



Darjeeling, 08 Spt, 2016

TRANSLATION:

PASSING AWAY OF REV. SISTER DR. SELINA NAMCHU

Darjeeling, 8 September: Rev. Sister Dr. Selina Namchu passed away unexpectedly on 7 September at Mandar Nursing Home in Ranchi at the age of 84.

She completed her education at Nepali Girls' Higher Secondary School and North Point College before dedicating her life to the service of God at the age of 20. She spent 64 years serving as a religious sister and joined the American Medical Mission, where she also took her religious vows.

After receiving medical training at Holy Family Hospital in Delhi and completing higher studies including M.A. and B.Sc., she underwent four years of advanced training in the United States before returning to India. She served in various Holy Family institutions across Patna, Nagaland, and Delhi.

Under the guidance of the late Father Burns, she also began paramedical training programmes at Hayden Hall Institute. She travelled to various villages under the Darjeeling Diocese, training poor women and creating awareness on healthcare and community health improvement.

Later, she continued her service for many years at Holy Family Mandar Hospital in Ranchi. Even after retirement, she remained actively involved in humanitarian and healthcare services until her final days.

Rev. Sister Dr. Selina Namchu was recognized as the first Nepali religious sister from the Darjeeling Diocese. Due to certain unavoidable circumstances, her mortal remains could not be brought to Darjeeling, and her final rites were conducted in Ranchi on 8 September at 3 PM.

According to diocesan media representative Monika Pradhan, well-wishers from churches and local communities visited her family to offer condolences and prayers for the eternal peace of her soul.

Following the training, Hayden Hall health workers have already begun preparing Ayurvedic medicines practically at the institution. Trained health workers including Bhumika Pradhan, Purnima Tamang, Anju Rai, and Dawa Lepcha are actively involved in the initiative. Additional health workers serving in remote villages of Kalimpong and areas such as Harsingh, Dabaipani, College Valley, Rimbick, and Alubari are also undergoing training.

According to the trainees, the herbal preparations are made using carefully measured proportions of herbal extracts and alcohol mixtures. The medicines are used for treating ailments related to cough, gastric problems, blood and urinary disorders, while herbal creams are prepared for skin-related conditions.

Dispensary In-charge Mani Chettri further stated that instead of marketing the herbal medicines commercially, the institution is making them available at affordable prices within the organization itself. Economically disadvantaged patients are also being provided medicines either at highly subsidized rates or free of cost.
