

THEME OF THE CONGRESS

In Bujumbura, the heart of Africa, in the land of a thousand and one hills and of the Sacred Drum, neighbour of Rwanda, Tanzania and the Democratic Republic of Congo, Burundi will welcome, from 22 to 27 July 2009, ex-students of the Jesuits from all over the world. The situation in Africa, host of the Congress following Asia, is characterised by political turbulence, the depression of hunger and the AIDS pandemic. But every hope is permitted with the up and coming youth educated by the Society of Jesus for an Africa accountable for its own economic and social development assuming responsibility in accordance with the aspiration of excellence envisaged by Ignatian education. The recent 35th General Congregation of the Society has particularly taken the option to prioritise Africa and the Congress christened «Hope» will bring together people of great ability around the new Superior General, Fr Adolfo Nicolás, to create and maintain new fellowship across the world.

For a better Africa: What have we done? What are we doing? What must we do?

The ex-students of the Jesuits will question themselves about the welcome of Africa, partner of the other continents, at this time of globalisation and world wide village. We will go beyond words and mere talk under the traditional baobab, for a better justice for all. We will break things down thanks to written word, telecommunications and fibre-optics.

Come then to Bujumbura, following in the footsteps of Stanley and Livingstone, to discover the most southern source of the River of the Pharaohs and to taste fresh sangala, mukeke and ndagala, veritable delights particular to Lake Tanganyika. The Congress of «Hope» in Bujumbura following that of «Joy» in Calcutta, will bring a different flavour, for the two are of the same origin, the Alma Mater and the Society of Jesus. Above all, don't miss out.

CONGRESS PROGRAMME (*Simultaneous translation of presentations*)

Wednesday 22 July 2009

Arrival of participants. Welcome and registration.

1st day Thursday 23 July

(*At the Kiriri Campus*)

09.30: Opening Celebration of Mass by Mgr Evariste Ngonagoye, Archbishop of Bujumbura assisted by the Archbishop of Bukavu and the Papal Nuncio to Burundi.

11.00: Welcome to participants by Mr Grégoire Banyiyezako, President of l'ABAJ. Opening of the Congress by Mr Bernard Thompson, President of the World Union.

12.30: Lunch on Campus.

14.30: Organised visits to discover the real Burundi.

15.00: *Meeting of the outgoing World Union Council.*

19.00: Evening free.

2nd Day Friday 24 July (At the Lycée of Saint-Esprit de Gihosha).

Theme: « *For a better Africa : What have we done? What are we doing? »*

08.30: Presentations by Fr Ferdinand Muhigirwa SJ and Fr Rigobert Minana SJ of the *Centre of Study for Social Action (CEPAS)* of Kinshasa : «Regional stakeholders of peace and development in the Great Lakes region»

09.45: Break.

10.15: Discussion in small groups.

12.30: Lunch.

14.00: Panel with presentations by four witnesses (including Fr Michael Czerny SJ, Co-ordinator of the *Jesuit African Network against AIDs*, Nairobi).

15.30: Break.

16.00: Discussions in small groups.

17.00: Cultural evening.

During the day, an opportunity to view and enquire about the achievements of Jesuits and Ex-Students in Africa.

3rd Day Saturday 25 July

Theme: *Same as 2nd day*

08.30: Presentation by Fr Peter Henriot SJ of the *Jesuit Centre for Theological Studies* of Lusaka (Zambia): «Africa: our potentials outweigh our problems ».

09.45: Break.

10.15: Discussion in small groups.

11.30: Report on the pre-congress «spiritual experiences» of the young alumni/ae.

12.30: Lunch.

14.00: Panel with presentations by four witnesses (including Fr Frank Turner SJ, Director of *OCIPE, Catholic Office of Information and Initiative for Europe*).

15.00: Break.

16.00: Discussion in small groups.

17.30: Welcome of Fr General, Adolfo Nicolás.

19.00: Evening free.

4th Day Sunday 26 July

Theme of the day: «*For a better Africa, What must we do?*»

09.00: Message of Fr General.

10.00: Break.

10.30: Reflections in small groups.

12.30: Lunch.

16.00: Report on the summary of the groups' conclusions from the morning.

17.00: Celebration of Mass presided over by Fr General.

