

Thesis Title : Proclamation of the Good News as Dialogue Since the
Second Vatican Council and the Thai Church.

Researcher Name : Mr. Somprasong Bantaw

Thesis Advisor : Dr. Sebastian Vadassery

Co-advisor : Dr. Thinaratana Komkris

Academic Year : 1999

ABSTRACT

This thesis examines the meaning of proclamation in the Church since Vatican II. The topic is analysed historically and theologically using the philosophical hermeneutics of Hans-Georg Gadamer that looks at the text from threefold perspectives: historical, theological and integrative perspectives. The researcher with this method in mind reflects at three Church documents on “Proclamation” to get a fuller and deeper understanding of these texts.

Chapter one focuses on the paradigm shift that takes place at different periods of the Church, leading to the postmodern paradigm: “religious pluralism.” The Church response to this new situation is “inter-religious dialogue.” The methodology of the research is discussed in Chapter two where the writer explains the philosophical hermeneutics of Hans-Georg Gadamer. In Chapter three, the Church documents on Proclamation “Lumen Gentium”, “Evangelii Nuntiandi” and “Dialogue and Proclamation” are read in their historical context. The theological reflections of Hans Kung, Edward Schillebeeckx and Raimundo Panikkar are considered in the fourth

Chapter to have a modern understanding. In the next Chapter (Chapter 5) the two sets of understanding are integrated in an effort to have an integral and universal Catholic understandings. The Chapter six is dedicated to discuss proclamation in the setting of Thailand / in Thai Buddhist context. The final Chapter bring out relevant conclusions with suggestions for further study.

S.B

