at this point of time.

We pray that the NCCI and the Methodist Church will find peace and comfort at this moment of loss of a great mentor. Be assured of our continuous prayers.

Sincerely

Gladstone.R.Rajesh Kumar
Coordinator-Asia Base
Normisjon



World Council of Churches

General Secretariat

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To: Mrs Padma Sagar and family

Methodist Church in India

National Council of Churches of India

Geneva, 20 October 2015

Dear Mrs Sagar and family, members of the Methodist Church in India, and
National Council of Churches of India,

It is with great sadness that we have received the shocking news of the sudden death of
Bishop Taranath Sugnanam Sagar, the Senior Bishop of the Methodist Church in India
and current World Council of Churches central committee member.

Bishop Sagar was one of the prominent ecumenical leaders from India, who not only
provided leadership to the Methodist Church in India, first as its general secretary and
later as the presiding bishop of the Methodist Bishop Conference in India, but also to
national and global ecumenical bodies. He was the President of National Council of
Churches (NCCI) for two consecutive terms. He was also recently elected to the
executive committee of the Christian Conference of Asia in its assembly in Indonesia in
2015. He was also the president of the Asian Methodist Bishops Conference. At the
World Council of Churches, Bishop Sagar played a significant role in providing leadership
particularly in the central committee, first being elected at the Porto Alegre Assembly in
Brazil in 2006. He gave particular leadership as a strong member of the working group
on governance, helping to revise the WCC constitution and rules.

On a personal note, I particularly remember his strong presence and the excellent
hospitality he extended to me when I had the opportunity to participate in the 27th
quadrennial assembly of NCCI in Bangalore in 2012. At that time, Bishop Sagar and the
leadership of NCCI asked that I reflect on Romans 8:22-24. The words of that epistle
written to the church in Rome speak now to us even at this difficult time, "For in hope,
we are saved."

Bishop Sagar was one of the church leaders who was strongly rooted at the local level
and yet had a strong global presence which carried much influence. Not only churches
in India and Asia but also Christians around the world will miss this dynamic ecumenical
leader. On behalf of the global fellowship of the World Council of Churches, I offer my
deepest condolence to the bereaved family of Bishop Sagar, the Methodist Church in
India and to the NCCI for this great loss.

We seek God's blessing upon his wife, Mrs Padma Sagar, daughter, Sharan, and son, Sunnadh that they may find comfort and strength to bear this profound loss.

We all grieve Bishop Sagar's sudden passing; but, we do take comfort in the faith in the crucified and risen Christ. We remember Bishop Sagar as a friend and brother with great commitment to his tasks as a church leader and contributor to the one ecumenical movement. The WCC prays that his memory will inspire many and his legacy will continue.

Yours in the hope of Christ

A handwritten signature in blue ink, reading "Olav Fykse Tveit". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Rev. Dr Olav Fykse Tveit
General Secretary

17. REV. K. LUNGMUANA

Dear Rev. Dr. Roger Gaikwad,

Greetings in His precious name. I would be grateful to you if you could convey my hearty condolence to the bereaved family of Bishop Taranath Sagar.

CONDOLENCE MESSAGE

I have come to know today that Bishop Taranath Sagar, President, NCCI has died of heart attack which shocked me very much. I have no hesitation to say that one of the leading church leaders in India has left us untimely. I had come to know the Rev. Taranath Sagar as the General Secretary of the Methodist Church in India some time in 1990 while I was the General Secretary of the National Council of Churches in India. He was very prompt in replying any letter which he had received from NCCI office without fail. He was a man of integrity in his personal life. It appeared that the constituent members of NCCI are proud of his good leadership. His tremendous contributions with the help of the Rev. Dr. Roger Gaikwad, the General Secretary of the National Council in the ongoing ministry of the National Council would not be erased in our minds. May God be with his bereaved family even in the days to come.

Rev. K. LungMuana
Former General Secretary, NCCI
Mission Vengthlang, Aizawl, Mizoram: 796005
Tel. 09862575021

18. THE CYNOD OF THE CHURCH OF NORTH INDIA

Website : www.cnisynod.org
E-Mail : cnisynod@rediffmail.com
: geon@ndc.vsnl.net.in
Cable : "SYNOD" NEW DELHI

Phone : 091-11-43214000
Fax : 091-11-43214006



THE SYNOD OF THE CHURCH OF NORTH INDIA

CNI BHAWAN, POST BOX NO. 311, 16, PANDIT PANT MARG, NEW DELHI-110 001 (INDIA)

CNI:SYN:GS:Y-1/2015
20TH OCTOBER, 2015

The Rev.Dr.Roger Gaikwad
General Secretary
National Council of Churches in India (NCCI)
Post Box # 205, Near CP Club
Civil Lines
NAGPUR – 440 001 (MS)

Dear Rev.Dr.Rodger Gaikwad,

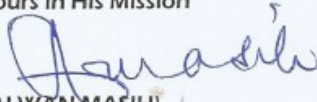
Greetings to you in the precious name of our Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ.

