



TOKYO 2010 MISSIONS CONSULTATION: An impact in the History of Missions

By: Damples Dulcero Baclagon, Damples served as staff for Tokyo 2010. She was also a member of the Philippine delegation. She was once a staff of Global Partners, an international missions organization based in South Korea.

The delegates came from different countries to talk about missions. Missionaries were excited to talk about getting the gospel to those who are still unreached. Missiologists were in a hurry to discuss about the new trends in missions. Church leaders were willing to share what the Lord has been doing in their churches and mission agencies were delighted to report the mobilizations happening in penetrating unreached peoples with the salvation of Christ and His kingdom.

It was in the country of Japan, at the Nakano Sun Plaza where the Tokyo 2010 Mission Consultation and Celebration was held. The date was May 11-14, 2010. Conceived and initiated by the late Dr. Ralph Winter, the Consultation desired to commemorate the 100 years of the Edinburgh 1910. In the 1910 Edinburgh Consultation, directors and visionary leaders of mission agencies or organizations attended, almost all of them came from Western countries. While those who attended the 2010 Tokyo Mission Consultation

were representatives of mission organizations from all over the world, with almost 75 percent coming from the non-Western world, Asia, Africa and Latin America.

The Tokyo 2010 Mission Consultation and Celebration was a collaboration of missions agencies from Asia, Latin America and the United States namely: Third World Missions Association led by Dr. Obed Alvarez of Peru, Global Network of Mission Structures, headed by Dr. Yong Joong Cho, US Center for World Missions and Frontier Mission Fellowship. It's Planning Committee is a list of names of fine Mission leaders all over the world in the likes of Dr. Minoru Okuyama of Japan, Mrs. Barbara Winter of USCWM, Dr. Hisham Kamel, of Egypt, Mr. David Hupp of USCWM and others. Korean and Japanese churches did also their share in the preparation for the Consultation. A cooperation which will unlikely happen if Christ does not live in the hearts of these Korean and Japanese believers. The Consultation was also a celebration of brotherhood manifested in the cooperation among many people, organizations and churches.

The four-day Mission Consultation started with an opening ceremony where all participants were requested to wear their national dresses to showcase the celebratory spirit of the night. Rev. Tsumuguchi Okawa of the Yamato Calvary Church gave an inspirational message. It was a night of praises and worship for all the people of different languages and culture.

In the mornings there were plenary sessions in the auditorium, while the afternoons were spent in Workshops. These workshops were very helpful to establish ministry focus among missionaries and missions leaders. They also established friendships and networks among them. The Plenary sessions on the other hand were challenging and inspirational to all especially when Dr. David Cho

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spoke about the “DNA of the Missionary Task,” a message on how missions started to affect non-Western countries.” Rev. Gbile Akanni taught about making discipleship in this age for a clean transfer of leadership and mandate to the younger generation in his message “A Forward in Missions,” and Dr. Minoru Okuyama told us about the Japanese Challenges on Buddhism, Shintoism and others, which corresponds to the Tokyo 2010 Mission Consultation slogan: to engage in “making disciples of every people in our generation” and its purpose: “...to bring together the sending structures of the world to take an in-depth look at how we can more effectively cooperate in this new environment and encourage best practices in frontier missionary work.”



TOKYO 2010 participants celebrate on opening day

I could say that the 2010 Tokyo Mission Consultation was spiritually of high standard, inspirational and challenging. Most of the delegates were touched by the shared experiences of the plenary speakers and workshop leaders who came prepared and filled with the Spirit. Attended by more than 2,000 delegates and volunteers coming from different nations of the continents, and Japanese observers and volunteers, Tokyo 2010 Mission Consultation achieved its missiological objective, and spiritual goal. Historically, it brought the answers to the prayers of those who convened in the Edinburgh 1910, 100 years ago.

The Tokyo 2010 Mission Consultation brought me the following challenges which missionaries and mission leaders will have to face now and in the near future:

