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U-REV. ALEXANDER DUFF, D.D.

Kuko emhlabeni amadoda ampilo inceda uluntu lonke—amadoda angapileli iziquzawo mhlaumbi isizwe mhlaumbi ibala analo mhlaumbi ihlelo le remente akulo. Umsebenzi wawo usingisela ekubeni maziti zonke intlanga zifnmane intsikelelo asukuba wona eyi fumene. Ababaninzi abantu abanjalo; kodwa ko u-Dr. Duff ubengomnye wabambalwa abampilo iyeyo mntu wonke, abakufa kufanele ukulilelwa zizo zonke izizwe. Ubukulu bomsebenzi wake bobu- singisele ekunyuseni intlanga ezise bunya- meni. Ubengomnye wamadoda ate akubona ukuba wona ubom abufumene ngo Kristu aza akanela ukuqonda ukuba abangenaye bafile, koko azinikela *ekubaboniseni* ukuba okunene u-Kristu uyindlela, ububom, abafanelele ukuba bonke babusukele. Emehlweni ake isimo sababedeni besifana neso mntu omka nomlambo, ati ukuhleka ahleka ngako kube kokukona kanye kungenisa intlungu kumntu omi pezu komlambo ekangele. Ukuzinikela kwake kulo msebenzi wokunceda izizwe zababedeni bekufana nokwentlambi enentliziyo iputuma okayise embona eza kuya kwela engxangxasini. Intliziyo yake yaba kusoloko ivuta lutando, utando oluye lunyuka ngokunyuka lwada lwasuka lwacinywa kukufa ngomhla 12 ka February. Ukwenjenjalo ke sizalisa ilizwi lokuti kufanelwe ukulilwa ngabo bonke abanako ukusiqonda isimilo somsebenzi wake.

U-Alexander Duff wazalwa ngo 25 ka April 1806 kufupi nomzana wase Pitlochrie e-England. Kwase buncinaneni bake ubekalipile kakulu kwizinto zemfundo ; kanjalo ubeti ukuba uke wabona umfanekiso wesitixwana nobubanzi bamazwe ase nobuhedeni kanti lonto uya kuyi kumbula kude kube nini. Esikolweni ayibanga ninzi mali ayifumana kuyise yokuhlaulela imfundo yake. Wagqibela ngamashumi amabini eponti awanikwa eseyi nkwana eminyaka ilishumi elinesibini. Emva koko wabanokuzixasa ngokwake ngemali enje nge bursari, ayi fumana ngokukupa abanye eluviweni. Enye

indawo eyamncedayo ekufundeni kwake e-St. Andrews kwaba kukufunda pantsi kwendoda enje ngo Thomas Chalmers, waza waba nokubonana futi naba fundisi abavela kwi- ndawo ngendawo ezine zizwe zabahedeni, aman’ ukuva kubo ukuqubeka komsebenzi wabo.

Wabekwa izandla ngomhla 12 ka August 1829 xa amashu.mi mabini anesitatu ubudala. Kungekabi kade emva koko walishiya ikaya lake ukuya kuba ngumfundisi e-India, apo aya kugaleleka ngo May 1830—wafika engenazo nencwadi ngapandle kwe Baibile, engenawo namapepa, nengubo ezi zise mzimbeni zodwa—enye impahla yake yonke itshone elwandle ; kuba umkombe aye kuwo wapuka kwada kwakabini.

