- * CST Calendar distributed country-wide in Zambia as a National Liturgical Calendar and translated into French for use in some countries in French Speaking Africa-2008 and 2009
- JCTR Outreach Programme grows beyond focus on debt to include mirror what JCTR at national level does; advocacy on socio-economic issues in their contexts and nationalwide-2008
- Contributed to the advocacy to hold a referendum to expand the Bill of Rights in the Zambian Constitution to include Economic, Social and Cultural Rights-2016
- Enjoyed a sense of legitimacy among the public and government for our sound research and integrity in our work of social justice. Thus, we called upon to input into various processes that shape policy
- BNB contributed to the public debate on policies such as removal of maize and fuel subsidies, the revision of the minimum wage and the statutory instrument on conditions of service for domestic workers in 2012.
- BNB informed the Centre's budget submissions to the Ministry of Finance, which, in turn, contributed to the zero rating of wheat products, among others, by the government in the 2013 National budget.
- The Ministry of Labour and Social Security invited the Programme to participate in the process of further determining sector based minimum wages





JESUIT CENTRE FOR THEOLOGICAL REFELCTION (JCTR)

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30 years of Promoting Faith & Justice for all in all Spheres of Life especially the poor

JCR **H Vears** of dedicated service to promoting human dignity

THE JESUIT

CENTRE FOR

THEOLOGICAL REFELCTION

(JCTR)

Introduction

The Jesuit Centre for Theological Reflection (JCTR) is a project of the Zambia-Malawi Province of the Society of Jesus (The Jesuits). The Centre does research, education and advocacy on issues of social justice to promote the fullness of life for all, especially the poor.

This year, 2018 marks 30 years of the JCTR's dedicated service to promoting the fullness of human life for all, as the Centre was established in 1988. Beginning with Fr. Arul Varaprassadam, S.J, as its first Director, JCTR has over the decades seen three more Directors (Fr. Peter Henriot, SJ from1990-2010, Fr. Leonard Chiti, SJ, from 2011-2017 and currently Fr. Emmanuel Mumba SJ, who became Director in September, 2017) carrying on the same vision and mission but alert to "reading the signs of the times". Thus, the mission has found its expression in different ways in the past 30 years.





Fr. Peter Henriot SJ: 1990 - 2010 Fr. Leonard Chiti SJ: Fr. Emmanuel Mumba SJ: 2011 - 2017 Current

Our vision and mission

The vision of the JCTR is to have a society where faith promotes justice for all in all spheres of life, especially for the poor. Its mission is to foster, from a faith-inspired perspectives, a critical understanding of current issues. Guided by the Church's Social Teaching (CST) that emphasises human dignity in community, the JCTR mission is to generate activities for the promotion of the fullness of life through research, education, advocacy and consultancy.



Cooperating widely with other groups, our Jesuit sponsorship directs us to a special concern for the poor and assures an international linkage to our efforts. We aim to promote an inculturated faith, gender equality and empowerment of local communities in the work of justice and peace and the integrity of creation.

In regard to carrying out this mission, JCTR has evolved in various ways over the past three (3) decades. The Centre that began with very minimal but significant initiatives such as the JCTR Bulletin, used as an avenue to promote social justice values, saw towards the year 2000 and beyond, more initiatives aimed at addressing pertinent issues in Zambia and globally. A significant example of such initiatives was the launch of the Jubille-2000 campaign for debt cancelation in 1998 at the Cathedral of the Holy Cross in Lusaka.



The launch was necessitated by the then Zambia's rate and volume of external debt stock coupled with ineffective non-transparent and unaccountable loan contraction processes.

Jubilee-2000, which later came to be known as Jubilee-Zambia campaign, became part of the international movement to call for the cancellation of poor countries' debt. By the end of 2004, Zambia owed the international community in excess of US\$7 billion and was spending over US\$100 million per annum in external debt service at the expense of economic and human development programmes. Efforts by JCTR, its Outreach Teams in five districts of Ndola, Livingstone, Mongu, Monze and Kasama and the wider civil society in this campaign resulted in over 90% of Zambia's debt cancelled by multilateral agencies after Zambia reached the Highly Indebted Poor Country (HIPC) completion point and qualified for the Multilateral Debt Relief (MDR) initiative in 2005.

The JCTR currently operates under two core Programme: the Faith and Justice and Social and Economic Development Programmes with Outreach offices in Kasama, Kitwe, Livingstone and Mongu.



Some Significant Achievements that JCTR contributed to over the last 30 years

- Cancellation of Zambia's debt- April 2005
- User fees in primary school dropped- 2005
- Civil Society for Poverty Reduction (CSPR) which existed as a Project of the JCTR is set up as a separate NGO- 2005
- Expansion of the JCTR Basic Needs Basket (BNB) from Lusaka to several other towns- 2005
- Rural Basket launched- November, 2007
- Spreading of the BNB to other countries in Africa- 2007/08
- JCTR is awarded, the Jubilee Global Leadership Award"- 18 October, 2008, presented in New York, USA
- JCTR is awarded the "Drivers of Change"-Civil Society Award"- 23 October, 2008, presented in Johannesburg, South Africa