

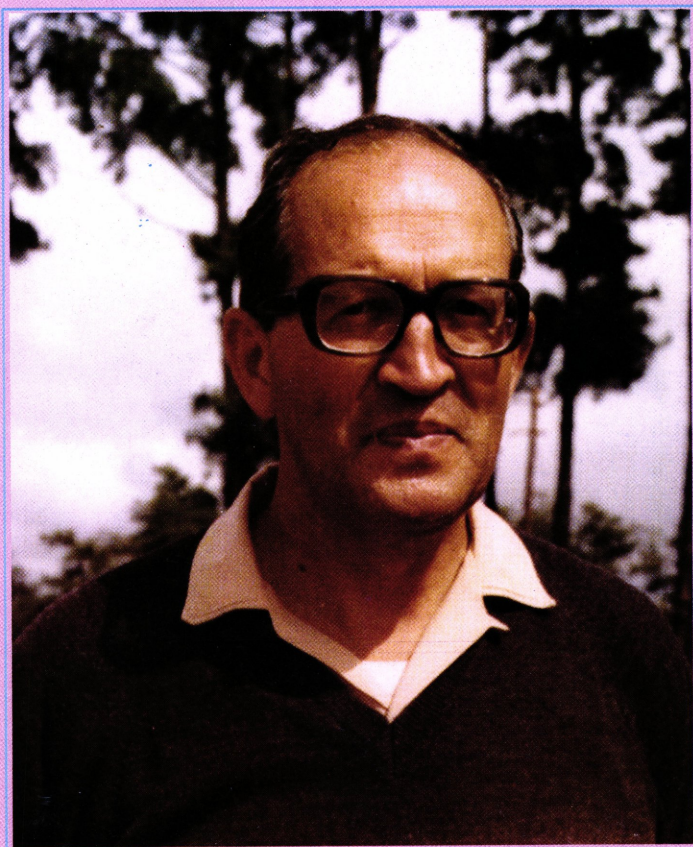
# **KHLIEHRIAT HIGHER SECONDARY SCHOOL**

**SOUVENIR**  
**IN**  
**LOVING MEMORY OF**



**REV. FR. HENRY FANTIN, SDB**  
**(1923 - 1997)**  
**FOUNDER**





**REV. FR. HENRY FANTIN, SDB**  
EVANGELIZER, EDUCATIONIST  
TEACHER, PREACHER  
FRIEND



# **Souvenir**

**In Commemoration of  
The First Death Anniversary  
of**

39B0203

**Rev. Fr. Henry Fantin sdb  
(24-03-1923—26-06-1997)**

**COMMEMORATION COMMITTEE**

**Khliehriat Higher Secondary School  
Khliehriat - 793 200  
Jaintia Hills, Meghalaya  
26 June 1998**







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*Provincial, Guwahati Province*

**Rt. Rev. Robert Kerketta, SDB**

*Bishop of Tezpur*

**Fr. J. Fantin, SDB**

**Professor B. Pakem**

*Vice-Chancellor, NEHU*

**Shri Simon Siangshai**

*Hon'ble Minister, PWD (Building) & Housing  
Government of Meghalaya*

**Shri Lakhon Shilla**

*Asst. Inspector of Schools, Jaintia Hills*

**Shri S.C. Marak**

*Ex-Chief Minister, Meghalaya*

**Rev. Fr. Peter K. Shun**

*Parish Priest, Sutnga*

**Mr. Shibun Lyngdoh, Khliehriat**

**Dr. Barbara Bamon**

*Medical & Health Officer, Khliehriat, CHC*

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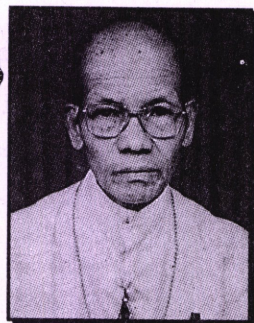
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**The Most Rev.  
T. Resto Phanrang, S.D.B., D.D.  
Archbishop of Shillong**

**Archbishop's House  
Shillong 793 003  
(Meghalaya)**

## MESSAGE



**T**he Lord of the Harvest has taken to Himself Fr. Henry Fantin on 26 June, 1997. Love for the Church was a dominant feature of the life of Fr. Fantin. His zeal for souls was limitless and unflagging. He toiled in the vineyard of the Lord for almost six decades.

Salesian College, Sonada was the venue of his period of Practical Training. I have known him since 1947 when I was a student of Philosophy in Salesian College, Sonada. He was an excellent teacher. With his wide knowledge of History and other subjects he could discuss and share on a wide range of topics. He loved learning and imparted the same to his students with great zest.

He was a gifted musician. He developed his musical talents with his own efforts. He saw music and its harmonization everywhere. I learned much music from him. His revised and enriched edition of *Ka Lynti Bneing* is a treasure for the Catholic Church in the Archdiocese of Shillong. The sweet melodies of the sacred hymns composed by him will continue to echo in the hills of Ri-Khasi-Pnar.

The dawn of 7th January, 1951 heralded untold joy and happiness for young Fantin. It was the day on which his long cherished dream of becoming a Salesian Missionary Priest came true. He started his active missionary work in 1959 when he was appointed to Jowai as Assistant Parish Priest and Headmaster. In 1979 he was transferred to Khliehriat after a period of 19 years of dedicated service in the mission of Jowai.

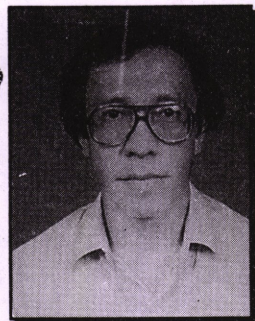
Fr. Henry Fantin was an accomplished scholar and an eminent educationist. The major part of his life was spent in the work of Education. Those who worked with him will testify to the energy and enthusiasm with which he plunged into the demanding work of Education. The remarkable progress of Schools at Jowai and Khliehriat speaks volumes of his great love for learning. *Ka Baibel Khasi Bathymmai* (The New Khasi Bible) is a manifestation of his love for the Word of God. He will always be gratefully remembered for his mighty contribution to the growth of the Church in the Archdiocese of Shillong. May the exemplary life of Fr. Henry Fantin beckon us to greater fidelity in God's service. He had a great dream for the people of Ri-Pnar. May the Lord enable us to carry forward with love and enthusiasm his unfinished mission.

**+ T. Resto Phanrang SDB, DD**  
(Archbishop of Shillong)



Provincial House  
Don Bosco  
Guwahati-781 001

## MESSAGE



I am happy to note that you are revering the memory of late Fr. Henry Fantin on his first death anniversary through a commemorative service, installing a bust of his in the school premises, and the publication of a souvenir. I wish to convey my sincere appreciation to all those who are associated with this beautiful gesture by which you wish to perpetuate the memory of Rev. Fr. Henry Fantin, a great Salesian, a valiant missionary and a remarkable educationist.

As a long article of mine appears in this souvenir, I will not elaborate here on the life and qualities of Fr. Fantin. I would only like to quote and underscore here a few lines from the article: "A stalwart missionary, a scholar, an eminent educationist, and a friend to so many of us, Fr. Henry was a giant of a man... He had a way of going about which elicited respect and recognition for something great within the man... The major part of his life was spent in the work of education. For the Salesian, education and evangelization go hand in hand. Fr. Henry lived it in his life time."

On behalf of the Salesian province of Guwahati of which Fr. Fantin was a member, I like to extend my best wishes to the Commemoration Committee. I pray that the example bequeathed to us by Fr. Fantin spur us on to a greater zest for the cause of evangelization and education, and a whole-hearted dedication to the service of others.

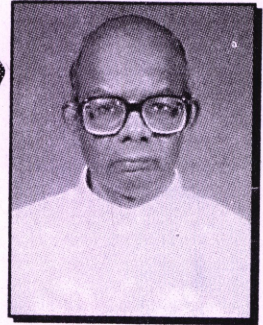
**Fr. Dominic Jala SDB**  
(Provincial)



## DIOCESE OF TEZPUR

Bishop's House  
Tezpur - 784 001  
Assam

# MESSAGE



I received your letter dated 21 November, 1997, informing me that besides offering special prayers for Rev. Fr. Henry Fantin SDB on the occasion of his first death anniversary on 26th June, 1998, you also intend to instal a bust of his in the School premises as well as bring out a Special Magazine as a Souvenir in his honour.

I congratulate you and all your collaborators for this beautiful idea. May God bless you and all your endeavours to execute this plan. Rev. Fr. Fantin deserves all this. I am sure many of us have already installed a bust of his in our hearts. As far as I personally am concerned he is one of those who have influenced me most in my life. Right from the tender age of 13 I had him as my teacher, formator and professor, in Sonada-Darjeeling where I spent 15 years.

First I had him as a young Brother doing his Regency and in that capacity he taught us various subjects in "Our Lady's House High School", Sonada. Later on after his Priestly Ordination he came back to Sonada and taught us Philosophy, and other subjects for our College and University Studies.

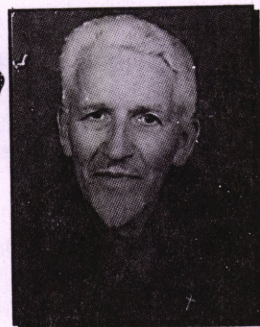
He was in charge of Studies, Music and discipline in the House of formation at Sonada. He aimed at excellence and thoroughness in the discharge of one's responsibilities whether that was a simple work or study or singing. And by his word and example he sought to instill into the hearts of the students the spirit of determination in the performance of one's duties.

While on the one hand he was exacting and demanding in the discharge of one's responsibilities on the other hand he was very understanding and helpful. He had a big heart. He congratulated a person and he expressed his appreciation for the work well done. At the same time he encouraged and helped those who were weak. May his life and example emulate everyone on coming to know him and his ideals.

**Robert Kerketta SDB, DD**  
(Bishop of Tezpur)



## MESSAGE



I put down this introductory note as my humble contribution to the concerted commemorative articles to my brother Fr. H. Fantin, or Rico as known at home. On the 26th June '97 we lost him from our midst and we lovingly recommend him to the Lord in this special anniversary occasion.

His presence is still very much felt among the numerous communities he has cared for and given growth in the faith, nourished with the Divine Word and instructed by his lofty teaching. I know personally that very many friends, colleagues, and confreres keep on remembering him with gratitude and affection; and I in a special way as his dear brother (Beppino) wish to manifest to all my gratitude. I like to thank the Lord also for the precious gift of our great brother who has brought glory and splendour to God's Kingdom and to the Congregation, besides our dear ones at home.

I need not elaborate here on the wide spread recognition Fr. H. Fantin has gained through his inspired writings, through his mission work, through his lofty music, through his renovation of liturgy and adaptation of rituals in line with Vatican II: just to mention a few of his achievements.

But I feel the need to be specially grateful to the Lord for this man of vision, worthy instrument and initiator of so much renewal in the local church and the missions in the North East.

Let us, therefore, thank the Lord for him, I also sincerely thank each one of you continuously for the gift of your prayers to the Lord for him. Good wishes and God Bless you all.

*Fr. J. Fantin SDB*



**NORTH-EASTERN HILL UNIVERSITY  
SHILLONG - 793 002, MEGHALAYA**

# MESSAGE



I am extremely happy to learn that in reverence of the excellent, good and noble deeds done by (late) Rev. Fr. Henry Fantin, a special memorial service to commemorate his first death anniversary will be held on 26th June 1998, and that a special school magazine as a souvenir in Rev. Fr. Henry Fantin's honour will be brought out.

It goes without saying that Rev. Fr. Henry Fantin has contributed in good measure as a missionary as well as an educationist by implanting educational and spiritual values in the Jaintia people. It is but fit and proper that the man who had sacrificed his life for the good cause of emancipating the common man from the powers of darkness by way of translating the Bible into Khasi language is being remembered and honoured.

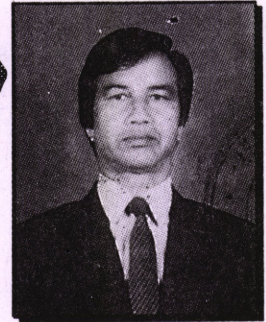
I would like to pay my homage to (late) Rev. Fr. Henry Fantin on the auspicious occasion through this message.

**B. Pakem**  
(Vice-Chancellor, NEHU)



**Shri Simon Siangshai**  
**Hon'ble Minister, PWD&Housing**  
**Government of Meghalaya**  
**Shillong**

## MESSAGE



"How dull it is to pause, to make an end,  
To rust unburnished, not to shine in use!  
As though to breathe were life! Life piled on life  
Were all too little, and of one to me  
Little remains."

**T**hese words of Tennyson uttered through the mouth of Ulysses flash across my mind as I recall Rev. Fr. Henry Fantin. Never one to halt or rest, he was full of verve and vitality. There was a go in him that was astounding. Energy and enthusiasm radiated from him.

As you plan to keep his first death anniversary in a fitting way on 26th June, I like to extend my congratulations and best wishes to you and your collaborators for this noble gesture. I have had first-hand contact with Fr. Fantin for the last many years, and I have always admired his talents, his intelligence, his capacity and his servicefullness. It would be axiomatic to state that he well deserves all that you are trying to do to perpetuate and venerate his memory if only for the invaluable contributions he had made for the Church and Society especially in the lines of education and Bible translation.

Fr. Fantin was a man of vision and foresight. He looked ahead to the year 2000, decades before others did so. His dreams of establishing a Higher Secondary School at Khliehriat looked ludicrous in the early years but he slogged them into reality. It was my privilege to accompany him in those pioneering years on many of his numerous trips through the length and breadth of Jaintia Hills. When he set foot in Khliehriat, the Catholic population in the parish numbered hardly 800. At his demise it had soared to 13,000. That itself speaks volumes for his heroic work and that of his brother, Fr. Joseph Fantin. And then, one cannot forget the hundreds and hundreds of students that passed through his hands and whom he educated.



In Jaintia Hills today, the Marian Hill School of Jowai and the Khliehriat Higher Secondary School, in a special way, stand as towering witnesses to Fr. Fantin's vision and dedication. May these institutions continue to aspire "to follow knowledge like a sinking star, beyond the utmost bound of human thought." I am proud and delighted to be associated in a particular manner with Khliehriat Higher Secondary School and its sterling aspirations.

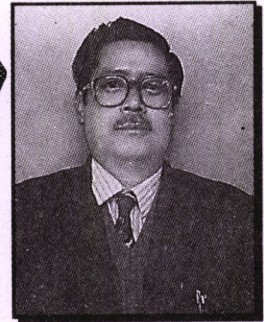
Once again, my sincere compliments to you and to the Commemoration Committee, to all the staff, students and parents. May the shining example of Fr. Fantin be a beacon light to us inspiring us to be ever young and adventurous, "Tis not too late to seek a newer world." May he intercede for us from heaven so that we may forge ahead towards the attainment of our ideals, "To strive, to seek, to find, and not to yield."

***Shri Simon Siangshai***  
(Hon'ble Minister, Meghalaya)



**Shri Lakhon Shilla, B.A. B.T.  
Assistant Inspector of Schools,  
Jaintia Hills, Jowai.**

## MESSAGE



**I** am glad to learn that the Khliehriat Higher Secondary School is bringing out a Souvenir in honour of (late) Rev. Fr. Henry Fantin, ex-headmaster of the School on his first death anniversary.

On such an occasion, it is indeed befitting and worthy to remember the invaluable service rendered by him to the School. He had worked ceaselessly for the upliftment of the students of the District in general and the school in particular, in the field of education. He was also the Headmaster of Marian Hill High School, Jowai.

Rev. Father Henry Fantin was a strong and determined man. He deserves a special place in the school.

I extend my greetings and good wishes to the Headmaster, Teachers and Staff of the School.

***Lakhon Shilla***  
*(Assistant Inspector of Schools,  
Jaintia Hills, Jowai)*



**S.C. MARAK**  
**Ex-Chief Minister**  
**Meghalaya, Shillong**

## MESSAGE

**I**zaak Wallton is reported to have said, "God has two dwellings: one in heaven, and the other in a meek and thankful heart."



The fact that Khliehriat Higher Secondary School is planning to observe the first death anniversary of the late Fr. Henry Fantin speaks much of "the meek and thankful heart" which all those associated with the School have for their former headmaster who, over the years, had done much for them.

The late Fr. Fantin, I am happy to learn, was known not only for his work as a missionary, but also as an educationist. The indelible imprints left by him at Khliehriat and Jowai, where he had laboured for the better part of his eventful life, stand testimony to the notable contributions made by him for the spread and consolidation of education in the Jaintia Hills.

May the spirit of dedicated service and sacrifice of the late Fr. Fantin continue to inspire Khliehriat Higher Secondary School in all future endeavours and for excelling in spirit, mind and body.

I take this opportunity to not only wish the observation all success, but to also extend a very happy new year to the management, staff and students of the school.

***S.C. Marak***



## MESSAGE



I am very happy to know that you are going to keep the memory of Rev. Fr. Henry Fantin sacred and to cherish his remembrance on the occasion of his First Death Anniversary, the 26th June 1998, by bringing out a brochure and by installing a bust of his in your school premises in his honour. His unexpected demise shocked every one who knew him closely and also those who just had an acquaintance with him, because he was a great and towering personality.

I am one of those who did not know him very closely, and yet admired him very much, so to say, from far. I admired his bodily structure, his gentlemanliness, his elegance and his intellect. I admired his musical voice and his deep knowledge of music. I also admired him as a thinker and writer. He was one of those rare personalities that our human race has produced.

I met him for the last time on the after noon of 20th June 97, soon after the semifinal Subroto Football match played between Khliehriat Higher Secondary School Vs. Mookyndeng Higher Secondary School, in which Khliehriat H/S School won 2-1. Rev. Fr. Fantin witnessed the match and was exceedingly happy when his boys won. I could notice this great joy on his face as he spoke to me and invited me to come to witness the final that would be played again by his boys against the Government Boys' High School of Jowai, on the 23rd June 97. I was told that at that moment, he had other happy events too to heighten his joy, i.e. the Government of Meghalaya granted recognition to his school of Khliehriat. On the evening of the same day, he met with a fatal stroke, never to regain his consciousness and breathed his last on 26-06-1997.

As a thorn bird pricked by the thorns dies singing, so it was with Rev. Fr. Fantin, he met with the blow and lost consciousness when his joy was at its peak and died in joy. We hope and pray that his joy and happiness may reach its perfection in the heavenly kingdom.

I wish the Souvenir Committee a grand success.

Thank you

**Fr. Peter K. Shun**  
(Parish Priest)  
The Holy Trinity Parish, Sutnga)



## MESSAGE

**P**ersonally, it is my privilege to express my deep sense of loss for Rev. Fr. Henry Fantin on the occasion of his first Death Anniversary. His absence on account of his departure to his heavenly abode is really a great loss to our people socially and academically.

Knowing that God creates a soul, to take it back someday, is an ultimate consolation. But, the untimely sad demise of our beloved and respected Fr. Fantin is indeed a grief.

