

Nursing With A Difference

TRUST Established in Delhi 1998

"Let Each Day Be Your Masterpiece". Galatians 6.9

DISASTER MITIGATION = *VICTORY OVER POWERLESSNESS.*

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THE PLEDGE - NURSE AND DOCTOR MADE DISASTERS

"Our Nation 17 December 2002"

"Health, Education and Police are the most corrupt sectors. The **Health Sector** accounting for a whopping **Rs.7, 578 Crore** has the greasiest palms, with the key actors directly demanding money.

Sadly, corruption is most rampant in the health and education sectors where top priority should be given in a developing Country".

Source: Transparency International (India)-ORG Marg Survey.

India with all its rich resources of manpower, money and materials;
People so overtly religious but *with no will power to stand for truth*'.

What an indictment on the key professions:

Entrusted by the Government
Elected by the people to help them build their own and the health of the nation!

SHAME ON US

SHAME

Having received the best from God and man.

Having taken an Oath before a Holy God and man,

Doctors and Nurses instead of purveyors of health have become parasites of every conceivable religious hue.

SHAME

How low have Doctors and Nurses sunk in the quagmire of sin?

SHAME

What kind of hypocrisy and mockery is all that is done at great cost in the name of health research?

Gujarat 2002

More than 25 epidemics spontaneously identified by Nurses throughout the State.

110 paraplegics in Gandhidhan alone as a result of the earthquake with Countless dead because as Doctors and Nurses stated 'We did not know how to do CPR or give basic first aid'.

Earthquake victims sent to major Hospitals in the State only to become grossly infected after surgery.

Minor Surgery OT's mainly used for Rectal Fistulae which Nurses said 'had reached epidemic proportions'

Blocks of hundreds of homes constructed with no water supply or sewerage system.

Proliferation of huge Kidney Hospitals when the two main causes of Renal dialysis and Kidney transplant are readily cited as infection (nosocomial) and contaminated water supply!

Huge hospitals with whole floors empty or underutilized in the midst of the holocaust of ethnic cleansing because people feared that once in hospital, they would face discrimination including the real risk of added trauma.

Patients with e.g., both hands and both legs or both legs, one hand and a whole arm removed, in hospital for a mere 24 hours! With the appalling state of hygiene where did these victims of man's inhumanity to man go and what did they die of?

How many people in hospital in this holocaust died from 'natural' causes and how many lost what little life they had at the hands of unscrupulous Doctors and Nurses. No wonder Doctors and Nurses were suiciding!

DO NURSES KNOW HOW TO HELP NURSES?

Many Nurses have benefited from good quality professional preparation.

However, by choosing to compromise priorities and by diverting their energies, many Nurses have lost sight of their professional and central purpose in Nursing, the Patient/Client. This has resulted in severe erosion/loss of professional goals for Nurses and Nursing, thereby increasing distress and trauma to millions of Patients and their families and to thousands of young women and men entering Nursing.

When our 'method and aim' or the 'means and the end' are not right the unintended consequences is an insidious lack of integrity and commitment to continue to battle the constant challenges and uphill process of building professional competence with students as well as with newly qualified Nurses.

When Nurses become their own worst enemies

The pressing need of the moment is '*Disaster Mitigation in Nursing*'.

The Pledge has been well and truly broken. Nurses are broken inside and powerless.

While one never ceases to be sickened with media reports on the Health Services in India, the tragedy is that while thinking Nurses and Doctors recognize non biased, truthful portraying of devastating and disastrous facts, too often they feel *trapped* and powerless to *change the system*.

NB In 1993 a Professor from the large Medical College in Patiala, Punjab stated that while Nursing was in need the Medical Profession was in greater need of what we were doing. He took more than two hours providing insight into the 'state of the Medical Profession'! What has he done for his profession?

Having heard about the content of our workshop the Chief Pharmacist from a large Tuberculosis Hospital called us and amidst much more stated 'we don't need the money, we know what we are doing is wrong but we still do it'! This learned gentleman had the Bhagavad Gita, Koran, Ad Granth etc. all wrapped in white!

He asked for a Bible. Nurses in the same hospital actually cried - how do you help patients when their drug supply is cut off midstream? These Nurses experienced a very real sense of futility in providing Nursing Care.

When Nursing With A Difference was selling sets of six Modules CPR, Burns, AIDS, Shock, Trauma and Technology, at the 3rd Asian Cardiac Nursing Conference in Delhi in 1999 Media men wanted free copies with no accountability. Their request was declined. Finally one Media man with very convincing commitment took a set of Modules and several copies of the Nurses Link with unblinking assurance of what he was going to do and when he would return the items.

Doctor's control over the Media.

Without permission and contravening his earlier promises this Media-man had the audacity to get a team of doctors to review the Modules stating his reason:

"These books have all the ingredients for a reformation in the health services"!

