Correspondence of Rodger Hedlund

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OF ASBURY THEOLOGICAL SEMINARY
18 March, 1981

Bishop S.K. Parmar
Bishop's House
37 Cantonement Road
Lucknow (U.P.) - 226001

Dear Bishop Parmar:

Thank you for sending us your change of address.

Also, congratulations on your appointment in charge of the Evangelism/Church Growth Concern of the Methodist Church in India.

I had hoped to see you during the historic Methodist Conference here in Madras and regret that I was indisposed at that time. My wife informs me that you preached an outstanding Church growth sermon that Sunday at Emmanuel Methodist Church. Is there any possibility of receiving either a copy or an abridgment of that sermon for publication in the INDIA CHURCH GROWTH QUARTERLY?

Also, I wished to ask you to become a member of our "Council of Reference". This is to be a select group of our friends in India who believe in the work of the Church Growth Association of India/Church Growth Research Centre and who are willing to have their names used. There are no executive responsibilities involved or committee meetings intended. Would you be willing to serve in this capacity?

We will be grateful too if you can send us some news or articles from time to time.

There has been talk of a Hindi Church Growth Seminar. We had hoped this might take place in Lucknow. However our contact person has moved to Delhi. Would the Methodists be interested to take this up? We had talked about this possibly taking place sometime after August.

Cordially yours in Christ,

Roger E. Hedlund

cc: Mr. Kumar Doss
Dr. Hobin Kahn
12/6/1961

Rev. Jason S. Dharmaraj,
General Secretary,
IMS Office,
II, B Trivandrum Road,
Palayamkottai,
Thirunelvelli - 627 002.

Dear Rev. Dharmaraj:

Greeting in Christ from Madras.

It is encouraging to learn of the progress being made by L.M.S.,
and pray regularly that God will greatly use you for the advance
of the Gospel.

Now I am writing with a request. I wish to request you to become a
member of our "COUNCIL OF REFERENCE". This is a select group of
friends in India who believe in the work of the CHURCH GROWTH
ASSOCIATION OF INDIA/CHURCH GROWTH RESEARCH CENTRE, and are willing
to have their names used. This is not a Board, and there are no
executive responsibilities involved nor committee meetings intended.
Would you be willing to serve?

God's best to you. I look forward to hearing from you.

Yours in Christ,

Roger E. Hedlund

cc: Mr. M.J. Gnaniah
    Mr. M.J. Kumar Doss

P.S. I assume you receive INDIA CHURCH GROWTH QUARTERLY regularly
since you send us news from time to time. If you do not get it,
please let me know.

Rch/prv.
Dr. R.E. Hedlund,
Madras.

27th June, 1981.

Dear Dr. Hedlund,

Greetings in His Mighty Name. Thank you very much for your letter of 12th June. Sorry I was not available at the lodge when you came to the lodge at Madras.

I am willing to become a member of your Council of Reference.

I am receiving the India Church Growth quarterly. I wrote a report about the people’s movement (about the baptism of 576 lambadies in January ‘81) to you in 6th March, 1981 to be published in your magazine. It is not published still. If you can, kindly publish it in your magazine.

With prayers and best wishes.

Yours in Him,

General Secretary, I.M.S.T.
1 July, 1981

Rt. Rev. Bishop Joseph G. Chrispal  
Bishop's House  
Ellis Bridge  
Ahmedabad - 380 006

Dear Bishop Chrispal:

Greetings in Jesus' Name,

For sometime I have intended to write to express my appreciation for your presence and contribution in the Church Growth Seminar with Dr. McGavran last December at Bharuch.

Now I am writing with a special request. I wish to invite you to become a member of our Church Growth "Council of Reference." This is a select group of friends in India who believe in the work of the Church Growth Association of India/Church Growth Research Centre and who are willing to have their names used. There are no executive responsibilities involved nor committee meetings intended. Would you be willing to serve?

The information about evangelistic advance in your area is most encouraging. However we are exercising caution so far as publicity is concerned and hence not publishing this news. May God continue to guide and use you for the extension of His Kingdom.

Yours in Christ,

Roger E. Hedlund
Dear Bishop Andrews:

Greetings in Jesus’ Name from CHURCH GROWTH RESEARCH CENTRE, Madras.

It was good to see you earlier this year in Madras after so many years. Your abiding interest in the growth of the Church is most encouraging to us. Now I am writing to request you to consider becoming a member of our "Council of Reference." This is not a Board or Executive Committee or anything of that sort. It is a select group of our friends in India who are interested in the growth of the Church and believe in the work of the CHURCH GROWTH ASSOCIATION OF INDIA and its CHURCH GROWTH RESEARCH CENTRE. The main requirement is that you should be willing to have your name listed as a member of our council of reference. There are no executive responsibilities involved, nor committee meetings to be attended. Would you be willing to serve in this capacity?

I look forward to your response. We will be grateful too for any news or articles which you could send to us for use in our publication, the INDIA CHURCH GROWTH QUARTERLY.

Warm personal regards. Kindly give my greetings to Mrs. Andrews.

Cordially yours in Christ,

Roger E. Hedlund.

13 April, 1983.
Ref. No. To

Rev. Roger E. Hedlund,
Post Bag 768, Kolpauk Madras.
MADRAS 600010. India.

My Dear Rev. Hedlund,

Greetings affection and blessings to you.
This is to acknowledge your letter of 13th April 1983 which awaited my arrival from my tour.
I am grateful to you for inviting me to become a member of your "Council of Reference". However I have understood its explanation. I shall be happy to be a member of that Council.