“Thy name liveth for ever more.”  
May His Soul Rest In Peace

*Mr. Shibun Lyngdoh*  
(Khliehriat)



# MESSAGE

In Loving memory of Late Fr. Henry Fantin who left for eternal bliss on 26 June 1997, I wish to record these lines:

Fr. Henry Fantin played his role to perfection. Friends remember him as a warm, encouraging and compassionate companion endowed with the spirit of love. As strangers we met but his kindness and compassion opened my heart to accept and remember his love forever. He was a cheerful, selfless person, a man known for his good deeds. He was the constant source of inspiration to his youngsters. He served the Lord faithfully, kept the faith, and did all that he could. Everybody will be missing your absence.

I wish the publication of a special school magazine as a souvenir in his honour a grand success.

**Dr. Barbara Bamon**  
(Medical & Health Officer  
Khliehriat CHC)



## MESSAGE



**H**uman monuments often crumble with the passage of time. The collapse of the colossal Ozymandias of Egypt betokened the ruin of his empire, and the futility of human efforts, taking Keats on a pessimistic vein. Lord Byron too would have us believe that the ocean is a grave-yard of human civilizations and their masterpieces. It is significant, however, that one of the edifices that has stood the test of centuries is not a palace dedicated to power and glory but a labour of love: The Taj. Despite the ravages of time and onslaught of industrial pollution, it uplifts its charming face in a melody of human bonding.

What we have done on the occasion of Fr. Fantin's first death anniversary are small gestures: the memorial service, the bust, the souvenir. They too are perhaps doomed to become preys to oblivion. 'But in hope we already have salvation' (Rom 8:24). And our hope is that the love which inspired these symbols endures beyond the boundaries of decay. If this love sounds a tinkle in our hearts and we hear a whisper of the legacy of loving dedication Fr. Fantin has left us, our efforts will not have been in vain.

And the effort-makers come in a long list: the Fathers and Sisters of the Parish, the members of the Commemoration Committee, the school teachers, the parishioners, those who contributed the articles, the donors, the well-wishers. To them all a big word of thanks. God bless you all!

***Fr. P.A. Thomas, sdb***

*(Convenor, Commemoration Committee)*





# English Section





## **FR. HENRY FANTIN SDB**

**24-03-1923 – 26-06-1997**

*Rev. Fr. Dominic Jala*

*Salesian Provincial, Guwahati*

### **The Last Journey**

It was just after mid day, 26th June 1997 that Fr. Henry Fantin returned to the Lord of the Harvest, in whose field he had worked for almost 60 years. He left this world with his brother leading us in prayer by his side, and surrounded by some of his confreres. A number of religious and faithful from Khliehriat parish prayed in silence as Fr. Henry breathed his last. "Go forth Christian soul!" - Go forth, missionary who had once hearkened to the call of the Master "Go forth - to all peoples everywhere and make them my disciples".

Fr. Henry suffered a severe stroke probably in the early hours of 21st June, 1997. He was missed at around 8.00 a.m. However, thinking that he was tired, his confreres and teachers thought it better to let him rest. Only at 12.30 p.m. did things not seem right. When they were able to get into his room, they found him fallen, unconscious, with bruises on the right side of his chin, on his right hand and on his back. He had fallen several times, perhaps. The local Primary Health Centre was contacted and initial medical help was given. But he was found paralyzed on the whole right side. It was only in the evening that it was possible to reach him to Nazareth Hospital,

Shillong. His blood pressure was very high and he remained unconscious till after midnight.

The next day, 22nd June, he seemed to have regained some consciousness and seemed to recognize people. But he could not speak, on account of the paralysis. A severe haemorrhage in the brain was detected. It was not judged advisable, nor was it possible to take him elsewhere for more advanced treatment. During the coming days he gradually drifted away.

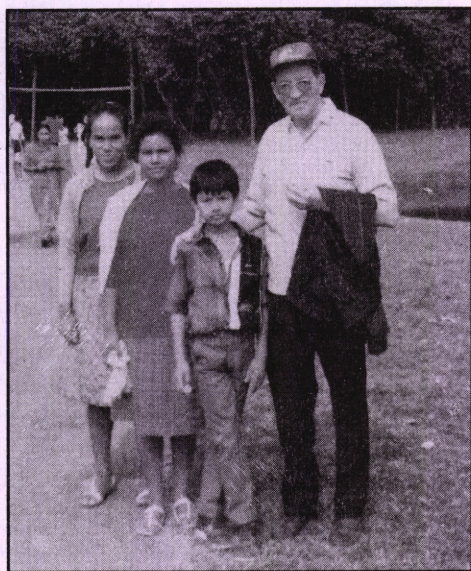
After his death, the Christian community of Khliehriat would not want to part from their father and friend without having his body with them for at least a day. Arrangements were made to take him to Khliehriat with police escort provided through the intervention of Mr. J.D. Pohrmen, P.W.D. Minister in the Meghalaya Government and a prominent Catholic and Salesian Past Pupil. A tearful farewell, befitting a hero was given in Khliehriat. Thousands of people flocked from the villages of the parish all through the night of 26th and during the morning of 27th June. His journey back to Shillong was interrupted at Jowai where he had served for 19 years. The people of Jowai would not let his body pass without making it enter





the parish church where school children and lay men and women joined in prayer around the coffin of Fr. Henry Fantin.

In recognition of the great contribution he made to the people of Khasi-Jaintia Hills and to the Church of Shillong



Archdiocese, the funeral mass was celebrated at the Shillong Cathedral which, in spite of the inclement weather, was packed especially with people from Shillong, from Jowai and Khliehriat. Archbishop Thomas Menampampil of Guwahati Archdiocese, one of his past students presided over the whole funeral ceremony, with about 60 priests, concelebrating at the requiem mass. The Archbishop wanted to pay homage to the person whom he had known for 47 years and whom he had always held in high esteem. Fr. Fantin was laid to rest in the Salesian cemetery, Laitumkhrah.

Touching farewell words were addressed to Fr. Henry by representatives from Jowai and Khliehriat parishes. The contributions of this great missionary were recalled. His love for the people of Jaintia Hills was shown in the care with which he developed the two schools of Jowai and Khliehriat. The young people of Ri-Pnar were represented by a young man who spoke on behalf of the catholic youth who had greatly benefited from the interest Fr. Henry had in their education and their growth as persons and as Christians.

The Vicar General of Shillong Archdiocese, Fr. Michael Marbaniang spoke on behalf of Archbishop T. Resto Phanrang who was away from the Archdiocese at the moment. Fr. Henry Fantin was not a man only of one or two parishes. He was a good and faithful servant of the Lord who gave his all for the growth of the Church particularly in the Shillong Archdiocese. We have two monuments to keep Fr. Fantin's memory alive: The Catholic Bible and the Catholic Liturgical-cum-Hymn Book, *Ka Lynti Bneng*. The death of Fr. Henry is a loss not only of the Salesian Congregation but also of the whole Church in the Archdiocese of Shillong.

The Salesian Provincial of Guwahati, Fr. Dominic Jala, spoke on behalf of the Salesian society, and Fr. Fantin's threefold mission, as formator, as educator and as evangelizer were highlighted. He thanked all who associated with Fr. Henry in his life and all those who were by his side during his last days.





## **Fr. Henry Fantin: the man, the Salesian, the priest, the missionary**

Fr. Henry Fantin, the first of 12 children was born to peasants Mr. Valentino and to Mrs. Pia Colussi, at Casarsa della Delizia, in the province of Udine, North Italy, on 24th March, 1923. At the time of his death he had just completed 74 rich years of life. He was baptized at Casarsa the day after he was born. He was confirmed on 8th October, 1934 in the Salesian house of Ivrea.

The father who was in full control of the family and the good "pious" mother, as her name indicated, brought their children up in an exemplary manner. Two of their children became Salesians. From among their relatives twelve were to serve the Lord as priests of whom 10 were religious.

Enrico, affectionately known as Rico, attended the public school at Casarsa. On 28th September, 1934 he entered the missionary seminary at Ivrea which was named after the first Salesian missionary, Cardinal Cagliero. It was from this centre that hundreds of missionaries were to set out to various corners of the world. A number of them came as pioneers to Northeast India.

On 7th September, 1938 young Enrico entered the Salesian Novitiate at Chieri. This was the town where Don Bosco, whom he was learning to love and follow, spent his early formation for the priesthood. Enrico professed as a Salesian on 8th September 1939, at Villa

Moglia - another place sacred to Salesian history. It was in this area that the young Johnny Bosco learned hard work in the farm of the Moglia family. The setting was just right for preparing a dedicated Salesian missionary.

At the time he began his journey in religious life his superiors passed this favourable opinion about him, "He gives hope of success. In truth, he is naturally good and decides to be good." His intellectual acumen was already noticed in these early years.

An idealistic cleric, Enrico came to India when he was just 16 years old. He was filled with dreams of a missionary, fired by the enthusiasm generated by the pioneers. As part of his initial formation, he studied philosophy in Sonada from 1939 to 1942, showing great promise of the remarkable personality that he would be later on.

The Second World War had broken out and the British Government in India passed a ruling that all those who had been in India less than 16 years without interruption, were to be interned in concentration camps. Cleric Henry Fantin, together with others, passed 2 eventful years at the Camps of Deoli and Dehra Dun. The time was well spent studying theology. When the internees were allowed to go free, Cleric Henry was appointed Teacher and Assistant at Tirupattur in South India where he spent a year.

From December 1945 to April 1949, he was at Sonada teaching boys and the





clerics who were studying philosophy. During his stay there he was able to do the Matriculate, the Intermediate Arts and the Bachelor of Arts examinations. He was a brilliant student and passed always in the first division. An entry in the chronicles of Salesian College, Sonada for 5th March 1948 reads, "Bro. H. Fantin receives the scholarship for English at the Matric Examination."

In April 1949 he was sent to the Sacred Heart Theological College, Mawlai to continue his theological studies. His superiors made this note about the young candidate for the priesthood: "He is rather headstrong but of good character. He has good sense of judgement and is a man of responsibility." The years passed quickly and on 7th January, 1951 he was ordained a priest.

The newly ordained Fr. Henry Fantin was appointed to Salesian College, Sonada where he was placed in charge of the Academic formation of the students of Philosophy. He worked there till 1954 when he was sent to Bandel as Counsellor. In 1955 he returned to Sacred Heart College, Shillong as Professor of Theology. He was also responsible for the Sacred Heart Boys' School.

His active missionary work started in 1959 when he was appointed to Jowai as Assistant Parish Priest and Head Master. The confidence his superiors placed in him is shown in his being made the Rector of the Jowai community. There was need of unity of direction and action in the mission and Fr. Henry

Fantin was judged as a fitting man to head the work. It was during his time here that the parish of Khliehriat began to take shape. In 1979 when the Salesians handed over the mission of Jowai to the Shillong Archdiocese, Fr. Henry Fantin was appointed to Khliehriat as Assistant Parish Priest and Head Master. He was to work side by side with his young brother till his death.

Fr. Henry shared some secrets regarding his village visit programme, as Fr. C.J. Francis recalls: "You reach a village during the day and you find the people still at work in the fields or in the gardens. What I do is this, I have a bath and rest a while, then I begin to compose hymns or translate parts of the liturgy. By evening the people are back and I begin my pastoral work of visiting families, of catechizing and finally of celebrating the Eucharist and hold the meeting with the village elders etc. The day ends very late into the night but I am not that tired, because I had the foresight to rest before hand."

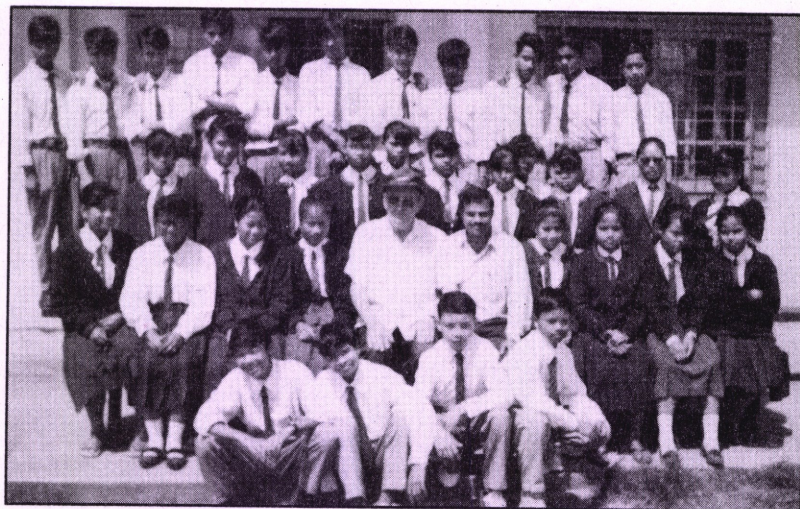
A stalwart missionary, a scholar, an eminent educationalist, and a friend to so many of us, Fr. Henry was a giant of a man. One of his old students recalls his "aristocratic bearing" as a teacher. He had a way of going about which elicited respect and recognition for something great within the man. Those who lived closest to him will be able to enumerate the many facets of his life which have endeared him to thousands of people.

The major part of his life was spent in the work of education. For the Salesian,





education and evangelization go hand in hand. Fr. Henry lived it in his life time. He taught generations of Salesians. One of them, Archbishop Thomas Menampampil paid homage to him by coming to preside at the funeral.



Archbishop Thomas Menampampil succinctly portrays Fr. Henry the formator in these words:

He was one of those tall intellectual figures I came across during the earliest years of my training. You could not meet Fr. Fantin and remain unimpressed, and uninfluenced. With his wide knowledge of history and social processes around him, his interpretation of events and analysis of forces at work were always most enlightening. Even his quick retorts and casual statements struck you like a proverb or a saying of permanent validity. His sweeping vision of human realities elevated you and made you feel as though you were viewing things from a mountain height. He was an educationalist of the first category. He loved books, he loved learning, and he gave the same interests to his students. And most of all, he

knew why knowledge was important. His intention was nothing else but to place all his wisdom and knowledge at the service of the Gospel.

Fr. Henry Fantin was a gifted person. He would have outshone others in whatever part of the world he might have lived. When he led the choir we could truly understand the meaning of what St. Augustine said, "He who sings prays twice." He could lift the entire congregation in their spirits and give them an experience of joys that seemed to transcend these earthly realities. In music, as in everything else, he sought perfection. In a world that is satisfied with shoddiness, second-ratedness, he stands tall as a man who wished to be different. He believed that perfection was attainable and placed it as a





permanent goal before him. The hymns he composed will continue to echo on these hills and glorify the Lord in whose honour he composed them.

The Marian Hill High School grew from the humble Middle school that it was, thanks to the hard and dedicated work of Fr. Henry. He had set himself to the task of providing quality education to the young men and women of the Ri-Pnar area and he drew the teachers along with him in his demanding vocation. The Khliehriat High School too came up to unprecedented standards with his persistent efforts at infusing love for knowledge and for quality product among the young people. The High School advanced and became a Higher Secondary School even when, in contrast to other such institutions, no Government aid was on hand. At the time of his death, he had just received confirmation of Government financial support for six teaching posts. His dynamic push paid off. A week before he collapsed with the fatal stroke, he was busy shuttling up and down for the various tasks that remained for the school. He dreamed great dreams for the young people of Ri-Pnar.

A true Salesian, he spent time with his young people and was ever at the side of his collaborators. On reaching superannuation he did not consider himself too old to volunteer to care for the mission school of Khliehriat. He courageously continued to put heart and head to the work of making the work of

education progress. We could trust the school to go well with him as guide.

His concern for evangelization was concretised in the solid, well organized and memorable training programmes for catechists and lay evangelizers in Jowai. A missionary finds himself hard pressed for time and energy. The demands keep augmenting. Fr. Henry was not to be undaunted. He drew upon every available source of strength to direct and collaborate in forming lay men and women who would be pillars of a dynamic Church in which the baptized play their respective roles.

The Liturgical Reform in the Shillong Archdiocese would have taken longer to be realized were it not for the assiduous work put in by Fr. Henry Fantin. He was not specifically given time for it. In spite of his extremely busy life he found time to publish the Eleventh Edition of *Ka Lynti Bneng*, the Khasi prayer book and hymnal – renewed, enriched and updated, in accordance with the new norms promulgated by Vatican II. The large edition of *Ka Lynti Bneng* was a trademark and a companion for the Catholic communities in the Shillong Archdiocese. With this book, the Catholics had a complete spiritual and liturgical resource, a rich hymnody and a precious contribution to the language too.

One cannot miss the dynamic tone of Fr. Henry in the letter, dated 12.6.1970 written to his provincial: "This week, on the request of the Archbishop, I have prepared the new rite of baptism (adapted for us missionaries). I have





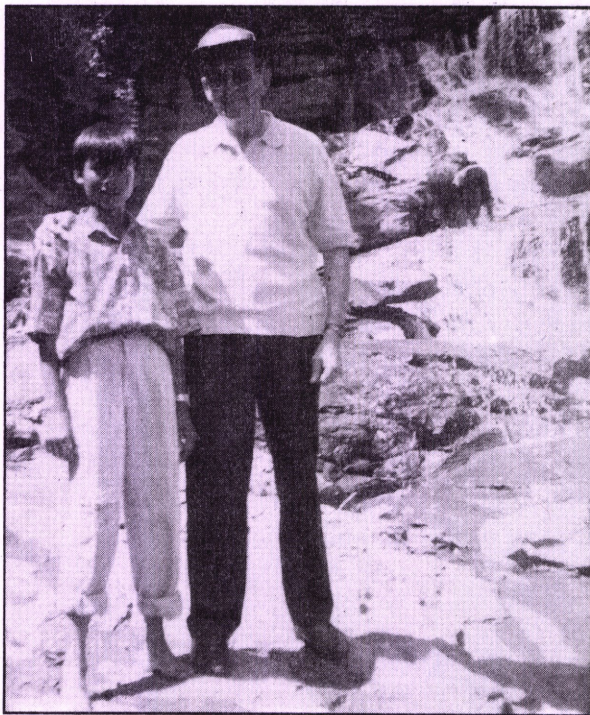
translated the mass texts and the readings for the month of July... Tomorrow I shall go to Sohra where we will be holding discussions and then I shall start preparing the new (solemn) rite of baptism, the rite for marriage and for funerals. We shall then be having a two-day meeting of fathers for our elections... In the meanwhile our guardian angels keep our house going..."

*Ka Baibel Khasi Bathymmai* (The New Khasi Bible) – was the result of seven years of hard work. Fr. Henry enlisted some of the best women and men collaborators to work on the project and he doggedly saw it to the end. Its 2300 pages will remain a lasting monument to the missionary who loved the Word of God and wanted to share it with his Christians.

Archbishop Thomas who spoke at the funeral service highlighted this contribution to the Church:

"Fr. Henry Fantin will especially be remembered for the contribution he made to the first Edition of the Catholic Khasi Bible. But for his scholarship, his dedication, his perseverance, and his total devotion to this cause, this would could have been indefinitely delayed. But Fr. Fantin was not one of those who would put his hand to the plough and look back. And we are richer for the power of God's Word that he brought so close to us, in all its beauty and all its strength."

As a literary landmark for the Khasi language, the Khasi bible was accompanied by the valuable *Philological Notes* which continue to serve as guidelines for writers. Fr. Henry loved the work because of its value for Christian life. He suffered much on account of it too.



