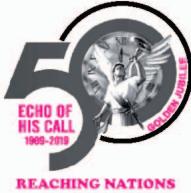


ECHO OF HIS CALL



India's National Spiritual Newspaper

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Editor : S. SAM SELVA RAJ

16 Languages

Associate Editor : SIS. SAJINI CHERIAN

Vol. XXXII

YEAR OF OUR LORD JESUS CHRIST, 2025 AUGUST

No.08

THE HOLY BIBLE



Please memorize
this portion
PSALM 37:1-8

1. Fret not thyself because of evildoers, neither be thou envious against the workers of iniquity.
2. For they shall soon be cut down like the grass, and wither as the green herb.
3. Trust in the LORD, and do good; so shalt thou dwell in the land, and verily thou shalt be fed.
4. Delight thyself also in the LORD: and he shall give thee the desires of thine heart.
5. Commit thy way unto the LORD; trust also in him; and he shall bring it to pass.
6. And he shall bring forth thy righteousness as the light, and thy judgment as the noonday.
7. Rest in the LORD, and wait patiently for him: fret not thyself because of him who prospereth in his way, because of the man who bringeth wicked devices to pass.
8. Cease from anger, and forsake wrath: fret not thyself in any wise to do evil.

FREEDOM TO BEAR FRUIT !

Sis. Angel

Dear Echo of His Call Extended Family,

Warm greetings to each one of you on the occasion of our nation's 75th Independence Day!

Today, we gratefully remember and honor the countless martyrs who selflessly laid down their lives so that we might enjoy the blessings of freedom. As I reflected on this theme, I was reminded of a far greater freedom - one that Jesus Christ fought to secure for us.



Scripture teaches that we were once slaves to sin (Romans 6:20). The apostle Paul poignantly expresses this in Romans 7:24: **What a wretched man I am! Who will rescue me from this body of death?** This was not just Paul's condition - it was the condition of all humanity. We were hopeless, without redemption.

But Jesus Christ entered our world, gave His life on the cross of Calvary, and rose again on the third day in victory. Through His death and resurrection, He triumphed over sin, curse, and death - declaring boldly, "Death, where is your sting?" He became the perfect sacrifice, giving us true and eternal freedom.

....Contd. to page 3



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from your dearly beloved brother...



OUR MISSION POLICY

We should expound and teach the contemporary generation the undiluted teachings of the ancient and early Apostles. It is the need of the hour.

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YOUTUBE CHANNEL

Echo of His Call

**The Lord is my shepherd;
I shall not want. - Psalm 23:1**

Entering into the 57th Year of Ministry!

Praise be to the name of our Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ!

By the gracious favour of God, I received a desire to serve in His ministry at the tender age of seven. As it is written,

For it is God who works in you both to will and to do for His good pleasure - Philippians 2:13.

This divine calling first took root in my home Church at Nellaraikondam - Neyyoor Church of South India. Since that time, God has faithfully preserved me from the corrupting influences of the world and has continued to mould and train me as His minister. The love of God has been more than sufficient throughout my life. Instead of granting me a life shaped by my own desires, He lovingly corrected and disciplined me, forming me to be both His son and His servant.

If you endure chastening, God deals with you as with sons; for what son is there whom a father does not chasten? - Hebrews 12:7.

The journey has not been easy. The path I walked was often filled with trials and hardships far beyond human strength. Yet, I had the blessed opportunity to lean on His bosom, and at times, to be carried on His shoulders through the most difficult stretches of life. There is no doubt in my heart - God is good. His rod and His staff have been my constant comfort.

Over the past 56 years of ministry, the Lord has granted me countless memorable and meaningful experiences. By His immeasurable grace, I now step into the 57th year of ministry on the 10th of August 2025, in sound physical and spiritual health, and with a good testimony.

Following the principle of preaching the undiluted Apostolic doctrines of the first-century Church to the present generation

Our Echo of His Call ministries continue to function without extravagance, and without sudden economic or financial expansions. We remain committed to our vision and calling, solely by the sustaining grace of God.

To Him alone be all the glory!



OUR PRESENT MINISTRIES!

