## 14th Assembly of the INTERNATIONAL ASSOCIATION FOR MISSION STUDIES August 11–17, 2016 Seoul, South Korea

## Conversions and Transformations: Missiological Approaches to Religious Change

## Mission as Liberating Service of the Reign of God: Implications and Challenges of Mission Inter-Gentes.

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## Abstract

Today we live in a world of war and violence. Divisions, discriminations, and injustice have built very big, high and strong boundaries between the rich and the poor. There are also boundary walls existing in the name of religion, color and gender. Are we ready and willing to shake and break the boundaries and transform people? We need to take lessons from the life of Jesus who went around doing good. Today if we are convinced and sincerely believe that we are called for a mission we then need to cross boundaries, break boundaries and build communities of love and justice. The ultimate pull factor for many social and political radicalizations is religion. This will have to come from Christians themselves – not from counter extremism.

Given what unfolds in India today at large, there has to be a fundamental paradigm shift in mission or theology, but also in the experience and thinking of the whole world. New methodologies are needed if more people are to have access to the Word made flesh who volunteered to dwell among us. The orthodoxy and orthopraxis should find a new referral in the mission among and with the people to make the Church and its mission convincing and credible. Church mission crisis is a credibility crisis. The best way to regain the lost ground is to return to the people. The fundamental option should be for the people and to be with the people as patterned in Jesus' Kingdom ministry. The Church needs a new skill and art to stay put *inter gentes*. This article will investigate the aforesaid issues against the backdrop of Indian context today.

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