

## POEMS OF THE MONTH

### Arrival and Departure

*Simon Zachariah*

People come, people go, it's an Airport!  
Departure is at the upper level.  
The arrival is at the lower level.  
Both are filled with people who love.

At the Departure hall, they hug in tears.  
Waving their hands "good bye!"  
They drag their feet back to the car  
Memories still vivid, hard to erase

At the Arrival hall, they run, hug and kiss.  
Giving flowers and soft toys  
Some hold a name of unknown stranger!  
Who may become a co-worker later.

They cry when we depart from earth  
But they who are in heaven are happy  
Some to meet us again, and others  
To meet us for the first time ever!

My parents will introduce me to them,  
This is our son/ daughter named after you  
I'll explain all that happened after they left  
What joy, when we see them all there!

### വീണ വിത്തു

-സൈമൺ സഖറിയ

വീണപുവിനെ കുറിച്ചു കവിത എഴുതി  
വീണ വിത്തിനെ കവി മറന്നതെന്തേ?  
പു ചത്തപ്പോലല്ല വിത്തിൻ അന്തം  
വിത്തു വീണ്ടും ചെടിയായ് ഫലം കൊടുത്തു  
മണ്ണിൽ വീണു ചീഞ്ഞ പൂവ്വാനോ നീ?  
ചത്തു ജീവിച്ചോരു വിത്താനോ നീ?

### Channels of Glory – Letter from Dr. Simon Zachariah

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Please send your generous contribution for this noble cause. You can also help us to locate needy individuals around you or in India. Please ask them to submit an application showing their need.

Channels of Glory Newsletter  
May, 2015



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## Channels of Glory

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### A Newsletter

Vol.10 No.1. 2015



### Brave Sun.

“Sun is not afraid of clouds, mountains, or  
oceans”-

-Anju Thomas.



**Channels of Glory –**  
**Letter from Dr. Simon Zachariah**

We have heard a lot about the beginning and the end of people, projects, and organizations. A good start is always appreciated in everything. Some say: ‘Well begun is half done’. But some are of opinion that ‘We cannot judge anything till we see the end of it. In any case we are ignoring the period in between the beginning and the end. But in my opinion, more than any of these things, it is the persistence and determination with faith in God that really matters. He is the One who lifts us when we fall. He is the One who heals us when we are wounded, and He is the one who refreshes us when we are depressed. When we go to see the Fourth of July fireworks, I always compare human efforts as one of those fireworks. Some begin with a loud sound and blast, but may be an unattractive one in the end. These are the ones that get the ‘Ooos...’ Some others have a soft start but end in a colorful blast. These get ‘Ah..hhha’ cheering. But some

others have an average start, average lift and several small blasts and a final huge blast. These are the ones that get “O..ooos” and “Ah...hhha”.

When I look back on the past ten years of this organization, I realize how God has protected and provided for all the needs of the organization in a miraculous way. We need not worry about our daily sustenance, because He has told us to “go to the other side of the lake”, and He won’t allow us to drown in the lake. When we were in India God helped us to work among people from low socio-economic group. Now when we look back, that organization is also doing well. At present there are many highly educated people in that community and they are helping each other. Recently I got the report and several photos of a camp project conducted by them. One girl from that community got a Master’s degree in Social Work and she took the initiative to conduct the camp project. All these happened because of the continued prayers and abundant grace and mercy from God. So let us not worry about a good beginning or a victorious end. God who has guided us thus far is able to provide the resources, day by day.

A few years ago someone asked me, “What is the reason for poverty?” I pointed out that I did not know what kind of poverty he was talking about. Was it poverty of wisdom, health, or money? I also stressed the fact that poverty of wisdom, health and money are all determined at birth. When a child is born to a set of parents there is very little the child can do to outgrow those circumstances.

When I thought further about this, I realized that prejudice, stereotyping and social stigma can also be grouped in the “poverty syndrome”. No matter how much we are educated about certain diseases, it is very hard to overcome the stigma which is prevalent in society. I remember an occasion when a mission hospital was offered a brand new multistory building, if they agreed to start a wing for the treatment of patients with leprosy. Another time the same hospital was offered all the financial help to start a branch for the treatment of mentally ill patients. Both these offers were gracefully denied because the local people held all these diseases as a social stigma.

Some people have a strong opposition to organ donation and even blood donation because of the above mentioned stigma attached to these conditions. I have come to realize that when certain conditions which are considered as social stigma happens to occur in our families or to our loved ones, we have a strong tendency to see it differently and we tend to justify it with many reasons.

So in 2015, let us make a new decision to honor and appreciate who are rich in their attitudes and try to learn from their courage to stand up for what is right and just. Do you know what God wants from us? Only three simple things. (Micah 6:10)

“He has shown you, O mortal, what is good.

And what does the LORD require of you?  
To act justly and to love mercy  
and to walk humbly with your God.”