

# Adam Michałek

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## Dear Readers

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Artykuł został opracowany do udostępnienia w internecie przez Muzeum Historii Polski w ramach prac podejmowanych na rzecz zapewnienia otwartego, powszechnego i trwałego dostępu do polskiego dorobku naukowego i kulturalnego. Artykuł jest umieszczony w kolekcji cyfrowej [bazhum.muzhp.pl](http://bazhum.muzhp.pl), gromadzącej zawartość polskich czasopism humanistycznych i społecznych.

Tekst jest udostępniony do wykorzystania w ramach dozwolonego użytku.

## **Dear Readers,**

Feel free to read the second issue of “Nurt SVD” (2014), presenting studies on interreligious / interfaith dialogue and history of the mission.

The article by M. Ickiewicz-Sawicka on *Religions in the Balkans with a Particular Emphasis on Islam* is undoubtedly this issue’s icon. Balkans – the multi-threaded geopolitical topic, the seedbed of conflicts, and the place of interreligious ecumenism – these all repeatedly marked history’s new direction. The author recounts the context of peaceful co-existence of Catholic, Orthodox, and Islam followers in this region in the Ottoman Empire era. Aside from the historical framework of the article, the text by M. Ickiewicz-Sawicka evokes the already classical thesis on the key role of the religion’s responsibility for our global future.

The Christian communities in Lebanon, the country of a vast Christian majority of the Middle East, are an unprecedented example for the interfaith ecumenism. The author of the article *The Church in Lebanon*, M. Imach, studies over the documents of the Catholic Church that promote the unification of Christians in the Middle East; he also analyses the impact of bishop synods on the stabilisation of the situation in this strategic point of the globe.

The missionaries’ mission, the Jesuits in China and Divine Word Missionaries in Indonesia, is a dear to us chapter in the history of the Church. The J.M. Smogulecki’s and M.P. Boym’s ardent desires to evangelise the Middle Kingdom (17<sup>th</sup> century) reveal both, the threads of painful interpersonal rivalry as well as the heroic zeal *ad maiorem Dei gloriam* – as M. Miazek-Męczyńska concludes. On the other hand, the study by J. Glinka on the 100<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the Divine Word Missionaries’ activity in Indonesia (1913-2012), held in the tone of classic missionary ethos, reveals the pioneering Missionaries’ struggle and the beginnings of the Church in the Lesser Sunda Islands. Starting from the Vatican II, Polish Divine Word Missionaries are leaders in this field – the author himself for fifty years has been engaged in pastoral and academic activities. Incidentally, the Christian mission (3%) in this huge, Muslim (85%) society goes far beyond the statistical data.

*Adam Michatek SVD*