



1ST HACFO HAUSA LAND INDEGENOUS MISSION LEADERS & MISSION STAKEHOLDERS CONSULTATION **2023**

**26TH - 27TH
MAY, 2023**

11:00AM

**HACFO MISSION HOUSE
NO. 19 DOKAJE STREET, UNGWAN BORO
SABON TASHA KADUNA**

THEME

**THE FUTURE OF MISSION WORK
AND THE KEYS TO THE
EFFECTIVE MISSION WORK DELIVERY
IN THE HAUSA LAND**

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REPORT OF THE HACFO 1ST HAUSA LAND INDIGENOUS MISSION LEADERS AND MISSION STAKEHOLDERS CONSULTATION 2023 WHICH TOOK PLACE FROM THE 26TH TO 27TH MAY, 2023 AT THE HACFO MISSION HOUSE, NO.19 DOKAJE STREET UNGWAN BORO SABON TASHA KADUNA, NIGERIA

THEME: THE FUTURE OF MISSION WORK AND THE KEYS TO THE EFFECTIVE MISSION DELIVERY IN THE HAUSA LAND

INTRODUCTION

To the Glory of God, the Maiden Edition of this timely Consultation was a glorious success. We had over 50 Participants from 12 Mission Agencies across the Hausa Land, and other Key Mission Stakeholders all to the glory of God.

For the First time in the History of the Hausa Land, the Indigenous Mission Agencies' Leaders and Key Mission Stakeholders came together in the unity of the Spirit for a two days Consultation which took place from 26th to 27th May, 2023.

At this Consultation, We engaged in frantic discussions that we trust God to result in the desired revivals of Mission Work in the Hausa Land.

What necessitated the consultation are the challenges of mission and the rising persecutions that keep escalating on a daily basis. The Challenges of Missions in the Hausa Land are increasing on a daily basis. The previous methods used are not yielding the desired results. The further we go, the more the resistance we face and the more setbacks we suffer. Yet, we will not give up.

Mission Fields are closing; Missionaries are attacked and facing different challenges. The more the delay to reach out, the more souls are lost.

To us at HACFO, the Great Commission of Our Lord Jesus Christ is a Mission Unstoppable even in the Hausa Land. We are not giving up until we win.

To the glory of God, the Consultation has given birth to many action plans that will transform, revive the work of Mission and the Body of Christ in the Hausa Land.

CONSULTATION GOALS

The Following are the working goals of the Consultation:

- 1) To be able to tell our stories with facts and figures. So many things written on the Hausa People and the Hausa Christians are not by our people and so, most of the narratives are wrong including the Global Mission Statistics on the Hausa People Group. Hence the need to set the records right.
- 2) Create resources and forum for the growth and development of mission agencies and mission work in the Hausaland. Mission Materials that are contextual to the Hausa people are very scarce, hence the need to work on Mission Resources.
- 3) To see to the unity of faith in the Body of Christ in the Hausa land. Disunity of the Church in the Hausa land is a major setback to the advancement of Mission Work. We want to work together to foster love and unity as true disciples of Christ.
- 4) To gain individual and corporate contributions on the keys to effective delivery of Mission Work in the Hausa Land from the diverse experience of the Participants.
- 5) To ignite Mission Revival and unity among Churches. The mainline Churches are mostly Orthodox and most of which don't engage in Mission at all. Churches in the Hausa land grow through Childbirth and marriages and not by evangelism due to the poor attitude towards Mission. A typical Hausa Christian is not raised with the mindset and culture of witnessing to others about Jesus, even though we're surrounded by Muslims.
- 6) To be strategic towards the fulfillment of the Great Commission
- 7) Fact Finding on the true Current state of mission in the Hausaland
- 8) To unite Mission Agencies for the purpose of fellowship, empowerment, consultation and capacity development towards a new zeal and passion in the fulfillment of the Great Commission.
- 9) To determine Hausa Christians Day as a way of creating awareness and mission promotional Campaigns

THE FOUR CONSULTATION BREAKOUT SESSION GROUPS

- 1) Group 1: History, Research, Translation and Publishing Group
- 2) Group 2: Gospel to the Unserved Hausa People Group
- 3) Group 3: Revival and Unity of the Hausa Christians Group
- 4) Group 4: Security, Economy and the Progress of the Hausa Christians Group

4 SEMINAR SESSIONS OF THE CONSULTATION

Seminar 1: Introduction of the theme and the Purpose of the Consultation (**Ambs. J. D. Jydsen - Kaduna**)