Wagaleleka kwelozwe ubushushu bunge- nakubaliswa. Eyona ndawo yaba nzima kuye kwaba kukubona ubuhedeni bakona, ubuhedeni obulumkileyo, obunezikolo zabo nencwadi zabo. Wafika apa e-Calcutta kungeko sikolo sama Kristu, ezikoyo zise macaleni. Wahlala inyanga ezimbini ekangela efunda ubunjani bezinto, kwaza ekupeleni kwazo wagqiba kwelokuba aqale isikolo kona apo e-Calcutta. Saqala ngabantwana abahlanu. Uninzi lwabantu lwalusiti uyageza, ukude aqale isikolo kulomzi, lusiti abantwana abafundiswa nguye baya kupuma bekukanyela ukubako kuka Tixo, bazinikele enkohlisweni. Nakuba shumayeli abebemana ukuza kushumayela bevela ema- caleni kwabako abamcasayo. Wati ke noko kuba eyibona yena imfanelo yake pambi ko Tixo, wasiquba esisikolo. Kungekabi kade saya sisanda ngamanani nangodumo, kwada kwafuneka ukuba kwakiwe enye indlu. Kwati mhla saviwa eso sikolo bagoduka bengauhlanganisi—bati abebeze begxeka be- delile, abanye bebezele ukuze bafumane into yokunqinisa indelo yabo ngesi sikolo, bemka lomini bengateti. Yati neyona Governor inkulu yakona yemka yanelisiwe. Emva koko abantu bavela kwindawo ezikude ukuza kubonela into eyenziwa ngu Dr. Duff ukuze nabo bamlandele. Wabungenela kaloku ubunyama base India ngendlela ezi- ninzi, wati efundisa eshumayela waba ebala incwadi. Eso sikolo sake senyuka ngango kuba sibe ngumtombo ompompoza abafundisi.

Apo e-India wahlala iminyaka emashumi matatu anesine, waza mhla wemka kona

akwalila aberemente yake bodwa—kwalila abamahlelo ngamahlelo nabentlanga ngentla- nga. Ukugoduka kwake wanyanzelwa sisifo kanti ke noko efikile kona akayi kulala. Umsebenzi omkulu awenze pesheya kolwa- ndle osingisele kwizizwe zabahedeni ibe ku- kuvuselela iremente ukuba ziwubone ubu­kulu bawo lomsebenzi wokusa ilizwi kubahedeni zize zizinikele kuwo. Ibisikalo ade wafa enaso, sokuba iremente aziyi kupi ngokwaneleyo imali yazo namadodana ukukupela umsebenzi opakati kwezizwe zabahedeni. Emehlweni ake bekungeko msebenzi ungangalowo omelwe ukwenziwa li bandla le Nkosi. Kwati ke ukuyi teta kwake lonto kwavuselela kakulu, esikolwa ukuba imali epume ngenxa yake ingabalwa ngamawaka, amadodana abalwe ngama shumi. Wati ke enjalo waba ebambe indawo yokufundisa kwesinye sezikolo ezipakamileyo zase Scot­land. Ukwalekela kulowo msebenzi wenziwa umongameli we Komiti ye Eree Church elungiselela ukutunyelwa kwelizwi kwinda­wo ngendawo. Akupatiswa lomsebenzi wa­bona iqinga lokuba makubeko £40,000, eya kuti inzala yayo incedise ekwakiweni kwezi- ndlu zabafunnisi abaya kwizizwe zabahedeni. Kwizituba anazo ezipakati komsebenzi wake wemihla ubeti ukuba kuko into angancedisa ngayo nakwezinye iremente enjenjalo. Enye into ebinkulu kuye ibibubudlelane babako- hvayo. Noko eyona remente yakowabo ibiyi Free Church ube nobuhlobo ebambana ngezandla nabafundisi bamanye amacala. Kwinteto yake ayenza ngomnyaka we 1873 ngo May wakala kakulu ngokuba amakristu alibele kukulwa odwa kanti utshaba lwawo onke alulele lona, lonakalisa kwindawo ezingapandle nezingapakati.

Kwati malunga nase kupeleni kwe seshoni yomnyaka we 1877 wawa ngomnye umhla ekwelela incwadi eyayi kwi shelf epezulu. Ukusuka kulo mini akubuyanga kubeko kucaca kuyini noko aka wahambela nase Germany efuna umoya omtsha. Ngemini zokuza kumka kwake ubetanda ukuncokola ngezihlobo zake azitandayo apa emhlabeni: aze maxa wambi ancokole ngezinto zakwa napakade ezibe zizezake kwakude ngokolo. Bekumvuyisa kakulu ukuva ngezihlobo zake ezise Scotland nakade esebenza nazo e-Calcutta. Mhla waxelelwa ukuba itemba lokupila lipelile wavakala esiti: “ Ewe, ewe nam ndibe sendinokuyi bona lonto, kodwa