The Synod of the Church of North India received with sadness the news of passing away of Bishop Dr.Taranath S. Sagar, the President of the National Council of Churches in India on 19th October, 2015.

On behalf of the Synod of the Church of North India and on my personal behalf, I send this message of condolence to you with a request to convey the same to the family members of Bishop Taranath Sagar.

Be assured of our prayers now and always.

Yours in His Mission


(ALWAN MASIH)
GENERAL SECRETARY

Moderator
The Most Revd. P. K. Samantaroy
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Prem Masih
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19. MS SAGARIKA CHETTY

Dear all:

I am deeply shocked to know about the sudden and sad demise of Bishop Dr. Taranath Sagar. Needless to say that the Global Ecumenical Forum has lost an asset.

I was blessed to be a part of the team , that worked under Bishop Sagarâ€™s leadership , during his first tenure as the NCCI President . My deepest condolences to the bereaved family and the Church . May God rest his soul in peace .

Sagarika Chetty
Jeypore Evangelical Lutheran Church
Odisha

20. BISHOP PAUL S. SARKAR

Dear Brothers and Sisters in Christ,

I am very much shocked to hear the sad news that Bishop Taranath Sagar of the Methodist Church in India has suddenly expired by heart attack. He was one of my friends and as much I know him he was very much open minded and humble church leader. He tried his best to serve sincerely his own Church and Ecumenical bodies in national and International level. It is a great loss for all of us indeed! May be he was too much involved with lot of responsibilities and did not care about his health.

I personally and on behalf our Church would like to send condolence to all his dear and near ones for this time of mourning. We pray to Almighty God that he may grant his soul eternal peace and comfort to his family members and friends.

"Blessed are the dead who die in the Lord,...they will rest from their labor." (Rev. 14:13)

In Christ,

Bishop Paul S. Sarker
Bishop of Dhaka and Moderator

Church of Bangladesh

21. DANIEL RAJU DASARI- THE SALVATION ARMY

Rev.Dr. Roger Gaikwad,
NCCI General Secretary.

Dear Respected Sir,

It is very shocking news to receive that Bishop Dr. Taranath S. Sagar, President of NCCI was passed away on Monday 19th October. We are so blessed by his able leadership especially as a President of NCCI. We had wonderful time with him in several occasions. Please pass on our deep condolence to Bishop's bereaved family and Methodist Church in India. On behalf of The Salvation Army India we pay our Tributes to Bishop Dr Taranath Sagar, a Man of God.

We are very sorry for the late tributes from our side. At present we are in holidays and when I just opened my office mail box I have noted the below mail and responding immediately. At the same time I have forwarded to all the heads of the Salvation Army in India.

Grace and Peace be with the family of Bishop Taranath Sagar and all the colleagues who closely worked with him.

Sincerely

Daniel Raju Dasari
Lieut.Colonel
National Secretary
The Salvation Army
National Secretariat



香港基督教協進會

HONG KONG CHRISTIAN COUNCIL

香港九龍尖沙咀加連威老道三十三號基督教協進大樓九樓

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23 October 2015

National Council of Churches in India
 Christian Council Campus
 Civil Lines, Nagpur 440 001 M.S. India
 Email: ncci@nccindia.in

Dear Brothers and Sisters in Christ,

The Hong Kong Christian Council extends its deepest sympathy and prayers on receiving the news of the sudden passing of Bishop Dr. Taranath Sagar, the President of the National Council of Churches in India. This is surely a great loss to the ecumenical church worldwide as well as to the church and society in India and Asia.

Bishop Sagar was well-known and well-respected at every level of the church. He was active as a leader of the Methodist Church in India, the NCCI, the Christian Conference of Asia and the World Council of Churches. He was instrumental in many of the pioneering movements for church unity in Asia as well as the effort to have the contribution of Christians to Indian society recognized by the government. He was a tireless advocate for the Gospel of our Lord, spreading faith, hope and love to millions whose lives were touched by his ministry.

It was my privilege to know Bishop Sagar through our work together in the Christian Conference of Asia and the World Council of Churches. When I visited India last year for the NCCI Centennial Celebration, it was apparent that God has used him mightily as a powerful witness and servant of Jesus Christ. Now, as he rests in peace with our Lord, may God give comfort to his beloved family, the NCCI and the ecumenical church as they continue to build on the good work that he accomplished to the glory of God.

