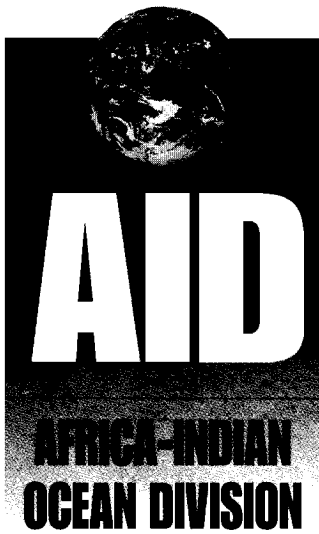


PROMOTING AND PROTECTING THE PHILOSOPHY OF ADVENTIST EDUCATION 1995-2000 REPORT



The Africa-Indian Ocean Division (AID) Education Department was established to promote and protect the philosophy of Adventist education through the training of teachers, the selection and preparation of educational documents, an emphasis on evangelism, and the supervision of our schools.

Integration of Faith and Learning

We laud the General Conference Education Department's initiative in holding seminars to train university lecturers and union education directors in the integration of faith and learning (IFL). During this quinquennium, two seminars were held with the support of our department—in Baraton, Kenya (1998) and in Abidjan, Ivory Coast (1999).

Since 1997, we have held more than 30 IFL seminars/workshops. At the union level, we have established pilot schools for research and application. At the mission/conference level, seminars/workshops have been held for many teachers. In Rwanda, we had the joy of including teachers from Adventist private schools in our workshops. We hope that by the end of 2000, all of our more than 6,000 teachers will have benefitted from these workshops.

Instructional Documents

In response to the needs of our teachers, the department sought to foster a better understanding of the basic philosophy of Adventist education. To this end, we began to publish a quarterly journal in 1997. We are grateful to the General Conference Education Department for allowing us to translate the *Curriculum Guide for Seventh-day Adventist Secondary Schools* into French. This offers the Francophone world an indispensable instrument for integrating faith and learning in the classroom and helps make our workshops more systematic and practical. As a result, the teachers of Adventist Secondary School, in Bouake, Cote d'Ivoire, for example, after carefully studying the curriculum guide, use it for lively presentations. In Gambia, teachers hold group discussions on its various subjects, while in Nigeria the guide is used to teach a lesson on the uniqueness of



Emilienne Rasamoely is Director of Education for the Africa-Indian Ocean Division in Abidjan, Cote d'Ivoire, West Africa.

shirts, are familiarizing themselves with the study guide as they prepare to present it to students.

Another basic tool for the Global Mission outreach in our schools is the *Growing in Faith* Bible study guide for primary schools. Already, all the Anglophone unions of our division have received their copies, and the Francophone edition is ready for printing. We are grateful to Dr. Don Roy and his colleagues at the South Pacific Division for allowing us to translate *Growing in Faith* into French for use in our schools.

Likewise, we thank Dr. Donna Habenicht for granting us permission to translate into French and publish her wonderful book *How to Help Your Child Really Know Jesus*. With the collaboration of our publishing, Sabbath school, and family-life departments, we will use this book to help parents, leaders, and teachers prepare children for Christ's coming.

Picture
Removed

Students at the Adventist school in Phoenix, Mauritius.

Testimonies

Spiritual life has now taken first place in our schools. A testimony from Burkina Faso teacher Djiguimkoudre Hade Issaka shows the importance of prayer in the life of our students: "At my school, the students gather every Friday afternoon for prayer and the lowering of the flag. One Friday, after the ceremonies, Alexander, one of the students, remarked: 'We did not thank God before going home!'

"'But all your classmates are gone!' I replied. He left and ran back into the class. After a while, I continued my walk around the class. And what did I see? Little Alexander and two of his classmates were praying! They were convinced that they should thank God one more time before going home."

The Influence of Our Schools

During my last trip to Antananarivo, Madagascar, someone asked: "Do you remember me?" How could I forget Raphael? Joyfully, he told me that he had been baptized and had finished his studies at our school there. A jester who found pleasure in laughing at everything, he had left the school without being baptized. Although we didn't know what had happened to him, the Lord was watching over him. Raphael had been unjustly accused and then imprisoned, nearly losing his life. "Therefore," he said, "I asked myself: 'Why are you not practicing what you learned at school?' I decided to

begin attending an Adventist church.” To my great surprise, he told me that he had donated a piece of land near his house for the construction of an Adventist church and added, “We are trying to start work on it. Would you like to be involved?”

The Lord causes the seeds we have planted in the hearts of our students to germinate, despite daunting circumstances and adversities.

Picture
Removed

The Universities

Our division has many challenges to overcome in the area of university education. We know that enlarging our universities will benefit many more members, as well as cultures tormented by wars, tribal rivalry, and economic hardship. By the grace of God, our two Anglophone universities and four Francophone campuses had their graduation ceremonies this year with a total of 300 students. These achievements have come as the result of hard work and perseverance. We appreciate the effort of our laity in raising funds and constructing buildings for our schools and universities.

Raphael Andrianja-fimalala and the church built on land he donated.

Conclusion

The Lord has been with us during the past quinquennium. And, according to His promise, He will be with us until the end. The challenges are many, but the joy that comes from each victory is much greater. ✍

Pictures Removed

An Adventist classroom in Cape Verde Island, West Africa.

Teachers discuss Integration of Faith and Learning at a seminar in Gambia.

Pictures Removed

Pictures Removed

First-year students at Adventist High School in Liberia.

Graduates from Griggs University Extension Campus in Kananga, Democratic Republic of Congo, October 1999.

Primary students pray in their palm-branch school in Chad.

A teacher at Adventist Secondary Technical College, Owerri, Nigeria, demonstrates the Integration of Faith and Learning at a workshop in October 1998.

Pictures Removed

AID teachers examine the new curriculum study guide.