Archbishop Thomas remembers Fr. Henry for another precious trait of his. He was a good friend. "His conversation was always stimulating. There was something very human about him and his natural spontaneity and frankness. He was a strong personality. Gifted as he was, he could be assertive. But we could never fail to admire a man of that stature, making a choice to serve the





humble and the poor, being satisfied with inconspicuous roles and hidden corners. But be sure, wherever he was, he excelled, and he drew the attention of the world by his sheer genius."

For those who saw him a week before his death. Fr. Henry was a man who probably would have remained energetic, enthusiastic and mentally alert till the end were God to have granted him a longer life. He was tireless in work. "He never gave up. He did not budge. He was unshaken in choice," as Archbishop Thomas remarked. In this he was a true Salesian who followed our Founder in the spirit of work. "Remember", he told Fr. C.J. Francis and Fr.L.B. Antony who visited him on May 17th, "I am seventy four years old. But I still do a full day's work. I look after the school, the Higher Secondary, prepare the students for their examinations, I do prepare notes for them and still find time for my pastoral ministry in the parish."

It was the Salesian in him which drove him to give of his very best for young people wherever he worked. The day before he suffered from the stroke, he was with his boys, at the football field, encouraging them to victory at the District level Subroto Cup semi finals. This was typical of the apostle of youth who was by their side in all their formative activities. Their joys and victories were his too. "*Ngila jop*" (We have won)! was his cry when the boys won their victories. His victory went beyond the play ground. It might be said that it was the goal of all his work. At the end of his life, therefore, he could truly say with St. Paul, "I have won the race."

The memory of Fr. Fantin, a great missionary and a salesian with a vision, lives on in those whose lives he had touched. "He has whispered his message to the centuries, and the echoes will continue to cheer these hills." May he continue to support us all. ●





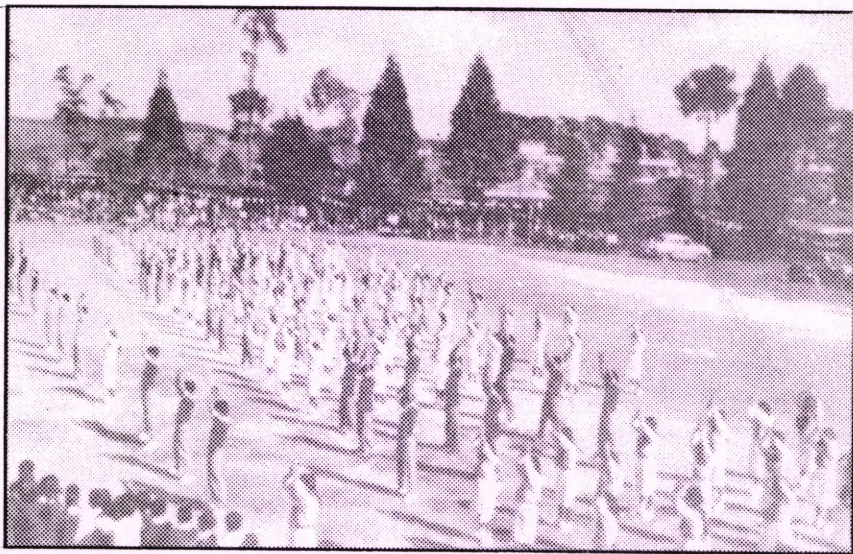
## A TRIBUTE TO REV. FR. HENRY FANTIN

*Shri J.D. Pohrmen*

*Ex-minister, Meghalaya*

**T**o write about Fr. Henry Fantin one has to do a lot of research of his qualities, works and achievements. However, I don't pretend to have done it as it is a time consuming exercise. In my humble attempt to pay a tribute to him, I will just give a few pieces of information which I happened to know. As far as I remember I first saw Fr. Fantin way back in 1939 as a Salesian Brother. At that time like any other kid of those days, I knew only about Salesian (or Don Bosco) Fathers and Brothers. Fr. Fantin's handsome features and height impressed me and I tried sheepishly to go near him. I looked up to his face and I thought he would bend over to look at me with a stern face and piercing eyes. Instead he smiled at me and as a king I was proud and happy that the tall and handsome white man reciprocated my appreciation of him.

But thereafter I forgot all about this experience that I had when I first saw him. It was perhaps two years later when he was ordained along with others including (late) Fr. H. Elias (the second Khasi Priest) that I again saw him. If my memory serves me right the ordination took place at Mawlai since the present Cathedral was in the process of reconstruction after it was completely gutted by fire in 1936. Again



after that I had no idea as to where Fr. Fantin was sent until I met him at Jowai, perhaps in the mid-sixties. Thereafter I began to have a close association with him. I could see that he was always in a hurry and he disliked slowness in implementing





things he had in hand. He could not stand people doing things half-heartedly. He got furious with the Telecom department at Jowai because the telephone the department gave him (of course on payment) never worked and he preferred to go without a non-functioning telephone.

Fr. Fantin had visions and not mere fantasies. In my tour in 1970 as Chief Executive Member, Jaintia Hills District Council, I met Fr. Fantin at Khliehriat. In spite of the fact that he was always busy with so many things being the pioneer of the Khliehriat Mission, he was kind enough to spare sometime with me. In our conversation over a cup of tea, I said, "Fr. Fantin this place is going to be very important and it would be good to have enough land for the mission's work." Of course, Fr. Fantin being a great visionary, had already planned to do so. In the land that he procured, he lost no time in raising a school building for imparting education to the children of the poor people of the then-backward corner of Jaintia Hills. Slowly but steadily the mission started to become "an island of civilisation." By then coal-mining was just started in a very small scale by one enterprising Muslim, whose daughter today is one of the "Krankoputis" of Meghalaya. In his zeal to spread Christ's Kingdom among the people of the area, he visited every nook and corner of the present Khliehriat sub-division and won thousands of souls for Christ, the main mission he had since he left Italy, his Fatherland.

Hard-working as he was, Fr. Fantin was very serious and meticulous in whatever he did. When the PHE failed at that time to provide potable water to the people of Khliehriat, Fr. Fantin succeeded to bring the same to his mission without any help from the Government. Most of the hymns including Psalms in the "Lynti Bneng" bear testimony to the hard and excellent work of Fr. Fantin.

But the greatest work of Fr. Fantin is the translation of the Bible into Khasi, a dialect which was not his mother-tongue. And yet the translation is so perfect and candid that even ordinary people can easily grasp the ideas he translated.

We the Khasi-Pnars owe undying gratitude to Fr. Fantin who has given us the Word of God in our own mother tongue. This then is the greatest monument to the memory of our revered Fr. Fantin.

Fr. Fantin was gifted as a musician, and I am told that in the early fifties there was an All India Music Competition and Fr. Fantin was adjudged the best.

Lastly, I must say that Fr. Fantin was an exemplary Salesian. Surely with the inspiration of Don Bosco he dedicated all his life for God and for educating children with love and affection. And so today we see the Khliehriat Higher Secondary School as another monument to his memory.

May the Good Lord grant him eternal rest, and may he continue his good works in heaven by beseeching God for further upliftment and welfare of the Pnars. ☪





## REV. FR. HENRY FANTIN: EXCERPTS FROM FUNERAL ORATION

By

Archbishop Thomas Menampampil SDB, D.D.

He was one of those tall intellectual figures I came across during the earliest years of my training. You could not meet Fr. Fantin and remain unimpressed, and uninfluenced. With his wide knowledge of history and social processes around him, his interpretation of events and analysis of forces at work were always most enlightening. Even his quick retorts and casual statements struck you like a proverb or a saying of permanent validity. His sweeping vision of human realities elevated you and made you feel as though you were viewing things from a mountain height. He was an educationalist of the first category. He loved books, he loved learning, and he gave the same interests to his students. And most of all, he knew why knowledge was important. His intention was nothing else but to place all his wisdom and knowledge at the service of the Gospel.



Fr. Henry Fantin was a gifted person. He would have outshone others in whatever part of the world he might have lived. When he led the choir we could truly understand the meaning of what St. Augustine said, "He who sings prays twice." He could lift the entire congregation in their spirits and give them an experience of joys that seemed to transcend these earthly realities. In music, as in everything else, he sought perfection. In a world that is satisfied with shoddiness, second-ratedness, he stands tall as a man who wished to be different. He believed that perfection was attainable and placed it as a permanent goal before





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His conversation was always stimulating. There was something very human about him and his natural spontaneity and frankness. He was a strong personality. Gifted as he was, he could be assertive. But we could never fail to admire a man of that stature, making a choice to serve the humble and the poor, being satisfied with inconspicuous roles and hidden corners. But be sure, wherever he was, he excelled, and he drew the attention of the world by his sheer genius.

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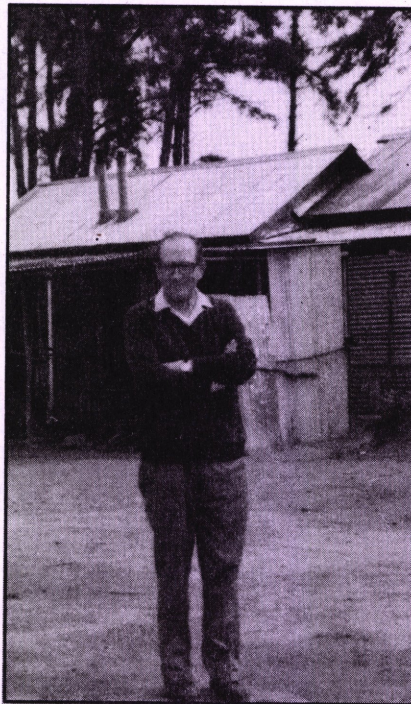




## FOND MEMORIES

*Dr. (Mrs.) E.M. Dhar*

There are people who touch our lives so powerfully that they leave an indelible mark upon us which lasts even if death separates such a one from us. It was as a young girl that I met Fr. Henry Fantin for the first time in Jowai while studying in St. Mary Mazarello Convent. In the same year 24th may, 1967 he baptised me. I had a close association with Father through his singing classes which endeared me to him in a special way. The accordion was his inseparable instrument while teaching the new Church hymns. He had great patience in teaching us, for we knew practically nothing of music. When we didn't reach up to his expectation, he used to call us, "phi rwai kum ki jakoid". During week-ends and holidays, we joined him and we toured many places spreading the message of God and singing the newly composed hymns of Fr. Fantin.



Fr. Fantin was a perfectionist in whatever he did. I feel obliged to call him the Architect of Jaintia Hills. The isolated jungle of Khliehriat has become a Town of Christianity, education and civilization due to the indomitable courage and hard work and determination of Fr. Fantin. He was a gifted preacher. Every one of us flocked to listen to his lovely sermons.

He has left us a legacy of loving service and hard work. His patient endurance has helped me as a doctor. He inspires me even now that he is no more. I am sure he smiles at me even from heaven and encourages me to go on with life. May the commitment Fr. Fantin

had for God and the Church and his tireless zeal in proclaiming the Good New of Jesus Christ be the guiding light to the people of Khliehriat. ●





## - FR. HENRY FANTIN - THE MAN AND THE GIFTS HE LEFT US

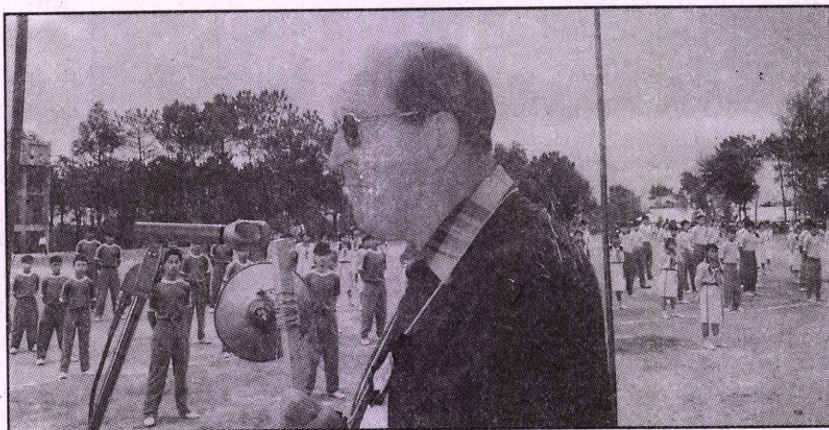
*Rev. Fr. George Plathottam, sdb*

**A**s the first death anniversary of Fr. Henry Fantin draws near it is fitting that we recall the great legacy of his life and work through the publication of a souvenir. The present article is a modest glimpse at Fr. Fantin's priceless gift to the Church in Khasi Hills through his complete Catholic Khasi Bible and *Ka Lynti Bneng*.

Fr. Henry Fantin who came to India at the age of 16 followed the well honoured tradition of many great missionaries who spared no effort to promote the languages of the region. Fr. Fantin did his seminary studies at Ivrea, an important Salesian missionary institute named after Cardinal Cagliero, the leader of the first Salesian missionary expedition to South America. Fantin did his novitiate at Chieri, another place dear to Salesian memory.

Like Don Bosco who in spite of other pressing engagements, made remarkable contribution to the apostolate of the

written and printed word for the carrying out of his mission, Fr. Fantin devoted a great deal of his energy to enrich the church among the Khasi tribe through his valuable literary contributions. The most outstanding among them is the complete



Catholic Bible in Khasi which he edited and published. Thanks to Fr. Fantin's painstaking efforts, Khasi became the first language in the Northeast to have the complete Catholic Bible.

It took seven years for Fr. Fantin and his faithful team of translators to accomplish the gigantic task of bringing out the 2300-page volume. The team consisted of Bah Francis Diengdoh, the chief translator, Mgr. E. Bars (till his death in 1974), Fr. Sylvanus Sngi Lyngdoh, bah George Chyne, Kong Mary Blah, Fr. Carmelo





Spitale, Kong Maristella Biam and Kong Tina Lakiang. They formed a devoted, self-sacrificing and competent team. On September 1, 1977 the first Khasi Catholic Bible was published.

The new Khasi Bible called *Ka Baibel Khasi Bathymmai* was printed at the Don Bosco Press, Shillong. The seven Deutro-canonical books rejected by the Protestants were translated for the first time into Khasi. The Bible also had introductions and footnotes to every book. The other outstanding features of the Bible were maps, time charts and a 500 entry glossary, a three year cycle of readings, an extensive analytical index and 48 full page colour illustrations. Fr. Fantin followed up the Bible with the publication of Philological Notes which discussed the criteria and principles followed in translating the Bible.

The Bible was meant for the 600,000 Khasis and Pnars of Meghalaya. The first edition of 10,000 copies were sold out even before the official release. An additional 10,000 copies of the New Testament were printed to partially meet the demand. Though the complete Bible cost Rs.120.00 it was sold at subsidized rate of Rs.10.00, thanks to the generous help from Fr. John van Der Valk sdb, General Secretary of the World Catholic Federation for Biblical Apostolate, Missio, Rev. Fr. L. Ricceri sdb, Rector Major of the Salesian Society, Archbishop S. Lourdusamy, Secretary of the Sacred Congregation for the Evangelisation of Peoples and others.

Fr. Fantin's indelible stamp may be found also in another remarkable work in Khasi: *Ka Lynti Bneng* (the Way to Heaven). This compendium of hymns and prayers was originally prepared by the German Salvatorian missionaries. Fr. Fantin revised and enlarged it to make it suit the post-Vatican Liturgical Renewal. One of his unique contributions to the volume was the many Eucharistic hymns and the Psalms set to music to enable a more meaningful celebration of the liturgy. The updated *Ka Lynti Bneng* became another landmark volume which the Catholic community of Khasi-Jaintia Hills love and cherish. The volume which has about 1000 pages has gone through several editions. Endowed with a great gift of music, Fr. Fantin's religious hymns adorn the pages of this companion of the Khasi-Pnar Catholics.

Let me end this brief tribute to Fr. Henry Fantin recalling one of the opening hymns of *Ka Lynti Bneng* which he penned. In this hymn entitled *Pynjaw, ko Bneng* Fr. Fantin celebrated the promise of God through Prophet Isaiah:

"I will send victory from the sky like rain;  
the earth will open to receive it  
and will blossom with freedom and  
justice.

I, the LORD, will make this happen.  
(Isaiah 45:8)

*Pynjaw, ko bneng*  
*Na suin to pynslap i'u Bahok;*  
*To ang, khyndew,*  
*Pynmih, seilung i'u Nongpynim.*





God blessed Fr. Henry Fantin with many gifts. He in turn placed these gifts at the service of his people in loving service to the Lord. Heaven's blessings continue to come to us through the righteousness and freedom the Lord grants us. In whatever he did Fr. Henry Fantin remained faithful to that singular mission of mediating God's love to us. He will

undoubtedly be remembered through the pages of the living word of God, the Holy Bible, his priceless gift to us. The musician and hymn writer who taught us to sing our way to heaven has joined the great Choir with the Master of melodies. May the treasure of God's Word and the hymns he has gifted us draw us closer to heaven, our ultimate destination. ●





## LIFE SKETCH OF REV. FR. HENRY FANTIN SDB

*Rev. Fr. Ferdinand Dkhar*

**I**knew Fr. H. Fantin from the year 1970 onwards. For me, he was a great missionary who gave his total self for evangelisation, and for the development and progress of the Church. He was very pastoral minded.

1. He was very far-sighted as regards the progress and development of the Church. He bought many plots of land for the Church and for Primary and Secondary schools in Jaintia Hills when he was in Jowai, eg. land for Khliehriat parish, land for Namdong parish.
2. He was a real gentleman, very clean and neat. If he saw children who were careless and dirty, he used to say, "Shis khynnah jaboh, leh khuid ialade bad to long kiba smat!" (Dirty children, learn to be neat and clean, and you be smart!)
3. He was a man of determination with a great sense of responsibility. He opened many schools and training centres for bringing up our youth, catechists, and Rangbah Balangs. And this great missionary had a very special love for the Catechists and Rangbah Balangs and all the teachers. I was told by him that if we educated the youth and the Rangbah Balangs, they too could teach others, and become leaders in the villages.
4. One of the remarkable things that I learned from him was that he was a perfectionist. People who knew him used to call him so. This trait was manifested in all that he did, eg. in the translation of the first complete Khasi Bible, and in bringing out the revised version of the Khasi Liturgy and Hymn Book, 'Ka Lynti Bneng'.
5. Few other non-local missionaries could pronounce the Khasi and English languages as well as he did.
6. No doubt, he was a talented musician. To date, his hymns and psalms in the 'Ka Lynti Bneng' are highly appreciated.
7. He was very concerned about others especially the teachers, Catechists and the Rangbah Balangs. He was also very compassionate to the poor and the sick.
8. He was a very straight-forward person. At times, he used to get angry with officials and others, but he would immediately ask for pardon.

