

# The Rakhies of Love

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**D**o you remember the heart-breaking incident that had taken place at Manoharpuri village in Orissa on 23rd January, 1999? Australian Missionary Graham Stuart Stains had been a messenger of love for the lepers there for about 36 years. It was on that night, he along with his two little children - Philip(9) and Timothy (7) were burnt alive by a gang of barbarians. In their struggle for lives, as they tried to come out of the burning vehicle, they were thrown again into the fire using a spear. All the three were charred like lumps of coal tied together. Stains must have embraced his beloved ones with all his might while the flames swallowed them! The picture of Graham Stains looking to the heavens as his prayers rose alongwith the cloud of smoke can never be forgotten.

**Gladdis and Christ:**

It was to this scene the mother of Philip and Timothy, the wife of Graham Stains entered. What should be the attitude of this personification of sorrow towards the killer Dhara Singh when she saw those logs of 'charred coal'? But the words that came out through the lips of Gladdis are these, "I forgive them in the name of Jesus." Those who were present there shouted, 'Jesus still lives!"; He lives in Gladdis.They understood that it is the divine grace dwelling in her that prompted her to say so. Such is the grace that comes from Jesus. This made many to believe that Jesus still lived. What she gave at that moment was such a powerful testimony that it proved to be more powerful than a sentence for life .

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