19.00: Congress Dinner

5th Day Monday 7 July

Morning free or organised visits.

09.00: *Statutory General Assembly of the World Union followed by a meeting of the new World Union Council.*

12.30: Lunch.

14.30: Presentation to Congress participants of the results of the General Assembly: Resolutions, location of the next Congress, new members of the Executive and the Council of the World Union.

17.00: Closure of the Congress, Cocktail Party and Departure.

PRE-CONGRESS PROGRAMME FOR YOUNG ALUMNI/AE

The Congress will be preceded by a week long programme of «spiritual experiences» for young alumni/ae. These spiritual experiences will take place in Burundi and in the region of Bukavu in the East of the Democratic Republic of Congo. They will comprise particularly activities around centres for vulnerable children (AIDs orphans) and visits to hospitals. In this way the young alumni/ae will make contact with the main challenges to be taken up in Africa.

For all information on this programme, contact:

For Africa: Jocelyne Nahimana (Burundi)

nahimana_joce@yahoo.fr ; tel. 00257 79 99 51 27

For the other continents:

-Vincent De Roeck (Belgium)

vincent.deroeck@yahoo.com

-Alfonso Ruiz de Eguino (Spain) eguino@gmail.com

CONGRESS REGISTRATION

Registrations must be addressed directly to National Federations as listed on the World Union website (www.jesuitalumni.org). For all information please contact the following regional representatives:

- Africa: Salvator Sunzu Ntigambirizwa (Congress Secretary) ntigambirizwa@yahoo.fr
tél 00257 77 73 27 89 (home) ; 00257 22 22 55 04 (off)
- Europe: Eric de Langsdorff
eric.delangsdorff@orange.fr ; tel 0033 9 79 06 42 44
- North America : Thomas Bausch
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- Latin America : Alfonso Fernandez del Valle
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- South Asia: Conrad Gonsalves
conrad@vsnl.com ; tel 0091 22 26 45 00 56
- Middle East : Nagy el Khoury
nagyelkhoury@hotmail.com ; tel 00961 5 45 46 29

Registration fees include all documentation, participation at all working sessions, coffee breaks, lunches, communal transport throughout the Congress in addition to the Congress Dinner and the closing Cocktail Party.

Fees:

Before 31st December 2008: US \$280 or equivalent in Euros. From 1st January 2009: US \$300 or equivalent in Euros

WORLD UNION OF JESUIT ALUMNI/AE

Since its foundation in Bilbao in 1956, the World Union has organised 6 Congresses: Bilbao (1956, the Founding Congress), Rome (1967), Versailles (1986), Bilbao-Loyola (1991), Sydney (1997), Calcutta (2003). The Congress of Bujumbura is therefore the seventh. The World Union brings together approximately 450 Associations.

THE BURUNDI ASSOCIATION OF JESUIT ALUMNI/AE (ABAJ)

The *College du Saint Esprit* (College of the Holy Spirit) was founded by the Jesuits in 1952 on the site of Kiriri. The first cohort graduated in 1958 with 18 Rhetoricians. It was transferred to Gihosha in 1983 and became the *Lycée du Saint Esprit* retaining its original name. In 2007, there were 846 students of which 54% were girls. Since its creation, there have been more than 3400 graduates. The Association was founded in 1991 and became a legal entity in 2001.



*Lycée du Saint-Esprit
Gihosha*



*Site of Kiriri Campus
(ex-College of the Holy Spirit)*

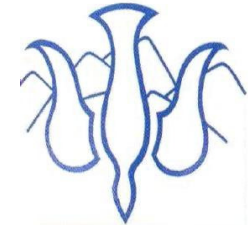


7th Congress of the World Union of Jesuit Alumni/ae

« WITNESSES TO HOPE »

**Jesuit Alumni/ae, for a better Africa :
What have we done? What are we doing?
What must we do?**

**From 22 to 27 July 2009
At the Lycée-Collège du Saint-Esprit
Bujumbura-BURUNDI**



**Pre-Congress programme for Young Alumni/ae
from 15 to 22 July 2009**

**Organised by Burundi Association of Jesuit
Alumni/ae (ABAJ) with the assistance of Alumni/ae
of the Democratic Republic of Congo and of
Rwanda**