

HARVEST ASIA



“Truly, truly, I say to you, whoever believes in me will also do the works that I do; and greater works than these will he do, because I am going to the Father”
(John 14: 12, ESV).



AEF PHILIPPINES: CELEBRATING HOPE AND RESILIENCE

AEF Philippines (ADMI) recently marked a significant milestone, celebrating its 15th anniversary (13 years of being registered with the Securities & Exchange Commission). This event was a testament to the organisation's enduring commitment to its mission of reaching Filipinos everywhere.

ADMI is based in the greater Manila area (Antipolo) but has representation and work in all the three main divisions: Luzon, Visayas and Mindanao.

Church planting is currently underway in seven locations. In Pililla, Rizal, (1.5 hours east of Manila) a church planted by our faithful Lino Timog and his wife Aurora meet in a converted garage. The resilience and faith of this church is most encouraging.

Livelihood projects are making progress in several ministry areas. The poor pastors and Christian workers can supplement their income by rearing pigs - one of the many ways.

Pastors in remote Philippines have been especially blessed through our Asia School of Ministry (ASOM) programs. The invitations to conduct intensive ASOM programs are more than we can manage. But praise God - we can supply pastors in remote locations with books to encourage them in their ministry.

In Dinalungan (in the Cagayan province, located in the northeastern seaboard of Philippines) where we held our first ASOM, an opportunity is before us to consider building a ministry-cum-training centre. Please pray for wisdom for Dr Met Castillo and the board as they work through this plan and the needed provision.

Editorial

“Now I want you to know, brothers, that what has happened to me has really served to advance the gospel. As a result, it has become clear throughout the whole palace guard and to everyone else that I am in chains for Christ. Because of my chains, most of the brothers in the Lord have been encouraged to speak the word of God more courageously and fearlessly. It is true that some preach Christ out of envy and rivalry, but others out of goodwill. The latter do so in love, knowing that I am put here for the defence of the gospel. The former preach Christ out of selfish ambition, not sincerely, supposing that they can stir up trouble for me while I am in chains. But what does it matter? The important thing is that in every way, whether from false motives or true, Christ is preached. And because of this I rejoice.” Philippians 1:12-18

The author of *Man's Search for Meaning*, Viktor Frankl, used his skills as a psychiatrist to help fellow concentration camp prisoners overcome the shock and trauma of their grim situation. He developed the idea of tragic optimism to creatively turn life's negative aspects into something positive or constructive. Paul is optimistic seeing every major difficulty being turned by God into an opportunity for the gospel. Paul has robust confidence in God's overruling power. Paul releases personal advancement and concern into the hands of God with a new perspective. The advancement of the gospel becomes his main concern. Paul rejoices when he sees evidence of the gospel transforming people and communities like the Philippians. Normally the imprisonment of an apostle is like a concert pianist having their hands tied behind their back. But Paul rejoices when soldiers, who are predetermined to ensure the gospel of Caesar is served, are now hearing (and responding) to the gospel of Christ.

This quarter's Harvest Asia profiles the advancement of the gospel in the Philippines and Malaysia. That whatever the conditions may be, the main purpose is 'as long as Christ is preached'. *The Asianization of Christianity* explores the context by which the good news of Jesus is communicated and understood in a complex, diverse, often challenging and sometimes hostile environment. The optimism that Paul has is based upon the work of God that has begun and must come to completion. In closing, the words of a prayer penned by Sir Francis Drake (1540-96) mean we can be confident that, "he who began a good work in you will carry it on to completion until the day of Christ Jesus." (Phil. 1: 6)

'That it is not the beginning, but the continuing of the same, until it be thoroughly finished, that yieldeth the true glory.'

Kind regards in Him,



PASTOR MATT HALL
AEFI Training/Communications
Director

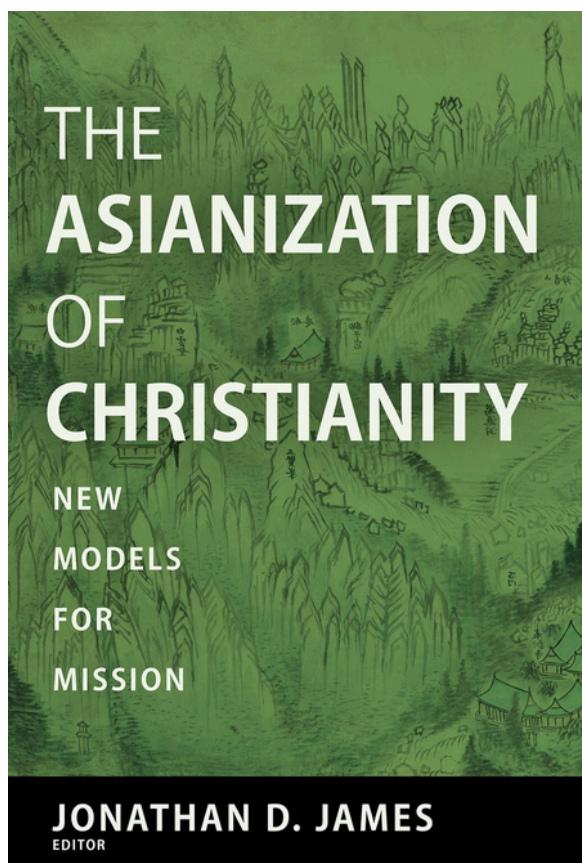
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Asia Evangelistic Fellowship International is an indigenous international mission founded in 1960 by the late Dr. G. D. James. AEFI identifies, trains, and commissions national workers to carry out pioneer mission work in their own Asian countries. These national workers are organised, supervised and supported by national boards setup in each country under the pastoral care of the AEF International Office.

