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Alliance for Vulnerable Mission Bulletin

July 2017 (Archived back-copies here Subscribe for free here)

Volume 9, Number 7.



Jim Harries, PhD,

Chairman of the AVM



Executive board	Advisory board	Chris Flanders
Jim Harries	Jonathan Winter	Stan Chu Ilo
Timothy Reeves	Jay Gary	Frank Paul
Fred Lewis	Tomas Dozier	Gord Sawatzky
John Macdonald	Jean Johnson	Stan Nussbaum

The Alliance for Vulnerable Mission encourages some missionaries from the West to engage in their ministries using local languages and resources.

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Here is a proposed 'purpose statement' for the Alliance for Vulnerable Mission:

We urge cross-cultural servants to emulate the life of Jesus, who humbled Himself by willingly setting aside his former high position and privileges in order to fulfill God's purposes. As Jesus only did what He saw the Father doing, we urge cross-cultural workers to live and serve as Jesus did, by sharing as fully as possible in the life circumstances, language and culture of the particular group of human beings to which God calls them. We urge cross-cultural workers not to rely on their own skills, knowledge and abilities for fruitfulness in ministry, but to remember that the way of faithfulness and fruitfulness runs through weakness and suffering.



The above purpose statement has been drawn up by the executive board of the AVM. We would very much like to have your thoughts on it before we make it 'official'. Please send your thoughts to: Fred Lewis, at fclewis2@att.net

• Why do people migrate to the west? Asks Vishal Mangalwadi in this video. Many are attracted to the West because of its respect for individual rights and freedoms. Its belief in human equality. Its standards for education and medical care. Its justice that puts law above rulers. Its opportunities for economic progress. Its respect for free press. Its track record for scientific and technological advance.

BUT the West was not always like this. And now sadly it is changing before our eyes. In spite of its moral decline - Western countries are still the least corrupt and the best developed part of the world, even though they label themselves as Post-Truth. That means, people are losing trust in their politicians, their press, and even the integrity of many of their scientists. People are getting disillusioned because there is stagnation, growing debt and insecurity — even decline into corruption.

 I include a link to this article, by Franziska Fay, to show how knowledge of an indigenous African language can be the basis for doing grass-roots research. Almost all that Fay uncovers, could easily have been missed

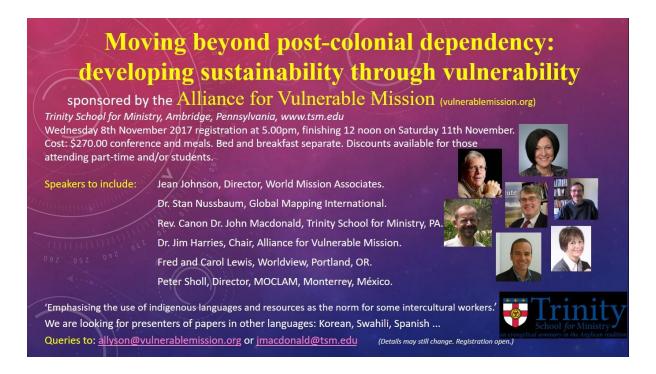


THE MEANING OF ADABU AND ADHABU FOR THE 'CHILD PROTECTION' DISCOURSE IN ZANZIBAR

THE SOAS JOURNAL OF POSTGRADUATE RESEARCH

by someone unfamiliar with Swahili. See here.





Conference outline; Moving beyond post-colonial dependency: developing sustainability through vulnerability

To be held at Trinity School for Ministry, Ambridge, Pittsburgh, November 2017

Wednesday (8/11/2017)

17:00 Registration

19:00 Plenary paper 1. by Dr. Stan Nussbaum. Key note address.

Thursday (9/11/2017)

9.30 Plenary 2. by Jean Johnson.

11.45 Seminars 1

14.30 Panel of practitioners each commenting on their VM experience.

16.00 Seminars 2.

18.45 Plenary 3. by Dr. Jim Harries.

Friday (10/11/2017)

9.30 Plenary 4. To be decided.

11.45 seminars 3

Provisional 14.30 Outing to old economy village in Ambridge. / Meeting to plan future activities of AVM/USA.

18.45 plenary 5. Mr. and Mrs. Fred Lewis. The significance of Language-Learning and Worldview for Connecting with People

20.15 Tea and discuss the conference so far in groups. Feedback.

Saturday (11/11/17)

9.30 Working groups.

10.15 Plenary. Summing up key points from the conference, by Dr. John Macdonald.

11.00 Wrapping up.

Conference ends at 12 noon.