



CANADA

**Langham**  
PARTNERSHIP  
Fall 2025

Langham Conference in Islamabad, Pakistan

## LANGHAM PARTNERSHIP'S IMPACT IN PAKISTAN

Behind every great book is a hard-working and often innovative publisher. That is also true of Masihi Isha'at Khana (MIK), a Christian publisher in Lahore, Pakistan, and publisher of the Urdu translation of Langham's *South Asia Bible Commentary*. MIK has also published many other theological works, including a series "Nine Marks of a Healthy Church," and volumes from the Tyndale Bible Commentary series. Langham Literature is helping MIK move into new areas, with a greater focus on Christian writing by Pakistani authors, including Christian children's books, and most recently, podcasting.

General Manager Peter Calvin and his dedicated staff carry on a tradition of Urdu-language Christian publishing going back to the independence in 1947 of Pakistan, one of the largest predominantly Muslim states in the world. Local Christians asked themselves: "Who are we? What do we believe? Why are we different from others?" Dennis E. Clark, a Canadian missionary, realized that these questions needed to be answered if Christianity were to have a future in Pakistan. Hence the need for Christian books. The building they rented in 1948 was expanded and modernized in 2003. Pakistan's constitution recognizes freedom of religion, but day-to-day life for a Christian in Pakistan can sometimes be difficult. "We always face the fact that a mob could attack us," says Peter. But the work continues, with an important and growing emphasis on local authors.

"It's easy to raise funds to publish books from the West in Pakistan, but it's financially difficult to publish books by local writers. Within five years, my hope is that 70 percent of our titles published each year will be locally authored," says Peter. MIK is currently preparing for publication a collection of articles written by Pakistani Christian leaders over the years, exploring topics like how to disciple new believers, responses to sexual harassment in churches, and why Christianity is perceived by many Pakistanis as a Western religion.

Urdu is the tenth most spoken language in the world. A majority of the 130 million Urdu speakers live in India, but it is (along with English) the official language of Pakistan, hence the language of education in Pakistan, spoken as a second language by almost all Pakistanis, and the only language in which many Pakistanis read and write. MIK's burden is the desperate shortage of Urdu-language Christian materials. The

Urdu translation of Langham's *South Asia Bible Commentary* is helping to address the need for culturally relevant publications in the region, aiming to be relevant to the culture's needs in a way that theological materials published in the West cannot be.

The *Esther* commentary illustrates how the volume grapples honestly with life's complexities in South Asia:

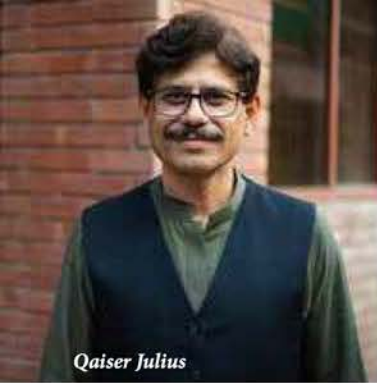
*"Relevance for South Asia: The Christian community in South Asia has recently endured increased violence and various forms of discrimination. They, too, are accused of disloyalty to the community in which they live. The book of Esther shows us how to live in a situation where we are a minority, serving as loyal citizens, exercising the rights and privileges that our national constitution provides, and defending our faith and lives from those who seek to attack us... There are many in South Asia who have accepted the Christian faith but keep their Christian identity hidden because of the hostile response they anticipate from their community and family, who hold to a different faith. Such caution should not always be tagged as cowardice. Sometimes it is wise to avoid arousing dangerous reactions. On the other hand, there are many who can testify to the value of openly confessing one's faith."*

Langham's work in Pakistan dates from its founding by John Stott in the 1960s. An early Langham Scholar was Dr Michael Nazir-Ali, born in Pakistan's commercial capital of Karachi, who became an Anglican bishop first in Pakistan, and later England, and is now president of the Oxford Centre for Training, Research, Advocacy and Dialogue. In 2015, Qaiser Julius became the most recent Pakistani Langham Scholar, receiving his PhD from the Melbourne School of Theology in Australia.

