

# GOSSNER EVANGELICAL – LUTHERAN CHURCH IN CHOTANAGPUR AND ASSAM

## GELC ARCHIVE

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### Title

## MISSION EVANGELISM STUDY PROJECT

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## Content:

- Mission Evangelism Study Project\_ 1996-1998

File No. CC-165

**G. E. L. CHURCH**

IN

**CHOTANAGPUR AND ASSAM  
CENTRAL COUNCIL**

1996-98

MISSION EVANGELISM  
STUDY PROJECT

**MISSION-EVANGELISM STUDY PROJECT**  
**STUDY PROGRAMMES (1996-98)**

1. **Theme** : **Mission and Evangelism :  
A Historical Appraisal**

**Time** : February 15-17, 1996

**Place** : CWC, Gurukul, Madras

**In Association with** : SATHRI, Academy

**Participants** : Church leaders, theologians and social activists from all over the country, associated with the Study Project at the regional levels.

**Special Focus on** : 1) A re-reading of the history of mission-evangelism discussions/activities in India - primarily from the subaltern perspectives.  
2) A review of the programme proposals of the Study Project for the next two years.

**Follow-up** : The booklet published as an outcome of this programme is used nationally as one of the basic documents of the Study Project.

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2. **Theme** : **A Rural Dalit Perspective of Mission and Evangelism**

**Time** : June 28-30, 1996

**Place** : Pastoral Training Centre, Nagerjuna Nagar, Andhra Pradesh

**In Association with** : The Theology of Life Programme/India Case Study (WCC)  
Andhra Christian Theol. College.

**Participants** : Pastors, theologians, dalit activists from all over A.P.

**Special Focus on** : The dalit struggles in rural A.P. The Andhra Church in solidarity with the victims of caste violence as a contextual pattern of mission and evangelism.

**Follow-up** : The Statement (in Telugu) adopted by the Workshop was circulated among the various churches and theological institutions in the state. The statement is also being translated into English to be used nationally as a background reading material for the Study Project (local contact address: Dr.S.Jeyaraju, Chirala, A.P.)

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3. Theme : **Mission and Evangelism :  
A Rural Theological Perspective**

Time : July 12-14, 1996.

Place : Tamilnadu Theological Seminary,  
Madurai.

In Association with : Tamilnadu Theological Seminary

Participants : Evangelists, pastors, theologians and social  
activists from the Madurai-Ramnad region.

Special Focus on : A historical survey of the mission -  
evangelism work in the Madurai Ramnad  
region. A review of the existing mission  
work in the region. Identifying patterns  
of mission and evangelism with a definite  
rural bias.

Follow-up : Meetings will be organised in different  
localities in the region, with the support  
of TTS/TECCA. The statement of the  
Workshop (in Tamil) to be circulated in  
the region (local contact address :  
Dr.M.Gnanavaram, TTS, Arasaradi,  
Madurai).

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4. Theme : **Mission and Evangelism in the Pluralistic  
Context of Madhya Pradesh**

Time : August 2-4, 1996

Place : Leonard Theological College,  
Jabalpur.

In Association with : Leonard Theological College

Participants : From various Churches and Christian  
institutions in Northern part of Madhya  
Pradesh.

Special Focus on : The pluralistic situation of Madhya  
Pradesh. The context of communalism and  
religious fundamentalism. A critique of  
Christian Ashrams, in the search for  
relevant patterns of mission and  
evangelism.

Follow-up : The theme of the Workshop was taken  
up by the Ecumenical Forum of Jabalpur  
and LTC as a continuing study on the  
Statement of the Workshop (local address :  
Rev.Naveen Rao, LTC, Jabalpur, M.P.).

5. Theme : Mission and Evangelism in the Context of the Struggles for Justice.

Time : August 6-9, 1996

Place : Gass Memorial Centre, Raipur

In Association with : Raipur Churches' Relief and Development Committee (RCDRC)

Participants : Social activists, missionaries and pastors from the Chattisgarh region of Madhya Pradesh and Eastern Orissa.

Special Focus on : People's movements in the Chattisgarh region. The struggles for Justice as the context in the search for alternative mission paradigms.

Follow-up : In association with RCDRC, facilitate a more integral relationship between the Churches and the people's movements in the region.