1. 24-Hour Prayer Support
2. Church Planting
3. **Echo of His Call** – Monthly magazine published in 16 languages
4. **BIBLECOR** – Basic Bible Correspondence Course by post, offered in 3 languages
5. Theological Correspondence Courses – Offered in 2 languages
6. **Nehemiah Bible Colleges** – at Chepauk, Santhoshapuram, and Velachery (Residential campus)
7. Gospel Printing Press
8. **St. Paul's Matriculation School** – A village-based high school
9. Seminars
10. Gospel Meetings
11. **Echo of His Call YouTube Ministries**
12. Social Outreach and Service

I continue to long for greater works for the Lord and labour fervently, striving that I might, “by all means save some” (1 Corinthians 9:22), and “to make ready a people prepared for the Lord” (Luke 1:17).

Though this journey includes failures, hardships, sufferings, weaknesses, flaws, and moments of deep loneliness, I am continually

....Contd. from page 1

This is the truth. And Jesus Christ said, ... **I am the way and the truth and the life...** John 14:6. He also declared, ... **You will know the truth, and the truth will set you free.** John 8:32. That truth is Jesus Christ Himself.

Now that we have received this glorious freedom, what do we do with it?

Jesus Christ answers this in John 15:16: **You did not choose me, but I chose you and appointed you so that you to go and bear fruit - fruit that will last...**

Let us use our freedom in Jesus Christ to bear lasting fruit for His glory.

strengthened by the power of God's mighty hand at work in me. In the midst of every challenge, He alone remains my guide, provider, faithful friend, and unchanging sustainer.

To all of you who stand with me—both in joy and in pain—may God bless you richly with every good gift. I pray earnestly that the Lord will raise up many more co-workers and supporters for His glorious mission.

"When darkness surrounds me, O Lord,
Thou art with me!
I wandered as an orphan -
Yet Thou embraced me!"

- 1) While walking through the wilderness, You will protect me! Though the path is hard and rough, You will comfort me with Your grace!
- 2) The waters of Marah shall be made sweet - my unchanging Beloved has become my very own, Jesus! Jesus! You will uphold the poor with Your mighty arm.
- 3) When my feet slip, Your grace sustains me. You will anoint my horn and lift me up.

May the grace of God be with you all. Amen!

PR. S. SAM SELVA RAJ

E.mail : sam@echoofhiscall.org

Therefore, we understand that Jesus Christ has granted us freedom; however, He also expects us to bear fruit through that freedom.

I. ABIDING IN HIM!

The only way we can truly bear fruit is by abiding in Him. The Bible teaches:



Our address:

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... He who abides in Me, and I in him, bears much fruit; for without Me you can do nothing. - John 15:5

This clearly includes the call to a fruitful life.

Fruitfulness:

When we abide in Him, we become fruitful!



Apart from me you can do nothing (John 15:5). This stark declaration reminds us that branches survive only by remaining connected to their source.

This diagram represented as a pyramid illustrates the progression from connection to fruitfulness.

(a) Connection!

Connection refers to our foundational relationship with Christ. This is not a casual association, but a vital, life-giving attachment. Jesus Christ describes it as remaining or abiding - terms that convey permanence, intimacy, and ongoing dependence.

(b) Nourishment!

Nourishment, the second level, illustrates what flows through this connection. Just as branches receive sap, nutrients, and water from the vine, we receive spiritual resources from Jesus Christ - His wisdom, strength, love, and grace. This nourishment is not automatic; it requires active receptivity on our part.

(c) Abundant Fruit!

At the top, Abundant Fruit represents the natural outcome of this connected relationship. The

fruit is not the result of our striving or human effort but flows organically from a healthy union with Christ. This fruit includes both character transformation (Galatians 5:22–23) and impactful ministry.

Therefore, to bear fruit, we must remain connected to God. But more than just being connected, John 15:5 emphasizes our total dependence on the Savior. Jesus Christ did not say, “Apart from Me, you can do some things” or “you’ll be less effective.” He says, “Nothing.” This underscores our complete reliance on His life flowing through us for anything of spiritual value to be produced.

II. HOW WE CAN CONTINUE TO ABIDE IN CHRIST?

There are four important elements that help us abide in Christ.