Since 2003, Qaiser has directed the Open Theological Seminary (OTS) in Lahore, Pakistan's second-largest city. OTS was founded in the 1970s using the TEE (Theological Education by Extension) model pioneered in Latin America, a contextually focused approach







Qaiser Julius

which allows students to remain in their communities while accessing educational resources. Qaiser calls this approach “context-based learning,” rather than distance learning or a correspondence course. “The students don’t leave their places, and they don’t move to the campus, they remain in their context, and we provide the self-

study materials to them,” he says. In 1997, OTS received full academic accreditation from the Asia Theological Association, and has since added innovative programs such as Youth and Rural Ministry (to reach out to non-literate students) and a Master’s program in Christian studies. Today the school has about 6500 students. In a society where women in academia have traditionally not been respected, OTS is exceptional. Qaiser says, “It is very difficult for many women in Pakistan to study and work outside the home, but we have seen a real shift as Christian husbands, fathers and brothers are beginning to support their womenfolk to do this. In fact, 53% of theological students studying through OTS are now women.”

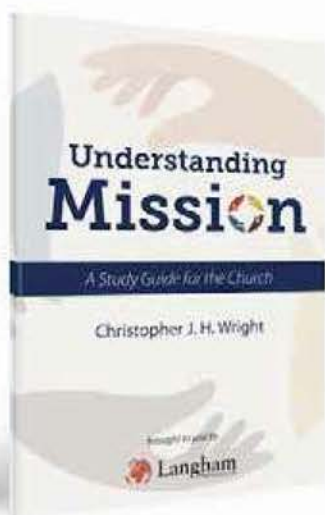
The Pakistani church today faces considerable opposition at times, and is often fractured and theologically weak, with bitter divisions between and within denominations. The Theological Forum of Pakistan, which was relaunched and restructured under Qaiser’s leadership, today provides a space where the country’s various seminaries can come together to determine how best to deal with their common challenges. The national Church’s social impact is also affected by the reality that many Christians come from economically disadvantaged backgrounds. There is a deep need to help strengthen a culture of solid biblical

preaching. In 2004 Chris Wright helped lead a Langham Preaching event in Pakistan, and since then more than 2,000 Pakistani pastors and leaders have been mentored by Langham. A local pastor who helps coordinate the teaching shared that after the church bombings in Lahore (2015) and Peshawar (2016), Langham training helped local pastors minister to their unsettled communities. “It helped them understand their identity in Christ and [how to] suffer for the Lord. It was a great encouragement to see them restored in their faith.” When Langham Preaching is advertised on social media in Pakistan, currently only 70-80 can be accepted at a time, with some pastors waiting up to three years for a place.

In early 2025, OTS recorded an inspiring video, asking participants at a facilitators training workshop for their response in one word: “informational”; “complete knowledge about the Bible”; “inspiration”; “wonderful”; “productive”; “blessings for preachers and leaders in Pakistan.” These hopeful messages reflect the resilience, courage and joy which is sustaining the Pakistani church.

Through decades of commitment in Pakistan, Langham has helped train leaders and pastors who are at the forefront of the Church today; has helped provide written materials and other resources; and has provided scholarships to equip future theological leaders. As Qaiser said in a recent interview in England: “The Christian church now is very much dependent on the leadership, which is coming from the theological institutions, so if the theological institutions are weak then the leadership coming from those institutions is going to be weak, and ultimately, it’s going to affect the church. So, I’m convinced that we have to strengthen our theological institutions -- in terms of well-trained and equipped faculty -- so we can provide good leadership to the Christian Church in Pakistan.”

