

# The Archangel

Newsletter of

The St. Michael's College, Batticaloa, Alumni Association (Colombo) Published Quarterly For Private Circulation. Oct. 2012 to Mar. 2013

No. 58

## **J.C Daniel elected President at the 67<sup>th</sup> AGM of Colombo** Chief Guest: Rt. Rev. Dhiloraj Canagasabey

At the sixty seventh Annual General Meeting of the St. Michael's College, Batticaloa, Alumni Association (Colombo Branch) held on Oct. 6, 2012 at 7.00 pm, at Hotel Sapphire, Colombo 6, Vice - President J.C. Daniel was elected President for the year 2012/13.

The Chief Guest was Past Pupil Rt. Rev. Dhiloraj Canagasabey , Bishop of Colombo accompanied by his lady Harshini.

The proceedings began with prayers by the Bishop, the lighting of the oil lamp and honouring the departed.

President T. Mahendran's welcome address was followed by two minutes silence to remember the dead, the reading of the minutes of the last AGM and Statement of Accounts.

A letter from the senior most member K. Shanmugarajah, 93 on that day of the AGM, regretting his inability to be present was read.

**The following were honoured:** Past Pupil T. Dineshkanthan for his outstanding achievement as Sri Lanka's No.1 Tennis Player. Past Pupil Engr.Yogarajan Dharmaratnam, in absentia, Pp Engr. V. Srithar, in absentia and Engr. T. Suthakaran for their contribution to the successful renovation of the Basketball court at SMC undertaken by the Colombo AA.

After being introduced by Senior Vice Patron I. T. Canagaratnam, the Chief Guest, in his address said that he was unanimously elected as Bishop by the Anglican community unlike The Catholic Bishops who are appointed by the Pope in Rome.

After becoming Bishop he had paid a courtesy call on his Excellency, Mahinda Rajapaksa, President of Sri Lanka. When the President asked about his allegiance to the 'Crown', he was taken aback but after quick thinking offered one hand in support and the other reserving the right to take up the just cause of his flock. He concluded by paying a tribute to good formation of the students by the Jesuits.

The official name of the Association was changed from St. Michael's College, Batticaloa, Alumni Association (Colombo Branch) to St. Michael's College, Batticaloa Alumni Association, (Colombo).

## Jesuits in the news **New Pope Francis is First Jesuit**

**Jorge Mario Cardinal Bergoglio S.J**, Archbishop of Buenos Aires, Argentina, was elected the 266<sup>th</sup> Pope of the Catholic Church on March 13, 2013 in Rome taking the name Francis I and becomes both the leader of the Catholic Church and sovereign ruler of the Vatican City State in Rome.

Pope Francis is of Italian origin and was born on Dec.17, 1936. He is the first American Pope in 2000 years and the first non European in twelve centuries, the first Jesuit and the first to take the name Francis, Francis I.

It was thought that he took the name after that great Jesuit Saint, Francis Xavier but it turned out that it was from his role model, St. Francis of Assissi, who born into aristocracy, renounced a life of luxury, became a priest, with social justice upper most in his mind, identified himself with the poor and worked for their uplift.

Pope Francis I's hallmark simplicity, love of the poor, the Jesuit intellect and spiritually combine to make him and mark him as the Peoples' Pope, the Pope and Hope of the poor.

We the products of the Jesuits join the Jesuit community in rejoicing on the election of the first Jesuit to the highest position in the Church but regret that generations of students who now walk out of the portals of SMC are denied the opportunity of being tutored by the Jesuits, thanks to the State takeover of assisted schools in 1960.

Those who passed out of state schools since then are now running the affairs of the country and the difference is showing.