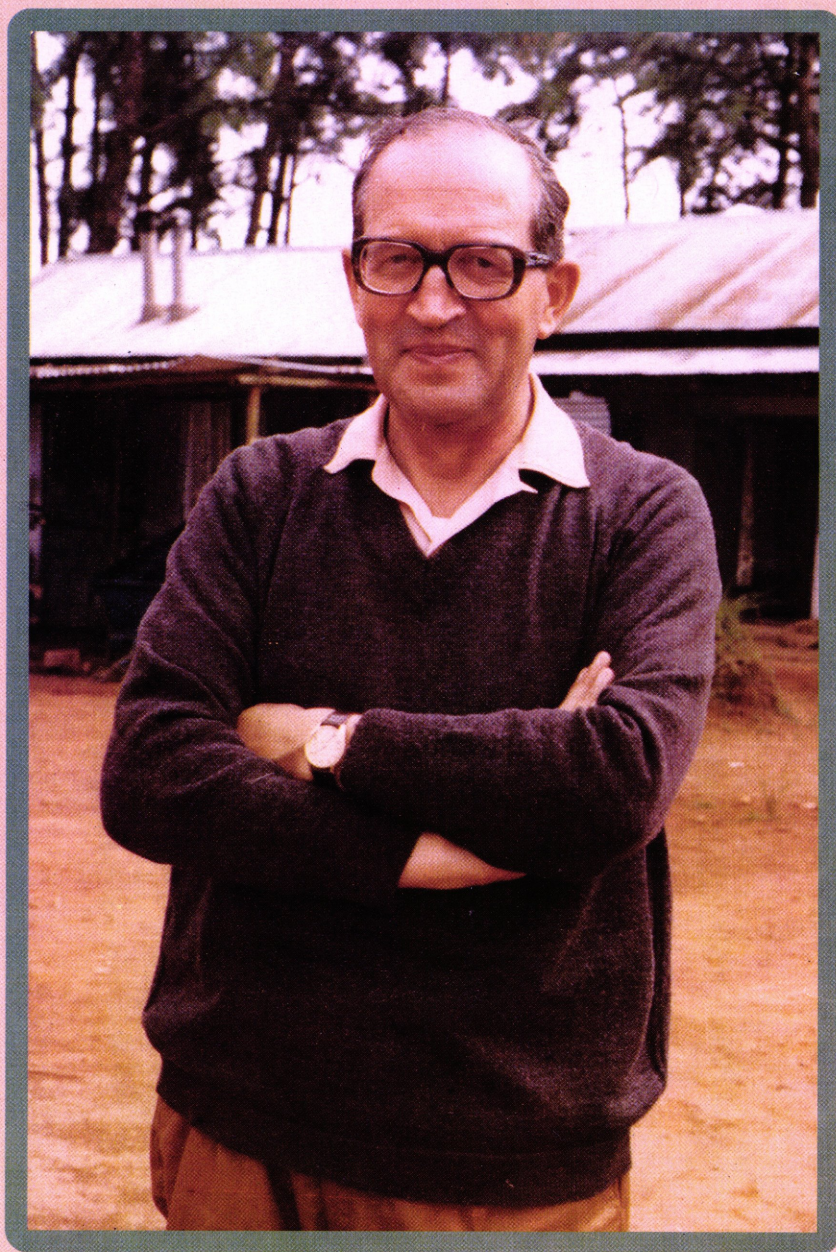




9. Fr. Fantin possessed the rare knack of dealing with all types of persons. With the highly dignified persons, he was a gentleman; with the ordinary people, he was ordinary. Because of this capacity, he was able to make friends with Government officials and others. They too were happy to assist him in matters relating to the Church and its schools.
10. As a Confessor he was always available to the people.
11. One thing I noticed about him was that he was always successful. It seems to be that he always achieved what he wanted. I tried to find out the secret behind his phenomenal accomplishments. I recall that he used to tell me sometimes during the recreation hours, "I thank God for giving me the talents to do things, and for the graces and strength to do some useful works." One important reason for his unfailing success was that he always made it a point to consult others before he did anything.
12. Last year, 1997, we had our Third Annual Convention of the 'Seng Khyndroo Khyllud' Ri-Pnar in Khliehriat. He was in very high spirits when he saw thousands of youth singing and praising the Lord with the raising and clapping of hands. He was delighted to see the bubbling enthusiasm with which the youngsters participated in the Convention, praying to the Lord and praising Him into the small hours of the night. The spectacle moved Fr. Fantin to remark, "I have



**REV. FR. HENRY FANTIN, SDB**

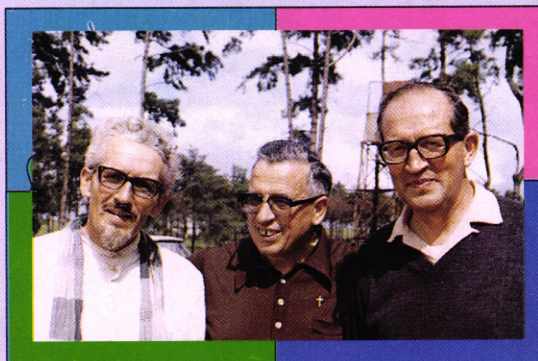
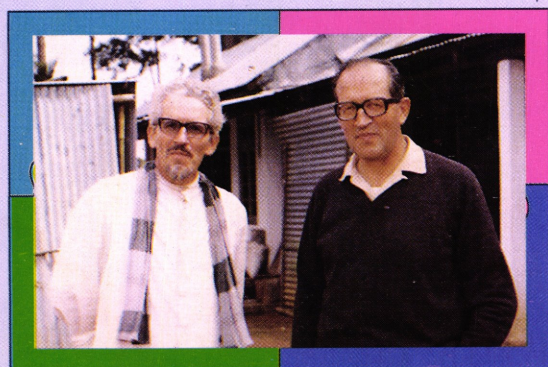


**SCHOLAR, MUSICIAN, VISIONARY**





## WITH FRIENDS AND WELL WISHERS



With his beloved younger brother Fr. Joseph Fantin,  
at the Fathers' old house Khliehriat





KHLIEHRIAT HIGHER SCONDARY SCHOOL  
FR. FANTIN  
FOUNDED





## THE BUILDER



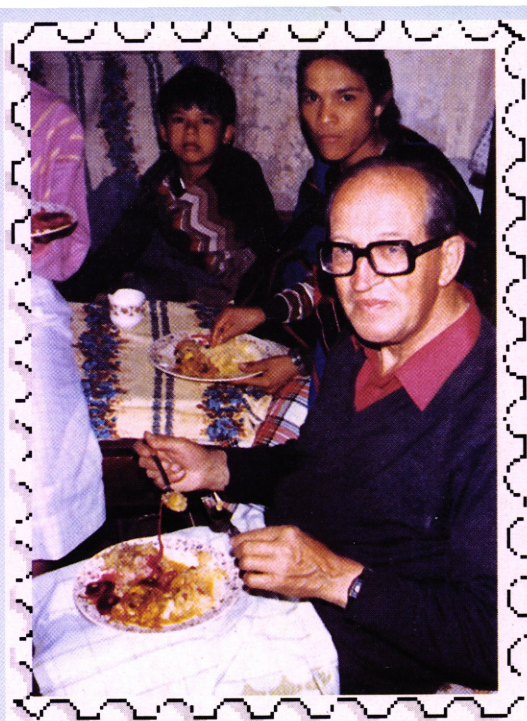




C.M.'s Visit to K.H.S.S.  
3 Dec. 1995







## IN A LIGHT MOOD





# HIS PUPILS IN ACTION







*THE FINAL ADIEU*







never seen in my life so many youth, boys and girls, singing and praising the Lord with their whole heart and soul, and with such joy... See, this is the fruit of our hard work of many many years."

13. After the Centenary Year and especially after the Missionary Day Fr. H. Fantin was overjoyed and immensely grateful for the Award that he received at the Cathedral Parish. From that time onwards, whenever he met me, he used to mention about the hard work he had put in during the by-gone years. So there was a sense of fulfilment in him during those five to six years towards the end of his life.
14. He used to encourage us, the young priests, to continue the hard work that the earlier missionaries had done. He used to tell me, "You must continue our works, OK., khynnah (boy)."

15. Last of all, I am sure, many will agree with me that this great Missionary has created a remarkable history in the life of the Khasi-Pnar land by his translation of the First Complete Khasi Bible and by bringing out the revised version of the Khasi book of hymns and liturgy, 'Ka Lynti Bneng'. For this, we the Khasi-Pnar people are very grateful to God, and to Fr. H. Fantin for his stupendous work. Even now his hymns and psalms are favourites for many. We, the Khasi-Pnar, always like to sing his devotional hymns and especially the psalms he translated and put to music. I am sure that his name will be remembered and cherished for many generations to come! ●





## REV FR. HENRY FANTIN AS I KNEW HIM

*Fr. Justin Lyngkhoi, sdb*

**I**t was a privilege for me to have had an opportunity of working with Rev. Fr. Henry Fantin in Khliehriat from July 1992 to March 1997. I had known him already, as a boy and I recalled seeing him playing piano in one of the concerts of the Theologians in Mawlai. I used to admire his musical talents and realised how advanced in music he was. I recall how he used to teach hymns etc. to the people. I used to see him playing organ in Cathedral and accordion in many places. I also remember some of his fiery sermons. For me Fr. Fantin was one of the cleverest priests, I had every met in my life. In his earlier days, I remember he had a very strong temper and would not tolerate mistakes, he wanted perfection in all that he was teaching. We loved his hymns produced from Jowai and every time we waited for the new experimentum in order to learn new hymns. The greatest joy for me was to see the complete Bible produced by him in Khasi. Oh we loved it even to look at those pictures, in the Bible. How much more when I started reading it.

In Khliehriat I had many hours sitting and chatting with him at table or in the office. We talked on every subject under the Sun.

On academic subjects I realised what an encyclopedic mind he had. He knew and remembered everything

especially history. He remembered even names and dates of important events in world history.

Sometimes we talked on different topics. I realised he had resentment against some persons in authority who instead of helping him in his difficulties told him "Arrangeti" or "manage". So Fr. Fantin said, "From that time I managed on my own and very often I had to fight against hurdles of all kinds. Some superiors had understanding of course, one them was Fr. Pullingathil, who as a Provincial, stood by me and would not transfer me from Jowai until I finished the Bible inspite of mounting pressure for my removal. Once I finished the Bible I was transferred to Khliehriat to help my brother, Fr. Joseph."

Once we talked about the Parish plot of land we have in Khliehrait. Fr. Fantin said, "It was against all odds to convince many about the necessity of acquiring land in Khliehriat. Many did not have the vision of the future development of the place."

Fr. Fantin loved the Pnars deeply. He had educated thousands of them. The last contribution was to give Khliehriat High School the +2 system. How hard he had worked for it, going to the D.P.I. etc. "Now you can see so many





educated". He would say, "look at the youngsters in the church using their Lynti Bneng. It was not so thirty years ago. We did not have even church leaders who could read and write."

During the crisis of 1994 when Protasius Shylla was shot by the police, it was the sagacity of Fr. Fantin which stopped the people from burning the police station and prevented real blood bath. Fr. Fantin gave me courage saying, "It is providential that you are the parish priest now. I wonder how anyone else would have tackled this problem of fighting cases etc." Fr. Fantin was sad when I was transferred from Khliehriat.

Fr. Fantin spoke of the difficulties he had in Jowai in starting a High School when he had to take over from Fr. Tome. He would reminisce, "We were very poor. Fr. Tome did not have money to pay the catechists. Once he gave his own pants as a monthly salary to one of the catechists. In Khliehriat too we were very poor. We did not have so many school paid by the Government. It was only much later that we got government posts for our L.P. Schools. We had to struggle to get the Deficit System for our schools. Thank God now we have the Deficit in Khliehriat, Umkiang, Tluh and Borkhat

and so many L.P. Schools teachers paid fully by the government. Our people in the past did not have coal money as they have now. The Mulumanoh people were working in Lumshnong living like



animals". In Khliehriat too we did not have even a proper house. Once a superior complained that the room put up for him was full of rats. So I told him that there were rats also for me and all the year round and with that the topic ended."

For the sake of an article, I think this is sufficient. After having lived with Fr. Fantin, I realised that there were many things I could learn from him, his dedication to duty, his aim of doing things perfectly, his love for the people especially the students, his courage in facing difficulties, his vision of the future. May God reward him abundantly in heaven. ●

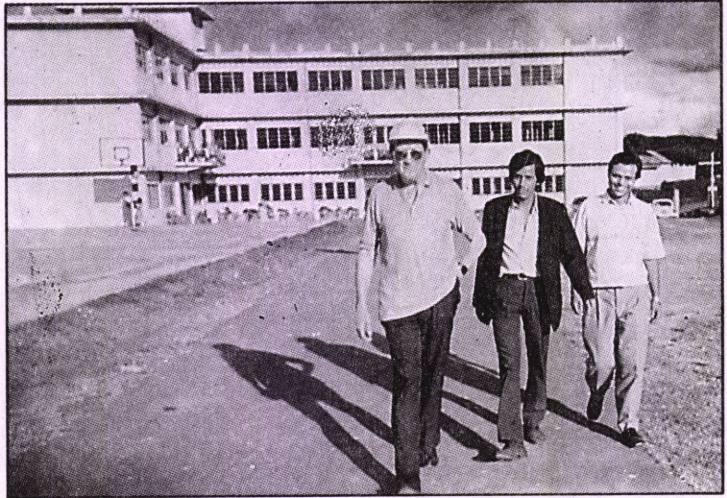




## RECOLLECTIONS OF A FRIEND

*Rev. Fr. George Vanni sdb*

I like to set down a few lines of what I reminisce of my friend Henry. I can certainly attest that Henry ('Ricooty' as we used to call him in his native dialect) was an extremely intelligent man.



My first meeting with him was on the day he was ordained a priest in the Cathedral Church of Shillong. I was then passing through my regency years, a youngster freshly arrived from Italy. I do remember how much I was impressed by the eyes of that rather skinny young priest who did not talk very much, but showed his deep intelligence in the brightness of his eyes. After my ordination in 1954, when I was posted at Nongpoh, Henry became, so to say, my Guardian Angel. He took great pain to help me through the very tough experience of the Bhoi country of those days.

When he was made the Parish Priest of Jowai, I took part many times in the trainings for Head Catechists and Church Workers organized by him and his team. I still remember and relish the memory of an enthusiastic Fr. Fantin teaching his newly composed hymns and the musical

versions of the Psalms he had so well prepared. It was on one of these occasions that I tested his musical competence by mistaking on purpose the timings and notes. He would address me sternly, and say, "Father Vanni... please, you are out tune... Behave..."

I took part for ten consecutive years in these trainings and can stand witness along with others about the immense good they did to one and all who participated in them. The religious knowledge of hundreds of catechists and Church Workers was marvelously boosted up, and with that also came increase in the piety of our Christian communities. Father Fantin was happy and righteously proud of the good done, but he never boasted about it, with a





sense of humility of his own; the humility of the intelligent man who fully realized, even in success, his unavoidable limitations.

My dealings with Father Fantin were always characterized by a blunt loyalty to one another. They gave us a good chance to understand each other's psychological make-up. I hereby thank him by writing of all the good he always did to me. Even when he was alive, I did express my gratitude to him on several occasions.

Fr. Fantin's rather stiff appearance hid a sense of deep love for life, for men at large, for friends, for the people to whom he was sent. Yes, Henry Fantin's was a profoundly loving soul, which he kept in check behind his some-what stand-offish ways! He always used his capacities for the good of others. Love was the main

spring of his life, the very soul of his educational activities. This concern for the welfare of others was often manifested also in the way he rejoiced in his pupils' successes in life.

Thank you, Henry - it's the voice of an old friend - for all the patient work you put in to realize the 'Ka Lynti Bneng' prayer book, for the psalms set into music by you, for the 'ka Baibel Khasi Bathymmai' which you succeeded to bring out, after going through many odds along with your team. I personally feel that this work was a paramount missionary achievement. And, may your hymns and psalms continue to resound through the length and breadth of Khasi and Jaintia Hills. THANK YOU RICOOTY. ☯





## PERSONAL IMPRESSIONS AND RECOLLECTION OF REV. FR. HENRY FANTIN SDB (R.I.P.)

*Fr. Lionel Henry sdb*

In 1948, I went to Sonada near Darjeeling in North Bengal, from Don Bosco Lillooah (Calcutta) to start my Aspirantate. It was then I think, or the next year, 1950, that I came across Rev. Fr. Henry Fantin (then young Brother Henry Fantin, preparing for the Priesthood by pursuing his theological studies and teaching at the same time!) He came across as an individual of distinct appearance, somewhat serious and quite erudite! Those qualities I believe were with him throughout his life. I was inducted into the Salesian College Choir with my "mates" from Lillooah, and in that capacity, I got to observe the musical accomplishments of no ordinary level that Fr. Fantin possessed as Conductor sometimes and Organist at other times, together with the then young Rev. Fr. Nicholas Lo Groi of the Calcutta Salesian Province. The versatile musical qualities that shone in the youthful Cleric Fantin matured and grew in brilliance in the subsequent years



of his ministry, particularly in Mawlai and later in Jowai and Khliehriat, with the publication of the hymnal and Prayer Book KA LYNTI BNENG. At this point it must be stated that, matching his musical brilliance, his zeal for and competence in dealing with the Word of God flowered into the distinguished and scholarly translation of the Bible into Khasi, the Ka BAIBEL.

In Sonada, especially during the period 1952 to 1955, the Salesian College Choir (and band) was truly renowned amidst the up and coming population of Kurseong and Darjeeling for the rendition of several inspiring and entertaining musical numbers, thanks to the musical genius of the young and talented leader, Fr. Henry Fantin. Like most musicians of sterling calibre, Fr. Fantin tended to be nervous, a situation which was even aggravated by his usual somewhat weak state of health, his heart always being the problem spot!





As religious and priestly life rolled along for both of us, I lost contact with him, till 1968 when I took over St. Anthony's High School, Shillong and more especially 1978, the year I was sent to Marian High School, Jowai to assume responsibility of it from Fr. Fantin himself, who then moved to Khliehriat permanently. It was during that period and all the years till his sudden demise, that, besides admiring his learning, musical genius, outstanding administrative skills and optimistic dynamism, I came to be drawn by his "human-ness", affectionate and loyal friendship, qualities that constrained me

to regard him as my brother rather than a fellow religious! His unexpected departure from this life was a heavy personal blow, the effects of which have not completely subsided!

May the legacy of unstinted total dynamic self-dedication that Fr. Henry Fantin left be a constant beacon and rallying point for the Pastors of the Khasi Jaintia Hills Church, and may the learning, culture and true "Hills man" character that he so effectively taught be the path its people tread! MAY HE NOW PRAY FOR US ALL! MAY HE REST IN PEACE! ●





## REV. FR. HENRY FANTIN AS I KNEW HIM

*Fr. M. Kadavunkal sdb, Parish Priest*

**I**t was in 1954 that I came to know Fr. Henry Fantin as he was then our Dean of Studies in Salesian College, Sonada. At that time we were studying Philosophy. We were very much impressed by his imposing personality though he was a very strict disciplinarian. He meant duty and demanded it from his students. He was also our music master and taught us music.

More than forty years later, in 1997, I came here to work in this parish of Khliehriat. As soon as I arrived, he gave me a cordial welcome with an embrace. On the following day he spent nearly half a day taking me around the House, the Church, the Mission Compound, the Convent, the schools, the teachers' quarters etc. He introduced me to the teachers and students. It was very good of him to have given me an idea of the parish and its many schools and their connected activities.

