

Guest Editor's Page

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In the history of the IJFM there have been a number of special editions. However, this particular edition is unique in several ways. First of all, the need for an edition devoted to the issue of the West's response to oppression in India has arisen from several current and potentially explosive developments in India. Thus, this is the first time that a special edition of the IJFM has been devoted to a real-time crisis. I might add that because of the urgency related to this edition, the authors were only given three weeks to submit (from the time of invitation). Secondly, this is the first special edition devoted to the Hindu world. Thirdly, this is an edition that comes directly from the field. All of the selected authors have worked or are currently working very closely with the problem of oppression in India at the grassroots level. And, as you will see, most have been wrestling very deeply with the missiological issues related to this topic.

As you will soon see also, there is no convergence of view on how to best deal with the oppressed and oppression in India. Yet, in light of several of the developments unveiled in this edition's articles, there is a greater need now than ever for convergence. The West must now quickly determine and adopt a united approach in this highly volatile matter. Mistakes by the Christian West in this matter may now carry with them a much higher penalty than they have in the past. For this reason, we are adding one additional novelty to this special edition: a request for feedback and input. During the next three months from the date of this issue, we invite 500 word maximum responses. These may be either reactions to any of the seven articles or the editorial contained herein or additional input related to our overall topic for this edition. We intend to include some of these responses in future issues of IJFM. These responses should be sent to our regular edition editor, Rory Clark. He can be reached via e-mail at ijfm@wciu.edu or via fax at 626-398-2101. Any who would be willing to expand their input into a full-blown journal article should so indicate along with their submission. Thank you.

D. M. Burke
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