Media men must not rock the Medical Boat that cruises on a sea that could be likened to the Dal Lake. The tourist laid back in the luxury of a Shikari crossing the Dal Lake is oblivious to the high microbial count arising from the decomposition of large numbers of conveniently missing persons even as he reaches over to let the water flow through his fingers.

Change will only come through Nurses helping Nurses to know, understand, and live the truth in action.

While we acknowledge with gratitude those doctors who have purchased Modules to give to Nurses both within India and from overseas e.g., at the International Women's Conference where the Theme was 'Vision and Reality – Bridging East and West'; it is a sad indictment that many doctors have asked for the Modules, but refused to pay for them or to sanction money for a set for the library.

Shameful the behavior of those who took them without permission, thereby stealing from and denying Nurses what was their personal property.

Sadder and even more shameful was the fear and lack of courage of some Nurse Administrators to accept gifts of Modules by Nurses for Nurses or to bring a group of Nurses together without the Medical Director's permission. Protocol and courtesy controlled by fear is a far cry from intra-professional protocol and courtesy

*“With loyalty will I endeavor to aid the physician in his work,
and devote myself to the welfare of those in my care”!?*

Unless each Nurse has the courage and conviction through a spontaneous self-directed process of 'stretching and thinking in relation to doing', Nurses will fail to realize and use their God given power.

Medical oppression will continue when Nurses fail to demonstrate a maturity of thinking and acting. Instead of being Professional colleagues in the Health Team, Nurses will give Doctors no alternative but to continue to be in unquestionable authority over Nurses.

To *aid the physician* requires the Nurse to have critical thinking, discernment, integrity and quiet confidence in action.

Once we have 'cleaned up our own house' the Nursing Profession will be in a powerful position to help other members of the Health Team to clean up their houses. Let us help each other do this?

Hypocrisy and Double Standards Lead to Powerless in Nursing

CONSECRATED COMMUNICATION > COMMUNION with GOD and MAN > MATURE GROWTH

One, now retired Nurse with excellent English could ensure his daughter became an Obstetrician and Gynecologist and son an IIT specialist. During this same period of time, as Principal Tutor, he actively oppressed the Nursing Profession by not facilitating and encouraging staff and students to develop their language ability or to become self directive in their own learning; Why?

Where was the power of this Nurse who not only presents as a fine gentleman but has held several positions of authority, including member of the State Nursing Council, the State TNAI and is a great social worker?

Medical Superintendents and others stated freely that Nurses do not have the ability and can only be trained in Gujarat. Is this true? If so why are they in Nursing?

Of the hundreds of Nurses interacted with, all demonstrated functional reading ability in English, with encouragement as we shared, every Nurse improved that functional ability. Many read well.

When it is taken for granted as a fact, and a Nurse is told often enough by Doctors, husbands and children plus those in authority that you cannot do something it is natural that most people will clam up and hesitate to use and develop a skill.

***Inferiority and suppression demean the beauty and character of large numbers of
God's chosen vessels in Nursing.***

A similar situation in the prestigious PGIMER, Chandigarh where everything was demanded and expected by the Nurses to be in Punjabi, there was to be nothing 'foreign', One morning only Punjabi literature, a song book compiled by Chandigarh Nurses, was made available to the same 25 Nurses - one by one 22 Nurses quietly conceding their inability to read Punjabi, requested Hindi, English, Urdu or Roman Urdu!

This very low ratio of Senior Nurses, 3 out of 25 only could read and adequately understand the State language, spoke for itself. The barrier was broken with no recriminations. Learning took a leap forward.

Are Nurses confusing loyalty with rhetoric? Are Nurses aware that the very people who make constricting policies in terms of language ensure that their own children are sent to the best English Medium Schools preferably Convent or Christian Schools stating that the 'discipline and comprehensiveness of learning are of a high standard'. How do we help Nurses "To be true to thyself, and true to our profession"?

While blaming the system of general education, Medical Superintendents, Doctors and even a few Nurses hasten to add in good English I too learned in a Gujarate medium school! The English language is thus the hallmark of superiority deliberately used to undermine Nursing confidence.

Our Pledge

"I will do all in my power to maintain and elevate the standard of my profession!"

Nurses, having relegated responsibility for criteria setting and implementation in the selection process of Nurses, by not standing firm for true justice in Nursing. The Government is now blamed for interference.

Let us not forget that the Director General of Health Services and his State controlling counterparts are all Doctors with their own agenda.

Nurses

Having fallen prey to the evils of 'buttering" and the despicable process of double- binding;

Are now successfully binding each other's hands and feet;

While cutting each other's throats, as they deliberately by-pass Nurse Administrators for

These same Nurses

Having achieved their goal and with no shame demand large bribes,

1 Lakh or more,
From Nurses for; employment; promotions; or 'duties of choice'!

Nurses

For short term personal gain, are now shackled and under bondage to:

The Medical Profession, Politicians,

And increasingly to unscrupulous Sarah Gamps of Nursing in AD2003.

