MANGKIT IN DIAKONIA ACTION

OF THE CHRISTIAN EVANGELICAL CHURCH IN MINAHASA

A Study on The Renewal Of The Church Diakonia

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BY

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ABSTRACTION

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Thesis : MANGKIT IN DIAKONIA ACTION OF THE CHRISTIAN EVANGELICAL CHURCH IN MINAHASA

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This study is an attempt to understand the Church diakonia as an aspect of its essential mission. Diakonia is not to be addressed only to the contemporary needs of food, etc.,but to the man and society where the dignity and its values of life have been violeted because of oppression, despoliation and injustice. Diakonia is an action based to the call to love that should be seen in the solidarity with the people who live in poverty in its large meaning.

The Church diakonia is to be patterned to the diakonia of God that is seen in His action to liberate and to do justice. The diakonia of God is fulfilled in the death of Jesus Christ and His ressurection that liberat-

ed and justified the people. This leads us to understand the doing and dying of Jesus not only as a spiritual action but it is also concern with the social, economy, political and historical aspects. The action of God through Jesus Christ is the realisation of 'shalom' as the special characteristic of the rule of God.

The realisation of the Church diakonia is to serve not only to the individual but also society in its problems and needs. The churches realize this kind of ministry as shown by Gereja Masehi Injili Minahasa (The Christian Evangelical Church in Minahasa) in the fields of education, health service, family planning, ecological maintenance, rural society development, social service and cooperation, and the special project to the rural society of the prospective village : Mangkit. The people of Mangkit works as coconut plantation labor. It is clearly seen that they are the victim of injustice and oppression, for example : low income, no health service, unavailable of good housing, unqualified education and without secure future, etc.

The role of GMIM was to make them conscious the context of the very condition of their existence and situation where they live. So, they would make an attempt to liberate themselves and to seek justice. This effort of the Church has attained its purpose. The next responsibi-

lity of the Church is to train them how to be responsible for their own life in the sphere of freedom. In this case they themselves will be self supporting and the subject of ministry.

This project has encouraged GMIM to the needs of the continual renewal of the Church diakonia.

The true image of the Church diakonia is to be seen in the project of Mangkit as a 'demonstration project' in society and as a sign of the the coming Kingdom of God that full of 'shalom'.