

MAURICE G. LYGDOH

RECAPTURE

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Collection of articles on the works of the
American Mission in Khasi-Jaintia Hills etc.

Maurice G. Lyngdoh

RECAPTURE

(A collection of articles on the works of the Presbyterian
Mission in Khasi-Jaintia Hills etc.)



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The 14th October 1992

FOREWORD

The simple preception of an ordinary mortal.

Having responded to the request to write a 'Foreword', I at once, felt the need to enter into the intellectual exercise, involving in the process, the essentiality of providing the answer to -

What is a 'Foreword'?

I find no hesitation to conclude that it is something of an unbiased assessment of one's endeavour in literary commitment, whatever the media of communicating what one has in mind. An assessment of that nature will not try to exalt the idealistic as down-to earth, vice versa.

Going thoughtfully through "RECAPTURE", readers will be grinded, as this mortal experiences, by three impressions :-

ONE, the author's painful effort to documenting informative fragments :

TWO, the author's unquenchable desire to make the past as refreshing and motivating as ever;

THREE, the author's acquaintance with the conventional norms of constructing creative history.

Devoid of any stigma of conceptual approach, each Chapter epitomises the stark realities presented in a lucid way which the human unfettered will is not in a position to create twists and turns, whenever investigative explanations are needed. In this, the author's accomplishment is positively superb.

The author may be lacking in certain parameters of professionalism, but lo and behold, he is a master exploiter of whatever came his way in the form of inputs. He may not possess the literary brilliance of those who have achieved superlative perfection in literature, but he has the accepted and recognised ramifications of a highly enterprising researcher. "May his tribe increase."

Tears-invoking Chapters on Rev. Thomas Jones I - his unflinching commitment to the greater glory of the Cross - are, in their own way, the truth-unveiling Chapters reveal-

ing God's eternal plan of redemption Who, in His Wisdom divine and never - failing, has not left the Khasis to perish without hope of that eternal glory " still longed for, but never seen."

Thought-provoking Chapters narrating the blossom of the medical ministry in the Khasi Hills and recapitulating the life and works of Khasi Christian personalities awakens, one and all, to such meaningful queries as :-

ONE, can one be a true Christian without being a good Samaritan ?

TWO, is not the mental make-up of the Khasis commensurately responding to the cross continental dimensions ?

I have discovered in *kthaw* Maurice the qualifying marks of one who meticulously strives to provide answers to such questions. In the simple language of history, he does that with an amazing clarity.

I am confident that the book will turn out to be a pocket-library of all those who nurture the desire not to let the past slips away without making some safe anchor in the present to shed a twilight for the future.

B R Kharlukhi

P R E F A C E

An attempt is here made to record something of the history of the "*Welsh Calvinistic Methodists' Foreign Mission*" in Khasi-Jaintia Hills and also of the lives of some prominent Khasi Christians as-well-as of missionaries who have contributed their bits to the making of the Church in these hill during their days. The coverage includes in brief evangelisation, education and medical services which had been the principal features of missionary efforts in our hills.

Several of the articles reproducing in this book had appeared in "Meghalaya Guardian" and "Sentinel" published from Guwahati, Assam. Every endeavour has been made to present facts, as objectively as possible, and it is for the readers to judge whether I have succeeded. I shall consider my labour amply rewarded if this book be of any use to the readers.

My tremendous debt of gratitude goes to Dr. B.R.Kharlukhi M.A., Ph.D., Ex-Member of Parliament, for having spared his valuable time to read the typescripts with minute care and offering valuable suggestions for improvement.

"Sngithiang"

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Maurice G. Lyngdoh

The 1st Movember 1992

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