

CACC

NEWSLETTER

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[ANDHRA STATE](#)

[CRISIS IN THE BELGIAN CONGO](#)

[MILWAUKEE ANTI-COMMUNISM SCHOOLS](#)

[CONCLUSION](#)

FROM TRAGEDY TO TRIUMPH—KERALA, INDIA

Since victories in the battle against Communism have been so few, the defeat of the Communist Government in Kerala, India, is certainly an occasion for rejoicing. A review of the Communist rule of Kerala and the methods by which they were expelled without major violence should be helpful for those eager to repeat this achievement in other areas.

The general elections of 1957 put the Communists in power in Kerala, the southern most state in India. Kerala is the most literate of the Indian states. Kerala has been the home of Christianity in India for twenty centuries and the bulk of the Christian population of India is in Kerala.

Justice

The first act of the Communist Government was the release of hundreds of criminals imprisoned for the gravest crimes. A new code of conduct was enunciated for the police under which they were transformed into helpless onlookers when Communists or their sympathizers openly flouted the laws, assaulted their political opponents, and violated their property rights. Large numbers were recruited to the police on the recommendation of the Communists. Thus, the Communists were effectively placed beyond the reach of the law.

Education

The Communists passed an Education Act. It was designed to strangle the 7,000 aided schools run by private agencies which had served in the field of education for over a century. The Christian denominations raised their voice in protest. For this bill to become law it required the signature of the President of India. The President referred the bill to the Supreme Court of India and on the basis of the opinion so obtained asked for suitable amendments. Meanwhile, the Communist Government attempted to achieve the objectives of the bill by a series of executive orders. The teachers of private schools were placed beyond the disciplinary jurisdiction of the boards. Teachers who were discharged because of immoral conduct in the schools were reinstated by the Communist authorities.

The Communist Government published a number of textbooks and ordered the schools to use them. These books were intended to indoctrinate the pupils in Communism.

Land Reform

The Communist Government sought to abolish all types of tenancy. On an ordered day called The Peasant's Day, all peasants were to be transformed into owners. This was designed to create a land-owning class which would support the Communist Party fanatically. This was to be done at the expense of those who had acquired their land through generations of honest labor.

Labor

Labor contract societies were brought into existence formed almost entirely of Communists and their fellow travelers. Public Works were entrusted to such societies who were subsidized even before the works were undertaken. Only laborers in sympathy with the Communist Party were to be employed by these societies.

The Party inspired trouble in industries. In some instances Communist controlled laborers kept the management and staff in illegal confinement for days at a time. The management was denied all protection of the law.

Bureaucracy

Large number of committees were established providing income from the public purse for an army of Communists. Where one vacancy arose in the Public Service Commission of three, three Communist sympathizers were appointed, thus raising the number to five.

Food

Kerala has always been deficient in food production for its own people. The necessary rice was procured from the outside through trusted Communist agencies and the distribution of food became a political weapon in the interests of Communism.

Breakdown of Law and Order

Within the short period of 26 months there was a complete breakdown of law and order. A sense of insecurity overtook the entire population. Cases of violence were reported daily from different parts of the state and the assailants were invariably Communists.

Communist cells arrogated to themselves the function of administering justice. These cells issued polite directives to courts of law regarding cases pending in them. Communists or Communist sympathizers were appointed public prosecutors. Public servants were transferred at a few hours notice at the request of Communist workers if they refused to grant the demands of the Communists however unjust. Communists were planted in every sphere of government activity.

It should not be forgotten for a moment that all this was done by a State Government operating under a Federal Constitution which it had sworn to uphold. If the Communists had been completely free in their operations, the horror cannot be imagined.

Revolt

The oppression of the non-Communist population led to great discontent and on June 12, 1959, a statewide program was commenced to expel the Communist administration. The Communists sought to suppress the opposition by arrests and by policemen swinging clubs. Over 1500 people were injured by police batons. On one day 1,344 men were arrested, while on another day 2,053 women were imprisoned. The total number arrested arose to 143,000 during 48 days. The police opened fire in several places taking a heavy toll of lives though not a single case of violence from non-Communists had been reported. Churches were raided by the police under the inspiration of local Communists under the guise that they were searching for arms but from non were they able to recover any weapons. Communists broke into a private mission hospital at night and caused heavy damage.

