



### ACT Alliance India Forum : Workshop on Localization

Localization is to transfer of resources (Funds) and powers Local NGOs and Agencies, who are dealing with the Humanitarian work. A one day workshop on 7th June 2019, was organized at NCCI Campus, By ACT Alliance India Forum on localization, in partnership with CASA and NCCI [National Council of Churches in India]. Members of CASA and NCCI program along with ACT India partners and representatives were the group member, for this workshop was organized.

The workshop focused on motives of localizations-

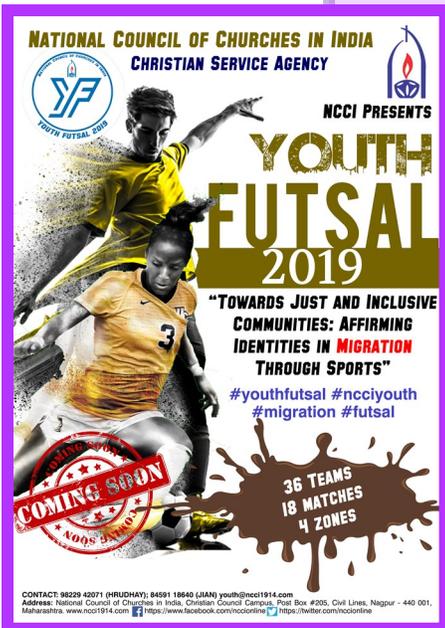
- To improve the understanding of Grand Bargain & WHS, and also understanding of the Localization process; the challenges and the opportunities at the national level.
- Five core Responsibilities that are- i) Prevent and end conflict ii) Respect the rules of war, iii) Leave no one behind, iv) Work differently to end need, v) Invest in humanity.
- An ACT Alliance Charter for Change.
- The Grand Bargain commits donors and aid organizations to providing 25% of global humanitarian funding to local and national responders by 2020.



The Grand Bargain is an agenda for Humanity, it can also be considered as an agreement between more than 30 biggest donors and aid providers, which aims to get more means into the hands of people in need. Grand Bargain was first proposed by the former UN Secretary General’s High- Level panel in Humanitarian Funding. The Grand Bargain commits donors and aid organizations to providing 25% of global humanitarian funding to local and national responders by 2020.

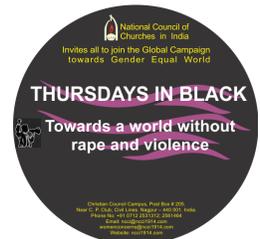
This Workshop was inaugurated by Dr. Sushant Agrawal, Director CASA, in presence of Mr. Anoop Sukmaran, ACT Alliance and Rev. Asir Ebenezer General Secretary NCCI.

### NCCI Youth Futsal 2019



The National Council of Churches in India-Youth Concerns released the NCCI Youth Futsal 2019 flyers on 7<sup>th</sup> June 2019 at the NCCI Secretariat, Nagpur by Dr. Sushant Agarwal, Chairperson, National Programme Commission, NCCI and Director, CASA India. “Youth Futsal 2019” is the first of its kind initiated for the youth of the 18 Regional Councils of the National Council of Churches in India (NCCI) to come together and strengthen the ecumenical fellowship through sports for a cause. Youth Futsal 2019 focuses on the issue of Migration and the problems faced daily by migrants in India. The Youth Futsal 2019 is launched under the theme “Towards Just and Inclusive Communities: Affirming Identities in Migration through Sports”. The Youth Futsal 2019 comprises of 36 teams - 2 teams (men and women) from each 18 Regional Councils, spread across the country into 4 zones – North, South, East and Central respectively.

Gender based violence is a universal and global issue that harms men, women and children in their most personal arena. People often feel helpless and hopeless in the face of so much pain and injustice. In 2011 a survey conducted by the Thomson Reuters Foundation has ranked India as the world’s



most dangerous country for women to live in. However, we can all be involved in a simple but powerful campaign to address gender Based violence. Thursdays in Black encourages everyone to wear black on Thursdays. This can be a campaign T-shirt, other black clothing or simply a campaign badge as a sign of their support.

## Indian Christian Women's Movement (ICWM) Nagpur Chapter Inaugurated



On 14<sup>th</sup> June 2019, the interim committee of the Indian Christian Women's Movement ICWM (national ecumenical movement of Christian Women) in which more than 30 Christian women who are member of different churches in Nagpur including CNI, Mar Thoma, Orthodox, Methodist, Calvary Gospel Church and North-East Fellowship participated. The meeting was conducted in NCCI Campus. The ICWM National team members and regional coordinators Dr. Aruna Gnanadason, Dr. Kochurani Abraham and Ms. Jessica Richard gave the introduction, history and activities of ICWM.

