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Editor: Jim Harries, PhD, Chairman of the AVM.

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

Please suggest contributions to this Bulletin to jim@vulnerablemission.org

This month's contents:

The whens and hows of language learning as basis for fruitful cross-cultural ministry

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Click on image or go here (<https://www.eventbrite.co.uk/o/alliance-for-vulnerable-mission-65593048623>) for more information and to register for this webinar. Note – this webinar is just weeks away!

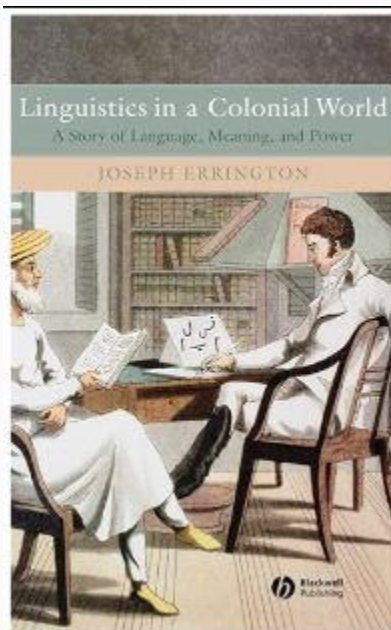
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Non-expert Discussion on Sacrifice

What is the place of sacrifice in the modern world? An informal discussion between AVM members James Alongi and Jim Harries, open for others to join us. (Friday, 5th July, 16.00hrs in Nairobi / 8:00 AM Dallas, Texas, USA) Free. (To receive url write to jim@vulnerablemission.org)

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Absurd Theories: review of Linguistics in a Colonial World

https://www.amazon.com/review/R1GTGEJJ3VZI9V/ref=pe_1098610_137716200_SRTC0204BT_cm_rv_eml_rv0_rv

This book explains why language policy in the once-colonised world seems to be haywire: language theories on which policy was built prior to and into the 20th century have subsequently been found to have been “absurd notions, prejudices, mirages, and fictions” (155). Errington explores European people’s understanding of language, missionary and secular, beginning in the 9th century, to time of writing. He finds myriad ways in which declared comprehension of language, that often included *absurd ideas*, was used to colonialist’s (and secularist’s, for example in supporting Darwin’s theory of evolution (71)) advantage. (For full version of this review, posted on Amazon by Jim Harries, go to the link above.)

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Conference in Cape Town

<https://iamsafrica.co.za/>

IAMS-Africa (International Association for Mission Studies) is to hold its inaugural conference at **Stellenbosch University** in Cape Town, 28th to 30th August 2024. The theme of the conference is:

Mission as Vulnerability in the African Context

AVM research coordinator Dr. Marcus Grohmann, and AVM chair Dr. Jim Harries are to present papers at, this conference.

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Mission – wer hat denn das Problem?

<https://mission.de/blog/wessen-problem-ist-die-verwendung-des-begriffs-mission.html>

This article, that translates into English as *Mission – Who has the problem?* looks at power-implications of and appropriateness of contemporary uses of the term ‘mission’. “Mission is a difficult concept in the Western world. Some want to abolish it, others want to reclaim it and recharge it thematically. But those who only perceive the Western perspective only perceive a distorted image. After all, what about the perspective of people who are considered victims of a colonial missionary mentality and yet cling to their faith? Who really has the problem with the use of the term “mission”? And how do you want to deal critically with something if you no longer have a term for it? Marina Behera asks all this in her blog post.”

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25th July 2024: Dr. Natalie Leisher

The whens and hows of language learning as basis for fruitful cross-cultural ministry




17th October 2024: Craig McCorkindale

Teaching the Bible cross-culturally in a local language
Benefits and requirements




(Click on images for more information including on how to register.)

Upcoming webinars in 2024

Details and registration: <https://www.vulnerablemission.org/quarterly-webinar>

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