



ALLIANCE FOR VULNERABLE MISSION

www.vulnerablemission.org

Alliance for Vulnerable Mission Bulletin

January 2020 (Archived back-copies [here](#) Subscribe for free [here](#))

Volume 12, Number 1.

Editor: Jim Harries, PhD, Chairman of the AVM



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

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

.....

Vulnerable Mission Conference of December 2019



Hans Baer, Peter Stagg, Frank Paul, Clive Grey, David Smith.

Peter Sholl, Donna Sadowitz, Gudrun Harries, Daniel Sadowitz.

Nick Henwood, Jim Harries, Johannes Rehm.

AUDIO FILES

Conference: Missionaries: aliens, providers, or fellow travellers?

Should the majority world be the target of patronage from rich missionaries?

Outside Christian workers who build on foreign presuppositions in work amongst indigenous communities can, especially when foreign funded and using outside languages, be interpreted as riding roughshod over indigenous sensibilities. True empowerment of local people requires getting alongside them. This necessitates vulnerability to their position and context. Such vulnerability can best be achieved if one shares the Gospel using indigenous languages utilising local resources.

Sponsors: Alliance for Vulnerable Mission and All Nations Christian College.

Held Sunday 8th December to Wednesday 11th December 2019 finishing at midday. **All Nations Christian College, Easneye, Herts, UK.**

Audio recordings (MP3) of the following presentations are available:

Introduction: what is vulnerable mission? Jim Harries. [Click here to hear audio version.](#)

Paper 1. Introducing Vulnerable Mission, and paper: Mission Vulnerability essential to avoid conventional-mission pitfalls. Jim Harries [Click here to hear audio version.](#)

Paper 4 How can Western Missionaries best support a viable Mexican church planting network without dominating it. Peter Sholl [Click here to hear audio version.](#)

Paper 5 Undress, Be Enslaved, Wash: Three Movements in Cross-Cultural Mission from John 13. Andy McCullough, [Click here to hear audio version.](#)

Paper 8 Understanding, embracing, enacting ministry from a position of weakness. Chris Sadowitz [Click here to hear audio version.](#)

Paper 9 Money, Vulnerability and Mission: The Example of Paul and the "Collection" For the Poor. David Smith [Click here to hear audio version.](#)

We are working on publishing the papers.

- If you are interested in **Publishing, Collecting and Accessing African-language Materials**, see [here](#) for a UK conference on 8 June 2020, at SOAS (School of Oriental and African Studies, London).



- I was recently struck by how these two stories about Africa were both carried by the BBC – appearing next to each other on the display on my computer of the BBC internet change: [How Africa will be affected by climate change](#) and [Letter from Africa: How talk of witches stirs emotions in Nigeria](#) It seems to me that there is ‘acceptable’ witchcraft, done by the West, and ‘unacceptable witchcraft’, done by Nigerians ... the difference is the Gospel, but of course the BBC does not acknowledge that.

- William Carey Publishing, is celebrating their 50th anniversary with huge sales. Sign up on their mailing list at missionbooks.org before Dec 31st to get in on the celebration and deals.

- *ISN'T IT TIME FOR A NEW MISSION STORY?* asks Craig Greenfield in this post. <https://www.craiggreenfield.com/blog/francischanmissionary> “The Burmese brother who was translating for Francis Chan would have been immeasurably better-suited to sharing the gospel contextually in that situation than an American new-arrival who didn’t speak the language or understand the cultural landscape. (We also can’t give Francis a pass because he is ethnically Chinese. He is still steeped in an American worldview and an individualistic understanding of the gospel).” Craig articulates a conundrum commonly met when foreign visitors come to Africa also, that the person who could have presented the most compelling contextualised relevant message, becomes instead the translator for someone who cannot contextualise, cannot be closely relevant, and pulls people towards the prosperity gospel.

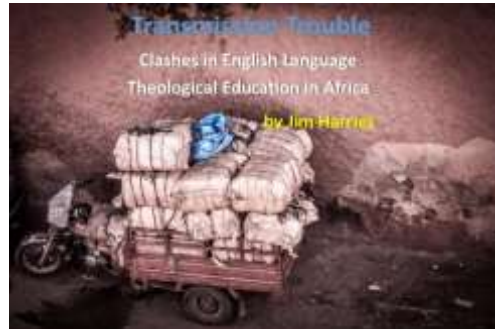


- Join the discussion! Challenged by Andy Dipper, Principal of All Nations Christian College, the chair of the panel held at the above conference, Jim Harries took five minutes to tell conference goers [‘You Have Never Heard an African Person Speak from their heart,’ and the prospect of mass murder](#). He has now published this as a blog, being discussed on academia.edu. Join the discussion [here](#).

- **Two recently published articles by Jim Harries:**

Harries, Jim, 2019, 'Trust and Vulnerability: being vulnerable to failures in trust as part of missionary service in Africa,' 9-19 in: *International Journal of Pentecostal Missiology*, Winter 2019, 6(1).

http://www.academia.edu/attachments/61416466/download_file?s=portfolio



Harries, Jim, 2019, 'Transmission Trouble: Clashes in English Language Theological Education in Africa,' *Pneuma Review*, November 7th 2019, <http://pneumareview.com/transmission-trouble-clashes-in-english-language-theological-education-in-africa/>