(a) The Word!

Reading the Bible is not merely an intellectual exercise - it is spiritual nourishment. The more we read and meditate on the Word of God, the more we become like Him.

I have hidden Your word in my heart that I might not sin against You. - Psalm 119:11

God's Word serves as a light, guiding us to correct not only ourselves but also others in love and truth.

“Let the word of Christ dwell in you richly as you teach and admonish one another with all wisdom, and as you sing psalms, hymns and spiritual songs with gratitude in your hearts to God.” - Colossians 3:16

Meditating on Scripture is just as essential as reading it. This must not be random; it should be intentional and systematic. Only then can the Word renew our minds and align our hearts with God's.

(b) Prayer!

Prayer is a two-way communication with God - not just a list of requests. Too often, we treat it like a shopping list. But true prayer is continuous communion with our Maker.

Pray without ceasing, - 1 Thessalonians 5:17

How can we pray without ceasing? By talking to God throughout the day - while driving, walking, cooking, or cleaning, sharing every detail of your life with Him.

(c) Obedience!

The third element is obedience. In John 15:10, Jesus Christ reveals the link between obedience and abiding in Him. Obedience is not a burdensome duty or a legalistic requirement. Rather, it is a love-motivated response to God.

If you love me, you will keep my commandments. - John 14:15 (ESV)

(d) Fellowship!

Hebrews 10:24–25 highlights the importance of meeting together. In recent times, many have grown comfortable with “YouTube Churches.” While online resources can supplement spiritual growth, they should never replace gathering in person. This is a clear command from God.

The Christian community offers accountability, encouragement, and shared wisdom - elements that strengthen our personal walk with Christ.

....Contd. to page 6



GREAT COMMISSION PARTNERS

TO SHARE (Galatians 6:2)

SUPPORT (Romans 12:13)

SPEED UP (II Timothy 1:6)

PRAISE & PRAYER POINTS - From August 19, 2025 To September 18, 2025

(Please take this sheet out, fold it and keep it in your Bible and pray continuously)



†PRAISE GOD FOR...

- August 19** ⇒ His blessings upon our Youth Fellowship for girls and boys at the Main Church.
- August 20** ⇒ Enabling us to restart **Nehemiah Bible College** at Santhosapuram on July 1st, 2025.
- August 21** ⇒ Blessing our 56th Anniversary Celebrations held on August 10th, 2025.
- August 22** ⇒ Granting us dedicated employees who serve with unity and commitment.
- August 23** ⇒ Blessing the principal, staff, and students of **St. Paul's Matriculation School**.
- August 24** ⇒ Providing us with faithful partners who support us morally and financially.
- August 25** ⇒ Protecting all our staff members and their families.
- August 26** ⇒ New admissions at **St. Paul's Matriculation School**.
- August 27** ⇒ God's blessings upon our supporters.
- August 28** ⇒ His divine care over our Senior Pastor and his family.
- August 29** ⇒ Our **Echo of His Call Associate Editors** and their families.
- August 30** ⇒ God's protection over our missionaries and their families on the mission field.
- August 31** ⇒ God's provision in meeting our needs throughout the past month.
- September 01** ⇒ The addition of new members to our churches.
- September 02** ⇒ Grace to enroll new students at our **Nehemiah Bible Colleges**.
- September 03** ⇒ The co-operation and dedication of our Associate Editors.

†PLEASE PRAY FOR ...