A Memorial was submitted to the Indian President on the 19th of July by a 3-man delegation of lawyers. It part of this Memorial read:

"Life has become impossible in the State. Law and order have completely broken down. Internal disturbance of great magnitude, at the inspiration of the party in power, and very often, with the connivance of the newly recruited police-Communist-fellow-travelers, recruited on the recommendations of Cell Secretaries is under way. The State Government has abdicated its functions in favour of the Party and their fellow-travelers. The administration is in open violation of the provisions of the Constitution. Citizens are denied their fundamental rights. The doctrine of equality before the Law and the Equal Protection of the Law is to be found only in the letter of the Constitution. Non-Communists are in a prejudiced position before the Law. Security of person and property is not available in the State except to the Communist. Every action of the Government is tainted by discrimination. The State recognizes the right of the Communist alone to live and he prospers on violence. In the view of the present administration the non-Communist has no right to live except in serfdom. To the non-Communist is denied equality of Status. The Communist government does not recognize the dignity of the individual and attaches no value to human personality. The Ministers, who, on assuming office, took the oath promising to "do right to all manner of people in accordance with the Constitution and the Law" have so far observed the oath only in its breach. Having come into the power under the Constitution, for the last twenty-seven months, they have been steadily undermining the Constitution. Though they accept the position that they derive their powers from the people, they do not seem to recognize their duty to exercise their powers for the Common good."

The Union Cabinet on July 29, 1959, decided to advise the President to assume to himself all the functions of the Government in Kerala in the exercise of the powers vested in him under Article 356 of the Constitution of India. The Proclamation was issued on July 31, 1959.

Such is the ugly record of Communism in partial power in the State of Kerala, India.

The Outcome

The Communist Government was expelled from power by the Central Government and a new election was ordered. The election was held, February 1. The Communists used their superb organization and expended vast sums of money, but their humiliation was great when they were reduced to 28 seats in the house of 126.

In the meanwhile many groups were active. One of these was the group led by K. George Thomas of the Indian Gospel Mission who commenced publishing the newspaper, Keraladhwani. This venture was a mammoth undertaking but paid enormous dividends. The paper has now been publishing for six months. It rallied the people constantly informing them of the true nature of Communism and urged them to unite against their monstrous enemy.

A letter recently received from George Thomas reads:

"It is with a sense of pride and satisfaction that I write you this letter. This morning a new democratic cabinet assumed charge of the government of Kerala. Our paper went out into all parts of Kerala with a full page heading 'Democratic government re-established in Kerala'. I have the satisfaction that we have played our reasonable share in the victory of the democratic parties. During the election campaigns we gave full coverage for statements and speeches of the leaders of the democratic parties. We wrote editorial after editorial bringing before the people the dangers of Communism.

"I am sending you three issues of the paper, one which came out on January 31st just before the election. The other dated February 5, after results of the elections were announced and the third which came out this morning announcing the good news of the formation of a democratic regime in Kerala.

"Please notice the cartoon on the January 31st issue of the paper. The man standing with the ballot box in hand is the Communist leader Mr. Nampoothiripad who was the Communist chief minister of the State. Before him are seen the skulls of the victims of the Communist's firing and murders. The crowd of voters are depicted as shunting away from the Communist leader. Behind him is shown China crouching with a gun in hand. We can fully understand the impact of a cartoon like this.

"Then after the election results were announced we published a cartoon under a caption 'What the Communist Party wanted and got.' The Communist leader has his mouth wide open wanting to get all the 126 seats. But the people gave him only 28 seats. This is represented as a man putting 28 on a spoon into the mouth of the leader. These are just two examples of the way in which we helped fight the elections.

"Above all the democratic parties did, I consider the prayers of the children of God around the world as the main fact which brought the Communists down. I should be thankful to all of you who have upheld us in prayer through the past critical months.

"Bill, although I have given you the bright side of the picture, please don't misunderstand that I will be complacent or adopt an attitude of having won the battle. I am more than aware that the battle is just begun. The Communists polled almost a million votes more than what they polled in the last elections. Thus it is very evident that if the democratic parties had not joined together the Communists would have come back to power. In other words the danger is still there. If we let go things, we will be engulfed. So, you can be sure that we will continue the fight with all our might and I am sure you will also rise to the occasion and be equal to the challenge.

"With best personal regards,

Cordially yours,
K. George Thomas"

Now is no time to relax. This paper is needed more than ever. The urgent needs at present are:

1. \$5,000 monthly subsidy.
2. \$9,000 accumulated deficit. N.B. We are happy to report that we were able to reduce this deficit by \$1,000 during the month of March.
3. \$20,000 for a rotary press. The provision of this press should allow this magnificent project to become self-supporting within 12 months. Will you pray and give that this result will be achieved?

