



## III CONGRESO EDUCADORES CLARETIANOS III CONGRESS FOR CLARETIAN EDUCATORS

*Bangalore, September 29 - October 5, 2014*



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### *FINAL MESSAGE OF THE II WORLD CONGRESS OF EDUCATORS CLARETIANS*

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**Bangalore, October 5, 2014**

#### **Dear brothers and sisters of the Claretian Family:**

A fraternal greeting from the beautiful city of Bangalore! From September 29 to October 5, 2014, 96 people among the CMF, RMI, MIC, collaborators and lay teachers have gathered in "Claret Nivas" (House of Claret) for the I II Congress of Family educators Claretian. The title of our meeting was "Promoting our Mission".

Our activities started at 7 in the morning and ended at 9:30 at night; hard work during the seven days we spent together. We have made the most of the time available to us. The conclusions of the III Congress express the great wealth that the Claretian Family possesses in our vocation to spread the message of the Gospel through the ministry of education.

The lectures, workshops, shared experiences and work in continental groups have allowed us first to inform ourselves and then to form ourselves in the rich heritage of the three congregations. Our prayers and Eucharistic celebrations, animated by the various continents, have been full of joy and vigor. The general atmosphere of the Congress has been one of great brotherhood in the midst of cultural and national differences.

The main topics that we have worked on have been:

- Who are our learners and the educators in our schools? Educate
- educators; How and for what?
- Management teams in our centers.
- Charismatic animation teams in our centers.

The experiences of JPIC, youth and vocation ministry, family ministry, biblical animation in our schools, have made us very rich. The conferences, workshops and experiences have filled us with ideas and projects that will enrich the work of the existing management and charismatic animation teams, or will be reason enough to create them in the organizations that see fit. All these ideas will represent an important contribution to the work of the educational Mission in each continent. All the materials used in the Congress and the conclusions can be found at [www.apostoladocmf.org](http://www.apostoladocmf.org)



The Coordination team, encouraged by Fr. Miguel Angel Velasco cmf, Yolanda Kafka RMI, Ascension Redondo RMI and the Coordinator of each continent, has worked hard and well, with the secretaries of the Congress, to ensure a smooth progress of the activities. We were also encouraged by the presence of Robert Omondi cmf, JPIC general coordinator.

We feel, at all times, in communion with our Superiors General, who sent us their messages of encouragement. The Claretians of India, especially of the Province of Bangalore, have organized everything in an exceptional way; we will always remember their smiles, kindness and availability to serve us. They expressed it in a special way on October 2, Mahatma Gandhi's National Birthday Party, the day we visited the Jalahali schools; The students, in collaboration with their teachers, presented us with an exceptional sample of the cultural diversity of this great country that is India.

We thank Fr. James Kannanthanan, Provincial of Bangalore, for his presence and words of encouragement in some work sessions. A special gratitude to Fr. Jacob Arakkal, cmf who, in coordination with a large group of collaborators, has watched before the Congress and throughout the

Even so, for the good progress of everything: lodging, translation and food, by the way, so well served by the Claretian novices of India.

We thank our congregations for the great opportunity they have given us by being able to participate in this III Congress. What we experienced in this meeting confirms in us the great possibility that Education gives us to announce the Good News through it. This is, indeed, the great gift that we take from India.

From "Claret Nivas" we wish you abundant Blessings!

Claretian Missionaries  
Claretian Missionaries  
Religious of the Claretian Institution

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*The Claretian Mission 2015*

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**PRESENTATION**

From September 29 to October 5, 2014, the III Congress of Claretian Educators was held in Bangalore, India. It was the third time that the Claretian Missionaries, the Claretian Missionaries and the Missionaries of the Claretian Institution met, on a worldwide basis, on the occasion of our evangelizing commitment in the Catholic School. This time we were one hundred people from 20 different countries. On the occasion of this event and with content based primarily on the theme of education, we wanted to focus the 2015 edition of this annual magazine "The Claretian Mission."

The First Congress of Claretian Educators was held in Santo Domingo (2002), Dominican Republic. Perhaps the most important thing for those of us who participated in that meeting in Santo Domingo was to discover that the Claretian presence in schools necessarily implied, as in all the other areas in which we work, a clear evangelizing action. They were times when in most of Asia and Africa, they began with the work in schools.



The Second Congress (Vic 2008) already had a feeling of continuity. It was a meeting marked by Father Claret and the celebration of the bicentennial of his birth; This was the reason why Vic was elected. The Second Congress constituted a new step forward with regard to the awareness of the identity of the Claretian schools. There we emphasized that we had to be evangelizers with the seal of Claret.

The Third Congress of Claretian Educators, Bangalore 2014, was titled "*Promoting our Mission*". *Support teams and charismatic animation*. The general title of the meeting clearly focuses on the framework and the rationale for both the Claretian schools and the meeting: "we are missionaries". But, just by looking at the places where we came from, we could realize that the way of announcing the "Evangelii Gaudium" has to be different in each place. It is not the same to propose our evangelizing Mission in a school with the majority of committed Catholic students, parents and teachers than to do it in a place with a high or majority percentage of non-believers, of believers of other Christian confessions or of other religions such as Hinduism , Shinto, Islamism or

Buddhism. The central objective must be the same, the proclamation of the Gospel of Jesus Christ; but the more concrete objectives, the plans and, above all, the forms, manners and processes must be different.

A question opens up before us, can we find some lines common to all the places where we have schools that identify our educational work as Claretian schools?

We assume that the answer to this question is yes. It would be absurd to address this issue of the creation of teams that support the animation or management of our centers and the directing lines of those that make us up, if we do not assume that we can find the keys that guide our work as Claretian schools.

Centering the title of the III Congress on the support teams, the management and the animation of the charismatic traits, responds to a need perceived in practically all the geographical areas of our congregations. The laity and religious who carry out the educational work in each school, feel the need for support and guidance in order to make it possible for the "Claretian style" of organizing, educating and bringing the "joy of the Gospel" to reach the students. and family.

There is no lack of desire to make our schools truly Claretian centers, the biggest problem is knowing how this can be done in a concrete and real way. The complexity of the educational work in each school requires external support so that the Management of the school is a management of resources of people and material goods, typical of missionary institutions.

Of the importance that "regulated" education has in the three congregations, the statistics presented at the III Congress give a good account of it. Two comments must be made about these figures: the data for Africa are not included and around 80% of the total corresponds to the Claretian Missionaries. The total number of students is 108,312, of them 47,476 in Asia, 35,820 in America and 25,016 in Europe. The number of teachers is 6,000, of them 2,640 in America, 1,700 in Europe and 1,660 in Asia. The total number of Claretians and Claretians involved in education is 217, of them 120 in Asia, 50 in Europe and 47 in America.

Now, not all the educational processes that the Congregation supports are included within these "regulated" forms. Those that are carried out without being directly regulated by the systems are also living reality. But what gives meaning to both forms is their orientation towards the values that UNESCO defined as "Educate for Vidä.

When narrating these experiences we ask ourselves: What are the human and Christian values that we want to transmit? How are we doing it? What do we want to awaken in the recipients of our



Actions? What are the properly Christian values and the forms of transmission that we incorporate into our formative processes?

Sharing these experiences will surely make us more aware of the importance of our educational mission.

You can find more written and audiovisual content at [www.apostoladocmf.org](http://www.apostoladocmf.org)

***Miguel Ángel Velasco CMF*** - General Prefect of Apostolate