



The Update

Indian Ocean, Tanzania

Volume 29 No. 4 Sept-Oct 2019

Equipping the Next Generation in Tanzania

Over the last year Phil has joined Rafik in training leaders in Tanzania. Rafik grew up and lived most of his life in Tanzania and ICM's key contact in Dar es Salaam is his friend, Pastor Dondo. He was an elder in Rafik's first church that he planted in Tanzania and now pastors a church close to Dar es Salaam that focuses on university students and young professionals.

Rafik and Phil had a chance to share



Rafik (2nd from R) & Phil with University Students

in East Africa. The Indian community is made up of those who have lived there for generations as well as expats that work in the country.

After Rafik became a follower of Jesus (go to icmcanada.org to see his testimony on our Youtube channel), he served in several African churches before eventually beginning a ministry among the minority Muslim/Hindu Indians of Tanzania.

The early 1990s were a unique time in Dar es Salaam as hundreds of Indians came to know Jesus and

several churches were established. When Rafik moved to Canada nearly fifteen years ago, he passed on the leadership of one of these churches to a Japanese missionary couple, who has now been in Dar es Salaam for nearly twenty years.

In addition to the leadership training among several African groups, in May Phil and Rafik were also able to encourage these Indian churches planted many years ago by Rafik. They will be returning to Tanzania in October to continue the training with Pastor Dondo's

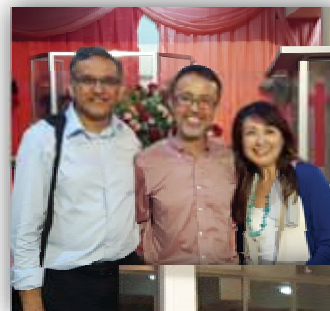
leaders, the University students, as well as the leaders of the Indian church in Dar es Salaam.



mentor two leaders in each of eight Universities. We look forward to continuing to work with these young leaders.

with several Christian Unions in some of the local Universities. Jackson is the point person and is now using our Mentoring materials to

Rafik was one of the first Indian (ie. South Asian) to find Jesus (well, Jesus found him!) in Dar es Salaam, Tanzania. His family was Muslim and had lived for generations



Rafik with Japanese pastors (left), Indian Congregation, TZ



Rafik and Church Leaders At Dar es Salaam Conference



MANDARIN IN CUBA?

It is always amazing to see where our materials end up and how God uses them – usually beyond what we can even imagine.

For example, when our mentoring materials were first developed in the early 2000s (in Berlin) a neurosurgeon from Chile, who was working in Berlin, asked if he could translate the materials into Spanish. At the time, we had no idea if we would ever need a Spanish version, as our focus at the time was Eastern Europe.

In retrospect, our short sightedness is rather obvious! Our materials in Spanish are now being used across Latin America and the Caribbean in ways we could not have imagined at the time. But God was ahead of us and so when we were asked to provide training into Cuba in 2009 (and other Spanish speaking countries), our materials

were ready to go.

Another example of God using our training in places we did not imagine happened on Phil's last trip to Cuba. Javier, who has been training leaders across Cuba with our materials for many years now, shared how

many Chinese Christians have begun attending his church in Havana. Well years ago (you guessed it), we had our materials translated into Chinese (Mandarin) and had begun the training there. Though we currently do not have teams teaching in China, Phil was able to provide these materials for use by Javier in Cuba....in Chinese. Since Javier has used them extensively in Spanish, he will now be able to train these Chinese nationals in his home country.

As usual, God was before us preparing the way to accomplish his plans for his Church. Often we feel we are just along for the ride, trying to keep up with what he is doing.



Javier(far left) with Chinese leaders, Havana



Javier(far left) with Chinese congregation, Havana

Russia Update

Valera and Narina continue to train the leadership within their fellowship of churches in the Caucasus region of southern Russia. For many years Phil travelled to this region to invest in them and others and it is rewarding to see them continue to train the next generation.

They are also gathering churches and leaders in the Moscow region and early this year they used our *Leadership Foundation* and *Mentoring Workshops* with these leaders. They write, *"These truths have really become part of our DNA. We had a great day yesterday with 40 people from Moscow, St. Petersburg, Nizhny Novgorod, Tula, Vladimir, and Moscow region. God is good. Thanks for mentoring us and investing in us. You are investing in our Family of Churches and in the next generation."*

Valera and Narina are now on a new adventure as they have moved to St. Petersburg this past summer in order to plant a church there and provide leadership training for church leaders in the region.

Nathan & Grace
Senegal, W. Africa



Leaders of Family of Churches Fellowship, Caucasus

Translation Projects

French

This year we have been focussing on completing several ongoing translation projects. The main project was to get all of our workshops and manuals into French, primarily for Francophone Africa. Grace and Nathan have been working in this country for years and Grace has been our translator in our leadership conferences that Deo (MCNet Coach) initiated.

Grace has also been using her gifts to translate all our various books, manuals and workshops, for which we are so grateful. Since they also work with illiterate leaders, she has created audio files of our various manuals which they make available online. They then meet with these leaders to orally discuss the biblical principles of leadership as they establish healthy leaders and ministries.

