



CANADA

# Langham™ PARTNERSHIP

SUMMER 2014

## Canada's Role in Today's Shifting Church

Ian Shaw, Associate International Director of the Langham Scholar program, shared why the work of Langham is so important at a recent event at Wycliffe College in Toronto. Here is an excerpt:

"On the whole, the resources for doing theological education – faculty, library resources, publishing houses, scholarships – remain predominantly in the Global North, but the demand for those resources is increasingly in the Global South. Seminaries in the North often struggle to attract students, those in the Majority World are overwhelmed with too many students to cope with. This is a gap that needs to be thought through creatively and collaboratively. Things are changing, and it is wonderful for Langham Partnership to be part of that change

Andrew Walls has spoken of a new reformation in theology which is taking place right now. The numerical strength of the churches in the Global South is now increasingly being matched by growth in Christian capacity for theological education.

At the moment, according to research currently being undertaken, there are more scholars on doctoral programs at Christian universities and seminaries in the evangelical tradition in the Majority World than there are on doctoral programmes at evangelical universities and seminaries in the USA.



**"The resources for doing theological education remain predominantly in the Global North, but the demand for those resources is increasingly in the Global South," said Ian Shaw recently at Toronto's Wycliffe College.**

This global theological reformation, Walls suggests, could match that in the first three centuries of the church as Christianity encountered Greek and Latin thought. The interactions with the life, languages and cultures of Africa, Asia, and Latin America, are bound to raise new questions, and new theological challenges and expressions that may be as significant as those in the first three centuries. Christianity in the late twentieth and early twenty-first century is reverting to what it originally was – a religion with global impact, birthed at the crossroads of the world, and within decades impacting significant parts of Asia, Africa and Europe."

SUPPLIED PHOTOS

## What are Canada's Langham Scholars Doing This Summer?

“I am taking French course this summer, till June 20th. I have a translation exam after that, probably in July or early August. I am also working on a preliminary reading list for three comprehensive exams that are scheduled for next summer. Lastly, my family and I are planning to visit in July one of our supporters who lives in Wheaton, Illinois. It will be a great opportunity to visit my alma mater, Wheaton College Graduate School, and the Billy Graham Center and Museum at Wheaton.”

—David Tarus, a Langham Canada scholar studying at McMaster Divinity College in Hamilton, Ont.



David Tarus and Chandra Wim are both studying this summer.

“I am currently taking a summer course on Theologies of Protestant Spirituality, which focuses on historical context and theological ideas that shaped different expressions of Protestant spirituality, both in the past and in to-

day's contemporary setting. I still have a couple of papers to work on from my last Winter term in addition to preparing myself to take another language requirement (i.e. Greek) in the beginning of this Fall. I have a couple of speaking engagements at an Indonesian church in New York City, and I will take the rest of time to explore the city with my family. It is their first experience of entering the United States. I hope it will be a refreshing moment for all of us, a break that will give me a new spirit and motivation to do all the course work for the rest of the summer.”

—Chandra Wim, a Langham Canada scholar studying at Wycliffe College in Toronto, Ont.

## Langham Preaching thrives around the world because of your gifts. Thank you!

When you give to Langham, you impact real churches and real lives. Here are some words of appreciation:

“Thank you very much for sending books which are hardly available in Nepal. Those books will be great blessings for our mission training center as resources for pastors and leaders...training and equipping saints for His work in Nepal and Himalayan nations.”

— Ram Prasad Shrestha, Executive Officer, National Mission Commission of Nepal

“Langham Preaching is of capital importance given that, before it does anything else, this teaching helps us understand the Word of God...and is very useful for our churches.”

— Augustin of the Democratic Republic of Congo, a young pastor who endured 5 days of dangerous travel by boat on the Congo river to receive his training and now is multiplying himself by teaching the Bible and equipping local leaders.

“Real words are missing to express my gratitude and appreciation for Langham. It's (the Ph.D.) to impact people back home. First, for Shalom University in Bunia. But also the church and the society...you're helping to support the Congolese church and the Congolese society.”

— George Atido, current student at

## Consider a Planned Giving Gift for Global Impact

Every Canadian donor can make a lasting legacy gift to the work of Langham Canada and impact the Church of the Majority World for generations to come.

Planned giving – making a gift through your will – even enables donors to make larger gifts through estate planning than they may have been able to make in their lifetime.

It is easy to do. And everyone can do it!

Here is some of what you need to know to consider making a legacy gift to Langham Canada.

- Anyone with a will can make such a gift. Sometimes the gift is a percentage of the estate (which means it will grow as your estate grows), others choose to designate a specific dollar amount to their charity of choice.
- You can speak to a planned giving advisor (there are groups out there to help) for more information, or consult your lawyer directly to designate a gift in your will to a charity.
- Note the correct spelling of the charity's name, in Langham's case the correct legal name is Langham Partnership of Canada for Global Christian Education, Inc. (BN 119241537RR0001).

