

Deo Mwamba Newsletter

Christian Love wins Muslim to Christ

More than 30 years ago, two young, bright and adventuresome men left their native Congo for six years at the Islamic University of Medina, one of the leading Islamic universities in Saudi Arabia. The two men became friends as they studied together over their years at the university.

In the following years, both highly educated men would become Islamic leaders on opposite sides of Africa. The first man, Deo Mwamba would eventually become a Sheikh and Imam. After many years teaching Muslims how to convert Christians to Islam at an Islamic University, Deo was eventually given the responsibility for the administration of Islamic Relief for all of Eastern Africa. Each year Deo was responsible for the millions of dollars given by Saudi Arabia and other oil rich countries to convert Christians in Uganda, Kenya, Tanzania and other countries through building of schools, hospitals and mosques. The second man, Jamal, would also become an Islamic Sheikh and Imam in Kinshasa, Congo in western Africa.



However the two men later took dramatically different paths. Deo Mwamba, troubled by the fact that even the prophet Mohammed did not have assurance of salvation, diligently read the Koran to learn about Issa (Jesus) another great prophet mentioned in the Koran. Through the Koran, Deo eventually came to Christ. After years of Christian study Deo became a pastor and later a bishop in the Anglican Church.

Deo and his family eventually moved back to his native Congo. Deo is now the Country Director of Congo for International Christian Ministries (ICM). As Country Director, Deo trains Christian pastors and lay church leaders in both theological and leadership training.

Now that both men were living in Kinshasa, Deo attempted to rekindle the friendship he once had with Jamal. Upon learning that Deo was now a Christian, he became outraged that Deo was Christian and therefore guilty of blasphemy against the prophet Mohammed and the religion of Islam. Jamal viciously criticized his old friend in front of many Muslims.

Despite this bitter treatment, Deo showed his old friend love and kindness. During many visits to Jamal's home, Deo would bring small gifts of rice and sugar for the two wives of Jamal and presents for his 12 children.

Jamal became perplexed by the love and kindness that Deo showed him in spite of how mean Jamal was to Deo. Finally, Jamal confronted Deo and told him that they needed to have a dialogue about what it meant to be a Christian. He told Deo that there must be something supernatural about him because of the love Deo showed him and his family. At that time Jamal (as most Muslims) did not understand or believe in the power of the Holy Spirit. That was about to change.

One of the first questions he asked Deo was “What is so special about being a Christian?” Deo told him about Issa (Jesus) and the inner peace he had. This dialogue continued for many hours. Eventually Jamal said that he wanted Jesus and the inner peace that Deo had told him about.

Jamal is still an infant in Christ and has many challenges ahead of him. First, he has two wives who do not know that their husband is now a Christian. This decision often separates a man from his immediate family as well as his extended family.

Secondly, being a prominent Islamic leader who suddenly becomes a Christian is filled with danger. Just as one does not “retire” from the mafia, leaving a high profile leadership position will undoubtedly result in numerous attempts on his life for blaspheming Islam. Deo had the same attempts on his life when he came to Christ in Uganda. Although many brave Christians protected Deo during this time of persecution, he eventually had to leave the country. This is probably what will need to happen with Jamal. Deo is working with Christian missionaries in a neighboring country to host Jamal and help him become a mature Christian.

Please pray for Jamal’s safety and the powerfully ministry that God has prepared in advance for him.