1. The world and everything on it are rapidly evolving. The means to evangelize ten years ago is not as effective to reach the unbelievers now and the coming years. There are so many changes in: technology, environment, territories, weather, politics and economics, that mission workers have to take into consideration to bring the Good News to the unreached. This is now the time to come into full cooperation with each other to pool resources together and use them to train, strategize, and support mission projects in different countries.
2. That career in missions shall not only be limited to full time missionaries. To many countries, lay missionaries will be more effective as they use their professions to evangelize and make disciples. We need more professionals in health, education, community development and humanitarian services to penetrate “closed countries” for missions. These people must be given missionary training in order to meet the demands for the mandate.
3. That we in the Philippines, to be a leading mission-sending country and as one of Asia’s leaders in missions, must broaden our financial support base by challenging Filipino churches of their participation to evangelize the world and mobilize professionals to give, or to go. We have already proven that Filipino missionaries are one of the more effective agents of the gospel when it comes to language, cross-cultural flexibility and inter-personal relationships in the international community. It is time for us to be independent and cover all our needs.
4. Lastly, I had observed in the Tokyo 2010 Mission Consultation the amazing hands of God on how He raised leaders from different nations with the same heart, vision and passion for missions from Edinburgh 1910 to Tokyo 2010. From one generation to another, the Lord has chosen and used men and women of God to continue the torch of mission and evangelization. This is all for the cause of His cross and His salvation.

References:

Tokyo 2010 Global Mission Consultation and Celebration handbook
“Mission to Everywhere from Everywhere by Gary Fujino

In 2008 and 2009, Missions Festivals were conducted by Global Partners Philippines (GPP) in five locations: Zambales, Pangasinan, Navotas –Malabon, Cavite, and Baguio City. In these events, we found out that only a few churches are already adopting and supporting missionaries. And only a few of the groups in attendance are already sending missionaries.

So we did a survey and consultation during these events on the issue of, “What factors most hinder your church in sending missionaries?” We did this to discover the reasons why churches are not sending missionaries. Or why churches are not interested in missions.

We also documented the receptiveness of the churches to missions in these mission festivals. Generally, the receptivity towards missions of the churches was slightly good. But largely, there was indifference and/or lack of interest or concern from among the pastors and church leaders regarding missions.

Here are the reasons the participants gave as to what hinders churches in their involvement in missions:

FINANCIAL: Almost all gave “financial reason” as the main factor that hinders churches from doing missions. Doing missions is seen as competing with the local church and its budget. Although churches are willing to send the respondents said that they simply can’t afford to send missionaries.

NO AWARENESS OF GOD’S GLOBAL PLAN FOR ALL NATIONS: “Doing missions is competing with the local church and its budget” is ignorance regarding missions, they keep ministry within the “four walls of the church”. There seems to be an absence of a burden to reach out and do missions work among churches. Church leaders think that doing ministry within the local church is already called mission. Even pastors, elders and church leadership don’t fully understand the message in Acts 1:8. This results in the whole church not involved in missions.

Churches also do not focus or do not teach world missions in their congregations. Church members don’t have enough training on missions.

Decision makers in the churches, likewise, seem not to reach an agreement in sending workers to other countries.

In matters of attitude toward mission involvement, pastors appear to be more interested in politics than in missions. From the observations obtained in the PM3 (Philippine Missions Mobilization Movement) Research of 2005-2008, most churches appear to have no mission and vision related to missions. Most of the churches are not even familiar with or heard about the Purpose Driven Church, Kairos Course and other church equipping materials that promote establishing vision and mission statements for churches. Most don’t even know or understood what unreached or least reached people groups mean.

Many pastors who came into church leadership roles had little or no formal Bible and missions training. There appears to be a need for pastors to receive some formal, non-formal, or, at the very least, informal training in Bible and mission. The research also revealed that many churches are weak or “unhealthy” and therefore there is a need to strengthen them.

Because many of the churches are relatively new, they have only begun to consider what their roles are in the discipling of nations (Matthew 28:19-20). Many churches have yet to recognize their privilege and responsibility to disciple the nations. These churches need to be helped to see God’s heart is for the nations, which is a central theme of the Scripture.

Although other churches have begun to understand that vision, they have yet to learn how to send their members as missionaries or how to support global missions financially. Those that have already understood the mission of the church do not know how to process the selection, preparation and deployment of their missionary candidates.

Some of these churches have to be exposed to ways where they can involve their members in either short or long-term mission exposure trips. These they can do in association with other churches that are already into missions. All things considered, there is really a need to educate (or for some, re-educate) the churches in missions. An initial step in this direction is for the churches to promote and host Kairos Courses. If you would want to help mobilize the churches in your area, feel free to contact us at Philippine Missions Association and we will help you become an advocate and a champion for World Missions.

By: Bibien Limlingan, PMA Staff

WHAT IS PMA?

It is an association of missions agencies, organizations, local churches, and denominational missions committees committed to fulfilling the Great Commission. PMA was founded in 1983 by Dr. Met Castillo who served as PMA's General Secretary until 1995. Its current focus is missions mobilization through uniting missions-minded churches and mission agencies in the Philippines to challenge, equip, and mobilize the Philippine Church here and abroad to prioritize reaching the unreached peoples of the world with the Gospel of Jesus Christ.