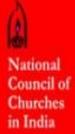
Dr. Aruna Gnanadason explained the need of ICWM in Christian women's role in church activities. Dr. Kochurani Abraham told the history of ICWM and the struggle of catholic women in churches and how they join ICWM. Ms. Jessica Richard explained about the current activities of ICWM in different regions.

ICWM is a movement which runs by women only. It has 9 units in India where all Christian women get together and work ecumenically. Women with disabilities and trans-women are also active members of ICWM.

Participants from Nagpur shared their work experiences and pledged to work together for the upliftment of women's position in churches and society. Mrs. Neerja Prasad organized the meeting all women from different churches in Nagpur.

The purpose of this meeting was to make a team of Christian women work together for women empowerment and to participate more actively in churches for gender justice and equality. Rev. Asir Ebenezer NCCI General Secretary introduced the ICWM members to the participants from Nagpur





NCC Review is the oldest ecumenical journal in India. It was published as *The Harvest Field* since 1862 and is the official organ of NCCI being published as the *NCC Review* since 1922. The articles in the journal focus on themes relevant to the Church and Society and on emerging issues from a theological-ecumenical perspective with a view to Informing people, debating diverse views, challenging ideas and concepts, facilitating discussions, and eliciting responses towards promoting Life-enabling values.

#### NCC Review Subscription and donation

NCC Review is published eleven times a year. The subscription rates are highly subsidized. Further discount is available for bulk subscriptions and for Pastors, students and theological educators.

#### NCC Review articles

Articles are invited for publication in NCC Review. Article can be 3000 – 4000 words in length in MS Word (.doc) format, reviews of recent theological or related books and Bible studies. Article submitted must be unpublished and original work of author.

Send articles to [nccreview@ncci1914.com](mailto:nccreview@ncci1914.com) with "Article for NCC Review" written in the subject line.

#### Advertisements

NCC also invites advertisements to publish in the Journal in single or multiple insertion.

For more information, please see [NCC Review](#)

#### Statement

#### WACC– Asia Region Quadrennial Assembly 2019

We members of the WACC-AR are gathered together in our Quadrennial Assembly in KUC Space, Kowloon, Hong Kong, this May 20-21 2019 on the theme: Communication Rights for All, Unite and Expand WACC in Asia.

We have seen the oppression of our people, in this particular instance, the plight of migrants and "undocumented" peoples in Asia. We have known the root cause of their suffering: Poverty that begets other forms of poverty. We have realized that, for as long as the unjust and inhumane social structures are in place, poverty is perpetuated through landlessness and unemployment, and forced migration of people persists. Migrants will continue to be commodified and offered at the altar of neoliberal globalization for greater profits.

We in WACC as an ecumenical institution are faced with the inescapable challenge of whether to change the current system or stay at its comfort zone by being just a communication for all. To change the system is to side with the poor, the deprived and the oppressed and be concerned with the plight of undocumented migrants. To change the system is to proclaim the truth to power without fear or favor. To change the system is to affirm our belief that God is actively at work in the life and history of the people just as Yahweh liberated the Israelite from the yoke of slavery.

We as WACC members in Asia commit ourselves to change the current system through education, advocacy and support services to the social movements that recognize the role of the people at the grassroots in changing the course of history.

In the concrete, we commit ourselves to:

1. Identify issues confronting the migrants like poverty, exclusion, unimplemented migrant policies, recognition of migrants, amnesty with the right to work, control of media, continuous monitoring of their life-situation on the ground by likeminded organizations and providing media platforms for the silenced voices of the "undocumented".
2. Promote Awareness and Education in the media industry on Communication Rights and the Rights of Migrants. Migrants must be enabled, empowered and educated to tell their stories. They are not voiceless. They are silenced. Folklore and folk songs, street theaters and other forms of community communication should be encouraged once again.
3. Enhance our Advocacy Work by conducting media monitoring on all levels and in coordination with international organizations.
4. Establish new partnerships and expand WACC in Asia by publishing information and use of social media, building a network with those who are working on the same issues. We will encourage faith-based communities to come together. We shall reach out to former WACC members and bring in new ones.

On the whole, we shall work on the concerns of migration, peace and climate justice in Asia in an inter-faith, inter-cultural and people-based manner. In all these concerns, the gender element will always be a constitutive dimension.

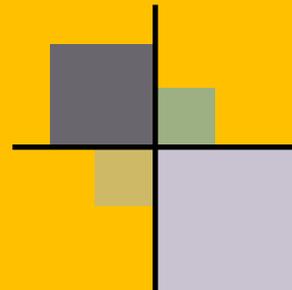
We affirm that communication is a right not a privilege. Therefore, WACC-Global and WACC-AR shall strive to help people communicate, especially the marginalized, and through the very many tools bring the silenced voices from the periphery to the center. We shall do these with the inspired movement of the youth of Asia.

We ask God to bless this WACC initiatives as flowing from his self-communication of love, justice and peace.

