

IAMS Matters July-September 2015

Dear colleagues,

Conference Matters

The deadline of IAMS paper abstracts has been extended with a month, the new deadline being 30th September. The abstracts can be uploaded at <http://www.teol.lu.se/forskning/konferenser-och-symposier/iams-2016/> Once on the website, click “registration page” on the left. Then, “register a new participant” – this will be a preliminary registration needed for being able to upload, and it is not binding and does not involve any payments. Under “speaker”, click “Submit abstracts or delete them”. In case you have problems with uploading, contact Valentin Kozhuharov valentin.kozhuharov@yahoo.co.uk . Note also that subsidies are primarily provided to participants from economically underprivileged countries presenting papers or otherwise contributing to the conference.

Conference Registration Website

This website will go live soon and we will inform you as soon as it goes live.

The conference planning and fundraising for subsidies are proceeding. More concrete news about that will be available in the coming IAMS Matters.

Seeking New Secretariat

The members are reminded that IAMS is looking for a new location for secretariat after a long and fruitful time under the auspices of CMS. For the secretariat, one needs sufficient amount of volunteers with institutional backing. For more information, contact me.

Dr Siga Arles

There is also sad news: Our long time member and esteemed mission scholar, Dr. Siga Arles, passed away on the 6th of June 2015. Our prayers and thoughts are with his family, friends and colleagues.

Forthcoming Conferences

There is also some positive news from NIME, our fellow association in the Nordic countries: *Swedish Missiological Themes* (SMT), an academic mission studies journal of more than a century, turns into *Global Christianity - Studies in Religion and Society* and becomes at the same time a membership journal of NIME thereby widening its editorial board. The journal is e.g. on the EU academic journals list. IAMS members are warmly welcome to send in manuscripts dealing with mission studies, world Christianity, contextual theology etc. More information below.

There is also a conference call for papers for *The Mission of Development: Religion and Techno-Politics in Asia* – conference taking place in Singapore and a job announcement of a chair in Germany.

The members are welcome to send me notices of events, jobs etc. that are useful for the members. Book advertisements and the like are not published in *IAMS Matters*.

Yours,

Mika Vähäkangas, IAMS president

In loving memory of

Dr Siga Arles

12th Nov. 1950- 6th June 2015



Arles Ambeth Moses (affectionately called 'Siga Arles') was born on 12th November 1950 in Kolar Gold Fields (70 kilometres east of Bangalore). He comes from the Church of South India and did schooling in KGF. He had a personal encounter with Jesus Christ in September 1966 and began a lifelong ministry of being a witness of Christ. Upon graduation, he joined South India Biblical Seminary (SIBS), in charge of literature ministry. In Asbury, US he completed MA and M. Div. and later Ph.D. from Aberdeen, Scotland. He served as the principal of SIBS, Vice

Principal of the prestigious Serampore College, Registrar of North India Institute for Post Graduate Theological Studies (NIIPGTS), Director of Karnataka Evangelistic Association (a Church planting movement), Dean of Consortium for Indian Missiological Education (CIME) for Ph.D. programs, Chairman of National Association for Theological Association (NATA), Editor of *Asian Evangelical Theology* (journal of ATA) and *Contemporary Christian*, and Founder of India Ministries Fellowship and Centre For Contemporary Christianity (CFCC). He has travelled widely to lead workshops, seminars and consultations. He was a well-known author, editor and publisher in the field of missiology. He was a well-known Christian, who has lived the way, practiced the way and led many to know THE WAY. He was an example by life and deed to many. He was a 'Father, Friend, Guide and an inspiration to all'. He was an active member of the 'Fellowship of Indian Missiologists' (FOIM). He leaves behind his wife Dr. Nalini Arles (Professor at United Theological College, Bangalore), his two sons, Naveen and Sandesh, two daughters – in-law, Pamela and Holly and granddaughter Mina.

On 6th June, 2015, he died of a massive heart attack while driving in Bangalore.

**Prepared by Dasan Jeyaraj, Ph.D.
Vice- President, FOIM**

GLOBAL CHRISTIANITY – STUDIES IN RELIGION AND SOCIETY

Global Christianity is an academic journal for the multidisciplinary study of Christianity in its various local and global expressions. The journal views global Christianity as a set of interrelated phenomena which can be studied from diverse theoretical and methodological perspectives. The primary interest of the journal is in the intersections between different forms of Christianity and various local contexts: religions, cultures, political systems and societies. As a multidisciplinary journal, with an editorial board constituted by scholars from a variety of disciplines, *Global Christianity* is dedicated to advancing academic co-operation and intellectual exchange across academic disciplines and research traditions. Hence, we welcome scholarly contributions of high academic quality from a broad variety of fields including but not limited to anthropology, development studies, history, migration studies, peace and conflict studies, religious studies, sociology, and theology.

Global Christianity is the continuation of *Swedish Missiological Themes*, published since 1913. The journal is published quarterly and observes a double-blind peer-review process. The journal is ranked in the EU system and is indexed by ATLA.

CALL FOR PAPERS (DEADLINE: 31 AUGUST 2015)

The Mission of Development: Religion and Techno-Politics in Asia

Date 3-4 December 2015

Venue Asia Research Institute, National University of Singapore 469A Tower Block, Level 10, Bukit Timah Road, Singapore 259770

The history of development has recently become a lively and debated field. Recent monographs have begun to rethink the established storyline of development's sudden invention by American and European powers in the wake of the Second World War to consider development in the *longue durée*. As part of this new historicizing, and accompanying the reworked timeframes, a new set of actors have come into view. Of these, Christian missions are emerging as particularly important, if also contested. Some argue that development is a child of missionaries drawing direct moral and political sustenance, and also organizational patterns, from earlier extensive missionary activities in education, health, fundraising, and advocacy. Others contest this view. Regardless, it is becoming increasingly clear that an adequate understanding of the rise and operations of development must take into account a range of religious actors that have previously been ignored and sidelined.