We shall remember to send to you News or articles for the publication in the INDIA CHURCH GROWTH QUARTERLY.
My interest in Church Growth goes from the time when Dr. Mcgavaran worked in our home town and my father and myself have been associated with him in those days.

With warm personal regards and greetings,
With blessings,

Yours affectionately,

(Rt. Rev. I. P. Andrews)
BISHOP OF KOLHAPUR.
Rev. Roger Hedlund
Post Bag 768
Kilpauk,
MADRAS

PIN CODE 600010

Kolhapur Diocesan Office
E. P. School Compound,
Kolhapur 416 003.
Rt. Rev. I.P. Andrews  
Kolhapur Diocesan Council  
E.P. School Compound  
Kolhapur, Maharashtra 416 003.

4 May, 1983.

Dear Bishop Andrews:

Greetings in Jesus' Name.

This is to acknowledge your kind letter of 29 April, 1983. I am indeed grateful that you have accepted the invitation to become a member of the CHURCH GROWTH ASSOCIATION OF INDIA "Council of Reference".

We look forward to receiving news and articles of interest to the INDIA CHURCH GROWTH QUARTERLY.

You may be interested to know that in our office prayers during the past month, we have been remembering the evangelical work of the Diocese during the Monday morning prayer time at the beginning of the office day. We pray God's best for you and for the evangelisation of the unreached in Kolhapur.

Again, thanks for your warm interest.

With warm personal regards.

Cordially yours in Christ,

Roger E. Hedlund.

cc: Rev. N.J. Gnaniah.
To,  
Rev. and Mrs. R.E. Hedlund  
Church Growth Research Centre,  
Post Bag No. 766,  
Kilpauk,  
Madras, 600-010.

Dear Rev. and Mrs. Hedlund,

Thank you so much for sharing with me the information that Rev. Vasantharaj is the new Director of Church Growth Research Centre. I am sure with his vision and dedication he would build upon the foundation that you both have laid.

I am sorry that the situation with respect to Church growth in U.P. is no better than I can four years ago. However, we have some good results in Bihar and Bengal. I have not yet lost hope for the Lord is willing and able to work wonders. He can make water gush forth from rocks. He is the same yesterday today and forever.

Let us spiritually uphold one another as we work with Him and for Him in this land. Please convey my good wishes to Rev. Vasantharaj and I assure him of our prayers.

With all good wishes,

Yours sincerely,

Bishop S.K. Parmar
To,
---Rev. and Mrs. P.E. Hedlund
Church Growth Research Centre,
Post Bag No. 766,
Kilpauk,
Madras- 600-010.

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BISHOP S. ZUPARMAR

BISHOP HOUSE

37, CANTONMENT ROAD

LUCKNOW-226001, U.P., INDIA
Dear Bishop Parmar:

Greetings in Jesus' Name from Madras. Thank you for your kind letter of 28 September, 1984.

We appreciate your kind words and continued interest in this ministry. You will be interested that Bishop Lance has requested a seminar for his area to be held in November. We are praying about this. Rev. S. Vasantahraj Albert will be joining with me. We recall the Gujarat Case Study which you presented at the Lucknow Seminar. I have written to Rev. S.S. Gohil if he or someone could prepare something which we could present at Delhi. I wish we had a copy of your very fine presentation which you gave at Lucknow. If you can suggest anyone that we might contact as a resource person to present a case study at Delhi, we would be grateful for that.

Please be assured of our continued prayers. Specifically we would uphold you during the office morning prayers of our staff when they meet at 9:30 each morning.

Please be encouraged that God must have much in mind for U.P. as well as for Bihar and Bengal. Thank you for telling us about the good results in the latter two areas. U.P. is an immense area. There is much to be done. God is able and the time will surely come when we shall see the salvation of our God. Praise His Name.

I had in mind to contact you sometime ago but have been delinquent. One of our projects which has been carried on in bits and pieces over the past several years is the completion of a manuscript for a text-book on the Biblical Theology of Mission. The final product has now gone to the press under the title "Mission To Man In The Bible". Actually, I had wanted to request you if you would be willing to make some statement that we might quote on the back cover of the book. Even now it may not be too late, as the cover is probably the last phase of the project and the proofs of the manuscript are yet to come. If you are willing to do this, I will request the office to see if they have a spare copy of the typed manuscript to send you. Or barring that, as you may be extremely busy, could we send you a synopsis along with the table of content? I will await your word on this.

Warm personal regards to you and Mrs. Parmar. Cordially yours in Christ,

Roger E. Hedlund.

Enclosure: brochure.
Rt. Rev. I.P. Andrews, 
Kolhapur Diocesan Council, 
E.P. School Compound, 
Kolhapur, Maharashtra-416.003.

Rt. Rev. and dear Bishop,

I am sending by separate post one copy of the NCC Review of October, 1984.

Dr. Hedlund feels that if you could write to other friends who are serious about evangelizing India, it would be very appropriate.

Thank you very much for your encouraging comments.

With Christian greetings.

Yours faithfully,

S. Vasantahraj Albert.

cc: Dr. R.E. Hedlund.

SVA: pm
Council of Reference

5. Dr. T.C. George (June 1981)
Council of Reference
P. T. Chandigarde - yes
Theo. Williams - yes
Dr. T. C. George - yes
M. Rev. Jason S. Dharmaraj - yes
Bishop S. K. Parmar - yes
M. Rev. J. P. Andrews - yes