**Association of Theologically Trained Women of India (ATTWI)** requests all Theologically Trained Women of India to associate with ATTWI.



For further information, Please contact-  
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National Council of Churches In India,  
Youth Concerns  
In Collaborations with  
New Life Charitable Trust and India Peace Centre



14 June, 2019, Friday at 2pm to 6pm

Venue : India Peace Centre, Civil Lines,  
C. K. Naidu Road, Nagpur - 440001

Jian - 8459118640 | Hrudhaya - 9822942071  
Swati - 7498857555



The National Council of Churches in India - Youth Concerns in collaboration with New Life Charitable Trust and India Peace Centre organised a Blood Donation Camp in observance of World Blood Donors Day on 14th June under the theme "Safe Blood for All" at India Peace Centre, Nagpur.

Medical team from Government Medical College, Nagpur coordinated the camp. More than 60 people from different walks of life participated the camp and 45 people donated blood.



## Interfaith Iftar for Peace and Harmony

“Hinduism allows diverse ideas and one idea of religion shouldn’t be enforced on all”, said Swami Devkantyananda from Ramkrishna Mission speaking at Interfaith Iftar for peace and harmony organized by National Council of Churches in India (NCCI), Centre for Study of Society and Secularism (CSSS) and Indian Christian Women’s Movement, Mumbai Chapter (ICWM) 2019 at YMCA International House, Mumbai, on 29th May .



The motive behind organizing the program was to bring to the fore the narrative of peace and harmony in every religion. To stop the cycle of attacks on each other’s religions, a step toward peace for all is essential. In the wake of the recent attacks on places of worship of different religions especially in Sri Lanka and New Zealand and the narrative of hatred being spread even in India, this program sent out a message of unity amongst all the faiths as response to that narrative. The representatives of all the three host organisations brought greetings. The Rev. Mathew Abraham from the NCCI while welcoming the guests said that their organizations stood for freedom of religion and dignity of life for all. Director of the CSSS Irfan Engineer said that we should all stand united in the face of hatred to spread peace and harmony. Shobha Philip, coordinator of ICWM, said that their organization also supported the various activities conducted in the city for promoting justice and peace.



On 1st June, 2019 the Iftar party in Goa was initiated by Inter Faith Dialogue for Life (IFDIL) led by Ranjan Solomon. NCCI delegation Rev. Dr. Abraham Mathew was there to participate.

Source: People’s Reporter

# The Mighty Keyboard

Synod Level Writers' Workshop held on 7—9 June 2019 at CSI Centre, Chennai



“Mission itself is the communication of the gospel in words and actions. Jesus himself communicated the good news using parable.”

**The Mighty Keyboard:** The Synod Level Writers' Workshop conducted by CSI Communications Department made more bridges and harmony that will make social aware congregation. This workshop played the role of a prophetic communicator and an agent of truth and boldness with a passion for truth and justice.



This workshop's aim was to design a structure of multi-level media with a major focus on using effective communication tools, literature, short films and music CD's of music those will continue to influence the congregation to have a wider broader and inclusive approach to mission.

The workshop started on 7<sup>th</sup> June, 2019 with the word of prayer afterward Rev. Sunil Raj Philip, Director of CSI Communications and Dalit and tribals concerns gave the introduction to the II phase of the workshop. Rev. Dr. John Samuel Ponnuraj (Principal, Gurukul Lutheran Theological College) delivered the keynote address. Topics like **To Fetter or Free? Exploring Biblical Writing** (RP Rev. Shubin Vaeghese) **Social Media** (RP Prof. J. E. Kunnath), **As You Write It: Writing for the Stage** (Mr. Steve Kunnath), **When God Hugs as a Mother: Feminist Theology and Indian Writings** (Dr. Vedha Kani) **How to write Catchy News Stories** (Fr. Leo) **Archival materials and Contemporary Writings** (Mr. Manoj Ebenezer), **Writing for the Screen** (Mr. Sherry Rao) and **Voices from the Margines: Identify Politics in Indian Writings** (Prof. Sayujya Sankar) was explained in the seminar.

This workshop provided insights to the refining and writing skills. It focused on writing for social cause, blog, writing on social media and write-up for website.

## NCCI welcomes new interns for July 2019 to December 2019

The National Council of Churches in India welcomes new interns for the session July 2019 to December 2019. These young people have come from different regions and backgrounds. During their time at NCCI, it is hoped that they would explore various concerns, learn and contribute to the strengthening of the ecumenical movement in India.



Mr. B. Asher is from Chennai belongs to Samavesham of Telugu Baptist Churches. He has done his B.D. from Andhra Christian Theological College, Hyderabad.



Mr. Anant Prem Soren is from Dumka, Jharkhand. He has done his graduation in Business (BBA) from St. Xavier College, Dumka. He is from Northern Evangelical Lutheran church.