- September 04** ⇒ The well-being of **Echo of His Call** believers and their families in both the main church and its branches.
- September 05** ⇒ The needs and interests of our Prayer Partners, Subscribing Partners, Faith Partners, Life Partners, Great Commission Partners, and their families.
- September 06** ⇒ The welfare and unity of our State Co-ordinators and their fellowships.
- September 07** ⇒ The eradication of violence against women and children.
- September 08** ⇒ Fresh vision and anointing for our Senior Pastor, Rev. S. Sam Selva Raj, in all areas of his multifaceted ministry.
- September 09** ⇒ Divine protection for all our staff members and their families.
- September 10** ⇒ Increased efficiency and excellence in our Gospel Printing Press and among its staff.
- September 11** ⇒ The labor of our co-workers who teach and translate materials for our **Nehemiah Bible Colleges**.
- September 12** ⇒ That Christian preachers proclaim the gospel faithfully and without compromise.
- September 13** ⇒ An increase in enrollment at our **Nehemiah Bible Colleges**.
- September 14** ⇒ Unity and peace among all nations.
- September 15** ⇒ That alcoholics and evildoers experience true repentance and transformation.
- September 16** ⇒ Expansion of our ministries and the global spread of the Gospel.
- September 17** ⇒ The safety and well-being of all our Associate Editors and their families.
- September 18** ⇒ That peace would prevail in every family.

....Contd. from page 4

III. THE FRUIT THAT REMAINS = PERSEVERANCE:

When the four essential elements are consistently present in our lives, we are empowered to bear fruit that remains.

Jesus Christ didn't just tell His disciples to "bear fruit"; He said to bear fruit that remains - fruit that lasts, fruit that endures the test of time.



This is an image of a Sequoia tree - one of nature's most powerful symbols of endurance. Some of these giants have stood for over 3,000 years, surviving

countless fires, storms, and environmental shifts. They serve as a striking reminder of the importance of perseverance and patience in any form of growth.

True growth - whether physical, intellectual, or relational - is only possible through consistent perseverance. Patience and perseverance are the twin pillars of lasting development.

There are four stages of growth.

(a) Initial Growth!

New believers often go through a spiritual "honeymoon phase," marked by noticeable transformation and enthusiasm. Their initial connection with Jesus Christ brings about visible and sincere changes, though these have yet to be tested by time and trials.

(b) Season of Testing!

This is a crucial phase in any journey of growth. After the initial period of flourishing, a season of testing often follows to reveal the depth and strength of that growth. In Matthew 13, when Jesus Christ spoke the parable of the sower, He illustrated how the outcome of growth depended on the type of soil in which the seeds were sown. Some seeds sprouted quickly but withered under persecution or the worries of life.

Similarly, statistics show that many believers fall away during times of hardship. The same pattern is often observed in human

relationships - what begins with promise is tested by time, trials, and pressures.

(c) The Stage of Faithful Continuation!

This phase represents mature discipleship. Galatians 6:9 reminds us, **Let us not become weary in doing good, for at the proper time we will reap a harvest if we do not give up.**

This is a time when perseverance is vital. We may feel like giving up; it may seem like a spiritually dry season - but pressing on in faith reveals true spiritual maturity. Our spiritual forefathers modeled this well.

I remember when my father started our church - initially, it was just my mother and me alongside him. When my mother went on maternity leave, it was just the two of us. Sunday after Sunday, my father would preach as if he were addressing thousands, always giving an altar call. I was very young, but I would raise my hand and respond to his call every single week.

Days passed. Months passed. There was no visible fruit. Yet, my father never gave up. He continued faithfully, seeing with eyes of faith.

Praise God - eventually, the Lord blessed our church. Not only

....Contd. to page 8



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E.mail : sam@echoofhiscall.org / Website : www.echoofhiscall.org

