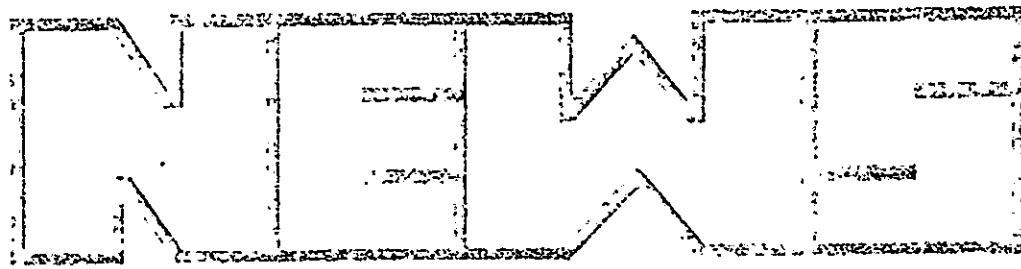


JOSHI, BISHOP RAM DUTT



Offices in:
DAYTON
EVANSTON
NASHVILLE
NEW YORK
WASHINGTON

THE NEWS SERVICE OF THE UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

Winston H. Taylor
News Director, Washington Office
100 Maryland Ave., N.E.
Washington, D.C. 20002
202/543-5038

WASHINGTON, D.C. (UMC)--Bishop R.D. Joshi, head of the United Methodist Church's Bombay Area in India since 1969, died Dec. 26 at age 62, according to word received here.

Bishop Joshi suffered a heart attack on Dec. 16, the day before the opening of the Southern Asia Central Conference, was hospitalized and died in Lucknow, according to Bishop M. Elia Peter of Delhi, who was in the United States for a meeting.

Bishop Peter said that his fellow leader had worked hard for ecumenical organizations and would be remembered in Bombay especially for bringing the churches together in action and worship. Joshi served there as president of the Senate of Serampore, for ecumenical theological education.

Born in Dwarahat, India, and christened Ram Dutt, Joshi attended Leonard Theological College and had theological degrees from there and from Serampore College. He did postgraduate work as a Crusade Scholar at Boston University and received the doctor of philosophy degree there in 1951.

In India he had served the church as superintendent of the Bareilly District, president of Bishop Mondol Methodist College in Bareilly, president of Boys' Christian Higher Secondary School in Bedaun, treasurer and secretary of North India Conference and, just prior to his election as bishop in 1969, as secretary of the Board of Christian Education for the Central Conference. He was a delegate to the 1964, 1966 and 1968 General Conferences.

Survivors include the widow, Agnes, in Bombay, and three sons, Rajandar and Veerendar in the U.S. and Ravi in India.

Services were conducted in Lucknow by fellow Bishops Joseph R. Lance and Eric A. Mitchell. Burial was in Lucknow.

###12-30-76