Dr Met Castillo was succeeded by Ptr Rey Corpuz from 1995 to 2003 and by Ptr Bob Lopez from 2003 to 2009. Its current national director is Dr. Rey Taniajura.

VISION STATEMENT: *We see Philippine Missions Association serving as catalyst to the Body of Christ in discipling all nations (Matthew 28:18-20)*

We envision the role of PMA primarily as a catalyst to the Body of Christ for missions mobilization, training and deployment of missionaries who are serving either as tentmakers or full-time missionaries. The end-goal of missions is the discipling of nations towards national transformation so that the Glory of God will be made manifest among the peoples of the world. In the words of Steven Hawthorne, "God reveals His glory to all nations in order to receive glory from all nations. World evangelization is the fullest expression of God revealing His glory to the nations with the purpose of God receiving glory from the nations." To this end, PMA commits itself to serve the Body of Christ toward finishing the Great Commission task.

MISSION STATEMENT: *Philippine Missions Association exists to engage the Body of Christ towards finishing the Great Commission, through networking and partnership.*

PMA recognizes that the Great Commission mandate to Body of Christ finds expression in the local churches. The primary role of mobilizing, training and deploying missionaries belongs therefore to the local church. PMA, together with other missions agencies, will "go alongside" the local churches to encourage and uphold them in their desire to actively finish the task in Matthew 28:19-20. We at PMA are in a servant-leadership role to the Body of Christ. In whatever capacity the Lord enables us, we commit to serve the churches as they respond to the Lord's call for missions.

CORE VALUES:

PMA, which is also an acronym for Partnership, Mentoring and Aligning (to God's missions agenda), represents our core values. These are the values of the Association that we continue to nurture and fuels our desire to be true to our vision and mission. The core values identify who we are and what we stand for. These are what we hold to be of value to us that motivates us to be faithful partners with the rest of the Body of Christ in finishing task of "discipling all nations." Our core values are as follows:

1. **P**artnerships within the Body of Christ: *We value the diverse roles of the members of the Body of Christ, partnering together to fulfill the Great Commission;*
2. **M**issions Mobilization: *We value seeing the churches actively engaged in local and global missions*
3. **A**ligning to God's Agenda: *We value the supremacy of Christ in missions*

PARTNERSHIP **M**ISSION
MOBILIZATION **A**LIGN TO
GOD'S AGENDA

Our Strategic Directions

STRATEGIC DIRECTIONS:

PMA will focus on six strategic directions to fulfill our vision and mission. In future issues of Missions Post, we will take time to explain what we mean by each of the six strategic directions. We will also inform our readers of what are some of the activities that PMA is engaged in within and among the Body of Christ to pursue our vision and mission.

Our six strategic directions are as follows:

1. SERVANT-LEADERSHIP IN MISSIONS:

We aim to steward PMA towards becoming a servant-leader to the members of the Body of Christ in fulfilling the Great Commission;

2. PARTNERSHIP DEVELOPMENT:

We aim to catalyze local and global stakeholders towards synergy in their missions efforts;

3. MISSIONS TO ALL PEOPLES:

We aim to advocate and challenge the local and global Filipino churches to adopt an “All Peoples” approach to missions;