ANDHRA STATE

General elections throughout India are now scheduled for two years hence. Another state on which the Communists have fixed their hopes is the State of Andhra. Here the workers of the Indian Christian Crusade led by Brother

Devananda Rao and his father, Dr. Pushpanadham, are increasingly active. They are achieving tremendous triumphs for Christ. The picture shows the new recruits for a church recently established at Kankipadu Village where the Gospel of Christ was unknown.

What a difference the love of Christ makes to the life of children. So many children throughout the world know so little of the joys of childhood. The accompanying picture of the second child of the Devananda Rao's indicates a little boy who is surrounded by love. The hearts of his parents are so large that they have already adopted twelve orphans and are now proposing to adopt fifteen more. The distressing thing is, that, of the fourteen orphans they have adopted thus far, we have foster parents for only one. The publication of the photo of the boys in our previous News Letter did not produce one single response. I am printing it again in the hope that some heart will be touched with the desire to share the love of God and the gifts of life with one of these children. You may become a foster parent of one of these boys for \$10 a month. Surely there are many who will respond to this call.

CRISIS IN THE BELGIAN CONGO

The Communist encirclement of America is increasing daily and almost hourly. Two years ago the Belgian Congo appeared among the most placid and orderly of the African nations. Suddenly rioting began and a caldron of nationalism and violence was revealed lurking beneath this thin crust of order. The Belgium Government is now renouncing its power and granting independence and Communism has emerged from its hidden places into the light of day. The impact on the life and work of the missions and missionaries has been tremendous. The following extracts from three letters received indicate the situation:

"I am a missionary of the Conservative Baptist Foreign Mission Society, and have working in the Congo now since 1949. When I was home on furlough in 1954-55, I received a copy of your book 'The Heart, Mind and Soul of Communism.'

"I read the little book at that time, feeling thankful that in Congo Communism had still not evidenced itself, though we felt that the day would come.

"It has come upon us like a flood. Because of reading reports of other countries of Africa and other provinces in the Congo, I had read and re-read your book. The simplicity of it amazed me, and made me aware of many warning signs. This fall, I read it again, as we faced new and warning difficulties in our Mission. I immediately gave it to others to read. I has given us an understanding of Communism which we direly need, and others have written for copies of it and are using it in teaching our Christians.

"Kindly send material that could be used to help inform missionaries, which they will use in turn in teaching our AFRICANS. Our people's language is Swahili. Is there anything printed in Swahili? Some of them also read French well. Please send anything which you have – two copies at least of each by air-mail, and we will order others later."

Signed: (Miss) Marjorie Hudson

"Thank you, in the Name of our Lord, for the air-mail copy of 'The Heart, Mind and Soul of Communism' which I recently received from you. It has already proven of tremendous help to myself and several other missionaries here – for one of the new political parties of the Congo – the one most powerful in our immediate area – has just publicly affiliated itself with Communism.

"Because of the urgency of the situation in our area, we ask that you please send the indicated number of copies of this book to the following list of our stations, in order that each of our missionaries might be better equipped to fight the enemy just now come among us. Please send these by air, too.

"We would appreciate any further information you can give us on the availability of this booklet or similar literature in (1) French and in (2) KiSwahili."

Signed: Don Penney, Sec.
Executive Committee, Congo Field
Conservative Bapt. Foreign Mission Soc.

The following letter shows the tribulations to which missionaries, who have literally given their lives in service to the native peoples are subjected. Communism teaches that all missionaries are against of American imperialism and spies and directs towards them their venom and hatred. Though they may conceal this in certain situations, they endeavor to

infect the national Christian with suspicion and resentment towards the missionary by playing on their prejudices and their national pride. They are frequently successful.

"For some months now we here on the Conservative Baptist Foreign Mission Society field in Congo have been wrestling with a sudden burst of accusations, lies and intensive efforts to get rid of us.

"Some of the most vociferous attack has come from Church leaders.

"It has become clear from the associates (and outside interests of those associates) of these trouble makers that the trouble is sponsored by the Communists. Captured documents show conclusively that missions are the first target of this group. So far they are using professed Christians as front men. Later these men will be the first victims of the whole thing.

"We are desperately in need of good basic factual material on the nature and aims of Communism to disseminate in large quantities in Congo. It would have to be adapted and translated in to the Swahili language, which we are eager to do.

"If you can get this stuff to us fast we would appreciate it. There seems to be no time to lose.

"We operate a tract of the Month Club in which Africans and missionaries are members by subscription. We print 100,000 tracts a month with lots of color, size 3" x 5" each page.

"My vision is to use this groups as a nucleus for a widespread distribution system for this material. If we don't act fast we will have another China on our hands.