Spanish and Russian

This year we introduced you to our new Discipleship materials (*Discipling thru Intentional Relationships*) which is designed to help a new believer mature through a relational process. Since launching this earlier this year, it has been translated into Russia and will be in Spanish and French by next year. Thank you for your support for these projects. It is crucial to have this leadership material in each local language.

We are also considering a partnership with our contacts in Tanzania to translate our materials into Kiswahili, (for the work in East Africa).

Latin America/Caribbean Reports

CUBA Phil joined Carlos (Dominican Rep.) in Cuba in June to train the trainers (MCNet Coaches), who are part of the leadership network that Raydel first began in this country (the Samaritan Network). These leaders are the key leadership in the development of five training centers across Cuba. ICM first went to Cuba ten years ago and this is a small part of the fruit of that training over the years. However, instead

of it being merely a foreign initiative, local Cuban leaders are now facilitating this training in their own country.



Phil, Javier, Carlos, Raydel



Carlos and Phil teaching in Cuba



Carlos coaching Cuban team

Carlos (who lives in DR) and his team are expanding the training in his country as well as providing the support and initiative for the

growing network in Cuba. It is a privilege for ICM Canada to partner with these faithful leaders (for latest video update go to icmcanada.org and click on YouTube icon at top right).



HAITI

It has been nearly ten years since Phil first went to Cuba and Raydel & Madelines participated in the leadership training workshops. They since developed a network of leadership training in the country through their organization, the Samaritan Network.

In the last couple years they moved to Dominican Republic and introduced our ministry to Carlos. Now they are together facilitating the leadership training in that island nation. With their team they are also expanding the leadership training into other surrounding countries such as Cuba, Puerto Rico, Panama, Mexico, as well as Haiti.

Their team is made up of Dominicans, Americans, Haitians and Cubans and they meet regularly in DR in order to strategize for their vision of leadership training in Central America and the Caribbean region. Particularly in Haiti, there are many challenges in the country that are affecting the network. Thank you for your prayers for the work in these countries.



Raydel teaching in Haiti (above) and with team in Dominican Rep. (left)



Ministry Coaching Network International Consultation

In August the leadership of our Ministry Coaching Network (MCNet) who have been using our materials to train leaders gathered in heart of the Reformation, Lutherstadt-Wittenberg, Germany.

While we are in contact individually, it was great to all be in one place at one time (participants came from Russia, Ukraine, E. and W. Europe, Latin America/Caribbean, Africa, Canada). This was a pivotal time for MCNet and ICM Canada, who is the catalyst for this initiative. In the Nov-Dec Update we will provide a full report of this conference.

Our Mission

Serving the church by mentoring and coaching ministry teams.

Our Purpose

Our goal is to see another generation equipped so that they may be relevant witnesses in their culture. We accomplish this through mentoring leaders, coaching and consulting with ministry teams, and providing culturally relevant materials that facilitate this process.

Accountability

ICM is an interdenominational non-profit charity registered in both Canada and the USA. It is a faith mission and supported by free-will donations of those of like vision.

ICM adheres to the WEF & Lausanne Covenants statements of faith and takes an evangelical approach to Scripture.

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ICM, CANADA

34181 - 17790 #10 Hwy
Surrey, BC V3S 8C4
604.614-4473

ICM, USA

P.O. Box 129
Monument, CO 80132
661.832-9740

E-mail

office@icmcanada.org

www.icmcanada.org



From My Desk



Phil Jeske, PhD
President

As I look back at years of walking with the Lord and how God has led us in the ministry, I am reminded of Proverb 16:9, *"In their hearts humans plan their course, but the Lord establishes their steps."* (NIV)

I am sure you have also noticed that it is a lot easier to see how God has established our steps looking backwards, than it is looking forward at the beginning of the journey. Yet the longer we walk with Him he increases our faith and confidence as we experience his faithfulness year by year. Though all our "why" questions are not answered, through the good and the bad he has remained consistent and faithful.

As I look back over the last thirty years since we started ICM Canada (June 1989), there is no way we could have anticipated all the twists and turns along the way. Yet with the benefit of hindsight, that once crooked and obscure path seems to look remarkably straight!

I am sure that it is not that we have become so wise, but more likely due to something that comes with age: *perspective*. During the seasons of our life when we are slugging it out through every battle, our focus tends to be the bark of the trees rather than the forest and the big picture of what God is really doing.

I think of the seemingly premature end to our time in Africa, returning before we anticipated; all the financial challenges of the 1990s that we were sure would snuff out the flame of our vision, or the struggles of trying to figure out how to best train leaders and do ministry in Eastern Europe in the early 2000s. In the face of these obstacles and setbacks, the best we seemed to be able to do was just muddle along and do our best to be faithful. Yet, all the while God was miraculously establishing our steps as he promised he would.

I don't think that the proverb, *"Many are the plans in a person's heart, but it is the Lord's purpose that prevails."* (Prov. 19:21) means that we should shuffle through life aimlessly, but I do think it means that as we seek him first he is truly the one directing our paths – even during those times when it seems we are just plodding along.

I am sure you can give similar examples of God faithfully establishing your steps in spite of the setbacks and seemingly zigzag narrative of your own story. Looking back gives me confidence for the future, knowing that the One who has been so faithful in the past will continue to be so in each of our lives, until our mission on earth is finished.

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