
THE METHODIST CHURCH IN SOUTHERN AFRICA (MCSA)

Methodism arrived in South Africa with British soldiers in 1806 but the mission began in 1816. Missionaries ventured across the Orange River into present-day Namibia and what are now the northern provinces of South Africa. In the late 19th century, the work was extended into the gold mining area in Gauteng and north through modern Limpopo into Zimbabwe. Six missionary districts of the Wesleyan Methodist church became an affiliated conference in 1883. An independent conference was constituted in 1927 and enlarged in 1931 to include the Transvaal Missionary District of the British Conference and the small Primitive Methodist Mission. The connexion operates today in six countries – **Botswana, Lesotho, Mozambique, Namibia, South Africa and Swaziland.**

The MCSA rejected the apartheid ideology from the beginning and was a vocal critic of government policy throughout the nationalist supremacy. Faced by government pressure to divide along racial lines, the 1958 conference declared its "conviction that it is the will of God for the Methodist Church that it should be one and undivided, trusting to the leading of God to bring this ideal to ultimate fruition". Six years later the first African to serve as president of conference was elected. The life of the MCSA reflects the strains and tensions of an apartheid society. In spite of this, the conference, connexional executive and synods have long since been non-racial. The idea of a one and undivided church has still to be realized at the congregational level.

The presiding bishop is **REVD. IVAN ABRAHAMS.**

GDP (OER): \$277.4Billion

[http://www.indexmundi.com/south_africa/gdp_\(official_exchange_rate\).html](http://www.indexmundi.com/south_africa/gdp_(official_exchange_rate).html)

South Africa has a developing economy.

MEMBERSHIP: 735,209

POPULATION: 45,323,008

COMMITTED GRANTS

Methodist Church South Africa (MCSA)

79 MCSA: Parliamentary Liaison Officer

<i>Date-agreed:</i> 30/06/2008 NMA	<i>2010-2011</i>	£12,715
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<i>Date-agreed:</i> 30/06/2008 NMA	<i>2012-2013</i>	£12,715
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<i>Date-agreed:</i> 30/06/2008 NMA	<i>2011-2012</i>	£12,715
81 Missioner, Evangelism and Church Planting		
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Total: NMA **£80,860**

Total Committed Grants Methodist Church South Africa **£80,860**

MISSION PARTNERS: None

SALT STUDENTS: None