



CHINESE DIASPORA NETWORK AND CHINESE DIASPORA TRENDS

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WHAT IS CCCOWE?

In 1974, over 70 Chinese church leaders were moved by the Holy Spirit at the Lausanne World Congress, receiving the vision: "Chinese Churches in One Accord, Proclaiming the Gospel until Christ's Return." This vision initiated the Chinese Coordination Centre of World Evangelism (CCCOWE) Movement.



After careful preparation, the first Chinese Congress on World Evangelization was held in Hong Kong in 1976, and in the same year, the CCCOWE was established to mobilize Chinese churches around the world to respond to Christ's Great Commission.



For more detailed information about CCCOWE, please visit <https://cccowe.org>

CHINESE DIASPORA NETWORK

To convene a catalytic gathering and conversation among leading scholars and practitioners of diaspora missions of Asians worldwide and in Asia.

A CONSULTATION ON
**DIASPORA MISSIONS IN
AND BEYOND ASIA**

Theme: Asians in Diaspora and Diasporas in Asia

Date: August 1 (Tuesday 2:00PM) – August 5 (Saturday 2:00PM), 2023.
Venue: Shalom Hotel, Jeju Island, South Korea

Objectives:

- Learn and discuss about mission by, through and among Asian diasporas worldwide.
- Assess the impact of migration to, within and from Asia.
- Explore new horizons for diaspora missions in the contexts of economic migrants, international students, family migrants, internal migrants and forcibly displaced peoples.
- Create a forum for scholars and practitioners to network and collaborate.
- Compile proceedings of the consultation into a future publication.

Save The Date!
August 1 - August 5, 2023
Await Registration Details

Visit www.global-diaspora.com for more details

Sponsored by:



Started in Aug 2023 in Jeju Island

at the Global Diaspora Network (GDN)
consultation

under the framework of CCCOWE

CHINESE DIASPORA NETWORK



The very first consultation took place in April 2025 in Toronto, Canada



The next consultation will be held in February 2027 in Bangkok, Thailand



Please contact me if interested:
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華人散聚與全球福音契機

Chinese Diaspora & Global Evangelism
New Opportunities and Challenges

主題講員



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黃成培 James Hwang

時間：2025年4月22-25日（周二～周五）

地點：加拿大多倫多市多倫多華人基督教會
Toronto Christian Community Church,
100 Apsalis Avenue, Markham, ON L3R 5A2, Canada

THE NEW TRENDS

- New Economic Settlers
- New Fields for Chinese Diaspora Church
- New Waves of Exodus

CHINESE DIASPORA

Continent	Overseas Chinese in 2011	Overseas Chinese in 2023
Asia	30.04 million	34.64 million
North, Central and South America	7.5 million (North: 5.67 million)	10.09 million (North: 7.77 million)
Europe	1.56 million	2.44 million
Oceania	0.95 million	1.8 million
Africa	0.25 million	1.15 million
Global	40.31 million	50.11 million



Table 1. Overseas Chinese population in 2011 and 2023

NEW ECONOMIC SETTLERS

- ✓ “One Belt, One Road” Initiative since 2013
- ✓ Chinese immigrants and migrants in Africa and the Middle East have increased in the past 10 years.
- ✓ Africa: 0.25 million > 1.15 million
- ✓ Middle East: 0.26 million -> 0.5 million





NEW ECONOMIC SETTLERS

- It opened the door for Christian Chinese contractors and businessmen in South Asia, the Middle East and Africa to become a potential mission force. One example is Business as Mission (BAM) which can serve in Creative-Access Nations (CAN) in South Asia, Central Asia, the Middle East, and Africa.

NEW FIELDS

- My previous research showed that China was the top destination for short-term mission teams from Chinese churches in the United States in the past. (Wu, 2016)
- However, the door to China has been shut in recent years since the new **Regulation on Religious Affairs** began to be enforced in February 2018
- Many Chinese churches in diaspora are looking for new fields to continue their mission mandate, and some have started to reach out to non-Chinese unreached people groups.
- Some overseas Chinese churches started to send out short-term mission teams to the Middle East to serve refugees in recent years.

NEW FIELDS

- I personally have observed and researched this recent short-term mission movement by the Chinese diaspora to the Middle East. (Wu, 2021)
- Both Chinese at home and in diaspora have begun extending their mission fields to the Middle East and other regions, no longer focusing solely on their fellow Chinese due to the aftermath of new Regulation on Religious Affairs.
- Chinese nationals and diasporas are partnering together in these cross-cultural mission fields, which is truly an inspiring development.

NEW EXODUS

- Hong Kong National Security Law enforced in 2020. Since then, Hong Kong has been perceived as losing its previous status.
- In response to this change, the UK launched a new passport program for British Overseas Nationals Passport (BONP) holders since January 2021.
- The outcome has been a massive Hong Kong emigration wave since 2021.
- Chinese churches in the UK and in several other Commonwealth countries have been seeking to respond to this influx of new Hong Kong immigrants since then. (McDade, 2021)

NEW EXODUS

- “Run philosophy” (润学) among mainland Chinese people, i.e., “To run away from China.”
- “More than 24,000 Chinese citizens have been apprehended crossing into the United States from Mexico in the past year” (New York Times 2023)

EVALUATION AND REFLECTIONS

- China's One Belt One Road Initiative (BRI) has opened doors for Chinese Christians to enter so-called Creative Access Nations. More Chinese Christians are responding to the call of the Great Commission and "Mission China" (宣教中國) movement.
- However, BRI could be a "double-edged sword" since locals might feel as if the Chinese are taking advantage of poorer countries by developing their infrastructure in exchange for their natural resources, resembling a new form of colonialism.
- Chinese Christians should be cautious about utilizing the economic and political power of China as a means of mission, or they might be prone to repeat the same mistakes that Western missionaries made during the colonial era.

EVALUATION AND REFLECTIONS

- While the new religious law in China has shut many doors of “Mission to China” for cross-cultural kingdom workers, it also has forced mission organizations to rethink strategically about missions to China and “Mission China”. It has also stimulated many Chinese Christians in diaspora to look further fields and reach beyond their own kinsmen. (Wu, 2021:72-3) Their mission model moves from “*Mission through Diaspora*” to “*Mission beyond Diaspora*”.
- The recent exodus of Hong Kong Chinese brings new blood to the Chinese churches in diaspora and inspires a new movement of “mission through Chinese diaspora” among Chinese churches in the UK, Canada, and other Commonwealth countries. (Ong, 2022)

CONCLUSIONS

- There is a time for everything (Ecclesiastes 3:1). Our Lord is the lord of history, and everything happens according to his plan. The recent political developments in and related to China have impacted the movement and dynamics of the global Chinese diaspora. It shuts some doors for mission while opening others. Though there are uncertainties and possibly apprehension about the future, we also have seen opportunities opening at the same time, and these are not without their challenges. As Paul exhorts us, “Preach the word; be prepared in season and out of season” (2 Timothy 4:2). May we be faithful and respond to the mission that the Lord entrusts to us.