#### Rev. Fr. Vito Perniola S. J. is honoured by RAS, Sri Lanka

#### For his linguistic and historical achievements

The Royal Asiatic Society of Sri Lanka (RASSL) awarded the S.C. Obeysekera Memorial Medal for 2013 to Rev. Fr. Dr. Vito Perniola SJ at the Sixth Annual Research Conference of the RASSL on March 28, 2013 at the Mahaweli Auditorium in Colombo in recognition of his scholarly contributions to linguistic and historical studies.

The citation for the prestigious award was read by former Vice Chancellor of the Buddhist and Pali University of Sri Lanka, current Editor of the Sinhala Dictionary and a proposer for the Award, Ven. Akuratiya Nanda Thera. Fr. Perniola's birthday fell on April 10, 2013 and the Award was his Birthday Gift, concluded the citation.

# **Committee Meeting 01**

The first meeting for the year 2012/13 was held on October 13, 2012 at 33, Seagull Court, the residence of S.Selvaruban, chaired by President J.C. Daniel and attended by 25 members.

The President requested the co operation of all members to successfully complete all projects planned for the year.

The following sub committees and chairmen were appointed:

Basketball Development	I.T. Canagaratnam
Assistance for Education of boys at SMC	R.C. Perumal
Co-ordinator SMC & AA Batticaloa	J.C. Daniel
Membership Development	S. Vithiyananthan
Christmas Get- together	E.G. Anton
Fund Raising	Bradley Ockersz
Annual Recreation	J. C. Daniel

Julian Jeyaratnarajah had made arrangements for the accommodation at Wesley College of the visiting Under 15 SMC Basketball team who arrived in November 2012 to participate in the All Island Tournament. Colombo AA met all food expenses.

This dinner meeting was hosted by J.C. Daniel, S. Selvaruban and S. Shanker.

#### **Committee Meeting 02**

This second dinner meeting chaired by President J. C. Daniel and 19 members attending was held on Nov. 10, 2012 hosted by I.T. and Rita Canagaratnam at their residence 134 Kotahena St., Colombo 13.

#### Guest: Dr. Felton Lean

The President thanked Dr.Felton for his presence and for conducting the very successful Leadership Skill Development Programme free of charge and Kumar David for initiating and executing this first project for the year. While expressing the Association's gratitude I.T. Canagaratnam presented Dr.Felton a granite plaque as a token of appreciation.

In reply Dr. Felton said that he too was a Jesuit Product and that he was happy to have had the opportunity to share his knowledge with the students whose keenness he appreciated. Batticaloa students showed greater aptitude than those from Colombo but there appeared to be a language barrier, he concluded.

### **Committee Meeting 03**

This luncheon meeting hosted by T. Mahenthiran, K. Thurairajaratnam and Bradley Ockersz was held on Jan. 27, 2013 at Cosy Restaurant, Colombo 6. President J. C.Daniel chaired the meeting which was attended by 16 other members.

Members were informed that former committee member Fitzroy Alagiah was on the sick list and that he needs moral and material support. The members agreed to respond favourably.

It was reported that the Ambassador bus costing Rs 1.5 m, donated by the AA's in 2005 for the use of the SMC boys, was sold for Rs. 3 lakhs in 2012.

# Alumni News

**Pp. Rev. John Jegasothy c**elebrated the **Silver Jubilee** of his Ordination to the Priesthood on Dec. 9, 2012 at the St. David's Uniting Church, Victoria, Australia.

**Hannah Ganeshamoorthy** (10years) became the champion in Long Jump in the Pacific Northwest, Alaska, Inland Northwest and Oregon region in U.S.A. Her brother **Branden Ganeshamoorthy** won the championship in 100meters, 200meters and Long Jump and both competed at USA Junior National Championships which was held at Morgan State University, Baltimore in July. Both of them captured 6<sup>th</sup> place in their age groups in Long Jump. Hannah's best jump was 13ft 1inch. And Branden's best was 12ft. They both are children of Michaelite Christopher Pragash Ganeshamoorthy (Papa) and grand children of Late Michaelite Ganeshamoorthy.

