

From Clan MacLeod Society South Australia Newsletter Dec. 2008

EDITOR'S EPIPHANY December 2008 (The Cosmic Play and Mumbai)

I hope everyone has enjoyed the spectacular astronomical trinity in the evening western sky at present. Like the 3 wise men arriving on the scene at Christmas, the Moon, Jupiter and Venus have come together to hold our wonder and awe.

I refer again to our evening stars which also shine over Mumbai.

Such a beautiful cosmic phenomenon poised as backdrop to the recent terrorist act played out on the stage, reassures us that such savage acts of mankind are fleeting. The universal theatre is a very big part in our interpretation of life, our Passion Play if you like.

It reminds us that the foundations of our lives need to be secure in sound principles to endure the storms and strife of life. In times of tempest we lash ourselves to the mast, lest the storm consume us.

A comment on Faith, (Bible: Ephesians: 4 ;14); "we will no longer be tossed back and forth by the waves, and blown here and there by every wind of teaching, craftiness and cunning of men and deceitful scheming."

There are many analogies, Biblical parables and Clan Mottos which remind us of this, like essential truths. These foundations may take variety of forms...as Truth, facts and faith, family, traditions, science, or values, and so on. Tested over eons, we know their worth. Topol sings, that; "without tradition our lives are as shaky as a Fiddler on the Roof".

Temporal tragedies, such as played out in the callous performance in Mumbai, are given perspective, by the backdrop of the aforementioned, enduring, eternal themes. The act becomes a sad, momentary, publicity seeking mayhem of madmen. The virtues of the greater Passion Play remain.

It is wonderful to have these cosmic reminders that we are part of a of a bigger performance, a bigger stage, a longer play, a grander theatre.

Solid foundations enable people to rebuild lives.

One MacLeod working with the crisis, in Mumbai, said that "the hardest thing was coming home to an empty house to cry alone". The wonderful thing is that pity, mercy empathy, love, patience, endurance were in abundance in the tasks they were assigned to at the office, the hospitals and on the streets.

I believe there is much more goodness done and sung by the great chorus, than the chaos caused by a couple of bad performers (who won't do another gig).

So, MacLeods:-

- "Hold Fast!", be encouraged by our motto.
- See "the vision splendid of the sunlit plains extended, and at night wondrous glory of the everlasting stars". (A.B.Paterson)
- Seek Truth. You can handle it, despite Hollywood's Jack Nicholson as an Army Colonel screaming " You cant handle the truth!" Lawyer David McLeod sought it, on the noble path of law and justice.
- Edify Life. I think how people all over the world can see the same stars. It's like being under the same umbrella.
- Think of Astronaut Andy Thomas:- mainly just because he's "Our Andy", but also because he's been "out there" and seen wonders. ♦ Alex