***“We find Langham scholars (all from the Majority World) especially drawn to the Old Testament – why? Because they feel it resonates with their world – it speaks of rituals, of sacrifice, famine, plagues, polygamy, kinship networks and family – they respect the great stories told, the poetry. This ancient text is very contemporary to them.”***

***–lan Shaw***

## What does this mean for Langham Canada donors?

You are a much-needed part of the essential work of shifting much-needed resources from the West to the South.

Your gifts help equip the growing Global South Church by empowering publishing through Langham

Literature, equipping preachers through Langham Preaching, and preparing leaders through Langham Scholars.

When you give to Langham, you are giving many times over. Langham’s impact is designed for mul-

tiplication: books equip churches, leaders and lay people; preachers impact churches and communities and train each other to improve their skills; Langham scholars lead transformative movements around the world.

- Let us know if you make this decision so that we can thank you now!

Legacy giving is a wonderful way to model generosity to your family, make sure your priorities carry on even after you are gone, and, in Langham’s case, ensure that the Church of the Majority World growing so quickly in numbers will grow deeply in maturity at the same time for many years to come.

## Langham Preaching Volunteers Battle Obstacles to Grow a Movement

**V**olunteers drive the Langham Preaching movement. They sacrificially give of their time and talents and endure periods of discouragement. The work is not easy but, “I do it to ‘see a new fire for Langham Preaching Seminars’ break out,” exclaims Emmanuel Bagumako, coordinator for Burundi, East Africa.

While waiting for a flight home from a neighbouring country, Emmanuel got word his mother-in-law had passed away. He was scheduled to lead a Langham Seminar in Burundi in just two days. His first impulse was to cancel the weeklong training. Then, picturing in his mind the many people planning to attend, decided to carry on. “It was so hard for me to lead the training the whole day and to go for mourning after... I thank God how He gave me the strength to continue and finish this training.”

One week later, leaving for a seminar in the north of Burundi, Emmanuel found no public transport available for the trip. Determined not to disappoint those planning to attend, he hired a moto-taxi and “with one bag on my back, another bag and sack of materials between me and the taxi driver, and another sack of materials on the front,” he set out on a precarious journey. “Unfortunately, I was not able to take a picture!” he quips.

Emmanuel, an Electromechanics Engineer, did his internship in Information and Communication Technologies applied to education. A member of the Groupes Bibliques Universitaires (International Fellowship of Evangelical Students) since 1998, he has served as General Secretary for Burundi since 2010. He began leading Langham Preaching at that time. “The purpose of Langham Preaching went straight into my heart!” he says. He was eager that his work with students be expanded to include this ministry for pastors and leaders in Burundian churches.

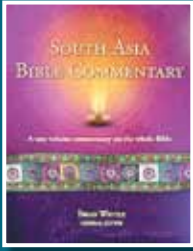
But, Langham Preaching, begun in Burundi in 2007, saw little growth in the following years and Emmanuel was discouraged.

His perseverance and faithfulness to the vision began to bear fruit in 2013. New contacts were eager to participate in Langham training. Five pastors who attended an introductory session for a ‘taste’ of Langham Preaching, arrived at a Level One Seminar with friends from their churches and neighbouring churches – 34 people in all!

Armed with new friends, ideas, and skills from a time of teacher training in Nairobi, Emmanuel also finds encouragement in friendship with volunteer leaders with the same heart and vision for the work of Langham Preaching. They find comfort and joy in praying with one another as similar challenges arise and rejoicing together when seminar participants discover new things.

Emmanuel’s story is illustrative of many Langham volunteer stories. As Chris Jonah (Country Coordinator, Sierra Leone) says, “We want to thank all of our volunteer staff members that help us to teach, travel under difficult circumstances, sleep in difficult places and eat food they will not normally eat.” Langham Preaching would not thrive without our gifted and dedicated volunteers around the world.

## Langham Literature Highlights



Work on the South Asia Bible Commentary continues. This exhaustive commentary is poised to equip and inspire the South Asian Church. We fully expect it to have an impact in the Canadian Church as well, with our multi-cultural reality.

Miroslav' Wolf's book Exclusion and Embrace, a powerful message of forgiveness and reconciliation

was released in Russian in the Ukraine through the publisher Colloquium. This is a book familiar to many Canadians, and now it will have an impact in this troubled part of the world. Langham Literature has helped fund this indigenous Christian publisher.

In Turkey, leadership training ministry HASAT partners with Langham for preacher training. They have their sights set on a textbook for students, which is going to require a fundraising effort. It is Roger Olson's book The story of Christian theology: Twenty Centuries of Tradition & Reform (Intervarsity Press). Langham Literature hopes to help.



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*–Ian Shaw*

***Be part of the change sweeping the Global Church.***

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