



## ATA AND TEARFUND SOUTHEAST AND EAST ASIA: WORKING TOGETHER FOR THE HOLISTIC MISSION OF THE CHURCH

The Lord has been faithful to lead ATA to new opportunities for collaboration- and just recently we have signed a partnership agreement with Tearfund. Our collaboration with Tearfund will focus on making Integral Mission Theology more deeply embedded in the training of leaders for the holistic mission of the church and will focus on research and equipping.

### **Conversations on Equipping for Integral Mission in Asia**

One of the ways by which we hope to move toward our goal is through consultations and workshops throughout the region, beginning with *Conversations on Equipping for Integral Mission in Asia!* This gathering will be held from November 20 to 22 in Mode Sathon Hotel, Bangkok, Thailand. The objectives of this gathering are as follows:

1. Discover the different ways students are being equipped for Integral Mission in East and Southeast Asia.
2. Explore available resources/materials developed from Asia and opportunities to collaborate and work together on resources/materials development
3. Identify opportunities to scale-up and sustain on-going initiatives as well as explore fresh initiatives to pursue.

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4. Introduce practical ways to express Integral Mission in local church ministry settings of students, i.e, Church and Community Mobilisation approach.

This gathering is for leaders of ATA accredited schools - presidents, academic deans, program directors, and missions professors- in East and Southeast Asia. Registration for this event is FREE (inclusive of meals and accommodation) and partial scholarships are available for travel. But we have a slot for only 1 representative from each school and will be on a first come, first served basis. Additionally, we can only accommodate 50 participants.

Participants are expected to arrive on the night before (19th) and depart after lunch on the 22nd.

Please register on or before our deadline, 30 September 2023, through this link: <https://forms.gle/hVvt883L6mtm1cQY8>. If you need scholarships for travel, kindly indicate that in the registration form as well. If you have any questions or concerns, please send an email to [ataasia@gmail.com](mailto:ataasia@gmail.com).

We look forward to seeing your school represented in this gathering!

**Conversations on Equipping for Integral Mission in Asia**

November 20 to 22  
Moe Sathon Hotel  
Bangkok, Thailand

Scan to register

Introduce practical ways to express Integral Mission in local church ministry settings of students, i.e, Church and Community Mobilisation approach.

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Explore available resources/materials developed from Asia and opportunities to collaborate and work together on resources/materials development

## The ATA-Tearfund Integral Mission Research Scholarship


Apart from consultations and workshops throughout the region, through this collaboration, we will likewise be giving out Research Scholarships to qualified applicants. The ATA-Tearfund Integral Mission Research Scholarship is offered to postgraduate students from countries in Southeast

and East Asia, who are doing research in the field of integral mission. The aim is to support research projects that will encourage generation of data and the development of thinking on integral mission in the Asian context.

Applicants must demonstrate outstanding academic achievements, leadership attributes and participate actively in the missional mandate of God.

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Criteria	<p>Applicants are:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• required to be students enrolled in postgraduate programs with ATA accredited seminaries in Southeast Asia and East Asia. (see countries in the list below*).</li> <li>• Postgraduate studies include the Master of Theology, Doctor of Theology, PhD, DMin and DMiss programmes.</li> <li>• Doing thesis/dissertation research on a topic related to integral mission.</li> <li>• Mature Christians with a good academic and ministerial record.</li> </ul>
How to Apply	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. <i>Application Form</i>: Fill in the ATA-Tearfund Integral Missions Scholarship application form on google forms.) <a href="#">Click here</a>.</li> <li>2. <i>Information about your research project</i>: In the application form, there is space to tell us more about your integral mission research project: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Topic, scope and purpose of your dissertation/thesis research project</li> <li>2. Field research methodology: data gathering and analysis.</li> <li>3. Research subjects and context</li> <li>4. Contribution of this research to the church and to the field of integral mission.</li> </ol> </li> <li>3. <i>Recommendation</i>: Provide one academic recommendation.</li> <li>4. <i>Transcript</i>: Current academic transcript of grades.</li> </ol>
Deadline and submission	<p>Deadline: 15 October, 2023</p> <p>Send application form with research project information and accompanying documents to <a href="mailto:atafinance@gmail.com">atafinance@gmail.com</a>.</p>
Evaluation	<p>Applications will be evaluated by a scholarship committee on the following criteria:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Scope, methodology and contribution of research project</li> <li>• Academic Transcript</li> <li>• Academic Recommendation</li> </ul>
*Countries	<p><i>Southeast Asia</i>: Brunei, Cambodia, Indonesia, Laos, Malaysia, Philippines, Singapore, Thailand, Timor-Leste, Vietnam</p> <p><i>East Asia</i>: China, Hong Kong, Japan, Macau, Mongolia, South Korea, and Taiwan.</p>

We are excited to see how the Lord will use our partnership with Tearfund Southeast and East Asia to strengthen and equip our member institutions as they themselves strengthen and equip the Asian Church for the Lord's holistic mission! 