Continuation

#### **Committee Meeting 04**

This dinner meeting chaired by President J.C. Daniel and attended by 15 other members began with the observance of two minutes silence in memory of Mrs. Jeevaratnam Pathmanathan, mother of Julien Pathmanathan, Nithiayogam Canagaratnam, brother of I.T. Canagaratnam and Rev. Sr. Rani on Feb. 16, 2013 at the Cosy Restaurant, Colombo 6.

Winston Thangarajah, Vice President, SMC, AA and former Secretary AA Colombo was guest.

The President informed that he and Ms Sumathy Asokan had visited Fitzroy Alagiah and handed over a purse with contributions from the committee members.

Rs.15,000 being contributions from 17 committee members was sent to the Michaelmen Sports Club to be awarded to the champions of the Weber Cup Basketball Tournament held at SMC, Batticaloa.

It was decided to hold the Fr. Herbert Basketball Tournament at SMC on 24<sup>th</sup>, 25<sup>th</sup> and 26<sup>th</sup> May 2013, the 68<sup>th</sup> AGM on Oct. 19, 2013 and Christmas Get-together on Dec. 7, 2013.

Winston Thangarajah addressing, said that all AA's should work together for the betterment of the College and requested support for the next Mike Walk at Batticaloa.

M. Suthaharan, M. Pushpaharan, Ms Sumathy Asokan and Dr S. Thirumal were the hosts for this meeting.

### **Committee Meeting 05**

This fifth dinner meeting was held on March 9, 2013 on the roof top at No. 15, Charlemont Road, Colombo 6, hosted by Ranjit and Louisa David.

President J. C. Daniel chaired the meeting and 19 other members attended.

Two minutes silence was observed in remembrance of late Pp Julian Vanderhoven and Pp Sooriyakumar Chinniah.

It was suggested that the President should also visit Walter Dias and Bobby Arasaretnam who were not in the best of health.

It was decided to update the register of members.

## Assistance for Education of SMC Boys

This Project could not make much progress as the pledged funds were slow in coming.

Donations received so far are:	
S. Sivakumar	Rs. 50, 000.00
N. Sivanandarajah	Rs. 25,000.00
Ashley Rajadurai	Rs. 10,000.00
G. Thushyanthan	Rs. 10,000.00
Dr. Paranthamalingam	Rs. 10,000.00
K. Thurairajaretnam	Rs. 10,000.00
Total	Rs. 115,000.00

An equal amount is outstanding.

However, The Archangel is pleased to report that the project has got underway through the generosity of one past pupil who believes that the right should not know what the left hand does.

He came for the meeting, heard about the proposed Project, hijacked the idea, fast tracked action using family funds and the assistance of Rt. Rev. Dr. Joseph Ponniah, Bishop of Batticaloa. Rev. Fr. Cryton Outschoorn Director, Caritas EHED (Eastern Human and Educational Development) and implemented the Project and here it is for you to see and emulate.



L-R Bishop Ponniah, Fr. Cryton, Mrs. M. Anthoniya, OIC Education Programmes

Ten boys from SMC (Grades 7—8) and two girls from St. Cecilia's MV (Grades 8 & 10) each received from Bishop Ponniah Joseph, a school bag, Q & A Papers, exercise books, box of instruments, pens, pencils, a pair of shoes and tuition fees. on Jan. 18, 2013 at Batticaloa.

Initial project cost of Rs. 3 Lakhs for year commencing Oct. 2012 is to be progressively increased yearly.

His Lordship advised the students to study well and that the assistance would be continued. Fr. Cryton too echoed the same sentiments.

God works in mysterious ways. The Project was meaningful and a need of the day. Therefore, what we delayed in doing, God did it through a good Samaritan.

எல்லா புகழும் இறைவனுக்கே We Care for our needy brothers.