Seminar 2: History of Christianity in the Hausa Land (The Coming of Christianity, the Progress of Christianity, the Role of Christianity in the Hausa Land, and the Weakness of the Hausa Christians in the Furtherance of the Gospel and the Consequences. (**Revd. Murtala Mati Dangora -Kano**)

Seminar 3: The Challenges of Mission in the Hausa Land Today, Ways out, and How to Improve of Mission Work in the Hausa Land (**Pastor Ibrahim Tambai – Katsina**)

Seminar 4: Keys to Effective Mission Work in the 21st Century (**Ambs. J. D. Jydson -Kaduna**)

SUMMARY OF SEMINAR 1: INTRODUCTION OF THE THEME AND THE PURPOSE OF THE CONSULTATION (AMBS. J. D. JYDSON -KADUNA)

- 1) The need for understanding the Purpose and the motivation of the consultation
- 2) The Contemporary Challenges Of Christianity in the Hausa land and the Roles of Islam (Islam is doing everything possible to stop the spread of the Gospel and using violence and terrorism to cut off any form of contact between Christians and Muslims so that the Christians will not have the opportunity to share the Gospel with them. More so, Islam is raising Islamic apologists that are out to contradict and confuse the Christian belief and the Hausa Christians are not trained to defend and contend for their faith)
- 3) The Need for Hausa Literatures and Documentation of Mission Materials
- 4) Correcting the False Narrative on the Reached and Unreached Hausa Peoples Group. The Fact and the Fiction
- 5) The need for Capacity Building and Human Resources Mobilization and Development
- 6) Hausa Christians are evangelizing to others, but they don't evangelize to the Hausa Muslims hence the need to start from Jerusalem.
- 7) Literatures, Publications, History and Research and almost Everything about the Hausa People and Hausa Christians are done or told by others. What is actually our own story? (E.g. Hausa Bibles and Others). The world needs to know the truth of the state of mission of the Hausa Land and who the Hausa People group is.
- 8) Understanding Our Current Challenges, and Engaging the vital Wisdom and Strategies for Navigating through The Challenges of the 21st Century:
 - a. Banditry and Jihadists (The Little Work done is under threat, destroyed, lives killed and displaced, Christians Going back to ATR and Witchcraft
 - b. Hausa Churches are not in unity, a major weak point of the Church.
 - c. Hausa Christians live with Little or poor concept of Mission
 - d. Missionaries left stranded by Indigenous People and even regarded as false prophets and stigmatized- need for the way-out.
 - e. Sticking to old cultures of doing things and resisting the current realities of the 21st century
 - f. The looming danger of the end time
 - i. LGBTQ Manipulations (Rising fast among the Muslim Communities – the need for sensitizing the Christians communities on the its danger)
 - ii. Threats in the Media, Health and Economic Sector
 - iii. Understanding Islamic agenda
- 9) The Need for a Holistic Approach to Mission
- 10) The Need to set the records strait and undo the wrong narratives

SUMMARY OF SEMINAR 2: HISTORY OF CHRISTIANITY IN THE HAUSA LAND (THE COMING OF CHRISTIANITY, THE PROGRESS OF CHRISTIANITY, THE ROLE OF CHRISTIANITY IN THE HAUSA LAND, AND THE WEAKNESS OF THE HAUSA CHRISTIANS IN THE FURTHERANCE OF THE GOSPEL AND THE CONSEQUENCES. (REVD. MURTALA MATI DANGORA -KANO)

The Hausa land consists of Kano, Jigawa, Katsina, Zamfara, Sokoto, Kebbi, Northern parts of Kaduna, some parts of Niger States of Nigeria, and some parts of Niger republic. An investigation shows that Hausas form about 20% of the population of Borno, Bauchi, Gombe, Taraba, Adamawa, Plateau, Yobe, Nasarawa, and Niger States. According to this research Hausas dominate Northwest and form the above percentage in Northeast and North central of Nigeria. Hausa land have history even before the coming of Colonial Masters.

Despite the fact that Christianity was well established in North Africa in the first century of its establishment, Christian missionaries found it very difficult or even impossible, at that particular time to reach Hausa territory through the trans-Saharan trade routes, probably due to the predominance of Muslim caravans along these routes until the 16th century.

