CHAPTER  I

ORIGIN AND GROWTH OF THE SALVATION ARMY

The legacy of the Salvation Army is a league of what is best in the world to fight what is worst said Bramwell Booth, the second general of the Salvation Army is an integral part of the Christ Church although distinctive in administration and practice. Its doctrine follows the main stream of Christian belief and faith. Its articles of faith emphasize God’s Salvation. Its objects are the advancement of Christian religion, education, the relief of poverty and other charitable objects beneficial to the community of mankind as a whole.

The formation of Salvation Army in London in the year 1865, July 2 by William and Catherine Booth marked a unique event in the nineteenth century religious life of Great Britain. It has spread to many parts of the world. At first it was in the name of Christina Mission. The rapid development of the Army was aided by the adoption of a quasi-military command structure in 1878 when the title The Salvation Army was brought into use. A similarly practical organization today enables resources to be equally flexible responding to a recurrent theme in Christianity which sees the Church engaged in spiritual warfare, the Army has used to advantage certain soldierly features such as uniform, flags and ranks to identify. Leadership in the Army is proved by Commissioned officers. They are recognized

ministers of religion. All Salvationists accept the disciplined and compassionate life of high moral standards, which includes abstinence from alcohol and tobacco. This organization accorded equal opportunities to women from its beginning. From childhood every one was encouraged to late and serve God\(^5\).

The Salvation Army being inspired by the evangelistic spirit spontaneously embarks on schemes for the social betterment of the poor. Modern facilities and highly trained staff are employed now a days.

Ted Palmer, the famous historian in his book "Marching On" says that\(^6\) the Salvation Army is the stained glass window of Christian Church. Its most colourful expression of the light is on life of Christ. The Salvation Army is composed of persons who having experienced forgiveness of sins and conversion by divine power are enlisted under its banner as soldiers fighting for God and souls.

The word Salvation indicated the purpose of the movement namely induce all men to submit to God and acceptance of God together as their supreme ruler. The word Army indicates that the movement is a fighting force constantly at war against the power of Evil. In certain feature of its constructions and functions also it resembles a military Army. The Salvation Army is a force of men and women knit together in holy love and fellowship for the purpose of mankind to God and imprested the Salvation provided for them in Christ. The Salvation Army is not a bed and board Army nor a money collecting Army or a recreation center Army, or a

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\(^5\) Benita Robinsson, op.cit., p.25.

\(^6\) Alensaturly, Notable quotable, New York, 1985, p.185.
hospital Army. These are but the battle fields the weapons and the logistics of the fight. The Salvation Army war is against human distress and not against another Army. The Salvation Army is God’s voice calling the way ward, the lonely and the destitute into the circle of his love.

Evangelistic and social enterprises are maintained under the authority of the general. The members of the Salvation Army are called Salvationists. All Salvationists accepted as a disciplined and compassionate life of high moral standards which includes abstinence from alcohol and tobacco. From its earliest days the Army has accorded women equal opportunities in every rank and service is being open to them.

Raised to evangelistic world the Army spontaneously embarked many schemes for the social betterment of the poor. So during the Second World War, the famous British Prime Minister, Sir Winston Churchill made a wonderful remark about the Salvation Army as follows "Where there is need there is the Salvation Army". It is true even now the hands of Army is in Iraq and Iran when Afghanistan was pelted with war wounds, the Army hand healed them. When the business tower was attacked on 11th September 2003 at USA immediately after the crisis, the Army was there to help the people with food, cloth, and medicine.

The Salvation Army is demonstrating the love of Christian action. The Salvation Army partnership with both private and public on the rope will continue to bring comfort to the needy.
William Booth started the Salvation Army as a force to launch an agitation against the evils founded in Victorian Society of England. But by the turn of events it emerged as a ministry of compromise to grow more in the leadership of God, the father. Frederic Courts, the 8th general of the Salvation Army viewed the ministry of the Army as the ministry of reconciliation. The movement was first called as East London Christian Mission\(^7\).

