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Orality Journal

The Word Became Fresh



**Participatory
Learning and
Networks
Revisited**

**Keller • Azomo • Lim • Wise • Varghese • Handley
Chaudhary • Lhomi • Desemone • Wills**

The Seven Disciplines of Orality



Courtesy of Dr. Chuck Madinger who leads Global Impact Mission and serves on the International Orality Network's Leadership Team facilitating the Research Task Force.

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Cover Photo

Participatory Learning in a rodeo! The rider and the horse learns about each other, and the audience (the networks) while entertained is also learning and passing on the learning.

Your statutes have been my songs
in the house of my sojourning.

Psalm 119:54 ESV

Therefore let us be grateful for receiving a kingdom
that cannot be shaken, and thus let us offer to God
acceptable worship, with reverence and awe,
for our God is a consuming fire.

Hebrews 12:28—29 ESV

Orality Journal

The Word Became Fresh

Orality Journal is the journal of the International Orality Network. It is published online semi-annually and aims to provide a platform for scholarly discourse on the issues of orality, discoveries of innovations in orality, and praxis of effectiveness across multiple domains in society. This online journal is international and interdisciplinary, serving the interests of the orality movement through research articles, documentation, book reviews, and academic news. Occasionally, print editions will be provisioned. Submission of items that could contribute to the furtherance of the orality movement is welcomed.

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Editor's Note

Samuel E. Chiang

Participatory Learning and Networks

Less than two decades ago in small shops in large coastal cities of China, there were banks of computers set up for people to experience the arrival of computing power. By day it looked business-like; by night it was the domain of youths playing video games. I vividly recall how they would shout out across to each other upon the discovery of new strategies to advance to the next level, all with a focus of how to take down a foreign government or power.

Even today in MMOG (Massively Multiplayer Online Game) the players are tethered to a device connected to a gaming platform, which is, enabled by a network (internet), and together the players interact meaningfully with people across the world. They actually learn from each other, and in turn achieve an individual best, and more often a common agenda, collaboratively. At times one is the master, at other times one is the apprentice, all the while the learning is crafted into the individual through ultra high-definition images presented in a coherent imaginary storyline.

All this sounds very intuitive. It is oral, visual, collaborative, and purposeful. Embedded are assumptions and theories which drive the process, including but not limited to: 1. Adults learn better when knowledge is constructed through participation; 2. Adults are able to pass on “sticky” knowledge through their vast networks; 3. Knowledge gets passed on through personal relationships (networks) when it retains its “stickiness” in the form of how people normally receive, process, remember, and pass on information.

The practitioners who contributed articles to this volume are all experts in their own domain. They have gone through both the school of hard-knocks and the school of discoveries. While the case studies speak of how “orality—learning—participation” works in the field, the theories along with the nomenclature are both grounded and well established.

In assembling this volume, William Coppedge and myself encountered several sensitivities concerning case studies, field of service, and names.

Thus, where necessary we have used pseudonyms, or left out names entirely. The cases are all true. In this volume, we also attempted something new: we have endeavored to capture several threaded discussions from within a forum context. Theory and praxis often intersect in a community of practice supported through a public forum, and so we worked with one of the writers to distill material contributed within one of those forum contexts and craft it into an article. In this sense, we have tried to capture what was timely and casted it as what can become timeless.

Finally, in this issue there was so much good information—along with detailed discussions and concrete examples—that the submissions were much longer than the allotted space. Thus, while editing has been necessary, we have tried to ensure as smooth a reading as possible.

We continue in the exploration of how orality works within communities, both in the oral and digital generations. We desire to discover how vital information permeates networks as well as how participatory learning enables the delivery of that information and makes “it stick” in the individual and the community. We are certain you will find this issue interesting, and we invite your feedback.

On the journey together,



Samuel E. Chiang

From Knoxville, Tennessee, USA

Lions and Eagles and Estuaries: Oh My!

Joseph W. Handley, Jr.

Photos by Joseph W. Handley, Jr.

Joseph W. Handley, Jr. is president of Asian Access. He is a contributing blogger for the Billy Graham Center for Evangelism's EvangelVision blog. He also serves on the International Orality Network leadership team and the board of PacificLink. Joe is pursuing a PhD in Intercultural Studies at Fuller Theological Seminary. He strives to develop leaders who multiply churches that transform nations. To learn more, see www.asianaccess.org/handley

Nants ingonyama bagithi Baba

[Here comes a lion, Father]

Sithi uhm ingonyama

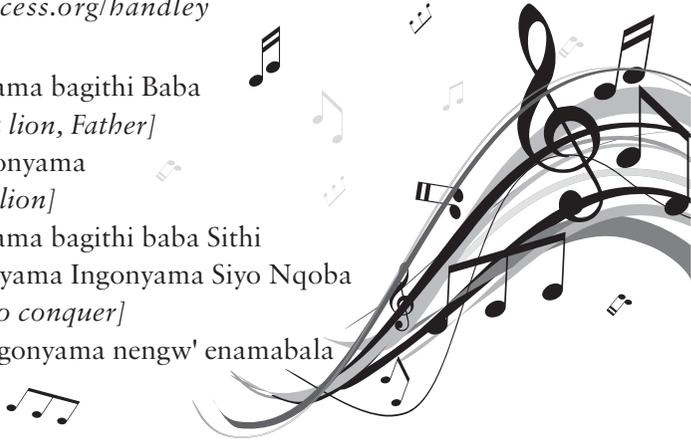
[Oh yes, it's a lion]

Nants ingonyama bagithi baba Sithi

uhhmm ingonyama Ingonyama Siyo Nqoba

[We're going to conquer]

Ingonyama Ingonyama nengw' enamabala



These lyrics (along with loud, blasting music) blared across the auditorium. We immediately recognized the song—the opening lyrics to the movie *The Lion King*! We laughed together as our guide for the next two days led us through singing this song as loud as we possibly could.

