

## Transcript – Film of the Matthews family’s missionary work in India and Pakistan, circa 1930-1950

*On-screen text: Field Location Far North in India and Pakistan*

There you see Dr. J. G. Campbell showing the route to Punjab mission field. Joan, and her mother Mabel, is [sic] in the background.

*On-screen text: [unintelligible]*

This is the Pasrur Girl School, where the mission carried on quite an educational school for Christian girls in the community and field.

*On-screen text: Noonday Siesta (As Flies Permit)*

*On-screen text: Washday If Your Shirt is Dirty, Beat It*

*On-screen text: Blind Boys Reading By Touch*

[1:06] I believe these are some trucks that were used when the refugees were pouring into the mission field from India. We had millions of Hindus escape from the Punjab into Hindu India, and many Muslim refugees from India into Muslim Pakistan. You see crowds of people, all refugees who’ve probably endured great hardships to get into another land. It was a great tragedy of India, the time of the partition. Many of these refugees were killed en route and all suffered. Dad’s district was right on the Pakistan border. Desperate refugees going in both directions. Missionaries and the Christians attempted to help them. Here you see trucks loaded to the hilt. You can see how desperate these refugees were to get into a new land.

[3:15] Now we get back into some of the better missionary work. This is Dr. Laubach coming up here. He was a great educator and his main objective, I believe, was to educate the adult people who could not read and write. His slogan was, “Each One Teach One.” I believe that is Laura MacLachlan in the background. I’m not just sure where these pictures were taken. They might be, look like up around Kashmir, but it might be in Jhelum District. I was never there, so I can’t tell you. That looks like Mabel Campbell.

[4:20] Now we come to the rose bog, or the rose garden, at one of the mission homes. It possibly could be Pasrur Gujranwala, maybe some other station. It’s fine if you have a Mali to take care of it. The mission compounds were kind of an oasis in this land and were used for many purposes. You will see crowds of people coming to a synod and other activities, as well as the homes of the missionaries. Here’s Dr. J. G. Campbell and Mabel. I believe they’re in Pasrur. There’s some bougainvillea showing. We have that in Florida here. I imagine it came from India originally. Here you see a camel grinding wheat to make atta. And atta was their main bread supply, or chapati as we call it. They were similar to our pita bread. My mouth waters for tandoori roti, which is oven-baked chapatis. I see that hill in the background. That might be Sangla Hill. You see these women carrying things on their heads? This film was warped, and I’m sorry it didn’t, couldn’t focus any better, but you’ll see some better parts of it in a little bit here. There we come. Dr. Campbell saying goodbye to some workers. He seems to be very happy. He must have had a good day today. Here’s one of the trucks that was used in the refugee program, I believe.

[7:16] Now we have come to a section of black and white film, which was taken at a conference where these workers were examined in their knowledge of the Bible. I don’t know who this gentlemen is. Maybe Ernie Campbell can tell us.

This young fellow is harvesting wheat with a sickle, as they did in biblical times. I’m sure it’d kill me to squat down like that for very long, but he seems to be able to do it. A good portion of the agricultural work in India and Pakistan is still done by human labor. When I visited India, I saw a tractor in one field and a

camel and an ox yoked together pulling a plow in another field. This man is carrying this big sheath over to the threshing floor. They develop tremendous muscles in their necks, they seem to like to carry loads on the top of their heads. Here's the threshing floor. You see the oxen tramping out the grain. Again, as in biblical times. Later on, when it's thoroughly composted, the women will winnow it in a breeze.

[9:00] This is a village scene. During the winter months the missionaries traveled out among the villages. You will see several of them. Here's some more tents of the missionaries. That looks like our old Model A truck. The women, the ladies, had their own tent, and the women congregated at their tent, and the men at the missionaries' tent.

This is some parade. I didn't have any note on it, so I can't tell you much about it. Just says, big parade, some missionaries. Here, I believe you'll see dad Clements clapping his hands. They would sing zaburs as they were marching along. Now this must be a mela, or a county fair, and these horses are being, are putting on a show for the buzurgs or some dignitary that has come to visit. You will see them a little bit later on. There's teams of horse pulling carriages. There's some dignitaries. You see them in the white hats, dopis we called them. Now here you see camels pulling a wagon, which carries some more dignitaries. As-Salaam-Alaikum.

[11:00] Here's some ladies at the mission compound. When synod is held I think the whole families of the pastors and workers come. Ladies and children are taught over at the ladies' home. The old customs are hard to break, but the Christian community is trying to upgrade the role of women in the home.

Here you see a grain market. Might be in Gujranwala or Sialkot. There are camels being loaded with grain for far-distant places.

I believe that is Dr. Campbell preaching to the boys and girls of the school.

Another parade. During the winter months, the missionaries like to get out among the villages and camp at a central location. The weather was very nice, especially for camping. At nighttime it might get a little chilly, but in the daytime it was very nice. And that way they kept in touch with the villages. These are Bible women that they're taking along to teach the women of the community.

Another parade, great crowds.

