

www.vulnerablemission.org

## Alliance for Vulnerable Mission Bulletin September 2014 Volume 6, Number 9.

Editor: Jim Harries, PhD, Chairman of the AVM.

<b>Executive board</b>	Advisory board	
Jim Harries	Alex Araujo	Stan Chu Ilo
Timothy Reeves	Jay Gary	Frank Paul
Chris Flanders	Tomas Dozier	Gord Sawatzky
Fred Lewis	Jean Johnson	Stan Nussbaum

The Alliance for Vulnerable Mission encourages some missionaries from the West to engage in their ministries using local languages and resources.

August tends to be a quiet month. Nevertheless, I have received a lot of information relating to the importance of promoting minority languages in education. This is an issue very close to the heart of the AVM. More information below.

See information in the flyer below on prospective conferences and other events for the AVM in 2015 in the UK and Germany. Enjoy reading!

Jim Harries (ed.)



• Our advisory board member Stan Chu Ilo has recently become Research fellow at the Center for World Catholicism and Inter-Cultural Theology at DePaul University, Chicago. It is exciting to hear about the different challenging and influential roles being filled by our AVM members.

• Look here <a href="http://www.cb-f.de/mm/?p=1888">http://www.cb-f.de/mm/?p=1888</a> for some missiological insights arising from Jim Harries recent visit to CBF, the bible school of Church of God in Germany. The students prepared oral



presentations in German which are now posted on this website.

- See <a href="http://www.leadimpact.org/#language">http://www.leadimpact.org/#language</a> for more information about a group of people, closely linked to SIL, promoting the use of indigenous languages in Asia. The group called LEAD, Language Education and Development, is making in-depth studies followed by practical applications of linguistic research. Thos with interests in Asia are particularly recommended to have a look. Why not join them to address the issues they are looking at?
- See <a href="http://www.sil.org/about/news/mle-conference-brings-asia-pacific-educators-together-bangkok">http://www.sil.org/about/news/mle-conference-brings-asia-pacific-educators-together-bangkok</a> for a recent (2013) conference on multilingual education, part-sponsored by SIL.
- Save the Children has latched onto language issues in children's education! Help them to spread the word:

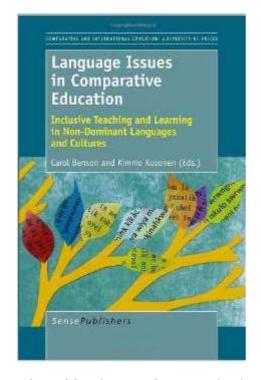
http://www.savethechildren.org.uk/resources/online-library/language-and-education-the-missing-link looks at language as being THE MISSING LINK in ensuring that children in the majority world become educated. Educating a child in a language they cannot understand is often unhelpful. What can you do about it? Look here!



For more information on: **Steps Towards Learning: A guide to overcoming language barriers in children's education** see: http://www.savethechildren.org.uk/resources/online-library/stepstowards-learning-

guide-overcoming-language-barriers-children's on how to practically be a part of minority-language children getting the maximum benefit from their time in school. (Produced by 'save the children')

For How to help schools in low- and middle-income countries respond to children's language needs see: http://www.savethechildren.org.uk/resources/online-library/closer-home



Look for this book on Amazon: Language Issues in Comparative **Education: Inclusive Teaching** and Learning in Non-Dominant **Languages and Cultures.** Here's what it is about: "Despite the fact that most countries and indeed their societies are multilingual, their educational systems tend to function in only one or two languages, due in part to the longstanding fallacy that national unity is built around a single language. Against this fallacy we would argue that using one language and excluding many others actually creates divisions, inequalities and

inequities, because it means that hundreds of millions of people worldwide are forced to learn—or teach—through a language in which they are not proficient...It is our aim to promote organized, collaborative progress toward incorporating learners' languages and cultures into education for quality, equity and liberation."