## Diversity, Unity, and Celebration: CTS' 14<sup>th</sup> Commencement Exercise

Isn't it beautiful when diverse people come together in unity and celebration? That was the sight to behold during the 14<sup>th</sup> graduation ceremony of the Colombo Theological Seminary (CTS) held last 15 July 2023 in Colombo. Our very own Dr. Theresa Lua, ATA General Secretary, was privileged to witness the graduation ceremony as she not only gave the graduation message, but likewise awarded the diploma to all the graduates.

This recently held graduation is unlike previous ones because this was the first time the institution held a national graduation from their 9 centers across Sri Lanka. There were 173 graduates- with about 150 in attendance during the ceremony. There were a number who were handed their diplomas posthumously during the ceremony- students who passed away not only because of COVID but also victims during the Easter bombing last 21 April 2019.

Much like the chapel services of CTS, the graduation was in the two major languages of Sri Lanka: Singahali and Tamil. Language has been and continues to be a sensitive issue in Sri Lanka; and the barrier that it has created has contributed to regional conflicts. So, to be inclusive, CTS always uses both Singhali and Tamil. Dr. Lua's full message was printed



*Dr Lua giving the graduation message*

in the souvenir program in three languages: English, Singhali, and Tamil.

Two days before the ceremony, CTS held a banquet- where Dr. Lua not only gave a short message but also surprised all those present with a duet with Dr. Ivor Poobalan, Principal, Colombo Theological Seminary. CTS likewise arranged for Dr. Lua to meet with some students to provide an overview of ATA and have lunch fellowship with them. A separate session with the whole faculty was also arranged for her to make a presentation about ATA- particularly on the new Accreditation Manual and ATA's strategic initiatives. The Q&A that followed focused on accreditation, online learning, and current issues and challenges in Theological Education.

After her time in CTS, Dr. Lua then proceeded from Colombo to Peradeniya to meet with the leaders of Lanka Bible College and Seminary. She had a good conversation with them about quality assurance and other issues in Theological Education.

We praise God for how He brings unity and even celebration amid the most diverse peoples- and the CTS graduation 2023 is proof of that! ♦

### Colombo Theological Seminary



GRADUATION 2023



# Asian Christian Theology now available in Bahasa and Hindi!

As part of our goal to expand and deepen the reach of our publications, along with widening its access, we, along with Langham Publishing, have endeavored to commission high quality translations of our most strategic Publications. We have begun with the translation of our recently published Asian Christian Theology- and aim to have this resource available in all major Asian Languages.

This year, we have been able to complete and are moving towards the completion of its translations in both Bahasa and Nepali.

The Bahasa translation “Teologi Kristen Asia” was done in partnership with the publishing department of the Seminari Alkitab Asia Tenggara (Southeast Asia Bible Seminary)- formerly known as Sekolah tinggi Teologi SAAT. Purchasing details are in the photo of the eflyer on the right.

The team behind Teologi Kristen Asia hopes that it will be useful for Indonesian theologians in doing theology in their specific contexts.

On the other hand, the Hindi translation is being done in partnership with Open Door Publications Pvt Ltd, India. The Hindi translation of Asian Christian Theology is a significant step for India's Hindi-speaking evangelical community and the diaspora. Bringing a companion textbook into the heart language, the students and faculty of theology in seminaries and institutions in India will engage with the core doctrines of Christianity in their own language for the first time. This is a historic achievement.

While still underway, it is nearing completion and will available starting October 2023 through Open



**New Book!**

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ATA is excited to have the Asian Christian Theology translated into two major Asian languages and are excitedly working towards seeing it translated into Tamil, Malayalam, and Nepali! But more than seeing the book translated, we are even more excited to see the church benefit from this resource! ♦

# Introducing the “HOT OFF THE PRESS”

We at ATA want to serve you better by introducing you to newly released contextualized resources. We hope that these resources will help you in your ministry of equipping leaders for God’s mission.

**icete**

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Jessy Jaision

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- A practical guide for researchers from churches, religious bodies, NGOs, and others.

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