MAIN CHURCH PROGRAMMES

1. Prayer Service : 24 hours
2. **ECHO OF HIS CALL** - Monthly Magazines :English, Tamil, Malayalam, Telugu, Hindi, Kannada, Marathi, Gujarati, Bengali, Odiya, Nepali, Assamese, Punjabi, Urdu, Sinhala & Afrikan.
3. **BIBLECOR** - Basic Bible Courses (English, Tamil & Hindi)
4. Theological Correspondence Courses: English & Tamil
5. Nehemiah Bible Colleges (Chepauk, Santhoshapuram & Velachery)
6. Great Commission Partners (Network of Pastors)
7. Training Programmes – Seminars & Retreats
8. Crusades
9. Literature Distribution and Follow Up
10. Gospel Printing Press - Publications
11. St. Paul's Matriculation School - Village English High School
12. Sunday Schools (Chepauk) : 10.30 a.m. Sunday & (Velachery, Balaji Nagar & Santhoshapuram) 3.00 p.m. Sunday
13. **Early Morning Service** : 5.30 a.m. Sunday
14. **Preliminary Service** : 8.00 a.m. Sunday
15. **Tamil Service** : 8.30 a.m. Sunday
16. **Youth Meeting** : 11.00 a.m. Sunday
17. **Fellowship Lunch** : 1.00 p.m. Sunday
18. **Telugu Service** : 4.00 p.m. Sunday
19. **Hindi Service** : 5.00 p.m. Sunday
20. **Tamil & English Service** : 6.00 p.m. Sunday
21. Feedback Time : 7.30 p.m. Sunday
22. Women's Prayer : 5.30 p.m. Wednesday
23. Men's Prayer : 7.30 p.m. Friday
24. Discipleship Meeting : 6.00 p.m. Saturday
25. House Meetings : 6.30 p.m. Tuesday & Thursday
26. Special Holy Communion : 6.00 a.m. 1st day of each month
27. Ministers' Meeting : 6.00 p.m. First Saturday
28. Parents' Prayer : 4.00 p.m. First Sunday
29. Night Prayer : 9.30 p.m. Third Friday
30. Fasting Prayer : 9:30 a.m. Second Saturday
31. Holy Communion : Second Sunday Services
32. Youth / Kid Prayer : 10.00 p.m. daily (over phone)
33. Staff Devotion : 9.00 a.m. daily
34. Office : 9.00 a.m. to 9.00 p.m. (except Sundays)

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- Editor

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PIT TO PALACE

(Life experiences of Pastor S. Sam Selva Raj)

“Whoever reads, let him understand” (Matthew 24:15)

“...If anyone serves Me, him My Father will honor” - John 12:26

God performed great things through me on different occasions. God honoured me by performing miracles and wonders in the ministry at the Headquarters and also in outstations. Through this the fragrance of this ministry spread to many parts of the world. God's name be glorified.

Once I was ministering at Sydney, Melbourne, and Brisbane in Australia, many people felt the glorious touch of God.

One day an Australian couple came to meet me in the house where I was staying. They were in tears, telling me that they have no child even though they were married for 13 years. They also told me that they are going to apply for divorce in a peaceful way. They asked me to pray for that (In their country divorce was so common).

I felt so sad. So I asked them whether I could pray that God will give them a child. They laughed at me and told me that they have gone to many famous doctors and they could not do anything. They questioned me “How can prayer bring a child? So I,

....Contd. from page 6

did it grow, but we were also able to establish branches across India and in other countries.

So, keep moving forward. Don't give up. What we sow in faith today will bear fruit in God's perfect time.

(d) Lasting Legacy!

God has called us to leave a lasting legacy - just as Moses, Joshua, Daniel, Paul, Peter, Esther, Jael, the Marys, and many others did.

In 2 Timothy 2:2, Paul speaks of spiritual multiplication across generations. We serve a God

sat with them counseled them about faith and its outcome and about God's power. Later I prayed in the spirit earnestly for them.

Praise God, After about two months I was leaving Australia to India. When I arrived at the airport, I saw the couple bringing a big pack of gifts to me. I was shocked to see that they cried and wept in the airport for about ten minutes. The whole crowd was seeing that.

Finally the husband told me that his wife got conceived and doctors have confirmed that on that day. They were very happy and in the gift parcel they kept a lot of dresses and useful things for my ministry. God granted them a daughter and later He gave two more sons and blessed them.

Dear friend, God is able to perform the same miracle in your life too. Believe in god and ask Him with faith. He will grant all your needs.

The Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ, whom I preach is able to grant a child to childless couples, healing the sick bodies and other blessings. He is the same yesterday, today and for ever. Glory be to God.

of generations, and He has called us to bear fruit that endures.

Our children and future generations should be able to look up to us. As parents, we are entrusted with the responsibility of leaving behind a godly legacy for them to follow. I am deeply grateful to my grandmothers and my parents, who faithfully led me in the ways of the Lord. I learned much from watching them and listening to their words. Praise God for their enduring legacy.

John 15:16 reminds us that Jesus Christ chose us to go and bear fruit - fruit that will remain.