**Founders of the Army**

William Booth and the Catherine Booth were the founders of the Salvation Army. The Salvation Army was not planned in advance by any man or body of men. However, William Booth never claimed to have invented or formed it. Indeed his devoted wife and his zealous and undaunted followers dreamed to establish an Army of which they were soldiers. ”The Salvationists still Robert Sandal, The history of Salvation Army believe that the Army is the lovely creation of the holy spirit”, says Major Yesudinpeter, the former editor of the Salvation Army India South Eastern Territory.

**William Booth**

William Booth was born on 10th April 1829 at Sneinten in Nottingham. His father was Samuel Booth and mother was Mrs. Mary Booth. Samuel Booth lost all his property and became very poor. So he could not help his son to continue his education after 13 years old. Then William Booth was sent to a pawnbroker shop to

learn the business at Goose gate. For six years he worked as an apprentice. During this time his father died and the whole family burden fell upon the elder son, William Booth. When he finished his apprenticeship he left Nottingham to London to find a good job in London. There he could not find out a respectful job. During this time a great preacher Peargusogo nor visited Nottingham and William was attracted by his sermons.

In 1846 Jameskhai from America campaigned Nottingham and challenged many young people like William Booth. After dedicating himself for God’s ministry William began to preach in the street corners. He preached Gospel to the poor and uncared. Naturally William used to love the poor and he visited them to tell the love of Christ.

At one instant he gathered certain street boys accompanied with them to the Church in the broad street but he and the boys were sent out by the Church authorities as they did not want the poor to worship God along with the rich. It wounded William very much.

When his apprenticeship came to the end, William became jobless. To find out job, William walked towards London anticipating the help of his sister Annie and her husband Frances Brown. But the most disappointment he found them both drunkards. As he was not able to stay with drunkards he himself sought his own work and joined with a pawnbroker at Kennigtonn. The Methodist Church leader

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refused to renew his membership in the Church as he doubted William Booth as a preacher. While he was 15 years old he accepted Jesus as his personal saviour and offered everything for Christ.

In London also he began to preach in the street corners during his leisure time his listeners appreciated his sermons and introduced him to the Methodist new congregation. In that Church Mr. Edward Rabbits, a landlord and a famous shoe merchant listened William Booth and helped him to be a full time preacher. After this William was considered as one of the preachers in Methodist new congregation. William was put in charge of the Church in Clabiam. Everybody those who listened William appreciated him and accepted Jesus. On 9th April 1952, the Methodist new congregation arranged a special meeting in a school in Cowber street. Rabbits invited William Booth, Catherine mum ford the future wife of William Booth also was there in the meeting.

In that meeting Catherine could not stay until the end of the meeting” because of her back pain. So William was asked to take her home. While they were travelling in the cart they began to share together. Their conversation brought them very closer to each other and continued even after they reached home. As it was late night Catherine's mother requested William to stay with them until next morning. The next day was 10th April 23rd birthday of William. William and Catherine met together until May 13. In this time they dedicated themselves for Gods service and for each other.
Catherine Booth

On 17\textsuperscript{th} January 1829, Catherine Mumford was born in the Mumfords family in Derbyshire. Catherine’s father was Mr. John Mumford and her mother was Mrs. Saraha Mumford. The growth of her mind was faster than her body. The biographer of Catherine Booth says that she had read the Bible from cover to cover 8 times before she was twelve. The family moved to Boston and then to Brighton. On 15\textsuperscript{th} June 1846 Catherine dedicated herself for God and His service. First the family was Methodists but as Catherine became a keen supporter of Methodist new congregation the family also joined with the new congregation. Catherine worked as a bible woman in the Church. Edward Rabbits was one of the many well wishers of Catherine. He helped William and Catherine to come very close to be friends. Their friendship finally ended in their marriage.

Marriage and Ministry

William and Catherine were married on 16\textsuperscript{th} June 1865 at Stock well new Chapel in London. William and Catherine were serving as ministers in Gateshed in 1860. They wanted to take Gospel to the poor and needy of the street. But the Church leaders’ conference held in Liverpool in 1861 refused the request of William. So William resigned his job on 18\textsuperscript{th} June 1861. For ‘18’ months they were conducting revival meetings. In 1862, Catherine Booth made history by conducting a very first private meeting for women on Good Friday at St. Judes’ Church.
In 1865 spring season, Catherine was invited to conduct a special meeting. By the success of the meetings both William and Catherine were inspired to conduct such meetings in the surrounding villages. To make it convenient the family shifted its house to No.31, Shafter's Road in Hammer smith. Indirectly it became convenient to originate new denomination of faith.

