

August 6, 2010 - India – To know Fr. Rua is to know Don Bosco



(ANS – Dimapur) – “To know Fr. Rua is to know Don Bosco,” because the former was the replica of the Founder at a later time: this was the common conclusion of 19 young priests gathered for their annual meeting at the Provincial House in Dimapur.

In the centennial year of Blessed Michael Rua, Fr. V.T. Jose, rector of the Mathias Institute in Shillong and professor at the Sacred Heart Theological College in the same city, led the young priests in a presentation of the spirituality of Fr. Rua and helped them to appreciate the profound spirituality of the first successor of Don Bosco.

During the day the life and work of Fr. Rua was analyzed as a model of Salesian life and action. Great emphasis was placed on his style of leadership of the Congregation and the way he exercised authority.

The young priests were surprised by the spiritual treasure hidden in this simple and silent successor of Don Bosco. “To know Fr. Rua is to know Don Bosco,” they agreed, because the former was the replica of the latter.

The meeting ended with an exhortation from Fr. James Poonthuruthil, provincial of the Dimapur Province, to be priests and religious who are credible, co-responsible, and enthusiastic.