CONTINUATION OF EVANGELISM IN HAUSA LAND

After missionaries established mission stations in different places of Hausa land, there were various indigenous mission organizations who carried on with the work of spreading Christianity in Hausa land. There was Yoruba traders who planted Baptist Churches in Funtua of Katsina State this mission organization planted churches in Bakori, Gangara, Dandume, Kadisu etc Bamigboye (2000:115-122). Also Roman Catholic Gospel Team planted churches in Kano and its villages, Katsina and its villages, now there many indigenous catholic Priests of Hausa origin in these places. The indigenous priests continued to propagate the gospel to their brethren Hausa people, Okereke (2003:34-37).

Indigenous mission organization of Evangelical Missionary Society (EMS) of ECWA Church carried on with the work SIM started. EMS started operation effectively since 1949 before the Nigerian Independence Olatayo (1993:60-61). The main purpose of establishing EMS is to train indigenous missionaries who would evangelize their own people. By the year 1967 EMS has developed and trained more than 90 missionaries who were actively evangelizing in Hausa land and beyond even to Niger republic, Ajamu (2013:76). Now as a result of EMS efforts ECWA alone has 136 churches and 19 prayer houses in Katsina State. 121 churches and 33 prayer houses in Kano State, Kaladi (2020:135-139) and Ajamu (2013:140-142).

THE ROLE OF CHRISTIANITY IN HAUSA LAND.

Truly Christianity played a very vital role in Hausa land, it has brought many changes in the lives of Hausa people who accepted Jesus Christ. It is well known that Hausa Christians lived their lives

differently from the Hausas who live their lives under the leadership of our Lord Jesus Christ. Below are some of the changes Christianity has brought in the lives of Hausa Christians:

1. Christianity Brought Access to Eternal Life in Christ Jesus and Reconciliation to God
2. Christianity abolishes Sorcery and witchcraft,
3. Christianity abolishes drunkenness,
4. Christianity brought modern education
5. Christianity improves the economy of Hausa land,

THE WEAKNESS OF HAUSA CHRISTIANS IN SPREADING THE GOSPEL.

Mission organizations have tried their best in Christianizing the Hausa land, they sacrificed all to ensure Hausa land have been saturated with the gospel of Jesus Christ. Most of them lost their lives in the process of evangelizing Africa and Hausa land. After they played their role, what left is our responsibility to continue from where they stopped, and take the gospel of Christ to every corner in Hausa land. But Hausas are weak and lack the needed zeal to spread the gospel in our land to our people. Two possible major reasons are:

1. Fear Of Traditional Rulers (Muslim Traditional Rulers imposed as the Traditional Rulers of the Hausa Land) And Muslim Imams.
2. Lack Of Cooperation And Disunity of the Hausa Christians due denominational difference

CONCLUSION:

Missionaries made great sacrifice by leaving their countries and their luxuries, they came with gospel to Hausa land, also our fathers and grand fathers who continued with the work where the missionaries stopped is a great challenge to us nowadays. Honestly, our fathers have tried and endured all the hardships, sunshine, cold weather, poverty, and sickness for the sake of evangelizing the gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ. Such sacrifice and efforts are absent nowadays among our youth. Young ministers in Hausa land misplace their priority, their goal in the ministry is not to reach out every corner of Hausa land with Gospel, but to prosper in the ministry financially, to build fine houses, buy flashy cars, and to take tour to advanced countries. Up till now Hausa land needs the gospel and it is in need of people who are zealous of the gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ.

SUMMARY OF SEMINAR 3: THE CHALLENGES OF MISSION IN THE HAUSA LAND TODAY, WAYS FORWARD, AND HOW TO IMPROVE OF MISSION WORK IN THE HAUSA LAND (PASTOR IBRAHIM TAMBAL – KATSINA)

The Challenges of Christian Mission in the Hausa Land today are quite enormous. They include but not limited to the following:

1) ISLAM (MATTHEW 10:16-20)

Islam is the biggest threat to the advance of the Gospel of Christ in the Hausa Land. Just as Jesus clearly stated in Matthew 10:16-20 “Behold, I send you out as sheep in the midst of wolves.” The challenge here is that they were already indoctrinated that they should hate and resist any form of teaching no matter how good it is if it is not Islamic. And also, they should believe in accept everything Islamic even if they themselves think it is evil. And these are the belief systems they are rooted in.

- They see everyone as infidel or kafiri.
- They see everyone as someone that doesn’t deserve to enjoy life.
- They see everyone without religion except themselves.
- They see everyone as someone that doesn’t deserve to live except themselves.

These beliefs have become great challenges to us in advancing the Gospel in the Hausa Land.