**Origin of the Army**

While William and Catherine were doing their travelling ministry, one day William passed on the mile end east. He came across the blind beggar. There stood a group of people who called themselves as Quakers. They were conducting an open air meeting when the singing and the reading was over, the group leader made an announcement that any one who wants to preach the word of God can come and preach. Without waiting for a second call William Booth stepped into the crowd and preached the word of God. After a few days the representatives of Quakers asked William Booth to take over the meetings in the tent on the day when he preached in the blind beggar he told his wife. "My dear Kate, I have found my destiny. The tent meetings went on with high spirit. Many people were converted." They compelled William with friendship to be their leader for ever.

William as well as their group did not have any idea to start a new Church. Their aim was to convert the people and send back to the already established

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10 Quakers – a Society of friends of Christian group who led informal meetings without priests and written programmes.

Churches. When the poor convert went to the Church, the Church people did not accept them. The poor also did not want to leave William Booth and also they needed more workers in the Ministry of Salvation. Now the responsibility of looking after the new converts fell upon the shoulders of William and his friends. When William found it right he accepted the plea of the people and called them as Christian Mission. After 12 years of his first meeting in the tent apart from London, the Christian Mission served in 29 places and 600 preachers preached the Gospel. This Mission spread all over England.

The Salvation Army

In 1878 in the month of May, William Booth called "Brame- well Booth and George Scott Raitton and discussed many things. While George was reading the proof of the Christian Missions’ Annual Report, George mentioned that the Christian Mission under the supervision of Reverend William Booth is a volunteer Army. In this place, Bramwell Booth interfered and told "I am not a volunteer to serve the Lord in my leisure time, I am serving the Lord 24 hours, I can't accept the word volunteer". So William Booth gently took the pen from Railtons Land and struck the word volunteer and wrote "Salvation". So the Report said the Christian

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12 George Scott Wilton, The First Commissioner of the Salvation Army and first secretary for the mission.
13 Bramewell Booth – First Son of William Booth and the successor of William Booth in Generalship.
Mission under William Booth is the Salvation Army. Military style ranks and uniforms were introduced. Reverend Booth became General Superintendent, was delected and general became the supreme head of the Salvation Army.

The change of name of the Mission brought a speedy growth in the expansion of the Mission work. The service of the Mission expanded over England, Scotland, and Wales\textsuperscript{15}. Booth then followed the policy of overseas expansion and sent pioneering parties in different directions. The first battalion reached U.S.A in 1880\textsuperscript{16}. Australia and another in 1881 battalion of the Army consisting of Frederick St. George De Lautour Tucker Australia the wonderful Army came to India on 19\textsuperscript{th} September 1882. Captain Henry Bullard, Lieutenant Norman and Mary Thompson landed India on 19\textsuperscript{th} September 1882 by the ship S.S. and started the work in Bombay\textsuperscript{17}.

By the 1900, the Army had spread around the world. The Salvation Army soon had officers and soldiers in '36' countries, including United States of America. This well-organized yet flexible structure inspired a great many much needed services. Women's social work, the first food depot, the first day nursery and the first Salvation Army hospital. During the Second World War, the Salvation Army operated 3000 service units, for the armed forces, which led to the formation of the U.S.O.

\textsuperscript{17} Henry Bullard, \textit{Reminiscences of Early day fighting}, “A Golden Jubilee Commemoration volume, p.413.
The Salvation Army works in 108 countries and its work caters to people speaking over '175' languages. The military-like style of the Salvation Army has proved to be effective in its fight against evil. It offers various social service from its centers. The Army also has several community based programmes. Salvationists (as the members of Army are called) come from many cultural backgrounds and enjoy an international fellowship which knows no barriers of age, sex or race. Salvation Army personnel serves needy people without any discrimination. All Salvationists accept a disciplined and compassionate life of high moral standards which includes abstinence from alcohol and tobacco.

