

## **BEYOND COLONIAL ANGLICANISM**

### **The Anglican Communion in the twenty-first Century.**

**Ed Ian Douglas & Kwok Pui-Lan**

2001 Church Publishing

#### **1. The Exigency of Times and Occasions:**

**Power and Identity in the Anglican Communion today Douglas.**

63% of 2 billion Christians live in Asia, Africa, Latin America and the Pacific.  
60% Anglicans live outside industrial countries of Europe, N America and Oceania.  
70 million Anglicans.  
1784: Samuel Seabury: bishop of autonomous Ang Church  
1867: First Lambeth Conference.

Anglicanism = the embrace and celebration of apostolic catholicity within vernacular moments.

Ongoing incarnation of Christ is thus both profoundly particular and profoundly universal. This is what the English Reformation was all about. So the common identity is not from the English but from this incarnational understanding.

Max Warren "It takes the whole world to know the whole gospel."

#### **2. The Legacy of Cultural Hegemony in the Anglican Church:**

**Kwok Pui-Lan**

1900 – Victorian Empire 11 Million square miles. 390 million people.  
At its height – more than a third of the world's land surface.  
Binary 'us and them', with subjugated having fixed identity.  
1997 Hong Kong returns to China.  
Bishops get together to shape Church but Church is lay.

#### **Other Chapters:**

Half Anglicans are African. 807 active bishops, 52% in developing world.  
Not Anglican Federation but 'Communion' which has to do with 'love'.  
It was assumed at Lambeth that bishops had right to make a decision - danger of allowing diverse readings of scripture no voice. Says Archbishop Ndungane.

#### **11. The Primacy of Baptism**

#### **13. Beyond the Monarch/Chief: reconsidering the Episcopacy in Africa**

#### **14. Culture, Spirit and Worship. Jaci Maraschin**

Globalisation of Culture dumbs down spirit in favour of technological reason.

#### **15. Towards a Postcolonial Re-Visioning of the Church's Faith, Witness and Communion Christopher Duraisingh.**

Fukuyama argues that Western liberal democracy is final form of human government. Yet Church is Southern now and therefore marginalised from that hegemony.

Neo-colonialism by European, USA and Australia through interventionist economic policies of global economic structuring through IMF and World Bank and superpowers.

“Three hundred years have passed, and territorial imperialism had changed to neo-colonialism.” Gayatri Chakravorty Spivak.

1. colonialism is felt differently in different places.
2. Many post-colonial theorists are white western academic
3. ‘post’-colonial sounds as if it does not go on today through subalterns. So place for response is not academic but solidarity.
4. Multiple identities grow up. Hybrid can be celebrated but care because local identity may be lost.
5. Post-colonialism can decentralise the old system. No more provinces.

Postcolonial without a hyphen is a new logic.

It is dialogical and polyphonic

1. Eurocentrism pretends to be norm, a single meta-narrative. But everything only has meaning when located aright.
2. Binary oppositions fail. Celebrate the marginal.
3. Value diversity. Reject the general abstraction.
4. Epistemological privilege of the subjugated.
5. Multicultural, reciprocal and dialogical.

Postcolonial is ‘multi-voiced’. Each voice matters.

### 1. the Gospel as Multivoiced Story

“in monologism lies the heartland of domination.” Edward Sampson

The truth of a revealing God in dynamic relation, not system of truths set forever.

Rome was a McWorld culture. We want local civil relationships.

Balkanisation vs McDonaldisation. Pentecost vs. Babel.

The Spirit aims for a differentiated unity. Kata holon = Catholic.

### 2. the Dialogical Witness of the Church

Matt 28:19 used to confirm geographical mission, from here to there. We must discover witness in an incarnational mode “within” history. A witness from within is the only proper form of evangelism worthy of the God who does not control history from the outside. God’s mission. Never a one-way mission – cf. Peter and Philip. Mission is not a ‘truth affair’ but a ‘love affair’. C.S Song.

### 3. the Polycentric Communion of the Church

Pentecost = The state of being plural, rôle of more than one position for enrichment. The Other is our problem, but God’s Reign symbol is eating with tax gatherers.