## **Obituaries**

Former Patron, His Lordship Rt. Rev. Dr. Leo Rajendram Anthony, Bishop Emeritius of Trincomalee was called to eternal rest in the Lord on December 06, 2012. His mortal remains were laid to rest at St. Mary's Cathedral, Trincomalee on Dec. 6,2012

Popularly known as the 'People's Bishop ', His Lordship was the Bishop of the Batticaloa – Trincomalee Diocese from 1974 until his retirement in 1983 due to ill health. - **The Catholic Messenger** 

His Lordship L. R. Anthony visited his flock in their homes riding his ladies' bicycle and merited the title ' People's Bishop ', says, A. A. G. Rajendram, SMC , AA, Vice President. He was Patron of SMC, AA's during his tenure as Bishop.

**Past pupil Julian Vanderhoven**, formerly Chief Chemist, National Paper Corporation, Royal Commission, Yanbu , Kingdom of Saudi Arabia, husband of Tressella, uncle of late Pp. Alcom Outschorn passed away on March 4, 2013 at Ja Ela. The funeral took place on March 5, 2013 and was attended by AA President J. C. Daniel, Bobby Arasaretnam and Winston Ockersz.

Past pupil Calistus Nithiayogam (Nithi) Canagaretnam, son of late A. G. Canagaretnam, (Teacher SMC), husband of Rajivee (Rajee), brother of late Matilda Stanislaus, I. T. Canagaretnam, Senior Vice Patron, AA, Colombo, Manohari Wanasinghe, late Canute Selvayogam, Anputhevi Henry, Rita Devaranjan passed away in London on February 11, 2013. Funeral was in London on March 11, 2013 attended by I. T. and Rita Canagaretnam, the UK, AA President Ananda Joseph and members. The AA flag was draped over the coffin.

**Past pupil Leo Arulvetharajah Leon ,** former DELIC English Teacher, husband of Maheswary passed away on November 18, 2012 and the funeral took place on November 20, 2012.

**Mrs Parameswary Oppilamany, s**ister of Colombo AA, Past President Dr S. Sivasubramaniam, Mother of Jeyakanthan, Pp Devakanthan, Ragukanthan, Pp Kamalakanthan, Pp Sakthi Raveendran passed away on January 2, 2013 in Ontario, Canada. The funeral was on Jan. 8, 2013.

Mrs Jeevaratnam Pathmanathan, mother of Julien Pathmanathan, Inspector of Police, passed away on November 19, 2012 at Batticaloa and the funeral took place on November 20,2012. Julien's father –in –law Shanmugam Erambamoorthy passed away on September 19, 2012 and mother--in –law Nesammah on September 30, 2012 both at Mount Lavinia.

**Pp. Sooriyakumar Chinniah**, formerly Accountant BOI, husband of Daisy, brother of Vanaja, Pp. Daniel Chandrakumar and Thevakirupai passed away on Feb. 22, 2013 in Colombo. Burial took place at the General Cemetery, Colombo.

#### May God give them eternal rest

#### From Page 1

The following Office Bearers were elected for 2012 /2013

Patron	Rt. Rev. Dr. Joseph Ponniah	
	Bishop of Batticaloa	
Senior Vice Patron	I. T. Canagaretnam	
Vice Patrons	Angelo Patrick, R. C. Perumal, Ranjit	
	David, K.Thurairajaretnam, Kumar	
	David	
President	J. C. Daniel	
Imm. Past President	T. Mahenthiran	
Vice Presidents	M. Suthaharan, E.G.Anton, Julian	
	Jeyaratnarajah	
Hony. Secretary	S.Shanker	
Hony. Treasurer	Bradley Ockersz	
Hony. Asst. Secretary	A.Raveendrarajah	
Hony. Asst. Treasurer	S. Sivakumar	
<b>Committee Members</b>	Ms Sumathy Asokan, Winston	
	Ockersz, S. Selvaruban, S. Elilventhan,	
	S. Vithyananthan, Ravindra	
	Senathirajah, Ashley Jegan Rajadurai,	
	Dr. S. Thirumal, Rajendra	
	Pruthirajah, M. Pushpaharan,	
	Ragunanthan Sinnathurai, Julien	
	Pathmanathan, Dhananjeyan	
	Wijendra, Sujanthan Selvendran, Dr.	
	K. Paranthamalingam, Judixon	
	Mariadasan.	
Hony. Auditor	N. Sivanandarajah	

