NEWS IN BRIEF

HONG KONG CATHOLICS CELEBRATE THE FEAST OF CHRIST THE KING

An official communique especially written for the occasion to Bishop Wu by Pope John Paul II was read at a ceremony held on November 25 at Hong Kong Coliseum by the Hong Kong Diocese in celebration of the feast of Christ the King. The contents of the communique exhorted all Catholics to spare no effort towards building a free and equal society based on respect for life, and to become a leaven for social harmony and religious freedom.

The celebration this year fell into two parts - an afternoon mass celebrated by Bishop Wu and an evening prayer meeting. The two gatherings were attended by close to ten thousand people.

(Kung Kao Po, November 30, 1984)

MOTHER THERESA INVITED TO VISIT CHINA

According to an Italian monthly publication Mother Theresa, who lives in Calcutta, India, has received an invitation from a Chinese mainland source and will probably visit China at the beginning of 1985.

(Ming Pao, November 12, 1984)

CATHOLIC CHURCH ELECTS AUXILIARY BISHOPS

The Catholic Diocese of Shanghai has elected Father Li Side (Vicargeneral of the diocese), and Father Jin Luxian (Rector of Sheshan Seminary), to serve as auxiliary bishops to Bishop Zhang Jiashu.

The new auxiliary bishops were chosen during a meeting of the administrative commission of the Shanghai diocese on December 7, 1984. The administrative commission also selected a special liturgy committee, headed by the Bishop, Zhang Jiashu, to plan the consecration ceremony.

(Wen Wei Pao, Hong Kong, December 8, 1984)

DELEGATION OF PROTESTANT MINISTERS FROM GUANGDONG PROVINCE VISITS HONG KONG

In response to an invitation from the Hong Kong Christian Council, thirteen Protestant ministers from Guangdong Province paid a visit to Hong Kong in late November, this year. The visitors included ministers from the areas of Guangzhou, Zhaoqing, Shiqi, and Shenzhen. The group was led by Liang Fuhuan, Chairman of the Guangdong Christian Council.

While in Hong Kong, the visitors included in their itinerary visits to Breakthrough magazine, the China Graduate School of Theology, and the Chung Chi College Theology Division. They also held a seminar with the clerical members of Hong Kong Cathedral. According to a statement by Liang Fuhuan, the Standing Committee of the Guangdong Christian Council has resolved to open a church hostel with one hundred guest rooms to accommodate foreign visitors. So far, donations totalling five million dollars have been received for the project.

(Ta Kung Pao, November 21-28, 1984)

ZHAO FUSAN INVITED TO CONDUCT A SEMINAR IN HONG KONG

Zhao Fusan, Vice-Chairman of the Chinese Christian Three-Self Movement and professor at the Chinese Academy of Social Sciences, was invited to conduct the Shann Lectureship at Hong Kong University's Saint John's College in mid-November this year.

The theme of this year's Shann Lectureship was "Development in Modern Socialist China." Altogether, there were four lectures given, all of them delivered by professor Zhao. The title of the last lecture was "Development in Modern Socialist China - From a Christian Viewpoint." This lecture was given on November 21.

(Ta Kung Po, November 15-22, 1984)

YANG JINGREN MEETS REPRESENTATIVES OF DALAI LAMA

While receiving three representatives of the Dalai Lama in Beijing in the latter half of November, Yang Jingren, the head of the Chinese Communist Party Central Committee's United Front Work Department, stated that the Dalai Lama could return to China at any time he wished to do so. Yang also stated that the Dalai Lama could, through Party Central's recommendation, become a committee head in the National Assembly and could also, following upon mutual agreement, become a representative to the Chinese Peoples' Political Consultative Conference.

However, Yang simultaneously pointed out that the Dalai Iama would not be allowed to return to Tibet and take up political work, since Tibet is now in the hands of a younger generation of Tibetans. Yet, he would be welcome to visit Tibet on a regular basis.

(Ta Kung Po, November 26, 1984)

After meeting Chinese government officials, the representatives of the Dalai Lama issued a statement saying that the Dalai believed the sincerity of the present leaders, and that he has great hopes for finding solutions to problems through direct contact. At the same time, the Dalai said that his position or authority need not be the starting point for any deliberations.

The three delegates also announced that because Tibet is now quite busy with many reconstruction projects, the Dalai Lama would most likely not return there during 1985.

(Ta Kung Po, December 2, 1984)

NANJING THEOLOGICAL REVIEW RESUMES PUBLICATION

The first issue in 27 years of the Nanjing Theological Review, published by Nanjing's Jinling Union Seminary, came off the press on September 15, 1984.

This issue, over 120 pages in length, contains articles on theology, special topics, problems in theological education, Biblical research, and religious literature, music and art, as well as sermons. The writers are professors, students and alumni of Jinling Seminary.

The first issue of the Nanjing Theological Review came out in September, 1953. From then until August, 1957, seven issues were published.

In the forward to the present issue Professor Chen Zemin, vice-president of Jinling Union Seminary, writes: "Nanjing Theological Review is a forum offered to the Chinese church in its new circumstances for an exchange of thought on theological education and methods of evangelization."

The journel will be published at irregular intervals and is offered free upon request. However, donations are acceptable. If you wish to receive it, please write to: Publishers, Nanjing Theological Review, 13 Da Jian Yin Xiang, Nanjing, China.