## LANGHAM LAUNCHES NEW STUDY GUIDE ON UNDERSTANDING MISSION FOR CHURCHES AND SMALL GROUPS



Understanding Mission—a free, brand new course by theologian and Langham International Ambassador Christopher J. H. Wright, is now available. The course is designed for church leaders, small groups, and individuals seeking a biblical, practical, and transformative understanding of mission.

This study is based on the book *The Great Story and the Great Commission* by Chris Wright, but it’s possible to work through the study guide without reading the book. The study guide stands alone and includes videos, downloadable guides, and interactive tools to help participants engage deeply with the Bible’s mission narrative.

“The aim of the course, which is really geared toward groups, is to help churches and especially church leaders to think more biblically about what mission is and to consider in greater depth what their own church’s understanding and engagement with mission should be and could be,” said Wright, at the launch of the course. Visit [www.understandingmission.org](http://www.understandingmission.org) to find out more.



# LANGHAM PREACHING IN CANADA'S HISPANIC COMMUNITY

Many Canadian friends of Langham don't know that Langham Preaching is at work right here in Canada, an outgrowth of the thriving Preaching work in Latin America. Over the years, some of the pastors trained in the program have left the Latin American region for new homes in North America. They have taken with them their commitment to preaching excellence and today form the nucleus of Langham's Hispanic Diaspora preaching movement.

Three years ago, Alex Chiang became the director of this program. Alex graduated originally in sociology and education, and is based in his home city of Lima, Peru. He is today Director for Peru and Brazil, and now for the Hispanic Diaspora as well. The Diaspora initiative began in 2021, first with an exploratory online gathering in July with key leaders, and in September with 12 leading Hispanic pastors in Houston, Texas. They analyzed the reality of the Hispanic world in North America and the challenges that the Latino church faces. Since then, the work has spread to Miami, New York, New Orleans, Goshen, San Diego and Phoenix, as well as Toronto, Montreal and Gatineau, Quebec.

Since 2021, Alex has been traveling to Canada once a year to oversee the work, led by Toronto-based Carluci Dos Santos as national coordinator, and two regional facilitators: Cynthia Morris in Quebec, and Eynar Mina in Ontario. Carluci is a Langham Scholar originally from Brazil, now pastoring in Toronto. Cynthia recently graduated with her Masters from the École de Théologie Évangélique du Québec, where two Langham Scholars (from DR Congo and Guinea) are currently studying. Eynar pastors a new Spanish-speaking church meeting at Ritson Road Alliance Church, Oshawa, in Durham Region, Ontario. In Montreal, Cynthia is now working with Felipe and his wife Andrea, both engineers originally from Colombia. Felipe was mentored by Jorge Atiencia, Langham Preaching's long-time Latin America director now in Ecuador, in leading Preaching Clubs ("escuelitas"). Jorge's wife Gail, originally from Calgary, mentored Cynthia. Felipe and Andrea have organized a regular workshop program for preaching training and Bible study, with one on-line and one in-person study every month.

The ministry is strongly focused on first-generation Hispanic migrants.



*Hispanic Preaching leadership in Toronto: from left, Carluci Dos Santos then Alex Chiang; from right, Ricardo Linares then Eynar Mina and his wife Nancy.*

The strongest support comes from those who have lived in Canada for many years but congregate in Hispanic churches, due to the connections they have developed over time. Langham Preaching in Latin America recently changed their approach: instead of teaching pastors first and then encouraging them to form Preaching Clubs, preachers are first formed into Clubs, and only then together undertake the training. This has led to enormous growth in Latin America, and now in North America.

Hispanics are a significant and growing community in Canada, numbering over 3% of the population; in some areas, like Durham Region near Toronto, self-identifying Hispanics number almost 10%. They are found in a range of denominations – Alliance Church, Baptist, Pentecostal, Salvation Army, Presbyterian, and Evangelical Free, among others – so this work extends broadly into the Church in Canada. In spring 2025, Langham Preaching worked with 15 Christian leaders in Montreal, 10 in Gatineau, and 31 in the Toronto area.