R. C. Perumal spoke about the need to help the many students at College who need help for their education. Children go to school to study and helping the needy to further their studies should be our priority and is a meritorious act. With a helping hand these students will be able to not only stand on their own feet as adults and help their families but also make a contribution to society. Additionally education helps in upward social mobility and breaks down caste distinctions. He requested generous funding for this worthy cause.

Fellowship and dinner followed

#### Colombo AA 68<sup>th</sup> AGM – Sat. Oct. 12, 2013

#### **Christmas Get-together 2012**

This annual event was held on Saturday Dec. 8, 2012 evening at the Sindhi Club Hall, Colombo 3. It could not be held in 2011. Besides magic show, Santa Claus, gifts, fun and games the rendering of the Christmas carols by a musical group headed by Ashley Rajadurai was a novelty.

The presence of past pupils Ravi Emmanuel and Jude Pathmanathan families from Australia, Tommy Ganeshamoorthy and Rohan from Canada and other guests from abroad added colour and an international flavor to the occasion.

Master J. P. Jeyaratnarajah J. P. was Master of Ceremonies and Santa Claus.

In recognition of his services to the nation, he received the Honorary Citizenship of Ceylon in 1949. Father is a member of the RASSL from 1951.

From Page 1

Centenarian Fr. Perniola was born on April 10, 1913 in Italy, came to India in 1932 to study Philosophy, came to Ceylon in 1936 and sat the London Matriculation Examination.

From then on there was no turning back from his relentless scholarly pursuit of studies 'unusual for a Catholic priest' oriental languages, religions and history besides his Theological studies - which earned him a B. A. degree in Pali and Sanskrit with Hinduism and Buddhism from the University of London and a Ph. D. in Buddhist studies from the University of Pune, India.

While teaching history at St. Aloysius' College, Galle, a Jesuit institution then, he updated the Our Heritage series history books written by Fr. S. G. Perera, the first Sri Lankan Jesuit.

While lecturing on Pali at the newly established Aquinas University College in 1954 he authored the first edition of Pali Grammar, this was revised by him later and is now accepted as the standard and printed by the Pali Text Society of Oxford.

Father's life's achievement has been the completion of the monumental task of writing the history of the Catholic Church in Sri Lanka. This magnum opus of Fr. Perniola in 19 volumes covering the Portuguese, Dutch and British Periods (1795 -1922) titled, The Catholic Church in Sri Lanka, necessitated the sourcing of the original documents in Portuguese, Dutch, Italian, Spanish and French from archives in Goa, Rome, Lisbon, Sri Lanka and Catholic dioceses of Sri Lanka.

Fr. Perniola celebrated his 100<sup>th</sup> birthday on April 10, 2013 by presiding at a Thanksgiving Mass at St. Mary's Church, Bambalapitiya. His Excellency Archbishop Joseph Spiteri, the Apostolic Nuncio in Sri Lanka, His Grace Archbishop Emeritus Nicholas Marcus Fernando, His Lordship Rt. Rev. Dr. Vianney Fernando, Bishop of Kandy, Msgr. Renato Kucic, Charge d' affairs, Apostolic Nunciature in Sri Lanka, Rev. Fr. Jeyaraj SJ Provincial Superior of the Jesuits and several priests concelebrated. A distinguished gathering of diplomats, religious and laity were present. The Archangel wishes Father many more Happy Returns of April 10<sup>th</sup> Source: The Catholic Messenger

Father's foot prints are on the sands of time.