[13:30] This is the first train that came through Badomali District. Dad Clements was credited with being responsible for getting it put through. I think maybe he spoke to the governor once or twice. Here dad and mother are returning back to the compound from the village of Badomali after services on Sunday morning. This was a nice walk in the wintertime, but in the summer and more than a hundred degrees temperature it was impossible. Huck cho, huck cho [phonetic] – move over, out of the way. There are dad and mother driving into the Badomali compound in their black Ford. Most of the time I was out there we had Model Ts. Henry Ford painted 'em all black. He says any color was all right as long as it was black. But I did see a green one, Eddie Roma [phonetic] owned one of them.

[15:08] Now we're in the Badomali compound. It consisted of several acres which were leased out to tenant farmers. Here's dad and mother in his dafter, or study and, oh, it's mail from the U.S.A. Oh, what a wonderful day. Even pictures. Can't you just see mother making that expression?

Here dad and mother are going to chew some gumba [phonetic]. They're going to suck the juice out of sugar cane. This was part of our candy when we were growing up.

This is cotton growing in behind the house. Every inch of the tillable land was used for some crop or other. I never saw it growing but that's what dad has marked on the film. Here's mother treating the compound children to keep their eyes from being infected. It was a great problem out there.

Take up your bed and walk. Here you see our houseman taking the bed up to the roof. In the summertime missionaries liked to sleep on the top of the roof where there was a little breeze, and they always had to sleep under mosquito nets.

[16:51] I believe we're in Pasrur now. This is Dr. and Mrs. Campbell's home. Here's on the pathway between the mission home and the ladies' home...bungalow, I should say. There's Dora Whitely, Mary Kyle, Laura MacLachlan. There's Dr. Campbell, dad Clements, Mabel Campbell, Emily Clements. Now here the ladies are standing in front of a bottlebrush tree. We have bottlebrushes here in Florida. From left to right, you see Laura McLaughlin, Dora Whitely and Mary Kyle. This is Dora Whitely and Emily Clements greeting some children who are just coming to the school in Pasrur. This good-looking girl you'll see here in a little bit, there she is, is Anat Razenith [phonetic], I guess, the daughter of Yakub Khan [phonetic]. And mother finally at the bungalow at Pasrur.

[18:24] Now I believe we're up in Kashmir. This is a bazaar scene. Here's a man cooking parathas, or some other edible like that. Cook that in deep fat and it's crisp as a potato chip. We used to sneak off to the bazaar and eat all kinds of goodies, but we always made sure that it was cooked in hot oil. And you see another bazaar scene. Like I said, these are up in Kashmir. This might possibly be Pahalgam, but I think most of 'em are in Srinigar, Kashmir.

Maybe I should turn on my...(music begins). There's some bazaar music. These are gurkhas, carrying crops to the market. Somewhere in there you'll see a smaller boat called a shikara, paddled with heart-shaped paddles.

[20:16] Now these are the gardens either at Shalimar or Nishat, built by the Moghul emperors while they were ruling the large part of India. In the summer months the heat is intolerable in the plains, and they come up here into the mountains to cool off. They're very beautiful gardens. During World War II, American soldiers were sent up here to recuperate.

Here you see Asadoo Kiraff Akir [phonetic], covered with ashes. He says that's what keeps him warm. He's on a pilgrimage to Amarnath Cave, one of the holy places of the Hindu religion.

[21:11] Now I believe we're up in Pahalgam, which is a little couple thousand feet higher than Srinigar. And the missionaries like to get up here in August and recuperate and rejuvenate themselves for their work in the plains later on. I remember Pahalgam as a child, a very beautiful place. I'm sorry the colors don't show the green trees and the beautiful valleys and the snow-capped mountains. The weather was delightful up here in the summertime. On the last night of vacation a large bonfire was built. This stream is ice-cold water coming from the glacier Kolahoi. During, when I graduated from high school, two other fellows and myself followed that up to the source.

[22:29] Here you see grandma and grandpa Matthews. The film broke there, I'm sorry. This is Mabel, my mother's sister. She had beautiful red hair. I'm sorry this isn't in color. There's yours truly in younger days. I was kind of skinny then, but I had a little hair. These are taken out at the Matthews farm. There's Mack Matthews and Elizabeth. Mack was mother's brother. Here's the whole gang. There's grandpa and grandma in the background. All right, from left to right is Harvey, Eleanor and Freda; in the back is myself and Bob Matthews. There's Uncle Mack at the old well. And here's yours truly when he graduated from Westminster College. That was up in New Wilmington, in the mission house.

[23:36] Now we're down in Peaceful Valley. This is where my dad, Dr. E. V. Clements, grew up. This is his mother, our grandma Maggie Clements. We all loved her dearly. The old farm is no longer a farm. A big highway has come right through here. The house has burned down. New sub-divisions are sprouting up all around.

Here's Glenn back up at New Wilmington, Westminster College, his company commando [phonetic] he called it. He's earning his tuition for the next semester. He told me that he and 20 others originally started out but the work was pretty hard and just two of them stuck with it, this young fellow and himself.

Here's Dr. Campbell. I don't know what he's saying to the foreman but the camera belongs to him so I'm sure he had a reason to be there.

There's Glenn. I don't know this young fellow, but he was the one that stuck it out. Looks like a good way to stay in shape. They're building one of the dormitories. This is brother Vinton at the mission house, cleaning windows. And that's goodbye. Thank you all for listening. It's been a pleasure...