This conference seeks to reflect on the key question of what the relationships between mission and development are and how these have changed over time. To what extent have missionaries worked alongside, within, and/or against development? This line of inquiry, however, is complicated by the fact of a porous boundary between mission and development. Varying through space and time, the drawing of the borderline is influenced by diverse social imaginaries, legal and policy mechanisms, and theological/doctrinal discourses justifying and proscribing particular patterns of interaction. Missionary

work and development action may at times be subsumed into each other, but they can also be disarticulated and at times even be cast in conflict with each other.

This conference aims to interrogate the complex relationships between Christian mission and international aid and development in Asia (broadly defined). We welcome historical and/or anthropological examinations of detailed case studies involving missionaries and development actors; whether they interact in key sites of negotiation of aspirations — ranging from local projects to the World Council of Churches or the UN — or relate to communities and institutions in the course of project implementation. We encourage papers that engage with one or several of the following questions:

How have missionary discourses, practices, and imaginations been shaped by development actors and vice-versa?

How have missionary and development ethics, as expressed on a global scale as well as by local actors, influenced each other through time? Do development actors continue to inflect (or reject) the missionaries' moral guidelines? To what extent have missionaries adapted to the age of development, and how have the values emphasized in development discourse marked the formulation of missionary projects?

What influence have missionary and development organizational structures had on each other? To what extent have specific organizations or projects been shaped by missionary actors? To what extent have missionaries taken on board development techno-politics or subverted/elided the imperative to render their vocation technical?

How and in what ways have the lines between mission and development been drawn and reworked? To what extent does policy at international, national, regional, and organizational levels shape mission/development practices? What disciplinary interventions enable a division to be seen as ordinary (or contested)?

What does attending to mission-development dynamics in Asia do for scholarly understandings of development and mission during the long twentieth century?

SUBMISSION OF PROPOSALS

Paper proposals should include a title, an abstract of 250 words maximum and a brief personal biography of 150 words for submission by 31 August 2015. Please send your proposal to Ms Valerie Yeo at valerie.yeo@nus.edu.sg.

Successful applicants will be notified by mid-September and are required to send in a completed draft paper (6,000 - 8,000 words) by 16 November 2015. Based on the quality of proposals and availability of funds, partial or full funding will be granted to successful applicants. Participants are therefore encouraged to seek fund for travel from their home institutions. Full funding covers air travel to Singapore by the most economical means, plus board and lodging for the duration of the conference.

CONVENORS

Assoc Prof R. Michael Feener, Asia Research Institute & Department of History, National University of Singapore E | marifm@nus.edu.sg

Dr Catherine Scheer, Asia Research Institute, National University of Singapore E | aricls@nus.edu.sg

Dr Philip Fountain, Asia Research Institute, National University of Singapore E | aripmf@nus.edu.sg

SECRETARIAT

Ms Valerie Yeo, Asia Research Institute, National University of Singapore E | valerie.yeo@nus.edu.sg

The University of Applied Science in Intercultural Theology (Fachhochschule für Interkulturelle Theologie) Hermannsburg (FIT)

advertises the position of a

Professor of Development Studies

It is the objective of the FIT to bring critical Protestant traditions and Lutheran theologies in dialogue with Pentecostal and charismatic movements and to establish an interface between the education at Protestant faculties and the different theologies of Africa, Asia and Latin America. In this way, the FIT aims to meet the challenges of Christian pluralism appropriately and reflectively. One of the objectives is to train experts in the field of international diakonia which includes aspects of social work and development studies.

The successful candidate will assume teaching responsibilities in the B.A. programs "Intercultural Theology, Migration and Congregational Leadership" and "Mission Studies and International Diakonia", as well as in the M.A. program "Intercultural Theology (the latter conducted by the University of Göttingen in cooperation with the FIT Hermannsburg). The languages of instruction are German and English. Contents to be covered comprise of modules in areas such as development studies and migration, poverty research, gender from a development studies perspective, project development and accompaniment, evaluation, development and ecumenism, social research.

Requirements for the position are

- Academic qualification in development-related studies (for instance in sociology or political studies)
- Additional expertise which corresponds to the teaching profile of FIT Hermannsburg ,
- The ability to carry out independent academic research; usually substantiated by a Ph.D.
- Intercultural teaching experiences
- Practical working experience in an international developmental organization or project
- Leadership and administration experiences in academic settings
- Special achievements in the application or development of knowledge and methods in professional practice of several years, at least three of them exercised outside of the University (for the formal requirements see also the Lower Saxony Higher Education Act, § 25).
- Membership in an evangelical (Protestant) church, in exceptional cases in another church which is represented in the World Council of Churches.

The advertised position is suitable for people with disabilities. In case of equal personal and academic qualifications, people with disabilities will be referentially employed. The FIT has implemented a policy of equal opportunities, therefore we explicitly call for qualified women to apply.

The successful applicant will take up the position **on April 1, 2016 at the latest.**

The initial contract for this position will be for two years. After that the position can be made permanent. The salary will be according to EG 14 TVöD.

The following documents are required for an application:

- CV, including lists of publications, teaching experiences, professional experience and of research projects
- Specification of future research areas
- Three selected publications, if possible, in electronic form (preferably in an integrated PDF file)

These documents should be sent in electronic form to the

Human Ressource Department
attention Erich Fiebig
Fachhochschule für Interkulturelle Theologie Hermannsburg
Missionsstrasse 3-5
29320 Südheide

Email: e.fiebig@fh-hermannsburg.de

Deadline for applications is August 31, 2015.