



2023 Year in Review



Abdi Tadesse - Ethiopia

A glimpse at what your support made possible:

We concluded the year 2023 with joy and thanks for what God has done in our ministry. We have many praise and thanks for God's blessings in the last year. As our ministry is dedicated to equipping ministers for God's mission, we managed to train more laborers for the mission field that God entrusted to us.

Our plan for the year 2023 was accomplished. We planned to receive new students to both Bachelor's degree and MA programs in Christian Muslim Relations (CMR). This was accomplished. We received 11 new students to the CMR-MA program in January 2023 and 11 students to B.Th. CMR program starting from August 2023. Those who were studying the B.Th. CMR program, 11 of them also graduated in June 2023. Among those who graduated in June, 3 of them joined the MA program and others returned to their respective areas to do the mission and outreach work among their Muslim neighbors.

One of the graduates actively serves Muslim converts and equips them to strengthen their ministry toward their fellow Muslim relatives and friends. As a result, we hear witnesses that their number is increasing from time to time. Unfortunately, we were not allowed to take pictures of them to share with you because of security reasons and potential problems it would create for their future ministry. The other one is also engaged in ministry to Somali Muslims with her fellow friends who graduated from the CMR program previously.

We thank God for we are seeing the fruits of our ministry as those who graduated from the program are actively engaged in strengthening Muslim evangelism and outreach in the areas where they are assigned. All these successes are the outcome of your support and generosity. Without your support, it would be very difficult for our seminary to equip these numbers of ministers and send them to the mission field. Thank you very much for your financial support and prayers that assist us in training more ministers to responsibly proclaim the gospel and bring more to the light and liberating faith in Jesus Christ.



MA-CMR students in class with John Hubers



From left to right: MA-CMR 2023, CMR BTh graduated of June 2023, and CMR-BTh Students

Our challenges of 2023

During the reporting year, besides our success, we also faced some challenges that put burdens on our shoulders. As I reported earlier, although the number of students in the program is increasing every year, we were not able to get more staff for the CMR program. We are only two full-time professors for the MA program and one instructor for the B.Th. program. It is very difficult to teach both programs with this number of teachers. We are still praying that God may give us more teachers who can help us in the future. We are grateful for Dr. John Hubers who retired officially on December 31, 2023. Over four years, Hubers helped us revitalize the B.Th. program and firmly establish the M.A. program, update our library, provide some computers and more digital resources, and develop the concept and plans for a new CMR Center, which we hope to launch in 2024.

Another challenge is the peace issue in the country. There are conflicts and fighting at different places in the country and this also brought challenges to the living situation, as the cost of living has increased considerably, some things have doubled, tripled, and even quadrupled in price. This is affecting the lives of both the students and staff.

Please Pray

- Pray for the peace of our country.
- Pray that we may get more staff that can help us teach the CMR program.
- Pray and consider additional support towards [MYS Scholarships](#) to assist more CMR students
- Pray for the establishment of the CMR Research Center. MYS and the RCA will be interviewing and looking to hire a qualified candidate to serve as the director of this center and teach CMR courses. Please pray that God will provide the right person with a passion, heart, and genuine call to this role and ministry.

In Christ,
Abdi Tadesse
MYS-CMR Program Coordinator