WAYS FORWARD, AND HOW TO IMPROVE OF MISSION WORK IN THE HAUSA LAND

(1 Peter 3:13-15)

- a) To totally Surrender and remain Committed to God, He will help us
- b) We shouldn’t be discouraged or afraid (Isaiah 41:10)
- c) Know their religion and beliefs to be able to boldly speak to them (Acts 26:27-28)
- d) Teaching Missionaries on the Quran and Islamic religion will help a lot in preparing the Missionaries in reaching out to them. Witnessing to a Muslim is different from witnessing to the traditionalists.

2) DISCIPLING NEW CONVERTS FROM ISLAM (Matthew 28:19-20)

In the Hausa Land today, we don’t have much challenge with the Traditional religion (If not now that some Christians are going back to it due to insecurity and fear), those that we usually reach out to are the Muslims, and many of them are converting to Christianity. However, the challenges we do face today in discipling the New Converts (Muslim Background Believers – MBBS) is that most if not all of them cannot continue to live in their communities or families as Christians. The Reasons are:

- a) The convert will be considered as apostates and a threat to Islam
- b) The convert can be killed or imprisoned and be tortured to death which is very common (Matthew 10:28)
- c) Some converts are not genuine, but spies sent from the Islamic communities, hence the need for extra care.

WAYS FORWARD, AND HOW TO IMPROVE OF MISSION WORK IN THE HAUSA LAND

- a) Love and unity of the Hausa Missionaries and the Church in the Hausa Land
- b) Those that have advanced in the mission work should mentor and help those coming up.
- c) Raising Mission Support for the same purpose in order to reach out to them effectively.

3) POVERTY

Caused by the:

- a) Destruction of farms, settlement and displacement of our communities by the Fulani Islamic Jihadists.
- b) Lack of jobs and businesses (hand work)

4) DISUNITY DUE TO DENOMINATIONAL DIFFERENCES

The takeover of the Hausa Traditional Rulership by the Fulani Islamic Rulers who have now lord themselves over everything and everyone in the Hausa Land with total resistance to the liberation of the Hausas by the Christian Faith.

Truly these challenges are glaring and somewhat increasing day by day. Nevertheless, the Mission is still possible and unstoppable. We must rely on the Holy Spirit, the lord of the Harvest for the boldness, and all the necessary empowerments to keep moving on until we win. We must be committed to enthroning Jesus as the Lord of the Hausa Land no matter the raging waves of persecution.

SUMMARY OF SEMINAR 4: KEYS TO EFFECTIVE MISSION WORK IN THE 21ST CENTURY (AMBS. J. D. JYDSON -KADUNA)

- a. Doing Missions the Jesus' Way
- b. Doing Mission with the Consciousness of The Great Commission In Mind Always
- c. Engaging the Power of Media
 - i. Written (Literatures, Documentations,
 - ii. Social
 - iii. Digital
 - iv. Audio-Visuals
- d. Breaking Denominational Barriers and Encouraging the Unity of Faith
- e. Engaging the Power of Collaboration or Partnership
 - i. Internally (Within the Hausa Land)
 - ii. Externally (Outside the Hausa Land)
- f. All hands must be on deck – we need all kinds of approaches to fulfill the Great Commission
- g. Capacity Building and Human Resources Development of Missionaries and Mission Agencies
- h. Contextual approaches and deliveries of the Mission Work (Hausanizing the Gospel of Jesus in an easy and simple way that the Hausa people can understand, relate, accept and practice)
- i. Resource mobilization

CURRENT SITUATIONAL REPORTS OF THE MANY OF HAUSA CHRISTIANS COMMUNITIES ATTACKED AND DISPLACED IN THE HAUSA LAND!

- 1) They can't go to their farms to farm, and the few that did pay taxes to the bandits to be allowed to harvest.
- 2) They can't live in their houses. Many villages have been displaced and occupied by the bandits.
- 3) They don't have food to eat. Their houses, properties, ransacked, destroyed, and stolen with nothing to live on.
- 4) Yet they are abducted and huge amount of money is demanded as a ransom to be paid. If they can't pay, they get killed,
- 5) While in the kidnappers den, they are forced to accept Islam and be freed or to pay huge ransom before they're released.

The Fulani Militia attacks on the Hausa Christians Communities have become a watershed issue. It is either a community is displaced, the people killed or kidnapped to be released on huge ransom.

Fear has gripped the people, hopelessness is creeping in, hunger and poverty are savaging families and communities. Survival and Feeding are the current major needs for the people.