Beginning the Journey

Our journey had begun a few years prior. We had invited Peter Chao of Singapore-based Eagles Communications and META Consulting to share at a national pastors' congress in Japan. We had asked Peter to share lessons from his teachings on the Estuary. Japanese church leadership was working through a leadership renewal process, and we felt that

Peter's wisdom would be especially helpful for our leaders.

Framing his story with Chinese proverbs, Peter described the dynamics of the estuary, where salt water and fresh water collide. While one of the more dangerous environments on the planet, estuaries are also one of the most life-giving environments—a perfect metaphor for leadership renewal and transition.

Engaging the Eagles' Leadership-Development Approach

Peter's presentation led us to ask Eagles to take our Asian Access National Directors through a leadership development process to help us focus on leading as a team. This is where The Lion King song came in!

Peter and his partner, Michael Tan, brought two younger staff from Eagles to lead our team through the two-day experience. They handled the process superbly, using multi-sensory means to communicate to our National Directors, who are largely oral-preference learners. These two young leaders from Eagle had us (a group of mostly middle-aged pastors) standing on our chairs, singing and shouting at the top of our lungs. It was hilarious! They then proceeded



to augment their brief speaking segments with video clips, active games, and team simulations.

One game broke us into teams. Some team members were blindfolded; others could only talk, but not move. The talkers had to coach the blindfolded into drawing figures on a poster to illustrate the lessons we were learning about team leadership. In debriefing these experiences, we learned what challenges our limitations present to us, and how we could best work together to solve our team goals.

In another game, we were timed to see how quickly we could switch from one side of the room to the other with the use of stepping stones. All we could do was jump over one another from one stone to the next. On the first run, everyone was able to speak and do hand motions. Toward



the end, only one guide was able to speak and only one other guide was allowed to use hand motions. It was really challenging.

As we went through the time trials, we slowly but surely learned quicker routes and how to better communicate with one another as we went along.

Adult Education Pedagogy: A Multifaceted Learning Experience

Eagles' presentation exemplified adult education pedagogy, a learning technique that utilizes multiple means of learning experiences within the orality arena. Rather than relying on long lectures and a whiteboard,

Eagles employed a full range of multisensory-engaging experiences to help our team effectively apply teamwork-building skills.



Eagles employed a blend of brief lectures, video clips, songs, dance, games, art, and group simulations

to cement the conceptual ideas into a cohesive whole. Our team left that week with a stronger data set for how to lead within a teamwork context.

Multifaceted Learning: The Road to the Future

The majority of our world are oral-preference learners, best approached through a combination of multiple,

multifaceted learning methodologies. As we seek to develop disciple-making leaders throughout the world, we will do well to learn from groups like Eagles Communications and META Consulting.





To learn more, visit: www.eagles.org.sg/ or <http://meta.com.sg/>





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“Net” Worth of Fishers of Men

“Net” Worth of Fishers of Men

Christians have enormous financial resources, which they could use to spread the gospel, feed the poor and fight for the cause of justice in the world.

Jesus called his disciples to re-orient their thinking from “net worth” to “net” casting. This includes using our financial resources for our assigned purpose:

Follow me and I will make you fishers of men. (MAT 4:19 ESV)

Potential For Giving

Christian income is concentrated in the wealthiest regions of the world — Europe, North America and part of Asia.

Middle and upper class Christians are increasing in number in some developing countries.

Christian GNI per capita = \$18,841 while Global GNI per capita = \$13,617 (GNI=Gross National Income)



CHRISTIANS AS PERCENT OF WORLD



GLOBAL DISTRIBUTION OF CHRISTIANS

POTENTIAL vs ACTUAL CHRISTIAN GIVING



GIVING AS PERCENT OF INCOME

NETS WITH HOLES

Money Lost to Ecclesiastical Crime

\$3 million lost

2007 Radio Maria Costa Rica

\$3.65 million lost

2011 Uniting Church of Australia

\$12 million lost

2014 Yoido Full Gospel Church South Korea

\$190 million lost

2010 Universal Brokerage Services USA

CASTING OUR NETS FURTHER

Being so overwhelmed by God's grace that we overflow into giving.

Being transformed from a consumer mentality to a fishing mentality, keeping up with Jesus instead of the Joneses.

Practicing systematic generosity — disciplined giving and above-and-beyond gifts as God guides.

CHRISTIANS AS PERCENT OF POPULATION, INCOME AND GIVING



Making small adjustments. The \$100 spent on monthly coffee drinks could instead provide legal help for a woman rescued from sex trafficking.

For more data like these on the global Christian community, please visit the Center for the Study of Global Christianity at Gordon-Conwell Theological Seminary at www.gordonconwell.edu

Sources and other explanatory notes at www.missiongraphics.com/christian-finance



**Upcoming 2015 and 2016 International Orality Network
'Linked-In' or Sponsored Events:**

October 12th - 15th	All Africa 'Orality and Theological Education' Consultation Daystar University By Invitation Only Nairobi, Kenya
November 27th - 28th	International Orality Network Manila Conference Grace Christian Church Manila, Philippines
December 2nd - 4th	Finish The Task Conference Saddleback Church, CA, USA http://www.finishingthetask.com/events.html
2016	
March 30th - April 2nd	Pre-EMDC Training Chiang Mai, Thailand
April 4th - 7th	EMDC 2016 Chiang Mai, Thailand
June 15th - 22nd	Global Proclamation Congress for Trainers of Pastors Bangkok, Thailand
June 27th - 30th	Call2All Seoul, Korea
August 3rd - 11th	Lausanne Younger Leaders Gathering By Invitation Only Jakarta, Indonesia



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