

***NAZARENE THEOLOGICAL  
EDUCATION IN  
FRANCOPHONE AFRICA:***

***AN OVERVIEW AND CALL FOR  
ACTION***

# In Africa, the “need” speaks French

- 124 million French speakers world-wide
- 21 sub-Saharan francophone nations
- ongoing influence from former colonial powers, including France
- French the language of education in much of Africa

# Francophone nations in Africa where the C.O.N. is present

- » Senegal
- » Côte d'Ivoire
- » Burkina Faso
- » Bénin
- » Congo (Kinshasha)
- » Rwanda
- » Madagascar
- » Djibouti

# Francophone African countries awaiting the C.O.N.

- » Mali
- » Guinea
- » Togo
- » Niger
- » Chad
- » Central African Rep.
- » Cameroon
- » Gabon
- » Comoros Islands
- » Mauritius
- » Reunion (dept. of France)
- » Burundi
- » Congo (Brazzaville)
- » Seychelles

# PAST, PRESENT AND FUTURE

1. What has been done in the *past*?
2. What is being done *currently*?
3. What should be our Regional strategy for the *future*?

# What has been done in the *past*?

- New country = start a Bible Institute
- intensive courses taught in various locations by missionaries

# What is being done *currently*?

- Strategy changed because:
  - thrust into Burkina Faso
  - educational needs in Dakar, Senegal
  - opening of the work in Bénin

# Decentralization comes to Africa West

- Modeled on Africa East Field program
- semi-annual Teacher Training Conferences
- teach/re-teach format

# Room for improvement

- Courses not always re-taught in centers
- shortage of academically qualified pastor-teachers

# Partnership with ANU

- Some linguistically gifted francophones have succeeded at ANU
- language barrier still a challenge for many of our West Africans

# What should be our Regional strategy for the *future*?

- Continuing accent upon decentralized pastoral education
- long-term investment in African Nazarene theologians via advanced degrees

# A FRANCOPHONE, AFRICAN, HOLINESS SEMINARY

- Is it really “far too soon”?
- Residential + decentralized = success
- “rims” need “hubs” - *Dr. Robert Woodruff*

# The “60 student principle” examined

- Long-term financial viability requires a minimum of 60 students enrolled full-time
- Surviving vs. beginning
- C& MA Seminary in Abidjan
- lesson from the world of business
- “Think outside the box.” - *Don Messer*



*A francophone seminary*  
in the  
*Wesleyan-Holiness tradition*  
on the  
*African continent*

# Questions for an investigative committee

1. Could a francophone Holiness Seminary be established in Africa which would include not just Nazarenes, but other Wesleyan-Holiness groups?

# Questions for an investigative committee

2. Is it desirable - and if so - is it feasible to make ANU the sponsoring institution for such a Holiness Seminary?

# Questions for an investigative committee

3. Could ACTEA, a well-known evangelical accrediting council, give us guidance in the establishing of our Seminary?

# Questions for an investigative committee

4. Where would the Seminary be located?

# Questions for an investigative committee

5. How would such a venture be funded, especially in the early years when the enrollment would not yet have risen to 60?



*“God’s work, done in God’s way, will never lack God’s supplies.”*

*- Hudson Taylor, founder,  
China Inland Mission*

# Summary

- Multi-level theological education is a must in francophone Africa
- In Africa, the “need” speaks French