4. COMMUNITY TRANSFORMATION:

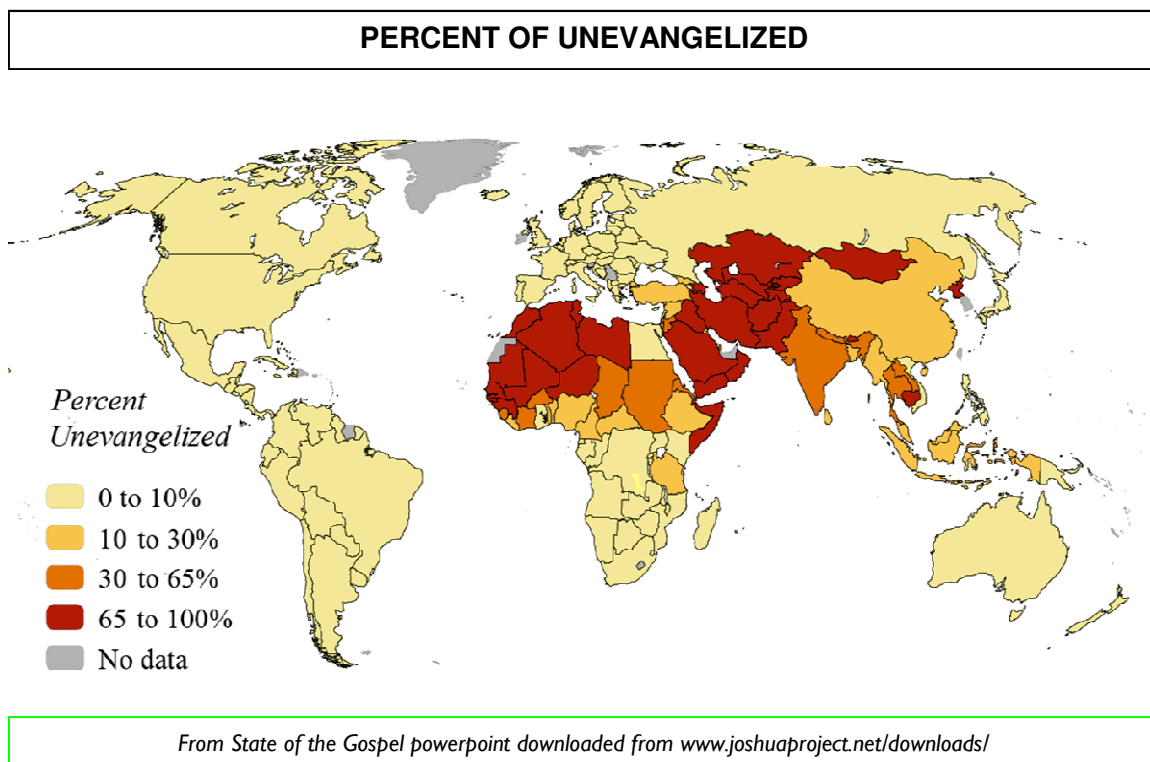
We aim to facilitate the transformation of communities through missions efforts;

5. MARKET PLACE MINISTRIES AMONG ALL NATIONS:

We aim to help raise tentmakers (businessmen, overseas Filipino workers, professional, diplomats and others) who will reach the nations for Christ;

6. GLOBALIZATION AND MISSIONS:

We aim to promote missions in the context of the globalization phenomenon.



Announcements



KOINONIA THEOLOGICAL SEMINARY

is an educational institution offering graduate-level studies. Desiring to serve the Christian community, its primary purpose is to train pastors, full-time and lay leaders in Mindanao and equip them for both local and global ministry.

Koinonia Theological seminary based in Davao City in partnership with Philippine Missions Association is offering a two-year/30 units Graduate Diploma Program in Missiology. This program leads to a Master of Arts Degree in Theology. The uniqueness in this program is that it will be done off campus anywhere inside or outside of the Philippines. Your church, organization or the PMA office can become your classroom in completing this Diploma program. The following are the subjects required for this program:

<p>Required Subjects:</p> <p>Survey of the Old Testament Survey of the New Testament Survey of Christian Theology Spiritual Formation/ Spirituality Leadership Development Christian Church History</p> <p>Plus: Two Major Courses* Two Elective Courses**</p>	<p>* Two Major Courses from: Introduction to Mission Biblical Theology of Mission Cultural Anthropology Transformational Development</p> <p>** Two elective courses from: Introduction to Teaching Methods History and Philosophy of Christian Ethics Pastoral Care and Counseling Introduction to Preaching</p>
<p>TOTAL UNITS for required subjects : 18</p>	<p>TOTAL UNITS for major and elective subjects: 12</p>

If you are interested to enroll or host the program in your church or organization please contact the following:

For Cebu and Visayas, contact lcbontilao@yahoo.com

For Ligao City and other areas in Bicol region, contact cboasia111@yahoo.com,

For the rest of the country and outside the Philippines, contact Dr. Rey Taniajura at rey_taniajura@yahoo.com

ERRATUM: Missions Post May-June issue had in its first page the name of Bishop *Ephraim Tender*. This should be corrected to Bishop *Ephraim Tendero*. Our apologies.

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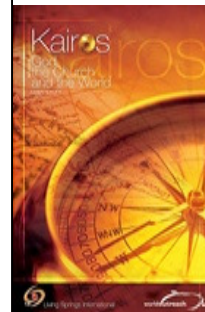
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PMA conducts the following Courses



If you want to offer the Kairos Course in your church or organization in partnership with PMA contact: bibienml@yahoo.com



Revealing His Glory Seminars (RHG formerly Gods Global Glory (G3))

For more details about PMA events, trainings and seminars, please contact Roselyn Kuizon or Terese Magsalin at (+632) 911 2491 / (+632) 913 4469 or email them at

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