

Northern Asia-Pacific Division



NEWS & VIEWS

Volume 3, Number 31

NSD Millennium Celebration Theme Song Contest

"Forward" was selected

Realizing the momentous opportunity afforded by AD 2000, Northern Asia-Pacific Division created a New Millennium Committee. Its purposes were to praise God for what He has accomplished through His people for the extension of His Kingdom and to challenge Christians, in keeping with the spirit of Christ, to commit themselves anew to the successful completion of the Great Commission in their generation.

The Committee made plans for the celebration of the accomplishments of God through His people. The Millennium Celebration aimed at motivating God's people to go forward for the completion of the Great Commission and the great preparation of people for the imminent return of our Lord Jesus Christ.

One of their purposes was a Division wide Millennium Celebration Theme Song Contest. Each Union in the Northern Asia-Pacific Division advertised the contest through its church periodical.

The contest was outlined as follows:

1. Contents: "One Spirit in one Accord," "Going Forward," "Expectation for the year 2000," and "Second Coming of Jesus Christ."
2. Length: Two - Four Minutes (any stanza)
3. Language: Native (summary of the lyric in English)
4. Qualification: Every SDA in the Division
5. Deadline: September 30, 1999
6. Award: Two round trip tickets to Toronto for the 2000 General Conference Session in Canada or Heritage Tour in the USA. (Poet - One ticket, Composer - One ticket)

7. Winner: Will be announced in the Division and Union paper (November Issue).

8. Address: Theme Song to be sent to the Union Secretary whom will selects two best entries through the panel of judges of each Union.

9. Sponsor: NSD

*Pastor
Mark Duarte,
Director
of English
Language
Schools in Japan*



The Northern Asia-Pacific Division asked the Adventist University of the Philippines' Music Department to select the panel of judges under the leadership of the president, Elder Gerundio U. Ellecer. The panel of judges met several times to select the best theme song out of five entries, two from Chinese Union Mission, two from Korean Union Conference and one from Japan Union Conference.

They selected the song "Forward," with words and music composed by Pastor Mark Duarte and with music score by Tadashi Shibata, both from Japan Union Conference. The panel reported that Korean Union Conference had nine teams of contestants, Japan Union Conference eight, and Chinese Union Mission four. All entries came up with the stated specific requirements and were high in quality. Northern Asia-Pacific Division decided not to announce the rankings this time.

A token of thanksgiving will be sent to each one of the contestants from each Union. The Northern Asia-Pacific Division wishes to express deepest appreciation to all the contestants, Union secretaries, publishing houses, panels of judges, and especially to the Adventist University of the Philippines and its president.

Masaji Uyeda, *Education / Language Schools Director*

Forward!

Words & Music By Mark Duarte

September 5, 1999

Score Arranged by Tadashi Shibata

Brightly

We face the task to gether of sha ring with the world the joy ous news of heaven, that

Christ will soon re tum! The clouds of sin may ga ther and dark en land and sea, but a brighter day is

coming, a day of vic to ry! In u ni ty move for ward and sound the gos pel call, to

eve ry tribe and na tion, God's word must go to all!

Tokyo Evangelism

Among Latin-Americans

The Tokyo Central SDA Church organized an evangelistic effort to reach out Latin Americans, starting on September 3. Under the leadership of Pastor Yozaburo Bando, Pastor Carlos G. Martin conducted a series of eight presentations which culminated on September 12. Since the Filipino group decided to attend, even when they were not initially invited, starting on the second night the series was conducted in English and translated to Spanish, and sometimes to Portuguese and Japanese languages! Pastor Carlos G. Martin baptized a Spanish-speaking Japanese, a Bolivian, and a Peruvian on September 11.

By its own very nature, the Tokyo Central Church is not a community church, since people from all around the area attend its services. The average attendant of the 25-member Latin-American congregation needs to travel about two hours to attend church services. Some members live four hours away; one lady who was baptized lived seven hours from Tokyo, so she decided to quit her job in order to attend the evangelistic series!

The eight presentations were of doctrinal character because of the very definition of what evangelism is: "The presentation of biblical doctrines in such a way that people will accept Jesus as Savior, follow Him in the fellowship of the church, and serve Him as witnesses of His power." Following this definition, Pastor Martin insists that a sermon without an appeal cannot be classified as "evangelism," a two-day series does not qualify as adequate evangelism because it cannot present the "whole truth," and a series which does not aim to lead a person to make a responsible decision for baptism, is not evangelism. However, "harvest" evangelistic meetings following "ground preparation" qualify as such.