Executive President:
Dr. Jonathan James
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Dr. Met Castillo
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Rev. Edwin Ponniah
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Communications Director:
Pastor Matt Hall
Chairman of the Board:
Dr. Ray Dallin

The Asianization of Christianity: New Models for Mission



**Jonathan D. James (Edited by),
Todd Johnson (Foreword by)**

Book Launch Events 2024

**Sydney, Australia 16 November
Castle Hill Baptist Church (6pm
dinner followed by meeting);**

**Perth, Australia 23 November
North Beach Baptist Church
(10am followed by lunch);**

**Singapore 6 December St.
Andrew's Cathedral, North
Transept Hall (3pm followed by
High Tea).**

Now we see in this book edited by Dr. Jonathan James a new phrase, "the Asianization of Christianity." This is not just a fashionable term but an apt one, because the book outlines a new paradigm of mission that goes beyond contextualization. This book may be one of the best things that could happen to the church in the twenty-first century. It is a compelling mission handbook backed up by solid research to build bridges to the cultures of Asia without compromising the essence of the gospel. I highly recommend this book to church leaders, students, and missionaries in Asia and throughout the world. -- **Rev. Dr. Emmanuel Damara, senior pastor, Grace Community Baptist Church, Telangana, India.**

The Asianization of Christianity: New Models for Mission is written by practitioners, not ivory-tower scholars removed from daily realities. By reading the captivating examples of indigenization shared in the book, readers see the matchless creativity of God, and at the same time, acknowledge that different cultural groups are becoming acquainted with the unchanging gospel. I would highly recommend this book as a required text for all missionaries. Read, then adapt these amazing insights to your mission field. -- **Dr. Alvin Low, president, Assisting Churches and Theological Schools (ACTS International), Colorado Springs, Colorado.**

This book offers theological reflections that provide a fresh perspective on God's mission, showcasing the unique contributions of leaders from various parts of Asia. This is a masterful work that will inspire and challenge readers in the coming decades about the authentic expression and sharing of the Christian faith in the diverse cultural settings of Asia. -- **Rev. Dr. Clement Chia, principal and director of community ministry, Singapore Bible College.**

I am deeply grateful for how Asia Evangelistic Fellowship International locates and brings thinkers and leaders to discover and develop ways and means to comprehend and communicate the good news in a most diverse geographical, religious, socio-economic and demographic landscape. This book keeps us from being mired in mere theoretical models and provides new ones to consider in missional applications. Give it a good read, if you sincerely seek to reach into the largest, youngest, densest, and neediest region of the world in your careful obedience to our Lord's Final Commission.

**Ramesh Richard Ph.D., Th.D. President, RREACH| Professor,
Dallas Seminary Founder, TOPIC |Convener, GProCommission.**

EAST MALAYSIA: PIONEERS' DREAM AND GOSPEL EXPANSION

Sarawak, one of the states of East Malaysia, has a relatively high percentage of Christians. As we researched the church in Sarawak, we realized that Sarawak's high Christian numbers can be traced to the dedicated efforts of a group of missionaries in the 1960s, including Herbert Woon, Tan Kok Beng, K.T. Han, and Peck Hock Cheng.

Dr. Peck Hock Cheng was the first missionary sent to East Malaysia by the Malaysia Evangelistic Fellowship (now known as AEFI). Peck taught at Lawas Bible School, mainly in Malay, to a variety of tribal students from the Bario Highlands.

In mid-2000, when I was asked by AEFI to serve as Director of Development, my first burden after accepting the appointment was to continue AEFI's legacy in Sarawak, East Malaysia. I encouraged Steven Choong to serve with us, and the Lord opened the door for him to become the Malaysia Chairman of AEF (now known as Destiny Communications Bhd.). Steven's first mission trip to Sarawak and Kalimantan was in early 2024, and remarkably, he was used by God to reignite the good work of Dr. Peck and AEFI.

