



## **Jim Harries**

Jim Harries conceded Lordship of his life to Jesus Christ in 1976. He has been a practising missionary in Zambia and then Kenya since 1988. Jim comes with expertise in African contextual theology, missiology and rural development. He has taught TEE (Theological Education by Extension) in Africa, especially with indigenous churches and using local languages, since 1990. He has lectured part-time at BA and advanced diploma level at a Church of God (Anderson) affiliated theological school in Kenya for 10 years. He has up to 14 orphaned children in his home in rural Kenya. This is in a typical local village home, using indigenous languages and living by local Christian standards.

Jim's concern in his 2007 visit to the USA is to promote what he calls 'vulnerable mission'. He says that it is only through being vulnerable to a people that one can get to know them well enough to help them effectively and avoid pitfalls that await the unsuspecting missionary or development worker. His research, some of it already published and including a PhD that he is currently working on, uses linguistic tools to substantiate the necessity of operating in people's own languages. These languages, Jim adds, should be learned through exposure to local people and local culture.

Jim comes prepared to lead seminars and/or present academic papers to audiences who are willing to have their missiological and development preconceptions challenged.

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## What is Available

1. NEW. 45 minute lecture and paper entitled:  
'The Name of God in Africa' and related contemporary theological, development and linguistic concerns.'  
(currently submitted to *Missiology* for evaluation for publication.)
2. Lectures based on other papers. (See [www.jim-mission.org.uk](http://www.jim-mission.org.uk) section on *articles* for details.)
3. Course on linguistics, Bible and Mission. (Taught at senior BA level in Kiswahili, but could be adapted for use to explain the importance of linguistics and translation in mission for a Western audience.)
4. Personal testimony.
5. Talk and discussion or seminar sessions on 'A Proposed Strategy for Contemporary Mission in Africa.'
6. Thoughts on pragmatics and relevance theory in mission context.

Each of the above are effective discussion-starters and could lead to much fruitful and practical debate on mission to Africa and related issues in the contemporary world.