

# In Others' Words

*Editor's Note: In this department, we point you to resources outside of the IJFM that we hope you'll find helpful: other journals, print resources, DVDs, web sites, blogs, YouTube videos, etc. We welcome suggestions, but cannot promise that we will publish each one we receive. Standard disclaimers on content apply. Due to the length of many web addresses, we sometimes just give the title of the article and the main web address or a suggested Google search.*

## On Global Conference Continuation Efforts

Allen Yeh made reference (p. 124) to the importance of the continuation efforts of Tokyo and Cape Town global conferences. The former continues with the Global Network of Mission Structures at [www.gnms.net](http://www.gnms.net), where a login is required. Yong Cho, the executive director, offers a full statement of their vision in *Mission Frontiers* ([missionfrontiers.org](http://missionfrontiers.org), July-August, 2010, pp. 16-17). The Lausanne '74 legacy of the Cape Town event has maintained consistent discussions and task forces, and you can access their pre-conference website for discussions on globalization, unreached peoples, diaspora realities and many more issues as well, at <http://conversation.lausanne.org/en/home/en/conversations/detail/10785>

## On Global Communications

The development of mobile phone coverage has led to multiple discussions and research across mission agencies. They are both creating and accessing key sites for this growing mission reality. A growing range of opportunities is introduced at [www.internetevangelismday.com/mission-leaders.php](http://www.internetevangelismday.com/mission-leaders.php). (They will also play a role in the Cape Town global conference in October.) For some mind-boggling forecasts by experts on what to expect in mobile phone use over the next ten years, see [http://www.slideshare.net/rudydw/mobile-trends-2020?from=ss\\_embed](http://www.slideshare.net/rudydw/mobile-trends-2020?from=ss_embed). A new dimension being studied is what is now called the "social media revolution," or "socialnomics," and how the nature of sociality is being morphed by communication technologies (see <http://vimeo.com/5846105> and <http://www.amazon.com/Socialnomics-social-media-transforms->). Finally, you might want to follow the proceedings of a key mission conference on media forthcoming at <http://events.constantcontact.com/register/event?oeidk=a07e2oryexr9cf02d0a>

## On Orality and Communication

The April 2010 issue of *Missiology* offers a series of articles on Orality. Harriet Hill's 3-page interview on the role of orality in reaching the unreached is a quick and excellent overview of strategic issues.

## Insiders, Church and Territorial Dispute

Ida Glasser joins John Kim (IJFM 27:2, April-June, 2010, p 97-104) in updating our impressions of Christward movements of Muslims across Asia. She answers why Muslims turning to Christ are not joining traditional churches. She gives three reasons: survival, territory and language. The first and third are usually acknowledged, but the second reason of territory, almost as obvious, is not normally mentioned. But she explains:

In one area a group of *isayi* (Muslims turning to Jesus) wanted to build a church. They bought land and prepared to build. There was opposition—threats and so on—from the local Muslim community, even though the government sent in folk to affirm that the believers were within their rights. They decided not to build because of the bad relationships that had been caused, and when they went back to worshipping in their homes, the trouble stopped—everyone was happy. In other words, territory mattered, even in a relatively tolerant setting. This is partly a question of honour. When the believers become visible, the honour of the community is at stake. But it is even more a question of territory. While the area is seen as Muslim, there is no problem. As soon as there is a bid for 'Christian' territory, there is likely to be trouble. This extends even to the issue of burial rights. (*Encounters Mission Ezine*, Issue 23, April 2008, 1 of 2 [www.redcliffe.org/encounters](http://www.redcliffe.org/encounters))

Compare this to the recent report of arrests of American Christians employing certain tactics of Christian witness on the streets of the national Arab-American festival in Dearborn (Detroit), Michigan ("A Dispute in Dearborn," *Christianity Today*, September 2010, p.17). There is also the national reaction to the effort to establish a mosque at Ground Zero. One might have thought that "turf wars" were for "over there," not for a free and open America. But the centuries-long religious territorialism of Christianity and Islam still lingers as a fundamental worldview matter of "space." Conflict and aggravation seem inevitable in any inter-religious proximity, warranting our examination of mission/church tactics as evidenced in this case of South Asia. **IJFM**