

# From the Editor's Desk



Dear Reader,

This issue sets the stage for the spectacular meeting a few days away in September—the annual meeting of the International Society for Frontier Missiology. We can look forward at that time to two very articulate professors who will present somewhat incompatible views of how we can best approach Muslims. I speak of Fuller's Dudley Woodberry and Gordon-Conwell's Timothy Tennent. Other esteemed speakers include Kevin Higgins (see this issue), Gary Corwin, John Ridgway and Brian Peterson.

We have in many recent issues been running articles on serious contextualization in mission strategy. Now, however, we have a serious and scholarly rebuttal from Professor Tennent. Replying to him, a number of our regular contributors register their queries in this issue as well.

Just a thought: the big quarrel in this issue over whether a Muslim can or must abandon either or both his culture or his religion overlooks the concept of not a dichotomy between religion and culture but a trichotomy between faith, religion, and culture. We need to focus on *heart* faith not *head* religion or culture. Whether a person prays using beads or not, or raises hands in worship or not, does not necessarily compromise faith.

Problem: this time we have reached our maximum of 48 pages without enough room for some of our Book Reviews and Editorial Reflections, which will have to await next time.

Are you coming to the "spectacular meeting"? (See p. 123) Even if you can't, please do encourage younger people to come. The International Society for Frontier Missiology is the only scholarly society that has always been deliberately intergenerational.

Enjoy,

*Ralph D. Winter*

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Editor, IJFM

# IJFM

July-September 2006

Volume 23:3

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Two years (eight issues) \$34.00

Three years (twelve issues) \$48.00

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**IJFM** (ISSN #0743-2529) was established in 1984 by the International Student Leaders Coalition for Frontier Missions. It is published quarterly by William Carey International University Press.

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PRINTED in the USA