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**Conversions and Transformations:
Missiological Approaches to Religious Change**

Title:

Religious Freedom, Conversion and Interreligious Dialogue

India having been a secular State since 1947 has been facing a steady growth in religious intolerance, especially targeting Muslims and Christians. Hindutva proponents have targeted Christians and their work in India in more ways than one. In light of this one of the hotly debated issues is religious conversion. Nationally, media reports on “ghar vapsi (home coming)” re-conversion activities by Hindutva activists are on the increase. There have been concerns about “ghar vapsi” activities by secularists and other non-Hindutva groups, especially religious groups. In the wake of these discourses, there is a broader discussion on various issues such as religious conversion per se, the passing of the bill on religious conversions, human rights, religious rights, freedom of speech and a host of related subjects. These issues relating to religious freedom, conversion and interreligious dialogue have become transnational issues calling for international response and action. Christian mission practices and responses both historically and currently are seen to have contributed towards the current situation and discourse. There are some Christians that see religious conversion and interreligious dialogue as mutually exclusive. And there are others who oppose conversion under the ambit of religious freedom. Using a multi-methodic approach, this paper proposes to study and evaluate this.

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