

CAGLIERO 11

Newsletter for Salesian Missionary Animation



THE MISSIONARY DREAMS OF DON BOSCO / 3



Dear Salesian missionaries and friends of the Salesian mission!

A cordial greeting during my visits of animation to the Provinces of South Asia! The contemplation of the missionary heart of Don Bosco leads us to rediscover this month its third missionary dream that brings us in Africa, Asia and America. The exclamation of Don Bosco «Why do I see so few Salesians?» remains valid today. Let us share the dreams of our Father with our youth and with lay people who are involved in our contexts. The harvest is plentiful but the workers are never enough!

Václav Klement

Fr. Václav Klement, SDB
Councillor for the Missions

In the night Between January 31 and February 1, 1885 Don Bosco had a third missionary dream similar to the one he had in 1883. The next day he narrated it to Fr. Lemoyne who immediately wrote it down. [The whole text is found in MB XVII, 299-305; <http://sdl.sdb.org> (= biblioteca digitale salesiana)].



«I thought I was accompanying the missionaries on their journey ... At the far end of one very long road which came from the direction of

Chile, I saw a house where there were many Salesians engaged in scientific pursuits, practices of piety, and various trades, crafts and agricultural activities. To the south lay Patagonia. In the opposite direction I could see in one single glance all our houses in the Argentine Republic. I could also see Paysandú, Las Piedras, Villa Colón in Uruguay; I could see Brasile ... Where are we? I asked pointing to this territory. We are in Mesopotamia, my interpreter said ...

I was standing motionless in the prairie, scanning all those interminable roads, and contemplating quite clearly, but inexplicably, all the places the Salesians were then and were going to be later. How many magnificent things I saw! I saw each individual school. I saw as if they were all concentrated in one place, all the past, present and future of our missions. Since I saw all of it as a whole in one single glance, it is extremely difficult, indeed all together imposible for me to give you even the most vague idea of what it was that I saw. In that immense plain I also saw all the savages who lived scattered in that territory of the Pacific, down to the gulf of Ancud, the strait of Magellan, Cape Horn, the Diego islands, and the Falklands. All this was the harvest awaiting the reaping by the Salesians. I saw that as of now the Salesians were only sowing, but that those coming after them would reap. Men and women will swell our ranks and become preachers. Their children who, so now it seems, cannot possibly be won over to our faith, will themselves become evangelisers of their parents and friends. The Salesians will succed in everything with humility, work and temperance ...».

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An African Missionary in Papua New Guinea

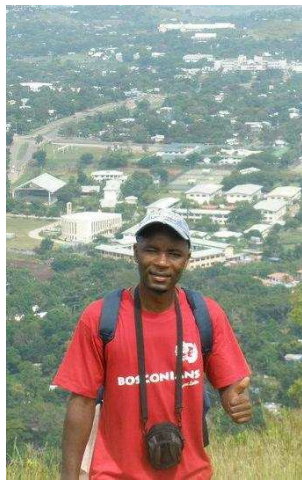
I believe that my Salesian missionary vocation *ad gentes* is something gradually learnt to respond to every day. My interest to be a missionary was triggered by the witness of life of missionaries. I was very much impressed seeing them tirelessly serving my people, especially during difficult times and situations and, yet they were full of that contagious joy! This led me to ask why and what was moving them to be so and to do as they did. How they were able to

Salesian Congregation. my going for regular spiritual direction during our years of formation (from the aspirantate onwards) has especially helped me a lot to purify my intentions and reasons and to understand that these missionaries did not come to my country for human adventure, but they had met and known someone – JESUS CHRIST – The Risen Lord. I soon realised that it is also He, Jesus, who calls me to share in His mission of communicating life and life to its fullness. My missionary vocation is a gratuitous Gift from God which I have learnt to appreciate, to pray for, and to share wherever He may send me.



Bro. Pedro Sachitula

Angolan, missionary in Papua New Guinea



live far away from their families and so on, and so forth... My answers were not so clear until I joined the

MISSIONARY EXCHANGE 2010 - Missionaries of all Christian denominations

	RECEIVER						Total
	Africa	Asia	Europa	Latin America	Nord America	Oceania	
Africa	17.000	400	2.000	200	1.000	100	20.700
Asia	700	38.400	3.600	1.300	2.300	800	47.100
Europe	21.600	13.000	54.700	36.000	4.000	3.500	132.800
Latin America	1.000	1.000	5.000	24.000	27.100	300	58.400
North America	53.100	5.700	24.000	40.200	5.100	6.900	135.000
Oceania	300	700	700	300	700	3.300	6.000
Total	93.700	59.200	90.000	102.000	40.200	14.900	400.000

source: "THE ATLAS OF GLOBAL CHRISTIANITY", Edinburgh, 2010



Salesian Missionary Intention

Families Entrusted to the Pastoral Care of the Salesians in Africa

That families entrusted to the pastoral care of the Salesians throughout Africa may be schools and houses of hospitality

Africa has accepted Jesus, with Joseph and Mary, in that tragic situation of migrants. In our Salesian settings, in some contexts of strong ethnic discrimination, we often witnessed the courageous example of hospitality by the baptised even up to the point of temerity even their own life. Inspired by the Synod for Africa, which invited us to peace and reconciliation. We implore the Holy Spirit, the Spirit of Fortitude, that he may enlighten African families - especially those entrusted to the pastoral care of the Salesians in 42 countries of Africa.



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