Here in Khliehriat I did not find him so excited, stern or strict as he was before. He had become calm, a fine gentleman and a good friend of all. His company was most pleasant. We looked forward to his presence at breakfast to get all the current news. He used to share with us his future plans for the institution and his many programmes.

The four months I lived with him here were very valuable time for me to learn many things from him, especially his spirit of love and dedication to form many young boys and girls for their future. On seeing the youngsters he used to say, "Look, Father! These are my children, I brought them up to this level, and many of these will be holding high posts of responsibility." He used to encourage us in our pastoral activities. He used to help by conducting services especially on Saturdays. He was getting the best of co-operation from the Fathers, Sisters, parents, teachers and people. He trusted them and gave them responsibilities to do. He would thus plan and organise various activities. Such was the training and understanding the teachers, catechists and Rangbah Balangs received from him. Such was the love and respect the people had for him. He used to mix with them, chat with them and occasionally share their simple meals.

I am not mentioning here his great achievements in different fields such as education, music, liturgy etc. His passing away has left a big gap in Jaintia Hills. The entire Meghalaya misses him. May he rest in peace. ●













# **BAN PYN-SAH KYNMAW IA I REV. FATHER HENRY FANTIN SDB**

*Miss Marbiang Nongtdu  
Mookympad, Sutnga Parish*

1. U wan shane naduh na shiliang duriaw,  
La u dang khynnah ka mynsiem u pyniaw,  
U ieh noh ia rympei barhem i mei  
Jingshai bad jingstad u sam ha kiwei.
2. Kum u Lyngdoh balajied jong u Blei,  
Khlem da tyngkai la buit la bor u sei,  
Ha Ri-lum jongngi u sngew-hun ban sah,  
Bad dei ha Ri Pnar u da trei borbah.
3. Ia u la tip kum u Nongpynphuh pynphieng,  
Ia ki long-dien u da pun lypa ka jingkieng,  
Ba kiwei kin bud ia ka nuksa jong U,  
Ban trei namar kiwei, ym ia la ka ruh.
4. U pyn-sah-nam ialade da la ki jong ki matti,  
Kum ka kot "LYNTI BNENG, KA BIBLE KHASI",  
Baroh ki bynta bapher ki Liturji lehnam,  
Bad kumjuh ruh ki jingrwai Salm.
5. Ñiar eh kum ma u ban shem,  
Ia ka ktien Khasi thik-thik u kren  
Ym tang ban kren, hynrei bad jingthoh,  
Kyrdan DOCTOR u la dei ban ioh.





6. Ki kam radbah jong u, kin iai kren brier,  
Ha dohnud kiba bun, kin iai kysiew,  
Kum khlur ba phyrnai jingshai u tbeh,  
Jingdum jingbieij sha jngai u beh.
7. Wat lada bun ki jingthang u la nguid,  
Shibun ki Nongsiat ia u ki kynshuit,  
Hynrei ia kine baroh um pynsngap,  
Namar ia ka burom bneng u iai ap.
8. Hapdeng jong-ngi mynta um don shuh,  
Sha ka Ri jingsuk u la leit jynduh,  
Sha bymdon ki Nongsiat bad ki khnam,  
Hangta un ioh ia ka bainong katkum ki kam.
9. Mano bym-sngewduhnong bad niew burom,  
Haba phai sha ki kam ba u trei shitom,  
Ki langbrot la jong bad ki riewpaitbah,  
Kyrtenng jong-u kin iai kynmaw sah.
10. Ha Lum Kyntang u thiah ba kum u sbat,  
Ka Nam jong u shirta kan nym-blad,  
U phuh hynniew phew saw snem tam,  
U im ym da ki snem, hynrei da ki kam. ●







# U PHADAR HENRY FANTIN KUMBA NGA ITHUH IA U

*Ph. Vincent Kympat*

## **Ka Jingithuh banyngkong :**

U Ph. Henry Fantin u la wan iuhkjat nyingkong ha Jaintia Hills ha ka snem 1959 mynba u la wan sah shuti sha Jowai. U la ieid ia u Ph. Tony (Tognocchi) haduh katta, bad u la tyrwa da lade ban wan iarap ia ka Mishon Jowai ha ka por shuti. Ka la long artad ha u bnai January 1959, bad ha kata ka snem la don ka jingiaseng kyrkhu ia ka lingmane banyngkong jong ka Tluh kaba ki la rah na Lumlane. Ha ka sngi Saitjain la wan poi arngut ki phadar kiba jrong bad kiba i khraw ka maiñ ryngkat bad ka khmat kaba saw-huin. Kita ki la long u Phadar Tony bad u Phadar Henry Fantin. Ki Tluh ki la sngewphieng haduh katta ban ioh arngut ki Phadar bajrong na ka bynta ka jingiaseng jong ki. Ngi ki khynnah rit ngi la shu peit lyngngoh ia ka ryenieng ba iaryngkat jong kine ki Phadar, bad ngi iphylla ia ka jingsmat jong ki ban treikam trei-jam. Mar ia poi ki law ia ki jain, Ki tynsad ia ka Cassock jong ki ha u panpoh, ki kli ia ki kti sopti jong ki bad ki sdang ban trei. Ki la pynpur sainar elektrik ia ka lingmane bad ki pynwah ia ki bol-lait ha ki ksai. Ki rah ia kawei ka enjin bad ki kynjut da u tyllai, bad ynda la shad ka enjin kyndit kyndit ka iingmane ka phyrnai khrik da ka jingshai. Baroh ha shnong ki la kyndit ban iohi ia

ka jingthaba kum ka sngi. Ka dei ka sien banyngkong ba ki Tluh ki la iohi ding elektrik. Haden kata, u Phadar Fantin u rah ia ka jingtem accordion bad u la tem ha iingmane ban sdang ka jingiaseng. Baroh la shu iapeit lyngngoh ia ka jingnangtem jong u haduh ba i brieve ki la klet ban rwai.

## **Ka Jingithuh baar :**

La thung Parish Priest ia u Phadar Fantin ha Jowai ha ka snem 1961. Ha ka snem 1960 u Phadar Tony u la pyndep ia ka lingskul Marianhill. Kumta u Phadar H. Fantin u la plie ia ka High Skul bad u la long artad u Headmaster jong ka. Ha u snem 1963 nga la ioh lad ban leit klass VII has Marianhill bad hapoh Hostel. U Phadar Fantin u la long u brieve uba shisur ka rukom pyniaidkam. U la bniah ba ki khynnah ba shong klass VII ki dei ban wan rah ia ka Certificate Middle English ba la ai da ka sorkar khnang ban ym kulmar hadien habud. Nga uba la ioh tang ka certificate pass klass Vi na u Headmaster, nga la leitnoh ha ka sngi babud namar bym treh ban shong klass VIarsien. Ha u snem 1964 u Phadar Fantin u la kyndit ban iohi ia nga ha St. Paul Seminari Upper Shillong. Um shym la kren eiei lait tang kane "How is it that you are here?" Um shym la ap ia ka jubab jong





nga bad u la leit noh hi. Ngam kynmaw ba u la wan biang sha St. Paul Seminari hadien kane, sa tang ha ka snem 1969 ba u la ialam ia u babu Francis Diengdoh uban iarap ia u ha kaban pynkylla ia ka Baibel sha ka ktien Khasi.

### **Ka jingithuh ia u kum u Parish Priest :**

U Phadar Fantin u long u babniah ha baroh. U la hikai jingrwai man ka miet sngi Palei banyngkong jong u bnai. U pynbeit ia ki jingrwai ba la rwai bakla. Ia ka jingrwai bymlah pynbeit u phah sangeh rwai-noh tad haduh ba un da ai jingbit. U la pynlong tista ia ki jingialang sngi thohdieng banyngkong jong u bnai. U paw borabor u riew pyrkhat-jngai ha ki jingialang baroh. Um ju kren laplah ne kren shongshit. Ynda u la sngap ia ki jingiakren baroh u sa ai ka rai kaba biang bad kaba shai. U la leit shang ia ki shnong baroh kiba kynthup ha kato ka por ki shnong baroh kiba don ha ki parish Khliehriat, Namdong, Amlarem bad Jowai bamynta. U la iohi ia ka jingsahdien jong ki Pnar bad ki War jong ka ri Jaintia. Ym don wat tang iwei ruh ha shnong iba nang ban thoh ne ban pule. kumta la wan ka rai ban khot sha Jowai la kumno kumno iwei i khynnah na kawei ka shnong, la kynthei ne shynrang, ban wan shongskul da ka jingkyrshan jong ki phadar hi. La leh ia kane haduh klass VI. Hadien kane la plie skul bad la phah hikai da kine ki khynnah ha ki shnong jong ki hi. Kumne ki skul Primary ki la roi 5 ne 6 tylli man ka snem ha ka Parish.

La don ba ong ba u Phadar Fantin um ju leit shang shnong, bad um don jingshemphang ha ka rukom pyniaid Parish. Ban kynnoh ia u misionari uba la im 37 snem ha ka jaka shrah kum u Ph. H. Fantin ka dei tang ka ktien jler bad ka peit bishni. Wat ha ka jingbunkam jong u ban peit ia ka High Skul ba dang shu plie, ia ki skul Primary ha kylleng ki shnong, ban wad pisa ban pyniaid ia ka Parish, ban pynkhreh ia ki jingrwai-niam bad ki skit lehniam bathymmai na ka bynta ka Diocese, ban ai training ia ki nongialam, ia ki Head Catechist jong ka Diocese baroh kawei pynban, u dang lap por ban leit jngoh ia kawei pa kawei ka shnong hapoh ka Parish wat lada um shym la lah ban sah slem kum kiwei pat ki phadar. Ym tang katta, u la leit-jngoh ruh man la ki thliew-iing Khristan Katholik jong ka shnong ba u leit. Kane ka jingleh jong u ka la pynsngewtynnad haduh katta ia ki brieve, bad mau hi ruh u la ithuh ia ka duk ka thngan bad ia ka jingpang jingshitom ba ban ia ki brieve bapli. Haba u leit lynti u la ialam katto katne ngut ki khynnah, kynthei ne shynrang, na Jowai ban rwai shongshit ha iingmane. Kumta ka jingshongsshit haba u wan sha ki shong ka pynkwah ia ki brieve ba un wan biang.

### **U misionari ba peit jngai bad uba hikai :**

Dei ka jingleit shangshnong jong u kaba la pynlong ia u ban pynkhreh ban phiah ia ka Parish Jowai. Na ka bynta kane ka jingthmu u la thied ka jaka ha Khliehriat (Kseh iñkhiaw), ha Namdong bad ha





Lumthari (wah Letein). Kum u misionari uba la trei slem bad bashemphang u la ai jingmut ha ka jingialang jong ki Phadar batrei ha Jaintia Hills ryngkat bad u Archbishop Hubert D'Rosario ha Jowai ha ka snem 1991, ban pynroi ia ka ri Jaintia da kaba plie Parish ha Amlarem, ha Tluh, ha Ummulong bad ha Umkiang. Baroh ki phadar ki la kubur lang ia kane ka jingai jingmut jong u, bad u Archbishop ruh u la sngewdei ia kata bad un wad lad tang shu ioh ki misionari kiba klo i ban shimti.

U la pynkhreh ia ka Parish Jowai jong u ban long kaba dap-biang hi, bad ka jinglut babun ka la leit sha ki khynnah hostel. Kumta u la pan ia u Khawkham sha ka Parish. La ong ba ka iing ka la shlei da u khaw suda. La lah ban aibam-

ei ia kiba wan sngi thodieng banyngkong u bnai, ia kiba wan jingiaseng proseshon bad ia ki khynnah hostel. Ha kawei ka snem la lap ba u khaw u la pyud namar bym lah bam shuh. Kumta la phah lum khawkham noh da u kba. Dei na ka bynta kane ka jingthmu ban kyrshan-hi ruh ba u la kyntiew ia ka jingkyshew-balang na ka shisuka sha ka shipiah, sha ka shityngka bad sha ka artyngka. U la

lehbniah ia kane man ka por ba pynkiew, lyngba ki jingialang sngi thodhdieng banyngkong jong u bnai, khnang ba ki briew kin ym pyrshah. U Ph. H. Fantin u la pynlut shiteng na ka kyrta jong u ha ka jinghikai. Ynda u wan sha ka kam Parish ryngkat bad kane ka jingmut ban hikai. Kumta ka jingthrang jong u ka long ban plie lad ia ki briew jong ka ri Jaintia ban leitskul bad ban kiew sha ki kyrdan ba sha jrong. Kane ka jingthrang jong u ka la rung ha ka rukom treikam jong u bad da shisha ka la urlong kumba u la



angnud. Ka Marianhill High School Jowai bad ka Khliehriat Higher Secondary School kiba u la seng bad la pyniaid da lade hi ryngkat bad ki M.E. skul ha ki shnong bakham heh bad kiwei pat ki Primari skul babun ki long ki dak bapaw tyngkrein bad kiba pynlong ia ka Balang Catholic ha ri Jaintia ban sngewmeng bad ban pyrto da ka jingsngewnguh ia u Ph. H. Fantin.





U phadar Fantin um shym la hun tang ban plie skul, da lade hi u la hikai ia ki nonghikai bad ia ki khynnah skul. U la pynkhreh ia ki khynnah ban pass ia ki exam in jong ki lyngba ki *notes* ba ki kot lyngkdop jong u. U la phah Training ia ki nonghikai bad phah pule ia ki sha ki kyrdan *Post Graduate* ryngkat bad ki jinghikai bad ki *notes* babi ang. Ka jingthrang jong u kam kut tang ha ki kot ki sla, hynrei wat ha ki sports bad ka disiplin. Dei ha ki sngi jong u ba ka Marianhill Jowai bad ka Khliehriat High School ki la long lahduh bunsien ha ka Football. Haba don mau ha skul ne ha madan ne hangno hangno ki khynnah, ki nonghikai bad ki paidbah ki tiengburom. U la khlad na kane ka pyrthei ha ka jingtrei shitom bad da kaba iohi ba u Blei U la kyrkhu ia ka umsyep bad ia ka jingshahshitom jong u kaba la wan na ki briew bad na ki bahalor.

U phadar Fantin u pyniaidkam da kaba shaniah tylli ha ki phadar assistant jong u, ha ki Head Catechist, ha ki Rangbah Balang bad ki nongialam. Ia ka kam nongialam la aiti ha ki samla kiba nang ban rwai bad ban pule. Ki Rangbah Balang ki dei ban long ki briew kiba iaidbeit bad kiba shemphang wat lada kim nang ban thoh ne ban pule. Khnang ba ka kam balang kan iaidbeit iaidryntih u phadar Fantin u hikai ia ki nongtrei balang baroh ha khmat ki assistant parish priest ha ka jingialang sngi thohdieng banyngkong jong u bnai. Lada don eiei kaba dei ban pynshai ne ban pynkylla kan long borabor ha ka jingialang. Namar ki nongtrei balang jong u ki la long kiba dang duna ha baroh ki liang, kat kiba la dep rai ha ka jingialang la buh ha ka kot

rul trei-kam balang. Ha kane ka kot rul la kdew ruh ia ki kam bad ki rukom treikam jong u Head Catechist, jong u Rangbah Balang bad jong u Nongialam.

### **U misionari baisynei jaitbynriew:**

Kawei na ki jingeh ba ki briew ki shem ha u Ph. H. Fantin ka dei ka jingbym isynei jong u. Ka jingisynei jong u kam paw satia ha ka shimet shimet. Wat ia ki nonghikai jong ki skul jong u u ju ong ia ki ban ym pynlong ia ka skul kum ka hotel na kaba ki lah ban rung ne ban mih katba mon. Kiba dongkam jingiarap na ka bynta shimet u phah ia ki sha u Ph. Guidotto. Ki phadar, ki sister ne kiwei pat ki ri ew donburom kiba kum wan hadien ka por bam, um ju tyrwa eiei ia ki. Lada ki thngan ne donkam jingbam ei-ei u la phah ia ki sha dukan. Ka jingthrang jong u borabor ka long ban leh isynei ia ka jaitbynriew, ne ia ka kynhun. U ngeit ba ki ri ew shimet kin sa dap sa biang bad kin sa nang sa stad ynda ka kynhun ka dap ka biang bad ka roi ha jingnang ka jingstad. ka jingwan-trei mishon jong u ha Jaintia Hills ka la iarap ia u ban iohi ia ka jingsahdien jong ka jaitbynriew jong ka ha baroh ki liang.

Dei na ka daw ka jingieid ia ka jaitbynriew kaba pynpaw ia u kum ubym isynei. Kane ka jingieid ia ka jaitbynriew ka pynlong ia u ban pyrkhat ba kam myntoi ban ai pisa ia ki briew lada kim nang ban pyndonkam ia ka; kam myntoi ban ai jain ia ki briew haba kim nang ban phong; kam myntoi ban ai dawai ia ki briew haba kim nang ban leh khuid; bad





kam myntoi ban ai kew ne ai dud ia ki brierw namar kim bam. Na kane ka daw baroh kito kiba la wan pan jingiarap ha ki por jong u Phadar Tome wat haduh ban da pynlong ia ka kompon iing phadar kum ka iew musiang, ki hap leit thylli. U la pynlut ia ka bor, ia ka por bad ia ka pisa na ka bynta ki skul bad hostel ha Jowai bad ha kiwei pat ki shnong jong ka Parish. Tang shu lait klas VI iwei i khyannah ba u iarap hapoh hostel u phah hikai noh ha shnong. Kane ka jingthrang jong u ban pynroi ia ka jingnang jingstad ha ri Jaintia bad ban kyntiew ia ki brierw jong ka sha ki kyrdan ba heh ka neh haduh ka jingkhlad noh jong u ha u bnai June 1997.

U la shem ka daw ka jingduk jong ki brierw, kata, ba kim don jaka rep. Kumta u la thied kawei ka Khyndew ka baheh ha Kutlaru ban ban thaw kawei ka colony jong ki 50 iing. U la ioh jingiarap pisa bad ka tractor na Germany ban pynlong ia ka Farm ba-itynnad, ka baheh bad ka baseisoh hangta. U la shaniah ha ki brierw ban pyndep ia ka kam. U la leit peit tengteng da lade. Hynrei ha ka jingshahthok, ka project bad ka pisa ki la duh-ei. Mynta, ka bynta barit jong kata ka Farm ka la shu sah tang ha kti jong ki 15 iing eiei ba kin ioh rep-lum, ka baheh pat ka sah ha ka parish Jowai ban pynmih riewhadem, kba-lum ne kiwei pat ki jingthung kumba ka Parish ka sngewbit. Shi bynta jong kane ka khyndew la thung da ki kseh ha ka jingpeit jong ka Social Forestry. Ia ka jingiakut bad ka social Forestry la soi da ki brierw kiba u la shaniah. Ia kata ruh u la shahthok.