The Nurses Act and Regulations are ignored.

Malpractice Is rampant and Nursing is being raped from within and from without.

REPENTENCE

Always leads to restoration, rest and wholeness

All Nurses know that whoever gives or takes a **Bribe** stands guilty before God.

All forms of bribery make good people sinners; bribery corrupts the conscience of the Nurse that gives and the Nurse or person who takes the bribe; such Nurses actively pervert justice; These Nurses bring chaos into Nursing.

In India bribery and corruption are an accepted way of life with the level of 'black' money far exceeding 'honest clean' money: Nurses are not exempt

Nurses! How do we help each other fulfill our Pledge

“To pass my life in purity and practice my profession faithfully”?

WHY DO RELIGIOUS NURSES NOT FEAR GOD?

“The wages of sin is death but the *gift of God* is eternal life in Christ Jesus our Lord.” Romans 6:23

There can be no collective Nursing power until each Nurse *repents* of her/his sin, including the immoral sins of bribery and corruption and *by faith accepts* God’s wonderful gift of forgiveness, healing and life.

Should you choose not to accept His gracious, cleansing and all empowering gift, you will in due course stand before His judgment seat with nothing but ashes for your life. Therefore delay no longer, release yourself from the bondage of this criminal activity and do not condemn yourself or our Nursing Profession any longer.

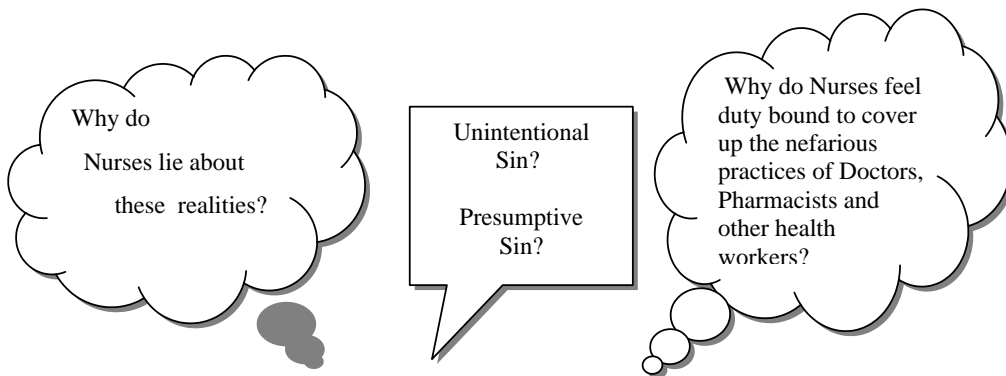
It will take courage but your reward will be a mighty release and freedom to stand tall and true irrespective of the prevailing practices, with a new found strength and dignity. You may well be mocked and ridiculed but do not fear what man can do to you. It is always much easier to drag down than to build up.

TRUTH AND FREEDOM VERSUS LIES AND BONDAGE

1. Cowardice leads to deception and lies. Student Nurses learn to write, tell and live lies by the example of their seniors, Tutors and other Registered Nurses, who are in no position to correct them having exchanged their own freedom to think and act according to the principles of truth, justice and compassion for ill conceived favors.

This destructive root of evil in Nursing has been well addressed in the Modules e.g., in the Module titled Technology -‘Nursing Management Versus Doctors Prescribing habits’- examines the insidious growth and compounding effect of lies in Nurse’s lives, the current status of Nursing and on the Patient/client’s welfare.

2. Low and tunnel vision leads to self-centered selfishness. Stealing of time and hospital property particularly if it belongs to the Government is identified as *my right*. Everybody does it! Husbands too often decide what the Nurse should ‘bring home!’
3. While loudly blaming the Government for not providing, every Nurse knows that significant quantities of what is provided for patient care is misused, surreptitiously siphoned off to the Doctor’s Private Practice and Private Hospital Services or sold in the open market.



Many very well intentioned Nurses may never have thought about unintentional sin or presumptive sin and therefore be unwittingly tying a noose around their own neck and the neck of our profession.

HEALTH WITHIN > NURSES POWERFULL > PLEDGE FULFILLED

Nurses enter into *Unintentional sin* when their intention is good but the situation causes them to loose their cool – anger and aggression are common unintentional sins. The student Nurse writes and tells lies to save herself from irrational blame. How do Student Nurses learn to deal with sin in Nursing?

All Nurses who allow Students and Nurses to write lies, speak lies, and cover up wrong practices such as stealing hospital property, steeling time by always being late on duty, leaving before time, using duty time for personal business and in other ways abusing time and trust, are guilty of *Presumptive Sin*.