SOME BLUNT SYSTEMATIC PERSECUTIONS BY THE GOVERNMENT AND ISLAMIC TRADITIONAL RULERS

- 1) Denial of basic social amenities, many communities don't have portable drinking water, which has resulted to some sickness and legs challenges for some women in many communities who will have to travel kilometers on foot daily to fetch water.
- 2) Forcing our Children to attend Islamic Religious Studies Classes in Public Primary and Secondary Schools
- 3) Denial of our Children admission to study professional courses in public schools and the graduates jobs at all the levels of government, hence forcing some to change their names and even religion just to have access to these things. These together with the Islamic Jihadists terrorism have given birth to many leaving Christianity to ATR.
- 4) The continued abduction and forced conversion of our young Christian girls into Islam is shattering many families.

Please note that the principal reason for these unjust acts is to frustrate Christina's and force them back into Islam.

6 BASIC URGENT NEEDS

- 1) **Pipe born Water**
- 2) **School.** Although we have been encouraging Christian individuals, communities and churches to start schools, yet there are many of our Christian villages without schools. Some journey for kilometers into Muslims communities to attend the schools who always suffer harassments and being forced to attend Islamic classes and observe the daily Islamic prayers. These have discouraged many from attending schools.
- 2) **Food.** Many people currently don't just have a place to stay but even food to eat.
- 3) **Farm input as a way of economic Empowerment**
- 4) **Joblessness and Insecurity leading to ATR**
- 5) **Resources for Building Churches and Vicarages**

3 MAJOR RESOLUTIONS TAKEN AT THE END OF THE CONSULTATION

The Following resolutions were taken towards the advancement of Mission Work of the Gospel of Christ in the Hausa Land:

1) **Continuity Of The Consultation**

The Consultation shall be an annual event which shall be observed from now henceforth. However, the scope of the consultation, invitation and duration shall be widen for more indepth discussions, and more opportunities for mission leaders to participate. Hence, the Annual Consultation shall be three days.

More so, An Annual General Mission Conference shall be observed for Mission Empowerment and Awareness for all the Hausa Christians starting from 2024.

2) **Hausa Land Mission Advancement and Empowerment Center**

A Mission Advancement and Empowerment Center or School is considered very vital for the advancement of the Christian Mission in the Hausa Land. The School shall offer the following 5 Programs, namely:

- a) **Mission Training School** (Empowering and Equipping Missionaries with the right Mission Knowledge and Discipline.
- b) **Skills Empowerment Center:** (For Economic Empowerment and Tentmakers Missionaries Training). Providing Economic Skills for Missionaries, Persecuted and Displaced Christians. The Center shall run the following Programs: Furniture Making, Shoe Making, Metal and Aluminion Fabrication, Interior Design, Unisex Fashion Design, Graphics Design, Photography and Videography, Catering Services and Saloon.
- c) **Converts Discipleship Training School:** Providing a Safe House for the Persecuted New Christians, and raising them in basic foundation of the faith and Christian living before integrating them into the society as tent makers Missionaries.

- d) Hope Restoration and Trauma Healing and Rehabilitation Center. To cater for victims of terrorism and persecution who are backsliding and going back to the practice of the African Traditional Religion (ATR)
 - e) Mission and Christian Faith Resources Development Center: To Create resources for the growth and development of mission agencies and mission work in the Hausaland. Mission Materials that are contextual to the Hausa people are very scarce, hence the need to work on Mission Resources. This Center will be Committed to strategic History, Research, Translation and Publishing for the right materials and resources for the advancement of the Gospel in the Hausa Land.
- 3) HACFO Becoming An Umbrella Body For The Driving Of Mission Work And The Unity Of The Church In The Hausa Land

APPRECIATION

We want to express our profound gratitude to all our Highly Esteemed Kingdom Partners who supported in Prayer, Cash and in Kind and ensured that the Consultation was a great success. May the Lord multiply Your Seed sown and increase your fruits of righteousness in Jesus Name. Amen!

We want to enjoin you all to keep praying for Hausa Christians Foundation - HACFO, and the Body of Christ in the Hausa Land. Truly, the harvest is plentiful, but the labourers are few. Finance is becoming a great challenge in the furtherance of this work, join us to be praying for more blessings upon all our partners and more open doors upon HACFO. May the Lord bless you more and more in Jesus Name. Amen

WE ALWAYS WELCOME YOUR PARTNERSHIP THROUGH:

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PICTURE REPORTS











