



CONGREGATIO PRO GENTIUM EVANGELIZATIONE

Rev. ANAND MUTTUNGAL

on the 22nd day of October, in the year of our Lord 2020

The Supreme Pontiff Pope FRANCIS,

having received a report from the Cardinal Prefect of the Congregation for the Evangelization of Peoples, concerning the serious offences mentioned in Canons 1389 § 1, 1392, 1390 § 2, 1371, 2°, 1373 and 1399, committed by the above mentioned cleric of the Archdiocese of Bhopal, in India;

keeping in mind the special faculty granted by the Most Holy Father Pope Benedict XVI on the 19th of December 2008 to the Congregation for the Evangelization of Peoples, and confirmed by the Supreme Pontiff Pope Francis on the 4th of April 2013, for proceeding administratively in inflicting the canonical sanction of dismissal from the clerical state in related cases;

with his supreme and non-appealable decision, which is not liable to any recourse whatsoever, decreed that the canonical sanction of dismissal from the clerical state is to be inflicted on the above-mentioned cleric.

To the same cleric the Supreme Pontiff also graciously grants the dispensation from all obligations arising from the Sacred Ordination according to the following conditions:

1. The dismissal and the dispensation take effect from the moment of the decision by the Holy Father;

2. The decree of dismissal and dispensation should be notified to the cleric as soon as possible by the competent Ordinary, and its two elements cannot be separated in any way. It also grants the absolution of all eventual censures.

3. The information regarding the dismissal and dispensation should be recorded in the baptismal register of the dismissed cleric.

4. With regard to the celebration of a canonical marriage, the norms established in the Code of Canon Law are to be applied. The Ordinary, however, should take care that the matter be discreetly handled without pomp or external display.

5. The ecclesiastical authority, to whom it belongs to communicate the rescript to the petitioner, is to earnestly exhort him to take part in the life of the People of God in a manner consonant with his new state of life, to give good example to others, and thus to show himself a proven son of the Church. At the same time, he should also make the petitioner aware of the following:

a) A dismissed cleric automatically loses the rights proper to the clerical state, as well as ecclesiastical dignities and offices; he is no longer bound by the other obligations connected with the clerical state;

b) He remains excluded from the exercise of sacred ministry, with the exception of those circumstances mentioned in canons 976 and 986 §2 and, therefore, he should not give homilies, nor discharge any leadership function in the pastoral field;

c) Similarly, he should not carry out any function in seminaries or equivalent institutions. He should not discharge any leadership function in other institutions of higher education that are in any way dependent upon ecclesiastical authority;

d) He should not teach any discipline which is properly theological or closely connected with it in any institute of higher education, whether it be dependent upon ecclesiastical authority or not;

e) He cannot not function as lector or acolyte, nor distribute communion anywhere.

6. Indeed the dismissed cleric, who also has been dispensed from priestly celibacy and, even more so after having contracted marriage, must avoid those places where his previous status is known. The Ordinary of the diocese of the domicile or place of residence of the dismissed cleric, having heard, as far as possible, the Ordinary of the diocese of his incardination, may dispense from this clause, if the presence of the cleric does not present any danger of scandal to the faithful.

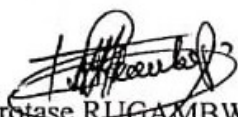
7. Notification of the Decree could be made to the petitioner personally, either by the notary or an ecclesiastical courier, or by registered post. The Ordinary should send back to this Dicastery a copy of the Decree duly signed by the dismissed cleric in confirmation of his receipt of the document and also of his acceptance of its precepts. A refusal to sign the document or to accept it, however, does not have any juridical consequences.

8. At an appropriate time the competent Ordinary should briefly report to this Congregation on the notification already made to the dismissed cleric. In case there exists a scandal for the faithful, the Ordinary should try to clarify the matter with them.

All things to the contrary notwithstanding.

Given at the offices of the Congregation for the Evangelization of Peoples, on this 22nd day of the month of October, in the year of our Lord 2020.

Luis Antonio G. Card. Tagle
Luis Antonio G. Card. Tagle
Prefect


+ Protase RUGAMBWA
Secretary

Date of notification _____

Signature of Petitioner indicating acceptance

Signature of Ordinary