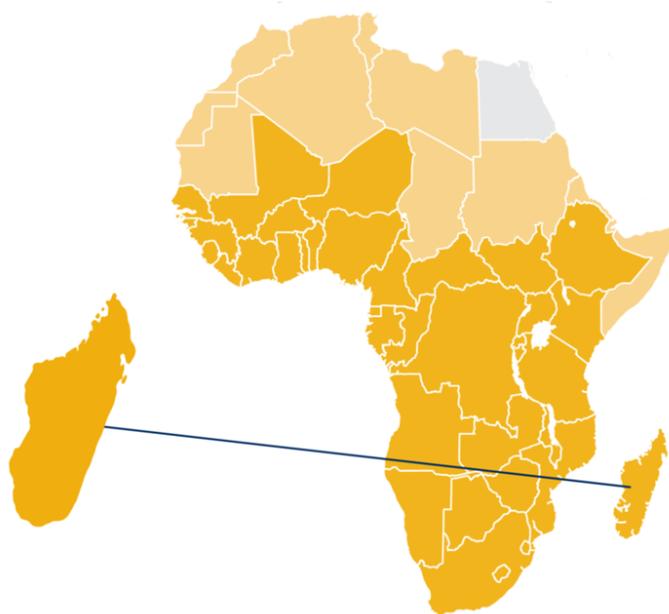


NMI Central

NAZARENE MISSIONS INTERNATIONAL

10 May 2023

Africa Region



Madagascar

In 1993, the work of the Church of the Nazarene began officially in Madagascar, a large island off the southeastern coast of Africa. It is the fourth largest island on earth and second largest island country. Madagascar regained its independence from France in 1960. Madagascar had been its own kingdom from the 16th to 19th centuries, with the Merina Kingdom ruling much of the island, until conquered by the French in 1896. It was one of the last major habitable landmasses to be settled by humans, with settlers from present-day Indonesia along with Arabs and Persian traders and their descendants arriving in the 7th century. Madagascar's population is predominantly rural, with large families being the norm. Education is becoming more and more important in this burgeoning nation, and the Church of the Nazarene is seeking to equip its pastors with sound ministerial education, preparing them for ministries that will truly impact their communities. Education is one of the hallmarks of the Church of the Nazarene around the world, and in countries like Madagascar, it opens doors for the gospel and deepens the faith of its people, which impacts the mission of the churches in the country.



3,699 Members



16 Fully Organized Churches; 16 Not Yet Organized Churches



27 District Licensed and 18 Ordained Ministers on 1 District

PRAYER



- Pray for pastors to be able to study and be equipped for the ministry.
- Pray for the transition in the curriculum of training, that our students will be able to adjust to the program of courses.
- Pray for the planting of new Nazarene churches in the different cultures in the south and southeast of the island.
- Pray for the Malagasy believers, pastors' families, and missionaries in Madagascar, that as they work together in unity and humility, God's kingdom will be advanced.
- Pray for the families affected by the drought and famine in the south, and pray for the families affected by the Batsirai, Emnati, and Freddy cyclones. May our Lord God provide for their basic needs.
- Pray for the upcoming presidential elections in Madagascar this year.

PRAISE



- We thank God for the leaders on the Africa South Field helping reach south of Madagascar in new ways.
- We thank God for His protection during the devastating Batsirai, Emnati, and Freddy cyclones.
- We thank God for the growth of the church and planting of new churches in the south of Madagascar.
- We thank God for the Ibanda family, missionaries who were able to secure their 5-year visa for the first time in Madagascar after struggling to renew their visas every year. Glory to God!

NMI SNAPSHOT



Nazarene Compassionate Ministries, alongside the Madagascar District, assisted in reaching out to unreached areas and people in the south of Madagascar. This part of the country has experienced four consecutive years of drought that have wiped out crops and hampered people's access to food. As the lean season approaches, a time of year when food stocks are low, the crisis is expected to worsen significantly. More than 1.14 million people are food insecure in southern Madagascar. According to global standards, the worst-affected district of Ambovombe, where the acute malnutrition rates have reached an alarming 27 percent, is at risk of famine. By the grace of God and the help of some donors, NCM was able to distribute food to more than 3,200 households. After this expression of God's love, some villagers invited us to share the gospel in their villages. And from that moment to the present, the Lord has opened greater opportunities to plant churches. The district of Madagascar reports that more than 14 churches have been planted. These churches meet under trees, sitting on the sand, sharing God's Word, and worshiping the Lord.



Teachers and students during the March training event. Pastors are from Antananarivo, Ambatoboeny, Toliara, Amboasary, and Ambovombe.

The church planters and pastors are currently enrolled at our Nazarene Theological Institute (NTI). According to Rev. Agnes Ibanda, missionary in charge of NTI and education on the island, these sisters and brothers are doing great work for the Lord, and they are attending classes in the capital city of Antananarivo; some must travel for four or more days to reach the training site. We thank Nazarenes everywhere for your prayers and partnership with us in this movement of church planting happening in the south of Madagascar.



Teachers of NTI Madagascar.

Could You Serve?

Is God calling you to join Him in missions? For more information, click [here](#).



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