### End of the World

The End of the World scheduled for December 2012 has been postponed to December 3012 due to technical problems. You are advised to co operate and continue to live helping the less fortunate to the best of your ability and means till then. - Mario Elgin Gnapragasam by e- mail from Batticaloa.

The best and most beautiful things of this world cannot be seen or touched. They must be felt by the heart.

Christmas Get – together 2013– Sat. Dec. 7, 2013

# SMC, AA, Batticaloa

#### Office Bearers 2012-2013

Patron	Rt. Rev. Dr. Joseph Ponniah
	Bishop of Batticaloa
Vice Patron	Mich. L. M. Manickarajah
	Mich. A. P. Xavier
	Mich A. Noble Johnpillai
President	Mich. Rev. Fr. Paul Satkunanayagam
Vice Presidents	Mich. Mr. A. A. G. Rajendram
	Mich. Winston Thanagrajah
	Mich. Rev. Fr. X. I. Rajeevan
Gen Secretary	Mich. V. Pretheepan
Asst. Secretary	Mich. A. Jegan Rajaretnam
Treasurer	Mich. Aloysious Robert
Sports & Social Secretary	Mich. I. J. Sylvester
Education Secretary	Mich. T. Nirmalan
Committee Members	Mich. A. P. Edward
	Mich. Rev Fr. A. A. Navaretnam
	Mich. A. Gunalan
	Mich. Dr. S. Sutharshan
	Mich. S. Arulpragasam
	Mich. M. R. Lalithraj James
	Mich. P. Sasikumar
	Mich. G. Juliyan Jayapragash
	Mich. N. R. Pathmanathan
Editor	Mich. T. Ashan
Auditors	Mich K. Rajendra
	Mich. A. Karikalan

## Mike Walk 2013 at Batticaloa – Sat. Sep. 21, 2013 Leadership Skill Development Programme

The above training programme for Advanced Level students was conducted by **Dr. Felton Lean**, a Management Psychologist and a Certified Practitioner and Trainer for Neuro Linguistic Programming from Bangalore, India at Miani Technical Institute Thannamunai, Batticaloa district on Oct. 29, 2012.

Although arrangements had been made to cater to 50 participants only 33, 18 from SMC, 9 from Methodist Central College and 6 from Shivananda Vidyalayam were able to make it. Adverse weather was the spoiler.

The participants found the programme interesting and instructive and interacted well to their benefit and wished more of such programmes for their fellow students.

The programme was sponsored by SMC, AA, Colombo in association with Ignite Holdings.

Certificates of participation were issued to those who attended.

Vice Patron Kumar David co ordinated the day's activities ably assisted by Kavitha David.

# The 26<sup>th</sup> Weber Cup Basketball Tournament

The above Basketball Tournament organized by the Michaelmen Sports Club and sponsored by SINGER Plus was held at the SMC court on January 25, 26 and 27, 2013 with great success.

This Tournament was started by Rev. Fr. B.H. Miller SJ in 1968 as an annual event with the donation of a challenge trophy to perpetuate the memory of Rev. Fr. Harold Weber SJ who in his time not only put Batticaloa in the sports map of Sri Lanka but also provided a larger and better area at the Batticaloa esplanade for sports activities. The stadium at the esplanade proudly carries his name. Unfortunately this Tournament could not be held for a number of years when the country went through a trying period.

Hon. Gamini Lokuge, Minister of Labour and Mr. S, Chandrakanthan, Presidential Advisor graced the occasion on the second day. It was Minister Gamini Lokuge who, during his tenure as Minister of Sports, made funds available for the construction of a roof over the basket ball court at SMC.

The Police Team won the championship award which was a donation from the Colombo AA.

At the Tournament, The Colombo AA was represented by its **Secretary S. Shanker** and he was accorded VIP status on all three days.

