

Tribal Theology

Asian Horizons 2, 1 (June 2008)

Editorial

Return to the roots
Revive the traditions
Research the trends
Restore the values
Renew the human lives
Reform the communities
Remember the relationships
Remain united in the spirit
Reap the human dignity
Reach the human destiny
Retreat to the civilisation of love
Revamp the culture of life
Relax and rejoice in the celebration
Revisit the tribes and tribals.

Tribes
Trace the roots
Turn to the earth and heaven
Trace the house
Treat the people
Test the trends
Train the minds
Tend the basics
Transform the hearts
Translate the truth
True to the changes
Trump the card of love and life
Triumph over the times

Tribes
Twelve in the OT
Twelve times twelve in the NT
Together they paint the people of God
Think of God in history
Talk of God's mystery
Trust in the Divine reality.

Theology:

Faith seeking celebration of life –
 Faith seeking celebration of life in Christ
 Finds its fine articulation among the tribals.
 The reality, history and mystery
 They make the theological investigation:
 Togetherness in divinity
 Togetherness in unity
 Togetherness with diversity
 Togetherness with beauty
 Togetherness to the totality
 Togetherness in solidarity
 Togetherness in charity
 Togetherness in dignity
 Togetherness for destiny
 “Togetherness” – the major trait of tribal theology.
 This the need of the hour
 To attend to the prayer of Jesus,
 “so that they may be one,
 as we are one” (John 17: 11).

Tribal ethos:

Rooted in the sense of Sacredness
 Reflecting in the whole world
 Radiating with human dignity
 Recognising the sanctity of life
 Respecting the things around
 Responding to the growing ecological hazard
 Restoring the family bond
 Renewing the sense of fellowship in the world
 Rejecting acts against the common good
 Rejoicing in the mystery of the Lord:
 “Thy Kingdom come,
 Thy will be done
 on earth as it is in heaven” (Matthew 6: 10).

The ethos of the tribals of Chhottanagpur;
 The myths of the tribals of the North East;
 The credo from the biblical and tribal perspective;
 The Kurisumala Ashram of Francis Acharya;
 These and others are the windows of *Asian Horizons*.

Paulachan Kochappilly, CMI
 Editor-in-Chief