When a Nurse breaks the Pledge it indicates that she/he despises the Word of the LORD. The unintended consequence of this unthinking decision becomes the basis of *Presumptive Sin*. Initially the conscience is stirred and the Nurse knows what she/he is doing is wrong. The more lies or deception are practiced the more Nurses use their mental agility and ability to produce convincing arguments and erect emotional barriers that *justify the means used irrespective of outcome*.

Central to all augments in favor of the status quo is a deep insecurity that spawns a strong spirit of selfishness, producing a stubborn and rebellious spirit.

The defense mechanism of choice is rationalization.

The least plausible yet most common forms of rationalization ‘*it’s always been done like this*’, ‘*It is my right*’, ‘*There is no time*’, ‘*the doctor has or has not ordered*’ ‘*It is God’s Will*’, or a self resigned ‘*What to do!*’ ‘*I was not here*’ ‘*It is not my duty*’ ‘*we don’t talk about these things!*’ all indicate that the Nurse sees her/himself as powerless to think and act against what is blatantly wrong.

While this, translated into the practice of Nursing suggests that:

Nurses have no reverence for and no confidence in God, therefore the Pledge is a meaningless ritual.

Life becomes increasingly a mish mash of insecurity, internal conflict and fatalism that leads Nurses to unconsciously ‘kill or pass time’ caught as they are in the ‘whirligig’ of time and in the vice-like grip of religious and cultural decadence.

*When religion and culture kill truth and life
Nurses are in a disaster situation, but need not be in a ‘disaster’.*

While examining some of these issues with a group of 3rd Year Post basic B.Sc. Nurses in Gujarat, and in response to the questions:

“Do we really want Satan the Father of Lies to be our personal and professional *Father?*”

‘Do we really want to breed a pack of liars, thieves and reprobates in Nursing?’

The ‘ek dum’ response was a resounding and I mean – *resounding ‘NO!’*

WHAT JOY!

All is not lost! the heart of Nurses still desire a more excellent way but too often, are at a loss to know how to find this way.

As we talk, pray and share over these issues we will become our own agents of change.

Nursing will be transformed with a pristine beauty that brings the fragrance and wholesome power of the ‘Breath of God’ sweeping through the Health Services.

HOPE AND RESTORATION!

Unbelief brings discipline because God is Holy.

All His judgments are right.

Disobedience hinders God’s blessing.

The Nurse who truly repents with her/his whole mind, heart, soul and spirit will find new mercies for each day;

Increasing freedom to be effective;

Fresh opportunities to fulfill the Pledge.

Religious apostasy, social and moral depravity all lead to repeated failure and degradation. “Everyone did what was right in his own eyes” Nurses not doing what is wrong in their own eyes, but what is “evil in the sight of the LORD.”

Let us claim the creativity of God’s methods of deliverance for ourselves and Nursing.

Recognizing the truth of Psalm 127:1

“Unless the LORD Builds the house, they labor in vain who build it;

Unless the LORD guards the city, the watchman stays awake in vain.

He will build through us if we will ask and let Him.

As you read or sing the following meaningful words of this beautiful Hymn – beautiful because its message is one on which the substance of our hope, our eternal everlasting hope, is based and therefore our lives and profession can be securely built. *That is, if we should so choose!*

HEALING GOD, ALMIGHTY FATHER

1.
Healing God, almighty Father
Active throughout history;
Ever saving, guiding, working
For Your children to be free.
Shepherd, King, inspiring prophets
To foresee Your suffering role -
Lord, we raise our prayers and voices;
Make us one and make us whole.

2.
.Healing Christ, God’s Word Incarnate,
Reconciling man to man;
God’s atonement dying for us
In His great redemptive plan.
‘Jesus’, Saviour, Healer, Victor,
Drawing out for us death’s sting;
Lord we bow ourselves in worship,
And united praises bring.

3.
Healing Spirit, Christ-anointing,
Raising to new life in Him;
Help the poor; release to captives;
Cure of body; health within.
Life-renewing and empowering
Christ-like service to the lost;
Lord, we pray ‘Renew Your wonders
As of a new Pentecost!’

4.
Healing ‘*Nurses*’, called-out and chosen
To enlarge God’s Kingdom here;
Lord obeying; Spirit-strengthened
To bring God’s salvation near:
For creations reconciling
Gifts of love in us release.
Father, Son and Holy Spirit
‘Make us instruments of Peace.’

Will you now take time to pause and repeat the process with a prayer in your heart and mind for every Nurse and her/his family where e’re she or he be in India and in every country of the world.

Will you take another few minutes and think of the millions of patients and their families whose lives 12 Million Nurses are influencing at this very moment and continuously every minute of every day.

Do not let doubt or unbelief cause you to falter

Victory in Nursing is on its way!