## World Teachers' Day – 5<sup>th</sup> October

What the teacher is, is more important than what he teaches - Karl Menninger

He who opens a school door, closes a prison – *Victor Hugo*. I like a teacher who gives you something to take home to think about besides homework – *Lily Tomlin*.

I am indebted to my father for living, but to the teacher for living well – *Alexander the Great*.

#### Archangel 58

This edition of the Archangel covering two quarters, Oct.-Dec 2012 and Jan.-Mar. 2013 is coming out late and may contain stale news. Reader's discretion is advised.

Reliable sources say that the Editor was delaying due to the impending End of the World in Dec. 2012 and that he started work only after Mario Elgin Gnanapragasam confirmed that the End had been postponed but this could not be independently verified.

The next issue is due for publication in Sep. 2013. Please send in your contributions.

In the meantime, please forward / post this copy to other Michaelites. Thank you.

Your Editor has updated himself with a mobile 'phone facility and can be contacted on 0774584441 during waking hours.

## Another Bridge **New Kallady Bridge speeds traffic flow**

The British built black steel bridge over the lagoon at Kallady, known as the Kallady Bridge is a well known historic landmark of Batticaloa.

This third largest bridge has served as a link between the east and south of Sri Lanka for generations. Over the years the increased variety and volume of modern traffic had reduced the usefulness of this bridge which lately permitted only one way traffic and hence the need for a wider bridge.

Work on a new two lane concrete road bridge with walkways, adjacent to the senior bridge began five years ago but suffered several setbacks.

Finally, work was completed after intervention by His Excellency, Mahinda Rajapakse, President of Sri Lanka, and he declared the new bridge open on March 22, 2013 in the presence of a large gathering of the people of Batticaloa and officials.



The New Bridge by day and by night courtesy: battinews.com

# Reminiscence of a visit to the Canadian Rockies

#### **By Angelo Patrick**

#### 5<sup>th</sup> July 2012 – Lewala, the Maid of the Mist \*

The legend of Niagra in its thunder and water comes alive in a fury of sound and spray, where the power of roaring water and a trembling earth meet. Echoes of timeless battle assault my senses as the waters of Lake Eerie after its wild voyage over the Falls returns to its wider and calmer self in the Lawrence river. The rainbow in its colour over the Horseshoe glideth the mystique Maid hidden in the Mist and tossed over by the wrath of an unknown Demon seeking Lewala in all her beauty as its prized possession.

\*Legend has it that Lewala is the maiden whom the Demon sought, to end the curse in the village.

#### 10<sup>th</sup> July 2012 – Its Spring time in the Rockies

The summer sun silently smiles over the swaying cornfields, gently kissing the yellow fields of Canola as I unwind my weary mind, traversing through the carpets of green, leading to the grazing cattle pandered by the bales of hay for fattening for the farmers delight. The farmlands with the grazing cattle recede into the distant as the Rockies come looming into view lining the highway to Jasper \*. The majesty of its nakedness, the sharpness of its jagged peaks and the smoothness of its sloping body romances with a mind seeking for the beauty in the wilderness. What hand could have carved these beauties silhouetted against the heavenly blue skies of the arctic horizon.

\*Jasper is a town in the province of Alberta in Canada

#### 12<sup>th</sup> July 2012 – Home on the Range

The fragrance of the pine ushers in the velvety mountains clothed to its bosom with a halo of snow covered head sloping to its shoulders, as the valleys deepen to lay open the blue lakes having its fill from the glaciers atop of the cascading waterfalls. Lower on the mountains are the berries and the bush, the range for the hungry Bear and the majestic Elk, the Big Horn and the Mountain Goats slithering through the pine and the woods. Splendour is this picture till the gathering mist veils it from view like the curtain that comes down on a Shakespearean tale

#### \*\*\*\*\*\*

Don't look at your past, concentrate on your future. Don,t look at your past, you are not going there.

*Life is more accurately measured by the lives you touch than the things acquire* 

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