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6. Theme : Theological Education and Mission and Evangelism

Time : August 28-30, 1996

Place : Church Women's Centre, Gurukul College, Madras.

In Association with : U.E.L.C.I., Gurukul

Participants : Theological educators, Church leaders and evangelists from all over the country.

Special Focus on : A review of the content of mission-evangelism concerns in the present theological educational system. An interaction between the theological educators and the church leaders/evangelists on these questions.

7. Theme : Mission and Evangelism : Urban - Industrial - Theological Concerns

Time : September 12 - 15, 1996

Place : Dhyani Ashram, Calcutta

In Association with : Bishop's - Serampore Colleges  
CNI - Calcutta Diocese

Participants : From all over West Bengal and Western Orissa.

Special Focus on : The mission heritage of the Calcutta - Serampore region. The meaning of mission and evangelism in an urban industrial setting (local contact address : Rev. Probal Dutta, CNI Bishop's House, 51, Chowringhee Road, Calcutta - 700 071)

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8. Theme : Mission and Evangelism in the context of North East India

Time : September 17 - 20, 1996

Place : Pastoral Centre, Shillong

In Association with : Sacred Heart Theological College  
Council of Naga Baptist Churches

Participants : Church people, evangelists and theologians from the States of Meghalaya, Assam, Nagaland and Manipur.

Special Focus on : The distinct features of the North East India situation. Especially, a review of the major missionary movements in the region and the role played by regional churches in resolving Socio-Political and Ethnic tension. (local contact address : Fr. Frances Fernandez, SDB, Vice-President, SHTC, Shillong)

9. Theme : The urban-technological society as the context of mission and evangelism

Time : October 24-27, 1996

Place : Blessed Sacrament Ashram, Bombay

In Association with : Bombay Urban Industrial League for Development (BUILD)

Participants : Ecumenical friends, Pastors and Urban activists from Greater Bombay.

Special Focus on : The Challenges of the Urban-Technological Society as the setting for new mission paradigms. A theological review of the question of migration, urban poverty, industrialisation, ecological concerns, etc.

(Local Contact Address : Mr.S.L.Mariadoss, BUILD, 11, Sujatha Co-operative Housing Society, S.V.Road, Bandra (West), Bombay - 400 050.

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10. Theme : Education and Mission : The Perspective and Priorities.

Time : February 13 - 15, 1997.

Place : Union Biblical Seminary, Pune.

In association with : 1) The All India Association for Christian Higher Education (AIACHE)  
2) Union Biblical Seminary.

Participants : Educationalists and theologians - primarily from Western India.

Special Focus on : A review of the present patterns of mission in relation to education. Identify relevant patterns in today's context (Local contact address : Mr.Krickwin C. Marak, Union Biblical Seminary, P.B.No.1425, Bibvewadi, Pune - 411 037)

11. Theme : The Mission and structures of the Church

Time : May 12 - 15, 1997.

Place : CEC, Charal Kunnu, Kerala

In Association with : NCCI, Kerala Council of Churches

Participants : 1) Church leaders and theologians from all over Kerala.  
2) Missionaries and evangelists of Kerala Church working outside

Special Focus on : The heritage of the Kerala Church as reflected in the tradition, structures and liturgy of the Church is unique. The Kerala Church is today also a missionary Church. How has/should the mission concerns transform and contextualise the structures of the Church ? (Local contact address : Mr.P.G.Abraham, Faith Theological Seminary, Manakala, Adoor, Pathanamthitta - 691 551, Kerala).

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12. Theme : Mission & Evangelism : In Dialogue with other Faiths.

Time : July 16 - 19, 1997

Place : Andhra Christian Theological College, Hyderabad.

In Association with : 1) Henry Martin Institute for Islamic Studies  
2) Andhra Christian Theological College

Participants : People from various faith backgrounds involved in dialogue and action. Christians and a few friends from other faiths involved in dialogue and action on faith justice concerns.

Special Focus on : Patterns of mission and evangelism in the multi-religious context of India. Dialogue with people of other faiths. Joint action on justice peace concerns as new mission patterns in the context of religious fundamentalism and communalism. (Local address : Dr.R.Yesuratnam, Principal, Andhra Christian Theo. College, Lower Tank Bund Road, Gandhi Nagar, Hyderabad - 500 380).

