



International Council of Ethnodoxologists (ICE)

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Updates from the Field

SENEGAL, WEST AFRICA

Ever heard of Wolof reggae music with traditional *sabar* rhythms accompanying the keyboard grooves? Urban Wolof people listen to a huge range of music, and this reflects in the kinds of songs that they compose and sing as believers. At our bi-monthly city workshop, four of the faithful participants put together two great Wolof scripture songs that ended up with a reggae groove - and wrote a third with a rural audience in mind, teaching the 7 key characteristics of God. This song is designed to accompany the chronological stories being used all around Senegal to reach Wolof people, 99.99% of whom follow the majority religion of this region. The refrain goes like this:

*"God is one,
he has no equal.
He is your Lord,
so don't try to make any other equal to Him."*

So here we have city believers making songs to build up the urban churches where Wolof is spoken* - but also serving the missionaries of many races who are reaching out to the rural majority of ethnic Wolof people. Great flexibility and partnership! I'm glad I get to come along for the ride.... through organizing the workshops, sharing the songs produced and ministering among rural and urban Wolofs in telling chronological stories with songs to reinforce the teachings.

-Sue Hall

*mp3 clips of these songs can be found in the AO section of the ICE website, under "Articles."

Every month, we would like to highlight an area of the world and the ethnodoxologists working there. If you would like to contribute, please send an update of 200 words or less to News@worldofworship.org

The vision of ICE

is that Christians from every culture will have the opportunity to express their faith through their own heart music and arts.

SEM 2005 Conference November 16-20

The SEM conference is just around the corner and we hope to see many of you there. The focus of this year's meeting is the fiftieth anniversary of the Society for Ethnomusicology, so there will be a lot of discussion on the past, present, and future of ethnomusicology. The session topics are varied including many having to do with Christian worship music.

Please pray for the safety of those attending as well as for the presenters from our ranks many of whom will be giving papers on Christian music around the world.

For those of you who will be in Atlanta, we will be meeting during the lunch break on Thursday, November 17th in the food court near the hotel. It will be a brief but special time of fellowship. Please join us!



For an exciting world music resource, visit www.smithsonianglobalsound.org Click on the "Browse Music Globally" link to search for songs by instrument classification, geography, or culture groups. Sample clips and downloads are available and the price of the download is based on the length of the track. This is a great way to access music from your area of interest for research purposes or just sheer listening pleasure!

The diversity with which the birth of Christ is celebrated around the world is so amazing and beautiful! Are there some special Christmas musical traditions from your specific areas of ministry? Let us know so we can include them in our December newsletter!