In this short series attendants were exposed to most Adventist doctrines, including the distinctive teachings of the doctrines of Health Reform, Stewardship, Spirit of Prophecy, Sabbath, and the State of the Death. All doctrines were centered in Jesus and the presentation of each doctrine ended with a fervent appeal to accept Jesus as Savior. Night after night the audience responded to altar calls as Mrs. Sarah Capeles, from Maryland, USA, sang "All to Jesus I Surrender." This is in harmony with the inspired instruction: "In every discourse fervent appeals should be made to the people to forsake their sins and turn to Christ." (Testimonies, 4: 396.)

***Experience the Fellowship
of God's Family.***



The Latin-American group of Tokyo Central Church with Pastors Martin & Bando.

Another significant element of this series was that the doctrinal presentations were made using three parallel and simultaneous projections, including one in Power Point. Pastor Martin has developed an evangelistic series which will be available in Korean, Chinese, and Japanese characters for free to all pastors willing to try them once they have been tried, tested, and improved. This series has the unique characteristic that each pastor can alter the size or the content of all the scripts and images so that it will fit his personality, and that this series has incorporated images with Oriental faces, scenery, and culture according to the country where it will be used.

Pastor Martin believes that the use of audiovisuals in evangelism is virtually indispensable to attract a generation which has grown watching television and using computers. Definitively, a traditional Adventist lecture will not attract the average young urbanite, but a high-tech presentation may. Audiovisuals also have the advantage of being remembered longer and allowing to say more with less words. It is not easy for a Buddhist to visualize that Jesus will come "with all His holy angels" and "with power and great glory!" Experience has demonstrated that even children will be attracted to a series using a giant screen of 10 meters and three simultaneous projections.

The work of God on this earth will be finished by a powerful wave of evangelistic activity! However, it is our privilege today to witness and to give the millions who are perishing without knowing about God's love a chance to learn about Jesus. It is our responsibility to serve as witnesses for Jesus according to the spiritual gifts which the Lord has granted to each member of His Church.

Carlos G. Martin, *Ministerial Ass./HM/GM/AGCN*
Director

Bi-Division ASI Convention in China

The Joy of Sharing Christ

The 1999 Convention of Adventist Laymen's Services & Industries (ASI) sponsored by the Northern Asia-Pacific Division (NSD) and Southern Asia-Pacific Division (SSD) was conducted under the theme of "The Joy of Sharing Christ" on August 18-22, 1999 at Beijing Continental Grand Hotel in Beijing, China.

The editor of the NEWS & VIEWS had an interview with Pastor Hong, Myung Kwan, coordinator and organizer of the Beijing Convention, who is the NSD Sabbath School & Personal Ministries (SS/PM) Director.

Editor: How many people attended and where did they come from?

Pastor Hong: About 260 came, including the members of two choirs. They came from Korea, Japan, Taiwan, Hong Kong, Philippines, Indonesia, Singapore, Malaysia, Myanmar, and Bangladesh. The largest number of the delegates was from the Korean Union Conference and the next biggest number was from South Philippine Union Conference.

Editor: What were the main purposes of the convention?

Pastor Hong: First of all, the convention was a spiritual and social gathering of Adventist businessmen. They shared their experiences and had a good fellowship. The second purpose was to raise funds from our businessmen for people in need.

Editor: Then, how much money was raised and for what purpose the fund would be used?

Pastor Hong: The attendants offered US\$50,000. Two-thirds of the fund goes to the host division, NSD, and one-third to the SSD. The NSD will use the fund for food support to North Korea.

Editor: How about the programs of the convention and who were the speakers?

Pastor Hong: The main programs were "Tent Maker" presented by Bruce C. Moyer, Associate Director of Institute of World Mission, "Stress Without Distress for Today's Businessmen" by Kathleen Kuntaraf, Associate Director of the General Conference (GC) Health Ministries Department, "Role of the US in Global Economy, as Prophesied" by Jonathan Kuntaraf, Associate Director of GC SS/PM Department and "Witnessing in the Market Place" by Walter L. Pearson Jr., Director and Speaker of the "Breath of Life" telecast in the USA.

Editor: What can you comment on the convention as a whole?

Pastor Hong: The participants were very excited and happy. Their testimonies were wonderful. They are winning souls through their businesses. All programs were well done. Furthermore, the music programs were really an inspiration to the attendees. Two choirs, Asia Vocalist Ensemble from Korea and New Generation from the Philippines, as well as Sunshine Stahl, a female soloist, were greatly appreciated. The next convention is planned for the year 2001 in Vietnam.

Editor: Thank you very much.

Tadaomi Shinmyo, *Communication/PARL Director*

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We Welcome Your Reports to NEWS & VIEWS

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