Ricardo Linares is Worship Leader of Iglesia Vida Nueva, Toronto: "Through the escuelas, the Lord has opened up for me many resources to improve my knowledge of Him. The workshops, the interactive groups (escuelas), and valuable materials have definitely fostered in me a love for God's Word and for a faithful exposition of the text."

## WHY I SUPPORT LANGHAM CANADA

*By Emmeline Bush, Halifax*



*Emmeline with Steven and Margaret Van Dyck in Halifax*

My husband George enjoyed using commentaries for his personal Bible reading, and when preparing for ministry. When we were living in the Middle East, he saw how few such resources were available in the local language. He wanted to help make them accessible for Christian leaders. Langham was one way to make this happen. Langham publishes commentaries and other resources which are written by Majority World Christians with the needs of local church leaders in mind, helping them to minister in ways that are relevant within their culture. George has finished running his race, but I have the privilege of still supporting Langham.

***Why do you support Langham? We'd love to know!***

Email us at [canada@langham.org](mailto:canada@langham.org) and fill us in on what you love about Langham and how we can serve you even better as faithful donors.



# INSIDE THE EZRA GENERATION CONFERENCE 2025 IN KIGALI, RWANDA

This August in Kigali, Rwanda, the Lord did something remarkable through the Ezra Generation Conference – a Langham Preaching event. Through the preaching of Rev. Manasseh E. Muvandimwe, Emmanuel Kwizera, and Dr. Femi Adeleye, participants journeyed through *Malachi* and *James*, books that speak directly to the challenges facing today's African church. (Manasseh is a pastor at the Metropolitan Bible Church, Ottawa, and a member of Langham Partnership Canada's board. Femi Adeleye is Africa Director of Langham Preaching.) Workshops provided practical tools for inductive Bible study and Christ-centred preaching, while fellowship deepened unity across borders.

The good work didn't just happen at the conference. In the week leading up to the event, speakers preached in local churches and met with the host ministry, IFES Rwanda, for prayer and preparation. God was already at work, preparing the ground.

The conference began with the Lead Pastors' Gathering where ninety-nine pastors were trained in expository preaching and formed preaching clubs called *Ushirika* ("fellowship") for ongoing support. Then, from August 20–24, Kigali welcomed over 380 young leaders from 12 African countries (Rwanda, Tanzania, DR Congo, Kenya, South Sudan, Gabon, Ghana, Benin, Nigeria, Liberia, Mauritius, and South Africa). For many, this was their first Christ-centred gathering of its kind, and they described it as life-changing.

Many participants renewed their commitment to Christ and His Word, others dedicated themselves to pursuing missions, and there were some who repented and truly believed in Jesus as Saviour for



Ezra Conference Closing Ceremony in Kigali, August 2025

the first time. Rukondo Samson, IFES Rwanda Secretary, said later: "Ezra Generation Conference 2025 equipped many to handle God's Word faithfully, and we witnessed its power. It led to tremendous repentance from the bondage of addictive sins, and brought spiritual, emotional and physical healing." Fisto, a student at the University of Kigali Musanze, said: "The gospel is not private but public truth. After Kwizera's session, I decided to be a faithful channel to build a gospel-resilient Christian Union ministry in UoK Musanze."

The Conference's theme song during the entire week was "*Ancient words, ever true, changing me and changing you.*" Our desire is to see the work of Langham Preaching grow and deepen across Africa, including through more (and longer) conferences such as this.

## YOU CAN BE PART OF LANGHAM'S MISSION!



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**WILL YOU JOIN US ON MISSION? LANGHAM'S WORK RESONATES WITH  
GLOBALLY-MINDED CANADIAN CHRISTIANS WHO LOVE AND VALUE  
THE CHURCH OF THE MAJORITY WORLD. JOIN US.**

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