

MY NEW LIFE IN CHRIST
(BY MRS. SULTANA NAVIN)

I hail from a Muslim family. My father is an orthodox Muslim by religion and a circle inspector of police by profession. My mother did not have children for 5 yrs. Childlessness is humiliation to a woman in social circles of India. One day a police constable spoke to her about Lord Jesus Christ. She started to pray and asked the Lord for children. In answer to her prayer she was blessed with a child; this led her to seek the real truth, she found truth in Lord and accepted him as her personal Saviour. My father who was a Muslim began to ill-treat my mother, but the spirit of the Lord comforted her with the words, I am the living God.

I am second in our family, first is my brother, next to me are five more children. My mother being a believer brought every one in the fear of the Lord. I read and prayed three times a day, these devotional habits made me feel I was a pious girl. I depended on my self-righteousness but gradually realized I was a sinner, this realization became clearer on reading Romans 3:10. When I was in this state some one asked me, "Are u saved?" I had no answer to these questions. Romans 10:9 drew my attention. In tears I prayed to God, "My Lord I believe u yet I am not able to understand the meaning of salvation". With burdened heart I prayed to God but there was no change in my life.

In 1975 during the month of October, Mrs. Victoria arranged a women's conference in Kakinada and I attended the conference. As Mrs. Victoria was speaking on Lamentations 3:59 my heart was touched. I was under deep conviction. My sins were brought down one by one like pictures in a movie. Reading filthy novels, playing cards, tasting liquor passed before my mind. The truth that man cannot save himself by self righteous deeds and that the precious of Lord Jesus Christ shed on cross only cleanses man from his sins, dawned on me. In true penitence I sought his forgiveness. The Lord filled me with joy and peace. If any man be in Christ he is a new creature, old things are passed away, behold all things are new. This verse gave me assurance of salvation.

Then God spoke to me through I Corin 3:16, this verse led me to a life of surrender. I accepted him as my Saviour, and the day I was saved was the happiest in my life.

At that time, the problem of my marriage sprang up. Many a times as I read that believers should not have fellowship with unbelievers, I decided to marry a believer. When my father came to know he was furious and said as long he lived he would not allow a Christian marriage in the family, he even threatened to drive us out of the house. Our hearts were hurt and we wept until no tears were left to shed. The Lord gave us grace and patience to bear the hardship. God strengthened us through his promise, "Fear not, I am with thee". I believed the word of God, which was true and perfect. What God has done was marvelous. My father agreed to my marriage with Naveen sunder a believer, he was working in Baharain, My father whole heartedly celebrated the marriage.

My husband being a believer cooperates me in every way, now God is the centre of our life. Our desire is to live in this world for the glory of God, and serve him. The Lord blessed me with three sons Hyde, Enosh, Noah.

I pray that my Muslim and Hindu friends also accept Jesus as their Saviour.