Organized

The general directs the Salvation Army operations through out the world through the administrative departments of International Head Quarters, which are headed by international secretaries. The chief of the staff, a Commissioner appointed by the general to be second in command is the Army chief executive whose function is to implement the general’s policy decisions and effect liaison between departments. As well as the handling of day-to-day business and the allocation of resources, international head quarters is concerned with strategic, long range planning and function as a resource center for the world wide Army and a facilitator of ideas and policies.
The principal source of Corp’s history at the heritage center are corp’s reports in the War Cry (1879 - 1986) and other Salvation Army periodicals. These are being indexed some corps did not send in many reports, so may not be mentioned very often.

Numbers of Mission stations were not given to corps until the end of 1878, after the name of Christian Mission had been changed into Salvation Army. By this time some of the Mission stations in the east end of London had ceased to operate for example Bromly, Cubit Town Field Gate, Shore Ditch and North Woolwich. Numbers were given to the remaining ‘81’ centers scattered throughout England and Wales. Corps history books were introduced in 1907 should behold by the local corps with their soldiers. Rolls and others records and registers, though they are not always preserved when they are no longer in current use.

Officers are full-time workers for the Salvation Army and usually move around frequently to their various appointments. In the early years officers some times stayed in a corps appointment for only three or six months and to stay for more than a year was unusual. Officers may also serve in different countries and in various types of work such as corp’s headquarter social services, assurance Society, etc.

List of corps officers and their appointments upto 1884 and list of field officers appointments are indexing from the field officer magazine 1893 -1913. Some list of corps officers appointments were published in the war cry around 1915-
1917 and annual field changes have been listed in the war cry most years since 1930, apart from few gaps during the Second World War. Announcements of officers promotions usually appear in the war cry but it takes a long time to search for individual names. Many records were lost when the national and international headquarters in London were destroyed during the Second World War.

From its earliest days the Army has accorded women equal opportunities, every rank and service being open to them and from childhood, the young are encouraged to love and serve God. Rise to evangelize the Army spontaneously embarked on schemes for the social betterment of the poor such concern have since developed wherever the Army operates in practical skilled and cost effective ways. Evolving social services meet endemic needs and specific crises worldwide. Modern facilities and highly trained staff are employed.

Increasingly the Army policy and its indigenous members allow it to cooperate with international relief agencies and governments alike. The movement partnership with both private and public philanthropy will continue to bring comfort to the needy, while the proclamations of God’s redemptive love offers individuals and communities the opportunity to enjoy a better life on earth and a place in Christ everlasting kingdom.

The Salvation Army international health programme is operated and coordinated through international headquarters leaders and departments supported by an international health programme, consultant and health related programme facilitation teams. The work includes health related programme development
focusing on hospital, clinics corps and community response, inter connected wherever possible and developed with in an integrated Mission context. The Salvation Army commitment to health programme is rocked in our understanding of Gods saving purposes for the world and our commitment, to world evangelization. The Army emphasizes that compassionate care is linked to healing social inclusion and whole person transformation.

The Christian Mission headquarters, White Chapel had become the Army's first international headquarters in 1880. However the founder soon decided that a make into the city of London would be beneficial and in 1881 IHQ was moved to 101, Queen Victoria Street. Sixty years after this move the THQ building was destroyed by the fire during the second war, the rebuilt head quarters was opened by Queen Elizabeth, the Queen Mother in 1963. In 2003 THQ took up residence in the William Booth College, when it was decided to redevelop the site in queen Victoria Street.

Symbols of the Salvation Army

Flag

A Tricolour flag (Blue, Red and Yellow) was designed by Catherine Booth in the year 1878. She had presented the first flag to the Coventry Corps in London. Coventry was the 35th corps of the Army. It is the birth place of Elijha Cad Man. The blue colour denotes the holy living. The red denotes the blood of Jesus. The yellow symbolizes the fire of the Holy Spirit.
Crest

Mr. William Ebodon designated the crest emblem used by the Army in 1878. The crown denotes the crown of life. The son denotes Christ "as the son of righteousness. The cross reminds the cross of Jesus. The bullets reminds the gospel messages.

Salute

Pointing the pointing figure of the right, hand upward with Hallelujah the solute of Army. It shows that we belong to the upper kingdom.