In the peace of Christ,



Rev. Po Kam-cheong
 General Secretary

**WORLD DAY OF PRAYER
International Committee**

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New York, October 20th 2015

Dear

Moumita Biswas

NCCI – AICCW and WDP India
Bishop Dr. Taranath Sagar's family

"Come to Me, all who are weary and heavy-laden, and I will give you rest." (Matthews 11:28)

On behalf of our WDP sisters around the world, we would like to extend our words of comfort to Bishop Sagar's family and to the ecumenical community in India. We assure you, your family and your community of our heartfelt condolences. We trust you and your family to God, who comforts you all from the sorrow that this moment brings.

We thank God for the dedication of Bishop Sagar to the gospel of justice and unity around the world. May his witness encourage the church to pray and act in love.

Love and shalom,

Corinna Harbig and Rosângela Oliveira

WDPIC Chairperson

WDPIC Executive Director

24. DR. BIMAL CHARLES

Dear Rev Roger Gaikwad,

It is with great sorrow that we in CMAI, learned of the death of Rt. Rev. Bishop Taranath Sagar. I write this to express my sincere condolences on his sudden and unexpected passing. As President of NCCI, he had a strong commitment to the ecumenical movement in India, and I know that you will be missing his dynamic leadership in the family of NCCI.

We extend our heartfelt sympathy to his wife and to the entire family who grieve, and we pray that our Lord provides the much needed comfort and His divine peace during this difficult time.

Kindly accept our condolences.

Yours sincerely,

Dr. Bimal Charles
General Secretary, CMAI

25. ROSWITA KUPKE

Dear Members of the Methodist Church in India,
dear Members of the National Council of Churches of India (NCCI).

With profound sadness we have received the news of the passing away of Bishop Taranath Sunanam Sagar. Churches in India and Asia but also Christians around the world will miss his dynamic ecumenical leadership.

Bread for the World-EED has always appreciated the development oriented initiatives of the Methodist Church in India in cooperation with CASA and NCCI. Please be assured that we are with you in prayers. May we ask you to convey our deep sympathy to his family.

Very sincerely yours,

Roswita Kupke
Head of South Asia Unit

Brot für die Welt - Evangelischer Entwicklungsdienst
Evangelisches Werk für Diakonie und Entwicklung e.V.



UNITED EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN CHURCHES IN INDIA

Registered Under Societies Act, XXI of 1860 - S.No. 3 of 1942 - 43

Rev. Dr. A.C. Augustine Jeyakumar

Executive Secretary, UELCI

Executive Secretary, LWF National Committee (India)

20 October 2015

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Condolence Message

On hearing the news of the sudden death of Rt.Rev.Dr.Taranath S. Sagar, President of NCCI and Bishop of the Methodist Church in India, the whole of United Evangelical Lutheran Churches in India (UELCI) family received this message with deep shock. We could not imagine how death takes away our leaders all of a sudden, creating a vacuum in the Church and the Society.

Bp.Taranath Sagar is a good friend of UELCI and its constituent member churches, particularly I am very much attracted by his leadership and I was able to work with him in ECLOF India and the NCCI. In both these organisations I could see his tremendous leadership and his able guidance create a smooth phase in these organisations. Such a wonderful leader is no more with us. I myself join with UELCI family and pray for the bereaved family so that the Lord may extend and console his good wife and children.

UELCI salute the able leadership of Rt.Rev.Dr.Taranath Sagar.


Rev. Dr. A.C. Augustine Jeyakumar
 Executive Secretary, UELCI & LWF National Committee (I)
 Treasurer, NCCI

Dear friends,

I am very sorry, I shocked when i heard the sad news about Rt.Rev.Tharanath.S.Sugar, Bishop in Methodist and president of NCCI is passed and entered into glory of God.

Bishop Tharnath was very close to my uncle (chinnana) name Princeton who is member of indiranagar methodist church, Bangalore.

We realise the loss to Methodist churches in India and NCCI a great person that is Bishop tharanath, he did gret job as bishop of methodist and president of NCCI.we hope and NCCI will go do the ministry strengthly for the glory of God.

I personally met bishop tharanath and discussed about Dalith Christian matters in couple of time.

We are praying for Bishop tharanath ' family May the loving and Almighty God give them strength and comfort & Peace with Holy spirit.

The Bishop Tharanath.S.sugar origin was Ananthapur of Church of South India-Rayalaseema Diocese. We say proudly say of him. It is God's calling.

