GENERAL SECRETARY’S MESSAGE

Dear Brothers and Sisters in Christ,

After the Sabbath, at dawn, on the first day of the week, when Mary Magdalene and the other Mary, along with others, went to the tomb, they went looking for the body of Jesus, crucified on the cross at Calvary. They had taken along the spices to anoint. At the tomb they confronted the most important question as asked by the angel, “Why do you look for the living among the dead? He is not here; he has risen”. Yes, he has risen indeed and we need to know that we look for the living among the living only. When these women went back from the tomb, they told these things to his disciples, but they did not believe the women. Later they themselves experienced the risen Lord and went around the world spreading the gospel of Christ.

Resurrection of Christ, in no uncertain terms, is the most important news of all times and the most important event in human history, for all generations and for all people. This is the news that changed the whole world upside down. Ordinary disciples, after their teacher had been crucified and laid in a grave, went into hiding, without much hope. A dark spell of fear gripped them and they knew not what was there in store for them. Their hopes of sitting on the right and left of their king when he came in his glory, had already been dashed to the ground. People who had gathered to see Jesus being killed, in the company of two criminals, one on either side, beat their breasts and went away. It was a picture of total gloom, darkness, hopelessness and despair. It looked as if death had once again overpowered life. But the reality of the resurrection of the Christ changed everything. When the doors being locked where the disciples were for fear of the Jews, Jesus came and stood among them and said, “Peace be with you.” Having said this, he showed them his hands and his side. The disciples were glad when they saw their Lord. Ordinary fear filled disciples had turned into burning fires. They went out into the whole world and preached the risen Christ.

However the news of death and destruction, prevailing all around, not only distracts and disappoints us, but creates unrest within our hearts; leaving us with burdened, hopeless lives full of uncertainties and anxieties. While terror continues to reign in our lives and the terror threats becoming increasingly complex and varied, the hope seems to have perished.

Yet, the Easter story portrays a very alive and present God. It brings in authentic hope and provides us good news. It is a festival of victory of life over death. It reminds us that God, in raising Jesus Christ from the dead, assures us also of the gift of resurrection. There is hope for mankind. The resurrection of Jesus leads us from darkness to light; from hopelessness to hope and from death to life everlasting.

Let all the ends of the earth revere and give glory to the resurrected Christ.

Wish you all a very happy, blessed and a hope filled Easter.

Yours in His Mission

Alwan Masih
General Secretary,
The Synod of the Church of North India