My Experiences in Ceylon

Brian Wijeratne February 1973



Photo date and location unknown

I arrived in Ceylon and found myself in a steaming hot airport that was Colombo, and having left a cold and wintry England the change in climate was very sharp and rather rapid. The surroundings reflected an entirely different world! The buildings I saw were very different ones from those in England. I noticed overall that the creation had been neglected.

Nature seemed to be 'groaning in travail'! There was sorrow in the gardens and parks; sorrow in yonder greens and meadows and sorrow in hedgerow and wayside too! In that moment though I felt very protected spiritually. I also felt the Father's presence and I realized the agony that had been in His Heart from the day of the Fall. Looking at the neglected waste around me I became very heartbroken. What tearful longings for the Father-yesterday-today-tomorrow and so on until the whole creation is restored back to the Father. I thought that if the nation were to stand up again it would have to be through a determined effort by those who loved spiritual values.

My physical parents were overjoyed to see me after nearly 10 years. They hardly recognized me as the youth of the past. They waited eagerly for me to talk of the Leader, His teachings and of the Principle and they were thrilled. Although it was not easy for them to have grasped the complete message of the Principle, they took in what was essential. So I hope that they did not consider me as the prodigal son who returned home like the prodigal son in the famous parable but as a prodigal son who was helping to make restitution for all the prodigal sons who had been returning home throughout the New Testament age.

There were many others who came to visit me -- some of them were Directors of Co-operations and Social Research Institutes, Managers of Firms, Government Departments, Superintendents of Estates, the Dons of University and others among whom were basically freedom loving men. I had to approach them through logic and science in order to introduce Principle to them. Since the majority of them were Buddhists it was practically unadvisable to discuss Revelation with Biblical foundations. However, the practicability of spiritual law outlined in Principle was greatly hailed since Buddhists themselves have a good grasp of spiritual law. Ceylon is quite clearly God's own little isle but I could feel how Satan had been clawing himself into society through idle and ignorant politicians who waste all their time meddling in Party Politics and involving themselves with Systems of Parliament which are no longer useful. The plain fact is that all political systems which are being used throughout the world today must change if the world were to be unified and restored.

The Give and Take among ordinary people is very intense and I knew then how the Father had been working with the past generations of Ceylonese. Their love for goodness was very refreshing as well as being inspiring. This was confirmation that the Final Dispensation had come! So, God can never fail, God

can never give up and God never loses.

I gave out literature to all the people that I conversed with on Principle and I talked freely of the Unified family, FWPU, IFVC and of those two fine scientific instruments of the Father, the gallant organizations of CARP and CURE. To the Christians that I met I talked broadly in terms of the Mission of Jesus and mentioned specifically that today there would be no Buddhists, Hindus, Moslems or Confucianists had Jesus been able to accomplish fully his mission. I mentioned that with the failure of Jesus to establish the Kingdom of God physically, the Buddhists, Hindus, Moslems, Confucianists and other denominations never saw a superior system of belief, a superior system of Government, a new society filled with absolute goodness come from Israel! So throughout the New Testament age these non-Christian denominations continued their way.

Consequently, I was introduced to the leader of a great nonpolitical, non-profit making movement based on community participation, personal sacrifice and non-violent action. The movement called SARVODA YA SHRAMADANA, Sinhalese words for 'Welfare for all' and 'Sharing of Energy'. I was taken round their community center and was very pleased with what I saw. The movement was based on philosophy drawn from the teachings of all the great religions, although fundamentally the members of the movement were of Buddhist lineage.

The movement aims at creating a new individual in society, who would share his energy with others for common betterment. Then the achievement of a true human brotherhood through the harnessing of both spirituality and science could come through such a foundation. The leader of the movement himself went through with me the methods of organization that he employed for the smooth running of the community where about 200 people are resident and about 1,000 more report for work as non-resident members. I felt that their sacrifice deserved more support from the nation.

I talked to them about our Leader, who has become Asia's greatest spiritual leader. I spoke of the Leader's Revelation and the Unification Movement. I urged them to get in touch with our family in Seoul, Korea in the hope that a link-up would be made possible. I sensed that if the foundation for sacrifice could be laid by such a movement, Father would be able to bring Unification to Ceylon in a rapid way thus accelerating world restoration.

In 1969, a top Asian award -- the Ramon Magsaysay Award was given to the Sarvodaya Shramadana Movement for Community work! Altogether over 40,000 families have so far benefitted from the work of this movement. I was asked to write in the Community log book and having wished them well in their work I wrote in conclusion that the work of the movement links up with the words of Asia's greatest spiritual leader quoting our Master, that quote of quotes, the greatest of all quotes: "TO RESTORE THE WORLD LET US GO FORTH IN THE SHOES OF A SERVANT BUT WITH THE FATHER'S HEART, SHEDDING TEARS FOR MAN, SWEAT FOR EARTH AND BLOOD FOR HEAVEN".

I pray that the people in Ceylon would hear the message of the Principle and bring forth a new society, a society not of relative goodness but of absolute goodness.