## **U Nongthoh bad u Nongrwai:**

U phadar Fantin u long u nonghikai, u mishonari, u riewniam, u riewstad, u riewpyrkhat bad u riewpule. U don jingtip ha baroh ki phang (*arts, science, rhetoric, music and religion*). U la ialeh ban long nyngkong ha ki phang baroh. Ki brierw kiba iakren bad u ki la shemphang ia kane. Kine ki jingkyrkhu kiba u la ioh na u Blei ki la pynlong ia u ban paw dukhi bad basatar. Ki 37 snem shiteng kiba u la don ha ri Jaintia ki pynpaw ia kane ka jinglong jong u, bad ka ri Jaintia ka ainguh ia u Blei Uba la ai ia une u radbah bajwat bad badukhi uban iaryngkat bad ki brierw jong ka khnang ban kyntiew ia ki sha ka kyrdan ba iaryngkat bad kiwei pat. Lada ym dei na ka jinglong badukhi jong u ki Bahalor kin jin da la pynkynriah ia u la slem na Jaintia Hills, bad ka ri Jaintia kan nehsah ha ka jingsahdien. Mynba u dang trei ha Jowai u la leit-ud sha ki Bahalor namar ki jingeh, hynrei u la ioh ka jubab: "*You can manage*". Ha ka jinglyngkhim pisa um banse ban die noh ia ka khyndew ha Panaliar, Jowai bad ha Demthring kaba don ha surok Sohmynting. Ynda la phah ia u sha Khliehriat (ka jaka ba la jied hi mau, katkum ka jingiathuh jong u), "*I can manage*".

U Phadar Henry Fantin um shym la long u nongthohkot kum kiwei pat ki mishonari. U la thoh tang khyndiat. U la pynneh ia ka jinglong riewniam bad ia ka jinglong mishonari da kaba thoh ia kiei kiei kiba iarap ia ka kam pynphriang ia ka Kospel. Ki kam baradbah duh jong u dei ka jingpynmih ia ka Baibel ha ka





ktien Khasi, ban pynwandur katkum ka jingkwah ka Batikan II ia ki skit lehniam bad ia ki jingrwai lehniam ha ka ktien Khasi. Ki jingrwai Mass bad ki Psalm la pynmih ha ka snem 1965, ia ka Baibel Khasi Bathymmai ha ka snem 1977, ia ka Lynti Bneng baheh bad babiang lut ki jingduwai bad ki jinglehniam bathymmai ha ka snem 1980. Ia ki skit lehniam bad



jingpule sngi u Trai la pynmih man u bnai ha ka ktien khasi naduh ka snem 1964 haduh 1977. Kine ki skit lehniam kin jin da la pynlong ia ka Khasi Roman Missal bad Khasi Lectionary (kiba ngim pat ioh haduh mynta) lada ym shym la shim noh ia ka kam na u.

Kum u nongthoh u la long u babniah bad babeit. Ia kaei kaei kaba u la thoh u don ka daw ka babiang la ka dei ia ka spel dak, ne ia ki kyntien, ia ki artikl, ia ki ryhme ki meter, ki style bad kiwei. Na ka bynta ki jingthoh ha ka Baibel Khasi Bathymmai u la kdew ia ki daw ha ka Philology jong u kaba u la pynmih ha

bakut u snem 1977. Ki jingrwai ba u thaw ki iahap sbiak – ki kyntien bad ki sur – bad ka long kaba suk bha ban rwai. Um ju lah sngap ia ki jingrwai ba bakla bad ia ki jingrwai bym iadei ka sur bad ki kyntien. Ki pynpang ia ki shkor jong u. U la pynbha, u la pynsuk bad pynbang ia ki sur phareng ha ka ktien khasi. Da shisha u la don kane ka sap ban pynbha ia ka jong kiwei. Ki jingrwai-niam jong u ki ong hapteng jong ka juk barim bad ka juk bathymmai. Mynta ka Balang ha ri Khasi ka la myntoi-ei na ka umsyep jong une u radbah ha ki jinglehniam jong ka baroh.

Ha kaba iadei bad ka jinghikai ha ki skul, u la thoh tang katto katne tylli ki kot kiba la phriang kum ki *notes* ban iarap ia ki khynnap skul ban pass ia ki examin jong

ki. Kine ki notes ki ktah la jan baroh ki subjek khnang ban pynshai shuhshuh ia ki lynnong ne ia ki jingkylli badei shabar ka kot pule.

### **Jingpynkut:**

Ka Jyllabah Shillong bad kham kyrpang ka ri Jaintia ka dap ka jingsngewnguh ia u Blei bad ia ki Bahalor kiba la phah ia u Ph. Henry Fantin sha ri Jaintia bad ban trei dukhi hangta naduh 1959 haduh 1997. Kumba u la ju iathuh ia nga, kine ki la long ki snem babha tam bad basngewtynnad tam ha ka jingim jong u.





Kum u mishonari ua la aiti lut ia lade ha ka Balang bad ha ka jaitbynriew kaba u la trei. U la pyndep janai ia kano kano ka kam ba u la shimti. U la ieid ia ka jaitbynriew. Ka jingieid jong u ia ka Balang, ia ka jaitbynriew ka la pynkhray ia u. U la pyrshang ban ieid riw shimet kumba leh kiwei pat bad u la ngop ha ki jingeh. Ki matti sah nam jong u kum u riw ieid Balang bad ieid jaitbynriew ki long: **Ka Baibel Khasi Bathymmai, Ki Salm bad ki Jingrwai-niam, ki Skit-lehniam da ka Ktien Khasi, ka Marianhill High School, ka Khliehriat High School bad Higher Secondary School, ka Training ia ki Katekis bad ki Nongialam, ka jingnang jingstad** kaba ki briew jong ka ri Jaintia ki don mynta bad **ka jingsdang** ia ka Parish Khliehriat bad ka Parish Namdong. Ka pansngiat jong u Phadar H. Fantin dei ki past pupil jong u kiba long ki Doctor, ki Engineer, ki Professor, ki Nonghikai, ki Nurse, ki Social Worker, ki Politician, ki Officer, ki phadar, ki sister, ki journalist bad kiwei kiwei de ki riwstad bad ki riwshemphang ha ki kam sorkar bad kam Balang.

Na ka bynta ki kam bakhraw jong u ha ri Jaintia kum u mishonari bad u shakri baradbah jong u Blei ka Parish Jowai bad ka Parish Khliehriat ki sngewnguh bad pyndonburom ia u ha ka rukom bakyrpang ha u snem 1989 ha ka jingdap 50 snem ka jingwan jong u sha India. Na ka bynta ki kam bakhraw jong u ha ka thoh ka tar, ka Catholic Author's Guild, Shillong ka la ai khusnam ia u ha ka snem 1993 ha Jowai.

U Ph. H. Fantin u la long u riwstad, u riwpyrkhat bad u riwpeit jngai. Kumta ka long kaba shitom ban sngewthuh bad ban pynkohnguh ia u. Kane ka dei ka jingeh jong ki babun. Hynrei nga shem ba u long u briew uba sngewthuh bad uba shibeit jingmut. Haba u shem ia kaei kaei kaba long kabym shongnia um ju pdiang, hynrei haba ka ktah ia u babun u balang bad ka long ka babha bad basongnia um ju kyntait. Nga la iakynduhkam bad u bunsien, bad ngam shem jingeh satia. Nga la lah ban pynkohnguh ia u bunsien ha kiei kiei ki kam kiba tei bad kiba pynroi ia ka Balang, ia ka Parish bad ia ka jaitbynriew. Nga kynmaw ia ka jingeh jong nga ban pynkohnguh ia u ban wan pdiang ia ka jingsngewnguh ki paidkhristan na Jowai Parish ha ka jingdap 50 snem ka jingwan jong u sha India, bad ha ka jingkhoh jong nga ia u ban pdiang ia ka khusnam na ki dkhot jong ka Catholic Authors' Guild ha Jowai. Haden ka jingiataipia bad ka jingpynsngewthuh ka bajrong u la wan da ka jingkmn ka bakhraw bad u la shimbynta-hun mynsiem ha ki prokram baroh. Bad nga la ioi ba ka la wan ka jingshongshit bathymmai ha u namar kane ka jingithuh, ka jingniewkor, ka jingiaroh bad ka jingsngewnguh ia ka jingtnei shitom jong u na ka jaitbynriew ha kaba u la aiti khlem da tyngkai ei-ei ia la ka bor, ki sap bad ka jingim. ●





# KA JINGKYNMAW BAD KA JINGSHAM JONG NGA SHIMET-SHIMET SHAPHANG U REV. FR. HENRY FANTIN SDB (RIP)

*Kong Maristella Biam*

**H**a ka snem 1965 nga la long ka khynnahrit malu-mala kumba 6 ne 7 snem ka rta. Nga la don hapoh St. Mary Mazzarello, Jowai kum ka khynnah convent. Dei naduh kata ka por ba nga ithuh ia u Rev. Fr. H. Fantin.

Katba nang ia id ki snem bad ki por, ka bor sngewthuh jong nga ruh ka la nang roi, bad nga la sdang ban iohi ba une u Lyngdoh u la long uba pher tam na bun kiwei pat ki briew; u dei u briew uba don, bun ki sap--- ka sap Nongialap, ka sap Nonghikai, ka sap put-sap-tem, ka sap Nongthoh poetry, ka sap Nongthaw jingrwai, ka sap Nongthohkot bad kiwei-kiwei, ia kiba u la pyndonkam ha ka rukom kaba janai.

Napden ki jingtrei kiba bun ba une u Lyngdoh u la leh, ngan sa shu iathuh lyngkot shaphang ki kato-katne kiba kham kongsan bad kiba paw pyrthei tyngkrein. Kita ki long: (i) Ka jingpynmih ia ka Lynti Bneng kaba la dap smiar da ki jingduai bashohmysiem bad ki jingrwai Mas bad jingrwai Salm kiba jylliew jingmut bad kiba bang bad sur bad ktien. (ii) U la thoh Notes na ka bynta ki khynnah skul ha ka English, Science, Geography bad History. Hynrei ka

jingtrei baradbah eh jong u, ka dei ka jingpynmih ia ka Baibel Khasi Bathymmai. Nga la long kaba donbok haduh katta-katta ban long kawei na ki nongiatrei lang ha kane ka kambah kaba khraw. Nga la iarap ha ka 'Proof reading'. Ngi la trei bad sngi bad miet na ka bynta 7 snem kynthih, khlem da pep ia kiwei pat ki jingtrei ba man la ka sngi. Ha kata ka por u Fr. H. Fantin u la long ha kajuh ka por u Headmaster bad u Parish Priest ha Jowai. Nga pat nga la long tang ka nonghkai barit kyrdan ha Marian Hill High School. Nga la dang shu dep ia ka Matric. Katba nga hikai mynsngi, nga leit College artat ha ka por janmiet bad iarap ruh ha ka jingtrei Baibel man ki por ba lait, da kaba sdang man ka sngi naduh 5.30. mynstep haduh 5 baje janmiet. Kata ka mut kumne: tang shu lait period na ka kam hikai, beit sha kamra Baibel; tang shu lait break, beit sha kamra Baibel. Haba lait shuti lei-lei baroh shisngi ha ka Baibel. Da kumne ngi la lah ban poi haduh kaba kut.

Tang shu dep kane ka kambah jingpynkylla ia ka Baibel sha ka ktien Khasi, la pynkynriah noh ia u Rev. Fr. H. Fantin sha Khliehriat kum u Assistant Parish Priest bad kum u Headmaster jong





ka Proceeding High School. Tang hapoh katto-katne snem u la lah ban pynioh ia ka High School bapura, bad haduh mynta ngi la poi shaduh ka kyrdan Higher Secondary School. Ha ka snem 1981 u Fr. Henry Fantin u la ong ia nga ban resign noh na Marian Hill High School bad ban wan iarap ia u ban pyniaid ia ka High School hangne ha Khliehriat. Bad dei hangne ba u la theh ia la ka umsyep ka jingtrei shitom jong u tat haduh ka khyllipmat bakhatduh eh jong ka jingim jong u. Shaphang ka jingtrei jong u ha Khliehriat ngam donkam ban iathuh, phi hi phi la tip aiu u la leh.

Ban pynkut: Napdeng bun ki hok-ki-sot (virtues) jong u Rev. Fr. H. Fantin, nga sngew shonghok bad nga thrang eh ban pynpaw pyrthei la kumno-kumno ia ki laitylli kiba ha nga hi shimet-shimet nga shah shoh jingmut eh, bad kita ki long, kaba nyngkong: ka jingpyndep hok ia la ka kamram (sense of duty); kaba ar, ka jingjanai ha kiei-kiei baroh naduh ka kam ialap, haduh ka kam hikai, ka iaide ka ieng bad ka kren ka khana bad kumta ter-ter. Kaba lai, ka mynsiem bym ju buhnud iano-iano bad ka mynsiem ba kloi ban map bad klet ia ki jingpynmong, ki jingpynkthang bad bunsien ki jingialeh-pyrshah na bun ki liang,

khamtam na ka liang kiba iatrei land bad u. Kane kaba khatduh ka dei kaba ktah eh ia nga bad nga ngeit ia kiba bun kiba ju ithuh bha ia u.

To ai ba mangi ruh ngin ialeh dohim dohiap b a n pyrshang ban bud ia kine ki n u k s a babha ba u Rev. Fr. H. Fantin u la ai ha ngi ba ngin dup lah ban pynlong ia ka imlang-sahlang kaba suk ba sain, bad ba ngin dup long kiba bit ban ia-iohbynta lang ha ka jingkmn bneng ha ka akher ka sngi.



U Rev. Fr. Henry Fantin um don shuh ha ka met, hynrei u lai im junom ha ki mynsiem bad ki dohnud jong ngi. To ai ba u Blei Un ai ha u KA JINGJAHTHAIT BYMJUKUT! ●





# KA HISTORI LYNGKOT U

## REV. PHADAR HENRY FANTIN SDB

*Babu John Suja*

*(U Babu John Suja u la long uwei na ki Katekist banyngkong eh jong ka Jaintia Hills. U la iasnoh lang bad u Fr. Fantin naduh ba sdang ka jingtrei jong u, bad u la trei ruh ryngkat bad kiwei pat ki missionary kum u Fr. Tome, Fr. H. Elias, Fr. Guidotto, Fr. Carmelo, bad kiwei-kiwei. U la sdang ban trei kum u Katekist naduh ka snem 1939 bad u la dang trei haduh kine ki snem ba la dep katba u dang khlain ka met. Ki jaka ba u la trei ki la long (i) Ka ri War (ii) Narpuh (iii) Nongkhlieh (iv) Hadem (v) Shilliang Umngot bad bun kiwei ia kiba ngim lah ban jer kyrteng lut.)*

**U** Fr. Henry Fantin sdb, Parish Priest ka Jowai, u la long uba shemphang bad uba stad. U la long uba peit jngai ia ka lawei baphyrnai jong ka Balang. Naduh ka snem 1965 u la saindur ia ka Parish bathymmai ha Khliehriat. U la thied jaka ban seng nongrim ia kane ka Mission bathymmai na u Paila bad ka Biarbon Nongtdu kiba na Dkhiah ha ka dor kaba tat shibun. La register ia kane ka jaka ha u snem 1965, bad u Bishop Stephen Ferando u la wan ban peit ia kane ka jaka ha une u juh hi u snem.

Ha ka snem 1973 u Fr. Joseph Fantin sdb, u la wan ban shimti ia ka kam kum u Parish Priest ka Khliehriat, ba la maitphang da i Fr. Henry Fantin. Khnang ban dup pynroi shuh shuh ia kane ka Mission bathymmai, u Fr. Henry Fantin u la thied jaka shuh shuh na ka Kong Rosa bad Martha Nongtdu ban dup ioh tei ruh sa ka High School. Ha kam snem 1978, kiba halor ki la phah ia u Fr. Henry Fantin ban iarap ia u para jong u u Fr. Joseph Fantin, ha kaban pyniaid ia ka High School. Nangta da ka jingtrei shitom babun snem jong u, u la pynkiew kyrdan ia kane ka High School sha ka Higher Secondary School.

Ha ka jingsdang ban pyniaid ia ka skul hapoh saw snem eiei, la don bun ki jingthut bad ki jingwit na ki bun ki liang. Hynrei kum u riew shemphang bad u riewstad pyrkhat, u la lah ban jop lut ia kine ki jingeh haduh ba ka kam ka la iaidbeit iaid ryntih hapoh ka jingialam bastad jong u. Ki result jong ka Khliehriat Higher Secondary School ki la long borabor kiba kham bha bad kham shakhmat ban ia kiwei pat ki skul ba marjan. Kum u nongpynphuh pynphieng ia ki lum Pnar jong ngi, u la long ruh uba sngewtynn timer ba ia ki sports, khamtam eh ka Football, tat haduh ba kane ka skul ka la long ka Champion jong ka Jaintia Hills kumba lai sien, bad shisien kum ka State Champion kaba la leit mih khmat na ka bynta ka State Meghalaya shaduh Delhi.

Lada ngi pyrshang ban niew bad ban jer kut ia ki jingleh bad jingtrei jong u, ngin ym lah satia. Kito kiba ithuh ia u ki la tip hi katno u la trei miet la bad sngi na ka bynta ka jingroi jong ka Balang bad ka jingstad ha kane ka thain jong ngi. U la trei haduh ka khyllipmat bakhatduh mynba u la leit shim ia ka bainong na u Blei. Nga duai na ka bynta jiong u ba u Blei Un ai ha u ka jing jahthait bymjukut bad ka jingkmien bakhlem kut. ●





## U FR. HENRY FANTIN KATKUM KA JINGSHEM JONG NGA

*George L. Chyne, Sohra*

**H**a ka jingshisha ngam sngew shonghok ne dei hok ban thoh eiei shaphang u Fr. H. Fantin uba ngam ju iakynduh koit ha ka jingim jong nga. La kata ruh nga iohsngew na jngai ia ka nam ka kyrteng jong u.

Donbok ba ha snem 1975-76 u Fr. Fantin u la jied ia nga ban iarap lem ha ka jingpynkylla Khasi ia ka Baible ryngkat bad u Bah Francis Diengdoh, kum u nongpynkylla Khasi khliehduh. Dei ha kine ki snem ba nga la ia jan bha bad u, ban iaphylliew jingmut bad ia kyliang jingmut ha ka jingpynkylla Khasi ia ka Baible, ki jingrwai niam, ki jingduai Riti Niam bad ki Salm, kiba dei ki soh ka jingtrei shitom jong u. Dei ha kine ki snem ba nga iasyllok bad u, ba nga lah ban shem ia ka longmysiem bad ia ka longbriew jong u.

U dei u khun u Don Bosco uba ong: "Ai ha nga ia ka mysiem jong phi, bat ha lade ia kiwei pat." Dei ha kane ka longmysiem u Fr. Fantin, uba noh mysiem ia ki para mysiem Katholik kibym don Baibel, kumba ong mano re! U la khieh la kdat shane shatai ban wad jingiarap ha ka kam kaba ym ju don ba nud saham ne lamkjat, lait noh u Fr. H. Elias uba la noh synniang ha ka snem

1965 da ka Jutang Bathymmai ba la pynkylla na ka Latin, kaba long ruh u mawmer ia u Fr. Fantin, uba dei ban tur ia ka raieh-raidam, ia ka thiep - ka jur, ban tih ban tur ia ki dewshrah, ki dew langсах ban bet ia u symbai ka Ktien u Blei ha ki para-mysiem, ba kin san kin plung bad kin roi kin pa ha ka lynti ka jingshisha bad ka jingim u Krist.

