## **Intensive Study Programme Sept 2014**

## **Christianity in Asia – List of Speakers**

**Michael Amaladoss, S.J.**, has a PhD in sacramental theology from the Institut Catholique of Paris. He has been a professor of dogmatic theology at Vidyajyoti College of Theology, Delhi from 1973-83 and 1995-2010. He has also taught at other theological institutes in Manila, Paris, Bruxelles, Cincinnati, Washington and Berkeley. He has been a consultant to the Pontifical Councils of Interreligious Dialogue and Culture and the World Council of Churches. He was the president of the International Association of Mission Studies. He is the author of 30 books and over 430 articles. Some of his books have been translated into many languages.

**Allan Heaton Anderson** is Professor of Global Pentecostal Studies at the University of Birmingham, England, where he has worked since 1995. Prior to this he lived and worked in Southern Africa. He is author of several books on Pentecostalism worldwide, the latest being To the Ends of the Earth: Pentecostalism and the Transformation of World Christianity (Oxford, 2013), Spreading Fires: The Missionary Nature of Early Pentecostalism (SCM & Orbis, 2007) and An Introduction to Pentecostalism (Cambridge, 2004, 2nd edition forthcoming).

Wesley Ariarajah, Methodist Minister from Sri Lanka, is currently Professor of Ecumenical Theology at the Drew University School of Theology. Before joining Drew, he served the World Council of Churches in Geneva, Switzerland, as Director of its Interfaith Dialogue Program for 12 years and later as the Deputy General Secretary of the Council. His publications include, The Bible and People of Other Faiths, Hindus and Christians: A Century of Protestant Ecumenical Thought, Not without My Neighbour: Issues in Interfaith Relations, Axis of Peace: Christian Faith in Times of Conflict and War, and Your God, My God and Our God – Rethinking Christian Faith for Religious Plurality.

Julius Bautista is an anthropologist and cultural historian whose research interest is in religion in Southeast Asia, particularly Christianity in the Philippines. He teaches courses in religious studies, politics and culture at the Department of Southeast Asian Studies at the National University of Singapore where he is a Senior Lecturer. Concurrently, he is an Associate at the Asia Research Institute's Religion and Globalization in Asian Contexts Cluster. Dr. Bautista is author of "Figuring Catholicism: An Ethno history of the Santo Nino de Cebu" (2010) and co-editor (with Francis Lim) of "Christianity and the State in Asia: Complicity and Conflict" (2009).

**Paul Joshua Bhakiaraj** is an Elder at a local church, and serves as a Lecturer in Theology at the South Asia Institute of Advanced Christian Studies, Bangalore, which is a specialised study centre of the University of Mysore. Areas of his academic interest include engagement of Christianity with the diverse cultures & religions of Asia; theology for Christianity's role and presence in society. He has published a number of articles in journals and in books such as *Atlas of Global Christianity* (Edinburgh: 2009) and has co-edited *Missiology for the 21<sup>st</sup> Century: South Asian Perspectives* (Delhi, 2004) and *Indian & Christian: Changing Identities in Modern India* (Bangalore, 2011).

**Sharon A. Bong** is Senior Lecturer in Gender Studies at the School of Arts and Social Sciences, Monash University, Malaysia. She is author of *The Tension Between Women's Rights and Religions: The Case of Malaysia* (2006) and former Coordinator of the Ecclesia of Women in Asia, an academic forum of Catholic women theologizing in Asia. She is also a forum writer, Asian region with the Catholic Theological Ethics in the World Church, research associate with the Forum for the Study of Sexuality, Gender, Race and Religion and patron for the Catherine of Siena Virtual College.

**Gemma Tulud Cruz**, taught for a number of years in the United States before moving to Australia where she is currently Senior Lecturer in Theology at Australian Catholic University in Melbourne. She holds a Ph.D in Theology from Radboud Universiteit Nijmegen in the Netherlands. She is author of *An Intercultural Theology of Migration* and *One Bread, One Body, One People: Toward a Theology of Migration* (forthcoming). Work on this essay is made possible by the Asian Theology Research Support Team grant by Australian Catholic University.

**Georg Evers** was born in Emmerich in 1936. He studied philosophy in Munich (1956-61); Japanese language, history and culture in Kamakura (1962-64), theology at Sophia University in Tokyo (1965-69), obtaining a Master in Theology. From 1969-72 doctoral study in Münster under the guidance of Karl Rahner. From 1979-2001 he was head of the Asia Desk of the Institute of Missiology Missio in Aachen. He has published widely in the field of contextual theologies, interreligious dialogue and theology of religions. Editor of the bibliographical journal *Theology in Context* and author of *The Churches in Asia* (New Delhi, ISPCK 2005).

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**Jude Lal Fernando** (Ph.D.) is a Lecturer and Research Fellow at the Irish School of Ecumenics, Trinity College Dublin and lectures on 'Religions and Ethics in a Pluralist World' and 'Armed Conflict, Peace Building and Development in Guatemala, Niger Delta and Sri Lanka'. He also teaches 'Peace and Conflict in South Asia' in Dublin City University and 'World Religions and Interfaith Dialogue' at Carlow College, Carlow. His first monograph, A *Paradigm for a Peace Movement: Thich Nhat Hanh and Martin Luther King Jr.* explores the potential in Buddhism and Christianity for peace building. His two main areas of expertise are 'Religion, Conflict and Peace' and 'Armed Conflicts, Geopolitics and Human Rights'. Fernando is a founding member of the Irish Forum for Peace in Sri Lanka (IFPSL).

