

# John O'Brien, CSSp

## EDUCATION

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- **Ph.D., Theology**, Gregorian University, Rome, 1988  
THESIS: *'The Hermeneutical Privilege of the Poor', on the methodological presuppositions of Liberation Theology. Excerpt of 50 pages, published by Gregorian University Press.*
- **S.T.L., Gregorian University, Rome, 1977**  
*tesina* on the Christology of Karl Rahner
- **B.D., Theology**, Pontifical University, Maynooth, 1975
- **Higher Diploma in Education [H.Dip.Ed.]**, National University of Ireland, 1973 Began Studies in Theology, and post-graduate studies in Education.
- **B.S., Physics**, Minor in Mathematics, University College Dublin, 1970 and Studies in Philosophy at Kimmage Manor, Dublin, 1966-1970.
- **Matriculation.** Entered novitiate of the Congregation of the Holy Spirit, {CSSp}, 1965

## ACADEMIC /TEACHING EXPERIENCE

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### **Missionary in Pakistan**, 1989 to Present

- 1989 -2000, study of Urdu; grassroots work among the Punjabi Christian Sweeper community; Ministry included pastoral and liturgical services, housing cooperative, youth work, adult education. Publication in Urdu of Adult Education handbook entitled *Naia Masha Naia Insan* (New Society, New Person) and a book on the Resurrection, *Ji Uthne ke Chowda Maqam*.
- 2000-2011; ministry among Bhil migrant sharecroppers; study of Sindhi language; health and educational outreach and human rights' work. Composition of first inculturated Rite of the Eucharist in Bhil language. Conducted theological seminars at local, national levels and at international level in Africa, Asia, and Europe. Participated and presented papers at the Ecclesiological Investigations network's conferences at St. Deniol's and Durham. Publication of several articles on various aspects of inculturated ecclesiology in *Al-Mushir* (Rawalpindi); *Focus* (Multan); *Vidyajoti* (Delhi); *Islamocrisiana* (Rome); *Ecclesiology* (London) and *Milltown Studies* (Dublin).
- 2007-8: Eight months sabbatical in Cairo, Egypt studying Islam and Arabic grammar.

### **Lecturer**, Kimmage Manor, Dublin (and for one semester at Missionary Institute London); 1978 to 1989

- Taught Christology, Trinity, Missiology, Liberation Theology
- 1981: Spent three months in Brazil studying Base Ecclesial Communities.

### **Misionary**, Pakistan, 1977 to 1978

- Study of Punjabi language

### **Teacher**, Sierra Leone, West Africa, 1970 to 1972

- Taught Mathematics, Science and Religion

## PUBLICATIONS

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- Published:  
*Theology and the Option for the Poor* (Collegeville, 1992),  
*Seeds of a New Church* (Columba, 1996),  
*The Construction of Pakistani Christian Identity* (Lahore 2006);
- Forthcoming: *The Unconquered People: the Liberation journey of an Oppressed Caste* (Oxford Uni. Press) (2) *The Hope that is within us* (Cat. Centre, Karachi).