Dei ha kane ka longmysiem jong u Fr. Fantin ba paw tyngkrein ka longbriew jong u. Ki longkmie satlak ka pyrthei ki kha shynrang ne kynthei, kim ju kha rangbah. Dei ki khun hi la kynthei ne shynrang kiba long rangbah ha ka jingbtin ki kmie ki kpa, ki kha ki man bad ki lok ki jor, bad da ki kam la jong kiba ki dei rangbah, pyrkhat Rangbah bad saindur Rangbah ia ka lawei bad ia ka pateng jong kiwei pat.

Ka Long-Mysiem u Fr. Fantin ka dei ka Long-Mysiem Rangbah. Bun ki jingeh u lap ha ki por ba u pynmih ia ka Baibel. Hynrei ha u pat kito ki diengpynkiang bad ki Mawsiang khang lad khang lynti ki kylla long pynban ki dieng pun jingkieng bad ki maw pun lynti sha ka thong ba u la mang. Ka jingjied jong u Fr. Fantin ia u Bah Francis Diengdoh ka la pynmih bun ki jingkhynnoh bad





jingkhynthoh. Hynrei u Fr. Fantin u la pyndonkam ia ki Mawlum ki Mawphem kum ki Mawdong bad Mawshandong jong ka jingtrei jong u. Nga kynmaw ia ki kyntien long Rangbah jong u ba u la iathuh ha nga ba bun na ngi ngi long ki Katholik kiba shitrhem, bad riewblei, kiba kitniam, tangba ngim pat long Kristan, ki nongbud u Krist kiba map bad klet ia ki tam ki duna ka longbreiw jong ngi.

U Fr. Fantin um don shuh bad ngi. U la lait na ka met bad u iadon bad u Trai kumba ong pynbud ia u Paulus bakhuid. Ki kor mawshongthait kiba dei ka ktien u Blei bad ka kot Lynti Bneng kin iai kyntiew bad kysiew ia ka mynsiem bad dohnud jong ngi sha ka jaka ba ka mynsiem jong u ka don, ban rwai iaroh ia u Trai katba u nangap khmih lynti ia ngi ruh. ●





# KA HISTORI LINGKOT JONG U FR. H. FANTIN SDB

*(La pynmih ia kane ka histori lyngkot ha ka khep jong ka pynkup burom bad ka jingsngewnguh ia u Ph. H. Fantin da ka Catholic Authors' Guild ha Jowai ha 05-12-1993)*

## **Ki Sngi Banyngkong Jong U Ha India**

U Ph. Henry Fantin u dei u khun banyngkong jong ka iing. La kha ia u ha ka shnong Casarsa (Italy) ha ka snem 1923. Ynda u la dap 16 snem kyrta, kata, ha ka snem 1939 u la wan sha India kum u misionari. Ha kata hi ka snem u la smai nyngkong kum u riew-niam ha ka Seng riew-niam Salesian. U la khreh philosophi ha Salesian College, Sonada, Darjeeling, bad thioloji ha Sacred Heart Thologate Mawlai, Shillong. Ha ka snem 1951 la kyntang lyngdoh ia u.

## **Ki Kam Ba La Pynkhamti Ha U**

Naduh 1951 haduh 1955 u la long u Headmaster (Prefect of Studies) ha Salesian College Sonada, Darjeeling. Naduh ka snem 1955 haduh 1959 u la long u Professor jong ka Histori bad Socioloji ha Sacred Heart Mawlai. Ha ka snem 1959 la phah ia u sha Jowai. Hangta, ryngkat bad u Ph. Tony (Tognocchi) u la tei ia ka Marianhill High School ha kaba u la long u Headmaster banyngkong duh jong ka naduh 1960-1978.

Naduh ka snem 1961 haduh 1978 la thung ruh ia u kum u Parish priest jong

ka Jowai kaba kynthup, ha kato ka por, ia ka Parish Khliehriat bad ia ka Parish Namdong. Naduh ka snem 1978 haduh mynta u la long u Assistant Parish priest bad u Headmaster jong ka Khliehriat High School kaba u la seng bad la pynheh. Dei tang ma u ba ia trei ha lum pnar 34 snem haduh mynta.

## **Ki Jingtrei Bakyrpang Jong U**

Katba u dang long u Brodar bad u Professor ha Sacred Heart Mawlai, u Ph. Henry Fantin u la pynmih bad hikai shibun-bah ki jingrwai niam ha ka ktien phareng bad ha ka ktien khasi. Hynrei ki jingtrei bapynsahnam tam ia u dei kito kiba u la pynmih na Jowai.

Katkum ka jingdawa jong ka Dorbar Vatican II, ban pynwandur ia ki riti niam sha ka ktien ka thylliej jong ka jaitbynriew, u Ph. Henry Fantin, da ka jingsbun mynsiem bad jingshlur, u la shimti ia kane ka kam ban pynwandur ia ki riti sha ka ktien khasi. U la pynmih shaid shi shaid ki jingrwai salm bad ki jingrwai Mas ha ki kot lyngkdop. Namar ka jingbym iohi jngai, u Bishop S. Ferrando, da ka jingeh ka bakhraw u la ai jingbit ia u ban shon bad ban pynmih paidbah ia ka kot KI SALM

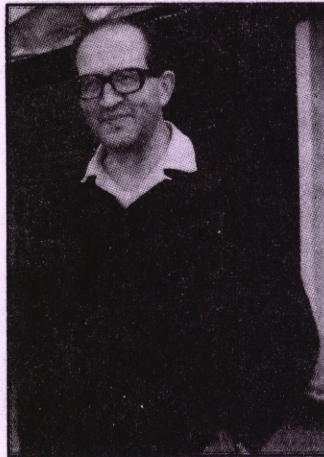




BAD JINGRWAI MAS has ka snem 1965.

U la pynkylla ia ka Mas Latin sha ka ktien Khasi, bad katno phewsien u la phah ia ka sha Rome, khamtam ia ka CREDO ban ioh jingbit ban rwai da ka ktien Khasi. Pyrshah ia ka mcn jong u bishop S. Ferrando, u la pynkylla khasi ia ki sawtylli **ki Jingduwai Jingkñaia Mas** (kiba don mynta ha ka kot Lynti Bneng). U la tyngkai ia ki namar u la tip lypa ba ha kawei ka sngi yn sa donkam. Da shisha, ha ka snem 1969 u bishop S. Ferrando u la shah kynnoh ha ka Rome, ba um shym la leh eiei ban pynthymmai ia ka riti niam. U la kyrpad ia u Ph. Henry Fantin ban iada ia u, bad da ka jingkloi u Ph. Henry Fantin, ha ka step ka babud hi u la leit phah shon sha Don Bosco Press, Shillong. Ha kane ka juh ka por u Ph. Henry Fantin u la pynthymmai ia ka kot LYNTI BNENG da kaba kynthup ia ki Jingrwai Mas Bakhraw bad ki riti lehniam bathymmai jong ka Mas bakhuid bad jong kiwei pat ki sakramen, bad la pynmih pyrthei ia ka ha ka snem 1972.

Ha ka snem 1970 u la sdang ia ka jingtrei baradbah jong u ban pynkylla sha ka ktien Khasi ia ka Baibel baroh kawei. Namarba ka kam ka long ka bakhia bad kaba dawa shibun ka jinglut bad ka por, u Ph. Henry Fantin um shym la ioh kano kano ka jait jingpynshlur na ki Bahalor.



Wat la katta, u la lum ia ki nongiarap jong u, bad da ka jingtrei ba iai-duriap jin kynñiew - snem khlem sangeh u la pynmih pyrthei ia ka BAIBEL KHASI BATHYMMAI ha ka snem 1977.

Naduh ka snem 1977 da ka mynsiem misionari bashynrang u la pynjanai la ka kot LYNTI BNENG da kaba pynbang ia ki skit lehniam baroh ia ki jingrwai-salm puson, ki jingrwai-step, ki jingrwai-nohsngi, ki jingrwai-miet, ki jingrwai-niam bad ki jingrwai Mas bapher bapher.

Ynda la jop ia ki jingeh bad ia ki diengpyngkiang kiba la wan na ki katto katne ngut ki riewkhmat, u Ph. Henry Fantin u la pynmih paidbah ia ka ha ka snem 1980, bad kane ka kot, lah ban ong, ka long kawei na ki kot jingduwai bad jingrwai babiang tam ha ka pyrthei.

Ryngkat ryngkat bad kine ki snem jong ka jingtrei baradbah u la sdang ia ka Training Centre na ka bynta ki Nongrei Balang. U la hikai ia ki ia ki jingrwai, ia ka Baibel, ia ki skit lehniam, ia ka akor khristan bad kiwei kiwei de, la kane ka Training ba la sdang ha Jowai la rah noh sha Marbisu ha ka snem 1979.

### **Ki Kyntien Ainguh**

Ngi, ka jaitbynriew Khasi baiar, ngi sngew dap-ram haduh katta ha u Ph. Henry Fantin na ka bynta bun kiei kiei, khamtam eh na ka bynta kine ki laitylli ki **Mawkhong** jong ka Balang ha Ri Khasi.





- Ka kot KI SALM BAD KI JINGRWAI MAS (1965)
- Ka BAIBEL KHASI BATHYMMAI (1977)
- Ka kot LYNTI BNENG (1980)

Ki lingmane-rit bad ki lingmane-heh, ki lum ki wah, ki lynti ki syngkien bad kiwei de ki jaka, la ka long mynstep ne mynsngi ne mynmiet, ha ki sngi burom ne ha ki sngi jingsngewsih ki la sawa bad kin dang sawa da ki sur jingrwai bad ki salm jong u Ph. Henry Fantin. Hato ngi ka jaitbynriew Khasi baiar ngi lah mo ban klet-noh ia u Ph. Henry Fantin! Da leilei ruh em! Wat lada ngi lah ban klet ia ka longrynieng jong u, pynban ki sur jingrwai, ka Baibel Khasi Bathymmai bad

ka jingpynwandur ia ka ritiniam sha ka kolshor jong ngi kin iaisah bad pynsahnam ia u hapdeng jong ngi.

KHULEI SHIBUN EH ÌA PHI PH.HENRY FANTIN, HADIEN BA PHI LA ÑIOM ÌA KI JINGEH BAROH. KA JINGTREI SHITOM BAD BARADBAH JONG PHI, NA KA BYNTA KA JAITBYNRIEW KHASI BAIAR JONG NGI. KA LA ÌENG KYNJRENG KUM KI MAWBYNNA. KA JAITBYNRIEW JONG NGI BAD KHAMTAM EH KA BALANG KATHOLIK KA SNGEW SARONG BAD KA ÌAIPYRTO ÌA PHI SHIRTA. KHUBLEI SHIBUN.

*Fr. Vincent Kympat*  
*For Catholic Authors' Guild*  
*Shillong*

## KA RITI PYNKUP BUROM

KA SENG CATHOLIC AUTHORS' GUILD, HA KA KYRTENG JONG KA JAITBYNRIEW KHASI BAIAR KA ÌOHLAD BAN ITHUH PAIDBAH ÌKA JINGTREI BARADBAH JONG PHI PH.HENRY FANTIN SDB NA KA BYNTA KA JAITBYNRIEW JONG NGI BAD KHAMTAM EH NA KA BYNTA KA BALANG KATHOLIK JONG NGI.

NGI PYNKUP ÌA PHI DA KANE KA JAIÑ RYNDIA KUM KA DAK BA NGI KA JAITBYNRIEW KHASI BAIAR NGI TAP ÌA PHI KHLUP DA KA JINGIEID BAD JINGSNGEWNGUH.

NGI AI BUROM ÌA PHI DA INE I DAK JINGKYNMAW JONG KA JINGIEID BAD JINGSNGEWNGUH JONG NGI ÌA PHI.

- \* Ki Mawbynna ban kynmaw ìa ka jingtrei baradbah jong phi ha Ri khasi baiar.
- \* Ki Mawkhrum laitylli kiba kyrshan ìa u mawkynthei hakhmat ki Mawbynna ki pynkynmaw ìa ki laitylli ki jingtrei baradbah jong phi kiba kyrshan ìa ka Balang Katholik bad ìa ka jaitbynriew Khasi baiar.

Khublei shibun eh

Ka Seng CATHOLIC AUTHORI'S GUILD





# BA KI KHUN U HYNÑIEWTREP KIN IOH LAD BAN PULE: SOHBLEI HENRY FANTIN

*Da u Sohblei Sngi Lyngdoh, sdb*

**K**a snem 1997 bad khamtam ka Sngi 26 tarik u 'Naijylliew kin sahnem bynniaw da ka jingkhlad bymdeipor jong uwei u Mishonari, uba kat u Mishonari, na kine ki Lum u Hynniewtrep u Hynñiewskum: U Sohblei Henry Fantin, sdb! Bad ka Nazareth Hospital kan iambriew shilynter ka histori jong ka namarba dei na ka ba une u Radbah jong u Blei u la her bymdeipor sha Tyngkong jong u Blei katkum ka rukom pyrkhat jong ngi ki briew. Ka Khliehriat lei-lei kan iaijaw ummat da ki bun bun snem namarba ka Jyntbeh ba u la thung bad sieh, ka Holy Family High School, ka dang donkam ia ki kham-prew bakynsai bad balah ban kem ding shisyndon na ka kti jong u khnang ba ka Jingshai jong ka Jingnang jingstad kan iaiphalang bad iaiphriang shuh-shuh hapdeng kito ki khun ki ksiew bad ki para ki pyrsa u Hynñiewtrep u Hynñiewskum ha ki Lum Pnar. Nangta, kum ka kynhun, ki Pnar ha ki thain Tuber bad ha ka Shnatniam Khliehriat kin iam pangnud ba la weng bymdeipor noh ia uwei u paralok, uba kat u paralok, uba la ieid thepmynsiem ia ki haduh katta katta ba um kwah shuh hi ban mih noh napdeng jong ki ha kano kano ka dur. Bad khamtam eh ki khun salonsar u Hynñiewtrep Hynñiewskum kin put

sharati iam-luh ba uwei u 'Riewstad um don shuh, u 'Riewstad uba la mih syep mih syar ban ai lad ai lynti ia ki ban pynurlong ia kine ki 'tienksiar 'tienrupa, ia kiba u Myllung Elias Khariong u la khlei ha Syngkhong Jingtip ha ka snem 1961, **"Ka jaitbynriew, kaba pule, kan nym iap!"** Dei da kane ka kambah kamsan ba, kum u Myllung Horatius jong ki Roman hyndai, u Sohblei Henry Fantin u la ioh dong ioh daw ban pyrta sangot:

"Exegi monumentum aere perennius:  
Non omnis moriar!"

Haba ring jingmut sha ka Khasi, kine ki kyntien ki mut, "Nga la tei u mot jingkhynmaw, uba kham neh slem ban ia ka rnong! Ngan nym iapduh iapdam!" Kaei kane ka kambah kamsan bad u-ei une u mot jingkyndmaw uban kham neh slem ban ia ka rnong? Ka jubab ka long kaba jem: "Ka Baibel Khasi Bathymmai!" Hood, kane ka "Baibel Khasi Bathymmai" ka dei u Motnam, uba kat u Motnam, namarba ka PASOH jong ki jingmut ka Jynthoh Bakhuid ha ka Hebru bad ka Grik ka biang na ka daw ba la iarap ban ring jingmut sha ka Khasi da uwei na ki 'Riewstad ha ka Ktien Khasi, u Bah Francis Deingdoh na ka shnong Laitkynsew bapawnam, uba ka ktien-kmie jong u ka dei ka Ktien Khasi banylla





jong ka shnong Mawmluh ha ka Hima Shora. Ka don ka jingïapher khyndiat tang ha ki kyntien namarba ym shym la ring jingmut beit-beit na ka Hebru bad ka Grik. Te namar kane ka kambah kamsan, kaba la tei bad pynïeng shynna ïa une u mot jingkyndmaw, ki khun salonsar u Hynñiewskum kin nym klet shuh ïa u Sohblei Henry Fantin kum uwei na kito ki nonglehbha kiba la ai lad ai lynti ïa ki ban long bad ban ïailong ka jaitbynriew kaba pule, bad namarba ka pule, kan nym ïap lano lano ruh, hynrei kan ïaineh ïaisah ha kane ka sla pyrthei haduh ba kan da kut bad wai ka histori u khunbynriew. Ba ki nongpule jong ngi kin sngewthuh bha ïa kine kiei kiei ba ngi la kdew haneng, ngi sngew ba ngi dei ban thir-pynpaw khyndiat ïa ka khanatang jong ka jingshem jong ngi (our personal experience) ha ka jingïadei bad ki jingjia ha ka jingim u Sohblei Henry Fantin, ki jingjia histori kiba la pynlong ïa u ban tynrong khlem kyndon ha lade ïa ka deiti ban tei ïa une u **MOT JINGKYNMAW**, uba kham neh slem ban ïa ka rnong, kata, ka **"Baibel Khasi Bathymmai."**

Dei ha ka snem 1946 ba une u nongthoh u la kynduh na ka bynta ka sien kaba nyngkong ïa u Sohblei Henry Fantin ha ka Skulbah Salesian ha Sonada, ka nongrit nongkyndon ha sharing ki Lum Makashang, lah ban ong. Dei naduh kato

ka snem ba ka jingïadei jong ngi ha ki bun ki kam ki jam kam ju pud ne tud shuh, wat la ngim shym lah ban ïa-implang sahlant lyntertait. Ha Sonada u Sohblei Henry Fantin u la long uwei na ki nonghikai jong ngi, u nonghikai uba tbit bad uba stad, uba nang bad uba don ka sap ban pynsngewthuh ïa ki samla-pule. Ha ka por ba u padiah ha klas, ym ju don mano mano ba lah ban samthiah ne ban sngewsakhrai namar ka jingsngewtynnat ka ktien, ka sur bad ki jingmut.



Kawei kaei kaei, kaba la shoh jingmut ïa une u nongthoh, ka dei ka jingsngewtynnat jong u Sohblei Henry Fantin ban ïasyllok bad ki samla-pule na kine ki Lum bajyrngam u Hynñiewskum bad u la ju sngewlmun ban ïohsngew ïa ki khanatang bad ki parom shaphang ki khun

u Hynñiewtrep bad ka Nongbah Shillong. Bad ma-ngi hi shimet, ngi la ïohi ha ka khmut ka khmat jong u bad ngi la ïohsngew na ki kyntien bad ka sur jong u ba u la kwah ban poi sha kine ki Lum u Hynñiewtrep ha kawei ka sngi. U Blei u la plie lad plie lynti khamtam eh haba ki bahalor ki la phah ïa u sha Sacred Heart Theological College, Mawlai-Shillong, ban long kum uwei na ki Nonghikai jong ki samla-pule, kiba mir sha ka jinglong Lyngdoh-sohblei. Dei ha Mawlai-Shillong ba u Sohblei Henry Fantin u la sngewthuh ba u Blei Nongbuh





Nongthaw u la saiñdur bad u la mang ïa u ban imsngi bad ban trei hapteng ki khun u Hynñiewtrep haduh ka sngi ka jingkhlad noh jong u na kane ka pyrthei.

