A STUDY OF THE POKOT CULTURAL WORLDVIEW: MISSIOLOGICAL IMPLICATIONS FOR SEVENTH-DAY ADVENTIST WITNESS AMONG THE PASTORAL NOMADS OF KENYA

Name of the researcher: Haron Nyamweya Matwetwe

Name of faculty adviser: Wagner Kuhn, PhD

Date completed: July 2017

Seventh-day Adventist witness among the nomadic peoples of the East Africa region is faced with a number of challenges. Although the Church enjoys relative success in reaching most communities, its growth and development appears restricted to locations occupied by the settled communities. Unfamiliarity with nomads' cultural structures and values is a partial explanation for why missionaries have failed to connect with the nomads.

This research seeks to describe the Pokot cultural worldview as a step toward understanding barriers to effective mission and developing bridges to close the gap between the Church and the pastoralists. An ethnographic study involving interviews, participant observation, artifact examination, and casual dialogue was completed. Data collected assisted in describing the Pokot cultural worldview by exposing the cognitive, evaluative, and affective dimensions of their culture.

In response, a model for mission among nomads was developed. Since sociocultural factors were identified as the main deterrents to mission initiatives, the model examined seven key strategies to guide effective mission in that region.