13. Theme : Ecology and Development as Paradigms of Mission.

Time : July 23 - 26, 1997.

Place : Pastoral Centre, Goa.

In association with : Indian National Social Action Forum (INSAF)

Participants : Representatives of ecological and social action groups and churches in the Konkan - Ratnagiri region of Western India.

Special Focus on : The grave ecological threat being faced by the present society. The need to initiate a process of corporate study on the whole question of ecology and development, especially in the search for relevant patterns of Christian Mission (Local address : Mr. Reggie Gomes, INSAF, 15, Mahalaxmi Housing Society, Santa Inez, Goa - 403 001).

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14. Theme : Mission and Evangelism : Women's Perspective

Time : 11 - 14 August, 1997

Place : S.C.M. House, Bangalore.

In association with : 1) All India Council of Christian Women.  
2) Association of Theologically Trained Women in India.  
3) Student Christian Movement of India.

Special Focus on : The unique, though largely unacknowledged, contribution of women - as missionaries, missionary wives, teachers, medical personnel, Bible women etc., in the evangelistic, educational, social and health sectors of the country. (Contact address : Rev. Moses Paul Peter, General Secretary, SCMI, 29, C.S.I. Compound, 2nd Cross, Mission Road, Bangalore 560 027).

15. Theme : **Popular Religiosity and the Pentecostal and Charismatic perspectives.**

Time : October 14-17, 1997

Place : United Theological College,  
Bangalore.

In association with : UTC, SATHRI

Special focus on : A sociological and theological review of the popular movements that have emerged, mostly in recent years, side by side along the mainline churches, radically influencing the discourse and practice of Mission and Evangelism.

(Local contact address : Dr. David C. Scott & Dr. Jeyakiran Sebastian, UTC, 63, Millers Road, Bangalore 560 046).

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16. Theme : **Mission and Evangelism : Challenges for the Church in the unique context of North West India.**

Time : November 4-7, 1997

Place : Chandigarh

In association with : CNI Amritsar - Chandigarh Dioceses

Special focus on : The North western states of Punjab, Himachal Pradesh and Jammu - Kashmir share a common eco-system. The church here too is predominantly dalit. The workshop will focus on the challenges before the church in this unique context.

(Local contact address : Rev. Vidya Sagar, C/o. Diocese of Chandigarh, CNI Compound, Brown Road, Ludhiana - 141 008, Punjab).

17. Theme : Mission and Evangelism : Christian involvement in the media - as Salt and light.

Time : November 18-21, 1997.

Place : Ashirvad, Bangalore.

Special focus on : A historical, sociological and theological review of the media-and the various medium-including the print and audio-visual media. An appraisal would also be made of the mass media and the communication to the masses, particularly at the rural level (Local contact address : Mr.Bobby Mathai, 43, Hutchins Road, 2nd Cross, St.Thomas Town, Bangalore - 560 084).

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18. Theme : National concerns as the context of mission and evangelism

Time : November 28 - December 1, 1997

Place : Indian Social Institute, New Delhi.

In association with : ISI, Delhi Forum

Special focus on : National issues, especially the challenges of communalism and religious fundamentalism, national economic policies, the awakening of the marginalised people - and the meaning of Christian mission in these contexts. (Contact addresses : Fr.Thomas Kavala, ISI, 10, Institutional Area, Lodhi Road, New Delhi - 110 003, Mr.Joy Joseph, Delhi Forum, F-10/12, Malaviya Nagar, New Delhi - 110 017).

19. Theme : Mission and Evangelism : A Tribal Perspective.

Time : January 1998

Place : Ranchi

In Association with : Gossner Evangelical Lutheran Church, NWGELC & The Roman Catholic Church, Ranchi.

Special Focus on : The socio economic alienation of the Jharkhand region.

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20. Theme : Medical Mission : Perspective and Priorities

Time : February, 1998

Place : Madras

In Association with : 1) Christian Medical Association of India (CMAI)  
2) Catholic Hospitals Association of India (CHAI)

Participants : Representatives of Christian Hospitals, Pastors, Theologians and Social activists.

Special Focus on : A review of the Christian Medical Work in the country. Relevant patterns of health care as a paradigm of mission.

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For further details, please contact :

Mission - Evangelism Study Project

C/o Academy

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Madras 600 006.

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