Ananta Kumar Giri is currently on the faculty of Madras Institute of Development Studies, Chennai, India and has worked and taught in many universities in India and abroad including University of Kentucky, USA; Aalborg University, Denmark and University of Freiburg, Germany. He has an abiding interest in social movements and cultural change, criticism, creativity and contemporary dialectics of transformations, theories of self, culture and society, and ethics in management and development. Dr. Giri has written numerous books in Oriya and English. Among his books are: Global Transformations: Postmodernity and Beyond (1998), Sameekhya o Purodrusti [Criticism and the Vision of the Future, 1999], Patha Prantara Nrutattwa [Anthropology of the Street Corner, 2000], Conversations and Transformations: Toward a New Ethics of Self and Society (2002); Building in the Margins of Shacks: The Vision and Projects of Habitat for Humanity (2002) Reflections and Mobilizations: Dialogues with Movements and Voluntary Organizations (2004); Self-Development and Social Transformations? The Vision and Practice of Self-Study Mobilization of Swadhyaya (2008); Hrudayara Sehi Akhi Duiti [Those Two Eyes of the Heart] (2007); Mochi o Darshanika [The Cobbler and the Philosopher] (2009); Rethinking Social Transformation: Criticism and Creativity at the Turn of the Millennium (editor, 2001); A Moral Critique of Development: In Search of Global Responsibilities (co-editor, 2003); Creative Social Research: Rethinking Theories and Methods (editor, 2004); Religion of Develoment, Development of Religion (co-editor, 2004); The Modern Prince and Modern Sage: Transforming Power and Freedom (editor, 2009); Knowledge and Human Liberation: Towards Planetary Realizations (forthcoming); Sociology and Beyond: Windows and Horizons (2011); Philosophy and Anthropology: Border-Crossing and Transformations (co-editor, forthcoming) and *Pathways of Creative Research*: Towards a Festival of Dialogues (editor, forthcoming).

**Aruna Gnanadason**, CSI, Masters in English Literature, Bangalore University; and Doctorate of Ministries DMin, from the San Francisco Theological Seminary, USA. She served the World Council of Churches in Geneva, Switzerland directing its programme on women in church and society; and the work on justice, peace and creation. She is recipient of three honorary doctorates. She has authored several books, edited many and has published numerous articles in renowned national and international journals. She now lives in Chennai and offers her services as a freelance writer, speaker and editor to the churches in India and globally.

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Rudolf C. Heredia has his doctorate in sociology from the University of Chicago (1979). He taught sociology at St. Xavier's College, Mumbai, was the founder director of the Social Science Centre, the director, department of research at the Indian Social Institute, Delhi, edited the institute's journal, *Social Action* and been a research fellow there. Some of his publications are: *Tribal Education for Community Development: A Study of Schooling in the Talasari Mission Area*, Concept, 1992; *Tribal Identity and Minority Status: The Katkari Nomads in Transition*, Concept, 1994; *Changing Gods: Rethinking Conversion in India*, Penguin, 2007; *Taking Sides, Reservations Quotas and Minority Rights in India*, Penguin, 2012. He published in journals like the Economic and Political Weekly, and in some national newspapers.

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Angela Wai Ching Wong received her Ph.D. in religious studies from the University of Chicago Divinity School. She is an Associate Professor of the Department of Cultural and Religious Studies, and a concurrent Professor of the Chung Chi College Divinity School at the Chinese University of Hong Kong. She is also Head of the Graduate Division of Gender Studies and the Co-Director of Gender Research Centre of the University. Her research interests include: religion and sexuality, gender, religion and nationalism, feminist hermeneutics and religious classics, and postcolonialism and Hong Kong Christianity. Her works have been published in several professional journals both in Chinese and English. Some representative publications include: "The Poor Woman": A Critical Analysis of Asian Theology and Contemporary Chinese Fiction by Women (Peter Lang, 2002), "Negotiating Gender: Postcolonialism and Hong Kong Christian Women," in Gender and Society in Hong Kong (UBC Press, 2003), "Our Bodies Our Stories: Narrating Female Sexuality in Hong Kong," in Mainstreaming Gender in Hong Kong (CU Press, 2009), and co-ed. with CHOI Poking, Chinese Women and Hong Kong Christianity: An Oral History (In Chinese) (Oxford University Press, 2010).

**Richard Fox Young** holds the Timby Chair in History of Religions at Princeton Theological Seminary. An Indologist originally, *Resistant Hinduism* (1981), *The Bible Trembled* (1995), and *Vain Debates* (1996), all from the Indological Institute of the University of Vienna, are his most widely-cited monographs on the encounter of Hindus and Buddhists with Christian missions in South Asia. Most recently, he has edited *India and the Indianness of Christianity* (Wm. B. Eerdmans, 2009) and contributed "Horton's 'Intellectualist Theory' of Conversion, Reflected on by a South Asianist" to *Beyond Conversion and Syncretism*, edited by David Lindenfeld and Miles Richardson (Berghahn Books, 2011).