May the Almighty God gives him rest in peace.

My deep heartfelt condolance to his family,friends and Methodist churches in India and NCCI.

Yours in His ministry,

Rev.A. ABRAHAM,

Presbyter, Princeton church,

Church of South India-Rayalaseema Diocesen.

Burakayalakota-517351.

Chittoor (dist).A.P.Yours in His ministry,
Rev.A.ABRAHAM,
Presbyter, Princeton church,
Church of South India-Rayalaseema Diocesen.
Burakayalakota-517351.
Chittoor (dist).A.P.

Facebook messages:

Sheerin Hazra May his soul Rest in Peace Thank God for his service

Glory Cynthia Shinde May his soul Rest in PeaceOur condolences to his family

Central Methodist Bengali Kolkata RIP

Joshua Adamelli RIP

Thoburn Memorial Methodist Church May his soul R.I.P.

Asir Ebenezer Sad day

Anita Vijay May his soul rest in peace. Amen

Raj Kumar Miss you My Spiritual Guide and Counsellor ..with TEARS and deepest condolences to their Family

Santhosh R Really sad and shocking. I met him in WCC central committee meeting where I served as a steward, Greece in 2012. A warm person, he used to show special attention to me as we were from same country, we dine in same table sometime and have nice chat during the conference. Heartfelt condolence to the family

Nisha Timothy Rest in peace

Robert Harry May his soul rest in peace and pray that God comforts the family members.

Alexander Singh Very sad news, May God keep his soul in peace

Anuradha John May he rest in peace.

Jeeva Raj Rest in peace

Amar Kumar Jesus said i am the resurrection and life. May God give his peace to the entire family.

Augusta Christian Rest in peace

Raja Premkumar May his soul Rip

Sumitra David Very sad to hear.

Vani Jogi May his soul rest in peace

Isaac Sukumar Chirra Bhakta ver sorry... to hear this news...

Lamjingshai Garod May His Soul Rest in Peace.

[Rajesh Bhengra](#) Just a shocking news.

[Bishop Thomas Samuel](#) Heartfelt condolences.

[Anjali Phule](#) May his soul rest in peace

[Marthy Thomas](#) Deep heart felt condolences May his sole rest in peace

[Peter Mitter](#) May God give peace to the bereaved family. May his soul Rest in Peace.

[Koil Mani](#) R I P

[David Joseph](#) Prayers

[Orijeet Ghosh](#) May his soul rest in Peace

[Harsha Peters](#) May the departed soul Rest in Peace

[Aradhana Upadhayay](#) It's a big loss to ecumenical world. We praise God for all his committed services rendered to the society. Our prayers and condolences to his family members and NCCI. May the departed soul rest in peace.

[Sudhir Rathod](#) Rest in peace..i pray for.Mrs.padma.sagar.

[Edwin Kharkongor](#) May his soul rest in peace. My condolences to the family and the Methodist Church.

[Leila Passah](#) Deepest condolences Roger and the NCCI family. Continued prayers for Bishop Sagar's family.

[Suneel Rahator](#) We thank God for the life and service of Bishop Dr. Taranath Sagar. May his soul rest in peace. Condolences to the bereaved family.

[Edwin John Wesley](#) Heart felt Condolenced Rest In Peace Great Lose to ecumenical movement

[Enose Magimaidoss](#) Shocking NEWS. Bishop had been instrumental in Churches' Union.

[T P Joseph Thenguvilayil](#) My heart - felt condolences to the bereaved family and the Methodist Church in India

[Revd Deepak Singh](#) Thank God for the great services of His servant Bishop Sagar in India & May God grant peace to the entire bereaved ecumenical family.

[Isaac Sukumar Chirra Bhakta](#) RIP

[Nava Ratna Pradhan](#) RIP

[Amin Kalwale](#) RIP...

[Rohini Suryawanshi](#) Heartfelt condolences and may his soul rest in peace.

[T P Joseph Thenguvilayil](#) Condolences to the bereaved family and the Methodist Church in India

[Enos Das Pradhan](#) Very shocking news. The Church in India as a whole lost a very dynamic leader and we send our heart felt condolence to his family, the Methodist Church in India and the NCCI.

[Interserve India](#) We are shocked to hear the sudden demise of our beloved Bishop. We remember vividly his clarion call for local congregations to become good neighbours as he traced the importance of integral missions for the body of Christ during the National Consultation on Global Missions held in February 2013. As the patron of the consultation, he extended his encouragement to us in our efforts for global missions. We offer our condolences to His immediate family members, the Methodist Church in India and the NCCI - Mr. John Amalraj, Executive Secretary, Interserve India.