AEF Malaysia has recently signed a partnership agreement with the outreach ministries of two churches: Calvary Community Church in Johor Bahru and Engkilili Baptist Church in Sarawak. The partnerships aim to reach the Dayak and Orang Asli peoples in Johor, Sabah, Sarawak, and the border of Indonesian Kalimantan (our Orang Asli work in Pahang, West Malaysia, continues to thrive under AEFI's previous arrangement).

The proposed AEF Malaysia collaboration with the Engkilili Baptist Church is to promote an interdenominational training-cum-prayer center near the Indonesian border. The facility is under development. The kitchen and dormitory are completed, while the canteen is under construction. A worship hall, prayer house, and transit rest home are also planned.

Additionally, our Asia College of Ministry (ACOM) Malaysia has launched Bahasa Malaysia theological courses this year to equip Dayak church workers in Peninsular Malaysia and Borneo Island, with learning centers in Johor Bahru and Sarawak.



Please pray for many to come to saving faith in Jesus and for the Lord to provide for the needs of the proposed project.

“And I am certain that God, who began the good work within you, will continue his work until it is finally finished on the day when Christ Jesus returns” (Philippians 1:6, NLT).

By Ong Kim Chuan



MY RESPONSE

Post to: AEFI, PO Box 16, Duncraig East WA 6023, Australia.

or **Fax to:** 08 9243 5104

Name: _____ Address: _____

Post Code: _____

Email: _____ Phone: _____

The AEFI secure web-site - www.aefi.asia - can also be used for making general donations to AEFI.

YES! COUNT ME IN

With God's help **I / we*** would like to be a partner in the Gospel with AEFI in the following ways:

Prayer: As a Prayer Partner with AEFI. Please send **me / us*** updated prayer information.

Sponsorship: **I / we*** would like to sponsor a child. Please send details.

Financial: Please receive **my / our*** monthly quarterly yearly one-time donation of:

\$ 50 \$ 100 \$ 150 \$ 200 Other (Please specify): \$ _____

Gift: Please use this gift for: **ADMI (AEF Philippines)** **AEF Malaysia** **AEFI Vision 2024**

AEFI Publications Other (Please specify): _____

Method: I would like to make **my / our*** payment by:

Cheque (payable to Asia Evangelistic Fellowship) Credit Card Direct Debit

If paying by Credit Card: Type of Card Visa Card MasterCard BankCard

Card Number: _____ Expiry Date: ____/____/____

Name on card: _____ Signature: _____

*If paying by Direct Debit tear off. Mail the top section to AEFI.
Use the information below for your direct debit.*



Make your direct debit to AEFI's Bank Account:

Name of Account: Asia Evangelistic Fellowship
Bank and Branch: Commonwealth Bank of Australia,
Warwick, WA.
BSB Number: 066-192;
Account Number: 1011 2640



Reaching Asia through National Workers



P O Box 16 Duncraig East
WA 6023 Australia
Phone: +61 (8) 9203 8303
Email: [aeфиwa@aeфи.asia](mailto:aefiwa@aeфи.asia)
Web: www.aeфи.asia

Dear AEFI partner,

“Bring the full tithe into the storehouse, so that there may be food in my house, and thus put me to the test, says the LORD of hosts; see if I will not open the windows of heaven for you and pour down for you an overflowing blessing.” - Malachi 3:10

Because of your generous and sacrificial giving, God has blessed our efforts abundantly. We are thrilled to share some incredible news from our mission in Asia:

- **Two businessmen from China**, working in Nepal, heard the gospel from our Nepali workers and were baptized in Kathmandu, Nepal.
- Among the hundreds who came to know the Lord in one region, a **traditional medicine man** who once communicated with spirits saw the LORD Jesus in all His glory and accepted Him.

Praise God and thank you for your partnership with AEFI. Your support is making a profound difference.

Gospel Expansion Goals Update

Since December 2023, we have made significant progress:

- **East Asia Workers:** Full support raised.
- **South Asia Work:** Over 70% of the needed support raised.
- **Cambodia Hospital Expansion:** 40% of the costs raised, trusting the Lord for the remaining amount.
- **New Opportunity in West Asia:** We are launching a gospel ministry in a needy region, reaching people of a traditional faith. We have identified four national workers and seek your prayerful support.

Our 2024 Vision

We are looking to the LORD for **\$45,000** to fulfill the remainder of our 2024 goals and usher in a harvest for our LORD. Your prayers and sacrificial giving will encourage us and result in overflowing blessings in Asia.

Together, we can reach Asia through national workers.

Thank you for your continued prayers, support and partnership.

With every blessing,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Jonathan James', written over a horizontal line.

Jonathan James

Executive President, AEF