"We produce 4-page tracts in color, and excellent printing quality, for \$120 in lots of 100,000 (and doing 8 different ones at once on a big press) (total 800,000 tracts for \$1060.)

"If we had the funds we could supply a new tract every month of 100,000, and do it indefinitely. As we can produce as many as wanted.

"The first catch is good facts and the second is funds. If your organization can supply these we will be able to do a terrific job here.

"These people are naive and expecting something for nothing. They will get a different something from what they expect.

"We are personally investing nearly half our salary in the Lord's work and just can't do more, as missionaries, except use the Tract Club to get this information out and our printing experience to do a good job of it.

"As of March 1, we will be stationed at Editions Evangeliques, BP 52, Bunia, Congo Belge, and can have this stuff rolling inside a month or so.

"I don't know where else to turn for information, and I hope you are set up to get the facts into native hands as far as finances are concerned.

"Trusting the Lord will enable us to use your experience here, we look forward to a prompt reply."

Sincerely in Christ,
Signed: Philip D. Claar

The great need on the mission field today is for financial and strategic mobility. Crisis situations develop almost overnight and require urgent and sometimes drastic action. Any mission board that has to wait for an annual budgetary session to provide urgently needed help is helpless in these situations. For this reason the Christian Anti-Communism Crusade has had to provide financial help for the projects of the missionaries of some of the richest and wealthiest mission boards. We have been able to do this by investing widely and immediately the dollars you entrusted to our care. One dollar spent while something can still be done is frequently worth a thousand given too late.

MILWAUKEE ANTI-COMMUNISM SCHOOLS

Only those present can fully appreciate the dynamic impact of the Milwaukee School for anti-Communism. This was the greatest of our schools to this date. In spite of the blizzard that blanketed the Milwaukee area with a thick blanket of snow bringing traffic to a halt, closing schools and factories, the sessions of the school did not falter and 800 were enrolled either for the full course of a portion of it. The faculty was outstanding and unstintingly gave of their best. Twenty states were represented.

An outstanding feature of the Milwaukee School for anti-Communism was the caliber of the committee and its remarkable chairman, Maxine Graham. Never have I seen greater, unselfish dedication and limitless capacity for hard

work than these people displayed. I hesitate to mention names as so many gave such outstanding service but cannot refrain from referring to Mrs. Kadi Skogstad, who was registration chairman, and Mrs. Stan Hoebrechts, who showed such endurance and amazing strength in handling the great literature display that was such a feature of the school. A summary of the viewpoint of those who attended was given in the report of the Rev. T. H. Masters, Pastor of the Bible Baptist Church of Wichita Falls, Texas, in his bulletin:

"Thanks to all of those who helped to make it possible for me to go to this school. We had fifty hours of class work in four days, speeches, films, recordings, question periods, and speech classes.

"I believe it is the most profitable week in my whole life. The speakers were tops in their field. The students included doctors, lawyers, teachers, business men, Catholic priests, Protestant preachers, and high school students.

"Sometimes I would lose the trend of thought and my brain would go into a whirl. However, all the messages were recorded on tape and they are available. I have ordered some of them which I want the members of the church to hear. Now I have the job of trying to assimilate all this information and to learn how to circulate it into a language that the average layman can understand. We make a mistake in thinking we can understand Communism and how it works in a few hours time. Pray for me that I will become an effective tool for the Lord in the fight against Communism."

As this is being written, we are on the threshold of the School for Anti-Communism to be held in San Francisco where we expect another great triumph. At this moment we are confronted with certain financial and other problems. Simultaneously a school is being conducted each Saturday of March in Houston, Texas, under the direction of our grand secretary, Bill Strube, Jr. How the hearts of those attending the Milwaukee School were stirred as Bill outlined what each one could do. His message is not pure theory as he has done so much himself by the grace and power of God.

CONCLUSION

The darker the night, the brighter the dawn! The more difficult the problem, the greater the joy when it is solved! Although the picture is dark, there is an exhilaration in the struggle for Christ and freedom. So many are impressed by the need and the danger but lack the joy of expression in a positive program. Impression without expression leads to depression. There is work for all to do. The three essentials for such work to be effective are:

1. A powerful motivating force. The most powerful motive the world knows is the love of Christ.
2. The equipment of knowledge.
3. A program of action.

Most people want a program of action without the motivation and the knowledge. Motivation without knowledge leads to fanaticism. Knowledge without motivation leads to pessimism and despair. Motivation and knowledge without a program of action leads to frustration. Appropriate action channeled by knowledge, inspired by the love of Christ leads to joy and victory.

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