Hooïd, u Sohblei Henry Fantin u la sngewthuh peiphang ïa ka saiñdur u Blei bad u la pynbuh ryngkhi ïa kane ka jingsngewthuh shynna da ka jingduriap ban tip bad ban ithuh ïa ka jinglong, ka jingim bad ka khanatang jong ki khun ki ksiew bad ki para ki pyrsa u Hynñiewtrep, bad khamtam eh u la sngewbang haduh katta katta ban nang ïa ka KTIEN KHASI. Dei ha Mawlai-Shillong ba u la ïoh lad ban pule lut ïa ki kot ki sla ba la thoh da u Myllung Elias Kharïong, ïa ki kitab bapher bapher jong u Ma Soso Tham, jong u Dr. Homiwell Lyngdoh bad jong kiwei kiwei pat ki Nongthoh Khasi. Une u nonthoh hi u la ïohsngew ïa kine ki kyntien na ka shyntur u Sohblei Henry Fantin hi, "Ka Ktien Khasi bad ka sur Sohra jong ka kin da ïapher eh na ka Ktien Itali!" Ki nongpule jong ngi ki la ïohsngew khlempep ba ha ïurop hi ka Ktien Itali ka dei kaba bang bad kaba thiàng tam khamtam eh ha ka sur jong ka. Te u Sohblei Henry Fantin u la ïeid shisha ïa ka Ktien Khasi haduh katta katta ba um kwah shuh hi ban ïohsngew shaphang kiwei pat ki ktien ha kane ka Jylla Bashatei Lam-mihngi jong ka Ri India. Katkum ka jingsngew jong une u nongthoh, uba lah ruh ban bakla kum u briew, laitnoh u Myllung Elias Kharïong, ym don shuh hi uwei pat uba kham ñiewkor bad kham ïeid ïa ka Ktien Khasi ban ïa u Sohblei Henry Fantin. Ha une u nongthoh hi kane ka shai kdar

namarba dei u Sohblei Henry Fantin bad lehse dei tang ma-u hi marwei uba la pule lut naduh basdang haduh bakut ïa ki Pynshai-shynna jong ngi ïa ki Kitab bapher bapher jong ka Jynthoh Bakhuid.

Na kane ka daw, u Sohblei Henry Fantin u la lah ban dih, kum na ka umpohlieu bymrngat, bad ban pynlong doh pynlong snam ïa ka Ktien Khasi haduh ba u la lah ban thoh sngewtynnatt ha ka Ktien Khasi bad wat ban thoh ki jingruwai bad ki poitriniam. Kum ka nuksa ngin kdew tang kane kawei ka poitri: "To wan mane i'u Trai!" Don kiba ong ba u la khlei ïa ki bun ki Phawar-niam jong u da kaba ïatrei lang bad u bah Mikhael Kahit. Kane ka pyni ïa ka jingsngewrit bad ka jingkloi-lan jong u Sohblei Henry Fantin ban ïoh jingïarap na kino kiba nang bad kiba tbit ha ka Ktien Khasi bad ki nongpule jong ngi kin kubur ba u Mikhael Kahit u dei uwei na kito kiba la ngam jylliew sha ki thwei jong ka Ktien Khasi.

Namar kane ka jingieïd bad jingsngewlmun ba kyrpang jong u ïa ka Ktien Khasi, u Blei u la nang plie lad plie lynti shuh-shuh. Namarbu u Blei hi u la saiñdur, ki Bahalor ki la sngewdonkam ban phah ïa u sha Jowai kum u Sohblei Rangbah. Dei hangne ba u Sohblei Henry fantin u la pynpura bad pynjanai ïa lade ha ka Ktien Khasi bad dei ha Jowai ba imat ka sur bamaïan aïu re ka la pasiaw ha ki shkor bapei jong u ba u dei ban leh eiei ban pynriewspah ïa ka Ktien Khasi. U la sdang shisyndon. Ki la mih ter shi ter kawei hadien kawei ki jingruwai ha ka Ktien Khasi.





Shuh-shuh, namarba ka dei ka saiñdur jong u Blei, ha ka synrai ba-itynnat bad bakdiar-kdiar jong ka snem 1961, u Sohblei Henry Fantin u la wan sha Sacred Heart Theological College, Mawlai-Shillong. Nguk une u nongthoh u la kynduh ïa u ha ka phalor baphuh syntiew jong ka Kolej. Bud ryngkhi ka jingïakren kaba jlan haduh shi kynta tam. Ki jingïakren ki la pur sha ki phang bapher bapher, hynrei kumno re kumno kito ki phang baroh ki la ïamir sha kawei: sha ka Ktien Khasi! Ha kane ka jingïaphylliew, une u nongthoh u la pynkynmaw ïa u Sohblei Henry Fantin ïa ka jingoren u Myllung Elias Kharïong ha ka Syngkhong Jingtip khyndiat sngi ha shuwa jong kato ka jingïakynduh jong ki. U la shahshkor dngong bad thret u la kyndit, kum haba tied pyrthat kynsan kynsan, haba u la ïohsngew ïa kine ki kyntien, "U Myllung Elias Kharïong u la ong, 'Ka Ktien ka tei ïa ka Jaitbynriew!... Ka Jaitbynriew, kaba pule, kan nym ïap!' ïa kine ki kyntien nga la ïohsngew da la ki shkor!" Kynjah jar shipor. Nangta u Sohblei Henry Fantin u la kynthoh deipor, "Hooïd, ka long kaba dei. Da shisha ka Ktien ka tei ïa ka jaitbynriew! Hynrei ïa mynta hi, ki kyntien "Ka Jaitbynriew, kaba pule, kan nym ïap", ki long kiba kham kongsan bad kiba kham kyrkieh!" La ïakubur bad la ïamir lang mardor khlem kano kano ka jingïapyni nia namarba ka phang ka shai kdar kum ka mynsngi. Bad beit-beit khlem artatien une u nongthoh u la khlei, ne u la prie hangto hangto hi ïa kaba u la kun la slem, "Ka Jynthoh Bakhuid! Kane kan ai lad ai lynti ïa ki

khun u Hynñiewtrep Hynñiewskum ban pule bad kumta ban kylla-long ka jaitbynriew kaba pule bad kaban nym ïap shuh lano-lano ruh!" "Kaba dei! Kaba dei!", la kem ktien thrait u Sohblei Henry Fantin, "Ngin ai bad ngin pynkhamti ha ki khun u Hynñiewtrep ïa ka baje ban leit bam ja! Khek sangeh ka jingïakren bad ka jingïaphylliew khlem da ïamir eiei. Hynrei la bet ïa u symbai babha ha ka lyngkha ba la puh la daiñ, ba la lur bad la moi sani haduh katta katta; ka dohnud mishonari u Sohblei Henry Fantin.

Ka por ka la nang ïaid; bud ryngkhi ki jingjia histori ha ka saiñhima sima, bthei ka thma India-Shaina, hiar arsut ka Sacred Heart Theological College sha Tamilnadu sha ki Lum Nilgiri. Hynrei dei ha kane ka khep ki jingjia histori bapher bapher ba uto u symbai ba la bet deipor ha ka snem 1961 u la khie-im, u la seilung, u la speh bad u la khie u la san namarba la biang u slap bad ka sngi, namarba u nongpeit u nongkhmih u la imsngi, u la trei tista bad minot. La jan poi ka synrai ha kaba u kba un puh syntiew. Hooïd, ka synrai ba la mang da u Blei ka la poi! Ha ka snem 1968 ha Phyllaw ïingsad ïingsunon halor u Lum Tyngkong, une u nongthoh, Sohblei Henry Fantin bad u Lyngdohsad Stephan Ferrando, sdb, dd. ki la ïa-ïaid sharum shaneng ban ïapyrkhat, ban ïaphylliew halor kane ka phang: Ka la poi ka por ban pynkhamti ïa ka Jynthoh Bakhuid ha ki khun ki hajar ka It ka Hima u Blei ha ki Lum u Hynñiewtrep Hynñiewskum! La ïoh ki nongtrei kiba





la pyntbit ia lade. Ka por kam shah shuh ban ap bad ban pyntud, la ban tynggeh tynggeh u Sohblei henry Fantin. U Lyngdohsad u la shu sngap jar bad suki ki la mih ki kyntien ha ka Ktien Itali, "Ma!... Tentate!", kiba mut "Tip seh! To shu pyrshang!" La kut ka jingiaphylliew ha Phyllaw ka lingsad llingdor halor u Lum Tyngkong. U Lyngdohsad u la rung sha la ka paki dulan bad u Sohblei Honry Fantin bad une u nongthoh ki la iahiar sha kjat u Lum Tyngkong, sha surok-bah. Ha lynti u Sohblei Henry Fantin u la kynthoh deipor, "U Lyngdohsad u la ong, 'Tentate! To shu pyrshang!' La plie ka dwar ka lynti! Ym don jingpakhang eiei! Ngini iaid shaphrang ryngkat ryngkat! ngini mih syep ngini mih syar ryngkat ryngkat ha kane ka kambah kamsan. Phi don ha Bangalore! Ka jngai! Hynrei ka jingjngai kam long eiei, kam lah ban pynjyrwit jyrwat haduh katta katta! Ngini iatrei lang!" La iimir ha kjat u Lum Tyngkong. Une u nongthoh u la her sha Bangalor bad u Sohblei Henry Fantin u la poi sha Jowai ban iakynduh, ban iaphylliew bad ban iimir bad u Sohblei Kajetan Quidotto, sdb, bad u Sohblei Spitale Carmelo, sdb, kumno ban saiindur ia ka rukom trei kam bad kumno ban wad ki lad ki lynti ban pynurlong ia ka deiti ba u Blei hi U la lynsher halor ki tyrpeng jong ki. La iarai, nyngkong eh, ban khot bad ban wer ia ki 'Riewstad ban iarap. La sot bad la jied, nyngkong eh, ia u Mgr. Emmanuel Bars, sdb, u Stadpyrkhat bad u Stadktien na Ri Speiñ, nangta ia u Bah Francis Diengdoh, u Headmaster jong ka St.

Paul's High School ha Nongpoh, ha ka Them Ribhoi. Shuh-shuh la khot bad la wer sngewbha ia u Bah Geroqe Khaiñ na Sohra, ia i Kong Mary Blah/Umdor na Laittumkhras bad ia i Kong Maristella Biam bad i Kong Tina Lakiang na Jowai. La iarai ruh ban synrop ia u Sohblei Sngi Lyngdoh, uba hikai Jynthoh Bakhuid ha ka Kristu Jyoti College ha Bangalore, kum u nongiapeit-lem ia ki jingring jingmut jong ki Akhia ba la kdew haneng. Ka kam ka la iaid shaphrang.

Hynrei ki jingeh ki la wan lynsher kawei hadien kawei, tang ba kim shym lah ban theh umpjah bad kim shym lah ban pynlip ia ka dingbah dingsan jong ka jingieid ia ka Ktien u Blei, kaba la klang ha ka donhud bad ka mynsiem jong kito ki Radbah ba la kdew haneng. Uwei na ki atiar, ia uba u Blei u la pynmih pyrthei kyrpang bad u la pyndonkam ban pynjop ia ka kam ba Ma-u hi u la pyrsad mynsiem, u dei u Sohblei Matthew Pulingattil, sdb, u Sohblei Rangbah ki Salesian u Don Bosco ha kane ka Dong Shatei Lam-mihngi jong ka Ri India. Dei une, uba la iatehsong ia ki nongtrei dohiap dohiim ban pynpaw pyrthei ia ka "Baibel Khasi Bathymmai" hapoh ka jingialam u Sohblei Henry Fantin. Ki la iatehsong sbak khlem lait shuh haduh ban da pyndep pura bad janai ia kane ka kambah kamsan.

La urlong kane ka kambah kamsan histori. La kha ia ka "Baibel Khasi Bathymmai" ha ka ryngsan ka histori ha ka jingbhabriew bad ka jingi-lub, namarba la shon ia ka ha ka "Don Bosco





Press.” Khatduh khatwai la poi ka por bad ka ïa ba la buh bad la mang da u Blei. La pyllait paitbah ïa ka “Baibel Khasi Bathymmai” da u Lyngdohsad Hubert D’Rosario, sdb, dd, ha ka ïingsad ïingsunon ka Balang Salonsar halor u Lum Tyngkong, ha Laitumkhrah-Shillong ha ka snem 1978. Hynrei shuwa ban pyllait ïa kane ka “Baibel Khasi Bathymmai”, ki Khristan Salonsar ki la da thied lut ïa ki kot bad ki kopi baroh haduh ba u Sohblei Sngi Lyngdoh, sdb, uba la phah tyngkai khnang khang 300 kopi, u la lah ban ïoh tang lai kopi, namarba ki Khristan ki la ïapynphriang ïa ka hamsaia kylleng kylleng ba “Kane ka ‘Baibel Khasi Bathymmai’ ka dei ka Baibyl Salonsar (Catholic Bible) namarba ka don ki dur kiba itynnat”, ïa kiba la pynïoh da u Soblei Ignatius Rubio, sdb.

Kane ka jingjia histori kan sah nam sah kyrteng shi junom bhor namarba ki khun ki ksiew bad ki para ki pyrsa u Hynñiewtrep Hynñiewskum ki la ïoh ka “Kitab jong ki Kitab baroh” ban pule, bad namarba ka dei kato ka sngi kaba la pyni shynna bad shai-kdar ba ka jaitbynriew u Hynñiewtrep Hynñiewskum ka la sdang ban kylla-long ka “Jaitbynriew, kaba pule” katkum ka jingangnud u Myllung Elias Kharïong. Bad lada ka dei ka jaitbynriew, kaba pule, kan ïai-im lyntertait ha ka histori haduh ka bawai noh ka pyrthei namarba “ka jaitbynriew, kaba pule, kan nym ïap” katkum ka jingong ba la pyrsad mynsiem bad badeipor jong u Myllung Elias Kharïong. Bad ha kane ka rukom ka THONG bad ka MIR jong u Sohblei

Henry Fantin ka la urlong pura bad janai: Ki khun u Hynñiewtrep ki la ïoh ïa ka Jynthoh Bakhuid ha ka Ktien Khasi bamynta bad ka bashai, kata, ki la ïoh ïa ka lad ka lynti bakongsan tam bad badonkam tam ban pule ïa ka Ktien u Blei ha la ki ïing ki sem man la ka sngi bad kumta da shisha ki la sdang ban kylla-long ka “Jaitbynriew kaba pule”, ka “Jaitbynriew kaban ïai-im lyntertait ha ka histori” ha kine ki lum ba-itynnat, ïa kiba u Blei Nongbuh Nongthaw hi u la pynkhamti ha ki ban synshar ban khadar naduh ka Dorbar-blei I ha bneng ha ka mynnor jong ka histori jong ki. Bad kawei na ki Longkmie u Hynñiewtrep Hynñiewskum, kaba la sngewthuh peiphang ba ka “Baibel Khasi Bathymmai” ka dei uwei na ki mawjam bakongsan ha ka histori ka thoh ka pule Khasi, i dei i Kong Rani Shulai. Ban pynpaw pyrthei ïa la ka jingkmen bad ka jingsngewhun hi jrut jong i, i la khot sngewbha ïa u Sohblei Henry Fantin bad ïa u bah Francis Deingdoh ban leit bam jamiet lem bad i ha i Trep i Skum ba-isyaïd bad ba-ilub jong i ha Mawlai-Mawroh. La khanatang ba ha kato ka kyllamiet, ynda la jan dep bam, i Kong Rani Shulai i la ïeng joit, bad da kaba bat ïa ka “baibel Khasi Bathymmai” ha la ki kti bad da kaba pyni ïa ka ha u Sohblei Henry Fantin bad ha u Bah Francis Diengdoh, i la pyrta sangot, kumban ong noh, “Hei sngew! Hei sngap! Nga dap miar da ka jingkmen ba la mih kane ka ‘Baibel Khasi Bathymmai’! Kane kan ai lad ai lynti ïa ki khun u Hynñiewtrep ban





iaikamai ia ka Hok bad kumta ban  
iaolong ki Nongsynshar ki Nongkhadar  
ha kine ki Lum ba u Blei hi u la  
pynkhamti ha ki ban long ki trai bad ki  
kynrad shi junom! Ka jinghublei bad  
ka jingsngewnguh ia phi, Sohblei Henry  
Fantin bad ia phi, Bah Francis  
Diengdoh, kiba la duriap bad mih syep  
mih syar ban pynmih pyrthei ia kane ka  
'baibel Khasi Bathymmai'! Khublei!"

Namarkata, une u nongthoh u kitbok  
kitrwiang ia kine ki khun ki ksiew bad ki  
para ki pyrsa u Hynñiewtrep  
Hynñiewskum kiba la bhabok bharwiang  
haduh katta katta ba ki la ioh ka lad ka

lynti na ka kti u Sohblei Henry Fantin  
sdb, ka lad ka lynti kaban nym kut nym  
wai shuh lano lano ruh, ka lad ka lynti  
kaban pyniaikiew irat ia ki kum ka  
jaitbynriew kaba pule ha kane ka sla  
pyrthei bad ka jaitbynriew kaban iai-im  
lyntertait ha ka histori halor ka nongrim  
jong ki sla ba-im jong ka "Baibel Khasi  
bathymmai", kaba long ka Ktien jong u  
Blei, kaban iaipynim, kaban iaitei, kaban  
iaipynroi pynman bad kaban  
iaipyniphuh iphieng ia ka longbriew  
manbriew jong ki ha ki liang baroh jong  
ka jingim ha kane ka sla pyrthei. ●



# **In Loving Memory of Dear Fr. Fantin The Living legend of Jaintia Hills**

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**Heartfelt Condolences**

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**On the occasion of**

**The first Death Anniversary of**

**Rev. Fr. Henry Fantin sdb**

**FROM**

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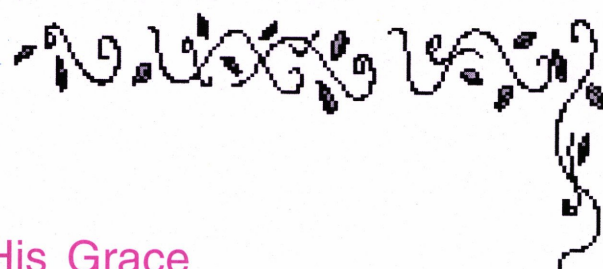
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His Grace  
Most Rev. Tarcisius Resto Phanrang SDB, DD  
Was The Main Celebrant  
At The Concelebrated Eucharistic Service  
In Memory Of  
REV. FR. HENRY FANTIN SDB  
On 26 June, 1998.  
HE ALSO UNVEILED THE BUST.

Shri Simon Siangshai  
Hon'ble Minister, PWD(Buildings) and Housing  
Released The Souvenir.







*Ngì Kynmaw-ieid ia phi Phadar*

**HENRY FANTIN, SDB**

HOLY FAMILY PARISH, KHLIENPLA