What makes fruit truly lasting is perseverance through all seasons.

IV. OBSTACLES & CHALLENGES

All of us desire to grow in the Lord and stand firm in our faith. However, there are real challenges that hinder our spiritual growth.

(a) BUSYNESS!

One of the greatest obstacles is busyness. Despite the abundance of time-saving devices and technology, our lives have become increasingly hectic. Overloaded schedules - filled with

work responsibilities, family commitments, and even church activities - often leave little room for spiritual reflection and growth.

We often hear people say, "I am busy, busy, Busy". It is a buzzing word of the modern world I think. I once read an interesting acronym, after that I stopped saying the word busy. Busy is "Being under Satan's yoke". If our calendars are so full that we no longer have time to spend intimately with God or to enjoy fellowship with fellow believers, then it's time to prayerfully reexamine our schedules. Jesus Christ Himself often withdrew to quiet places, despite the many demands on His time (Mark 1:35). I encourage you to take a closer look at your calendar and consider what activities can be removed to make room to abide in Him.

(b) DIGITAL DISTRACTIONS!

Statistics reveal that the average person spends 3-4 hours a day on their smartphone alone. And this is just the general population - if we consider the younger generation, they are almost constantly on their devices. Even when we attempt to read the Bible using a Bible app, the frequent interruptions from notifications can severely hinder our focus. We must set intentional and practical boundaries to protect our time with God.

(c) SIN PATTERNS!

Unconfessed sin creates a barrier in our relationship with

God. As Isaiah 59:2 says, ...Your iniquities have separated you from your God... David also prayed, Keep your servant also from willful sins; may they not rule over me. Psalm 19:13. We must be especially vigilant about willful sin. Ask the Lord for the strength to recognize it and the grace to overcome it.

(d) SPIRITUAL FATIGUE!

When we spend less time with God, we begin to serve from a place of diminishing spiritual resources. This inevitably leads to frustration, resentment, and burnout. I often observe people who once ran with zeal and strength become exhausted and worn out far too soon.

It is crucial that we maintain a healthy balance. The joy of the Lord must remain our strength. We need to regularly recharge ourselves in His presence, drawing fresh strength and vision.

If any of you are feeling weary today, remember that Jesus Christ is calling:

Come to Me, all who are weary and burdened, and I will give you rest. Matthew 11:28.

Dear brothers and sisters, we have been meditating on how God has called us to bear fruit - and we know this is only possible by abiding in Him. We've reflected on how to remain in Him and produce lasting fruit.

Yet, we are also aware of the obstacles. The spirit may be willing, but the flesh is weak.

I pray that, as we examine our hearts, the Lord will reveal the areas in which we need to grow, so we may become even more fruitful for His Kingdom.

God has given us the precious gift of free will - freedom. The question is: What will we do with it?

Let us choose to use it for His glory.



ECHO OF HIS CALL

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Inaugural Convention!

Dates: **Friday, August 8th to Sunday, August 10, 2025**

Please Pray and Participate!

ECHO OF HIS CALL
 Main Church at Chepauk,
 Chennai - 600 005.
Sis. Angeline Selvakumari
 Assistant Pastor



WANTED



1. COMPUTER OPERATORS (with typing knowledge)
2. ASSISTANT PRINTING PRESS OPERATORS

Contact: ECHO OF HIS CALL (+91) 98412 71858, E.mail : sam@echoofhiscall.org

NOTICE

Save our mobile numbers (+91) 98410 71858, (+91) 98412 71858 (main numbers) in your mobile phones.

- Editor

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- Editor

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Branch : Triplicane, Chennai-5
Name : S. Sam Selva Raj
A/C No. : 1023 2934 679
IFSC : SBIN 00 00 249
SWIFT CODE : SBI NIN BB 455

2. Bank : ICICI Bank

Branch : Anna Salai, Chennai-6
Name : Echo of His Call
A/C No. : 6038 0502 2319
IFSC : ICIC 000 6038

3. Bank : State Bank of India

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Branch : Triplicane, Chennai-5
Name : Echo of His Call Educational Trust
A/C No. : 1023 2923 805
IFSC : SBIN 00 00 249

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