

# TRACING NEW PATHS FOR THE MISSION IN ASIA-PACIFIC

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## **TRACING NEW PATHS FOR THE MISSION IN ASIA-PACIFIC**

First of all, I thank the Lord because he has given me a good occasion to take up the precious topic of the Pauline apostolate looking at the past, the present and the future. I thank also the sisters, Daughters of St. Paul because they have given me this precious opportunity.

The topics that I will present are those which you have asked me but they are also the same one I had been reflecting on for some time. I think we will realize all these if the particular grace of God will accompany us and if we collaborate well among us, giving a soul to all that we do. What I will tell you is a fruit of a long period of difficult experience.

I am very happy that my apostolic solicitude coincides in many aspects with yours. I have read several of your documents and I found them in consonance with what I am thinking. Certainly the topics I will present had already been taken up by you in some moments. But I will try to give my personal contribution to make a step forward.

### **1. *The necessary internal communication among Paulines today***

I think it necessary for us today to communicate actively among circumscriptions by carrying out three things: to put up FSP international communities, to put up an FSP apostolic international center (or develop the APCT as a team within), and to commercialize the Internet on the international level according to language.

1. *To form all the FSP communities as international communities.* This form will help to integrate differences and to solve difficulties of culture, mentality, economy, etc. and to arrive at maximum collaboration. For me, this modality is an absolute necessity for the universal spirit. But that will be possible only if all FSP's will accept the formation of international communities as a charismatic duty. It would be opportune to establish that after first profession the young Sister be sent to the international community without any condition. If at least at the level of Asia-Pacific such norm be established the realization of continental projects will be simpler and possible.

2. *To constitute an international center for the apostolate.* This center should study, plan and carry out the apostolate directly at the international level, in the production, diffusion and marketing stages.

The strongest and weakest points of each nation should be studied well so as to obtain the maximum result.

Otherwise, the APCT can be instituted as a central team, that is, an apostolic center which shares investments and profits on an international level.

3. *To commercialize the Internet on the international level according to different languages.* In the Asia-Pacific continent it would be convenient to do this in the English language. I believe that this way, besides enhancing the apostolate of the virtual book center, will help us to realize the Pauline and universal.

## 2. *Suggestions and proposals for the redesigning of the Pauline Book centers*

### 2.1 **Suggestions**

- Consider every activity as an apostolate. In this way it will be possible to realize truly the Pauline spirit.
- Redesign the apostolate of the Pauline Book Centers from the point of view of “fusion”. This will allow us to carry out the apostolate in almost all fields. For example, to integrate the book center with culture, arts, informatics technology, etc. as well as counseling on human life and faith. In more concrete terms, the book center should consider the possibility to be a little bit of a museum of arts, coffee shop, music room, cultural center, Thematic park, center of meeting and counseling, chapel, a place for formation to media, etc.
- Adapt the Pauline book center to the external context. Although not forgetting the absolute priority of the mission of the apostle, it is necessary to adapt itself to the external context. For example, if the stores around the Pauline book center open late in the morning, let us also open late our book centers; if they close late, let us also close late our book centers; if on Wednesday the other stores close because of weekly rest let us also do the same. And if possible, let us adapt our life of prayer to the needs and necessities of the apostolate.
- Moreover, if near the book center, there are coffee shops, let the Pauline book center integrates itself to the logic of fusion, with the coffee shop. And the proposal of fusion can multiply as we shall see it.

### 2.2 **Concrete proposals**

1. *To work from the standpoint of “fusion”*: that is, the book center is integrated with an art museum, a cafe’, a hall for counseling (which functions also as a chapel). The space destined for the sale of religious objects may be transformed into a place for exposition of objects of arts. Surely, that calls for a specific organization that would plan out the exhibit. With regards to the coffee shop, it could be on a “take out” basis.
2. *To work from the standpoint of “fusion”*: that is, the book center is also a hall for listening to music, a coffee shop, a hall for counseling which functions also as a chapel. With regards to the cafe’ it could be on take-out basis.
3. *To work from the standpoint of “fusion”*: the book center is also a hall for concerts, a coffee shop; a counseling hall (which functions also as a chapel). It is necessary to have space for concerts and it is necessary to plan well how to organize them.
4. *To work from the standpoint of “fusion”*: the book center is also a cultural center. In this way we sell products but we increase also cultural programs.
5. *To work from the standpoint of “fusion”*: the book center is also a hall for DVD, a hall for counseling (which functions also as a chapel). In the hall for the DVD’(which could easily be rented out) we can also hold the cine forum.
6. *To work in the standpoint of “fusion”*: the book center is also a book center, a cafe’, a hall for renting out books, a hall for counseling (which functions also as a chapel). This structure is very useful to stimulate reading. Here we can

organize also the biblio forum.

7. Integrate the book center and the school of culture and arts. There could be different kind of schools: of broadcasting, arts, dance, musical, show, music for sound track, publicity, literature, etc.
8. Open a school of informatics technology at the international level concentrating in it all the sectors of technology which every circumscription has for its own needs. If this center works well, a new type of apostolate may be developed. Every circumscription may avail of the information service of this center. In this way we economize, avoiding making the same investment and increasing the capacity of the information sector and the new media.
9. Organize an international virtual media center like Amazon in the English language.
10. Apply the method of a global and transnational center.
11. Constitute Pauline *theme park*. We can make various kinds of Pauline *theme park*. There is a need of a large place for the theme park in the urban area and therefore it should be situated a bit far from the city. For example, if we put up a park on the theme of the birth of Jesus, we put up the book center, small houses of prayer of 15-20 minutes the coffee shop, the site of the permanent exhibition hall on Christmas, the concert hall (which can function also as a chapel), a small broadcasting station; and different prayer programs can be realized (the prayer according to the method way, truth and life), the devotion to the Queen of Apostles, the Christmas novena, education to media, etc.

### ***3. Invest in the new media***

It is a duty for us Paulines to possess and utilize the new media, If possible, we should have means for the radio, TV, film. It is not something to let loose just because we do not have plenty of resources.

In the past, big financial investments are needed to realize the apostolate with the media of social communication. Today the progress of technology allows us greater possibilities. For example, public means as the Internet broadcasting(Radio and UCC visuals), the mobile broadcasting(radio, visuals), the mobile newspaper are now growing to have the values and to attract people. And the use of this technology does not require big investment.

Sisters, I hope that my proposals may help you to develop the theme of your assembly. With all my heart I invoke for you and your work a special blessing from the Lord.

I wish that you live the gift of Pauline vocation in fullness so as to strain forward, with great courage. The world is becoming ever more secular and flees from God. The Lord makes an appeal to us, asks for our help and waits trustingly for our response

We will always find the impulse and the ardor of the apostles sent by the Master and we increase our passion for erring humanity, in the style of the Good Shepherd.

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