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Bukavu, situated in the South Kivu region of the DRC, has a population of about 1 million

“ A SPIRITUAL STRUGGLE THAT NECESSITATES FIRST AND FOREMOST, THE USE OF SPIRITUAL WEAPONS ”

### A new series of broadcasts in the DRC

*Dear friends,*

There is probably no more powerful weapon used by the great Enemy of believers than discouragement caused by lies, adversity or bitter opposition to the Gospel. The temptation of retreating or even giving up may then gradually creep in without us even noticing. The exhortation of Heb. 12:3-4 is of utmost importance in times such as these: *Consider him who endured from sinners such hostility against himself, so that you may not grow weary or fainthearted. In your struggle against sin you have not resisted to the point of shedding your blood.* Sadly, the last sentence does not apply to many believers in a growing number of countries. African Christians, to mention only them, are facing increasing assaults from violent Muslim groups, intent on eradicating any trace of Christianity. Recently, northern parts of Mozambique were the scene of horrendous events as part of this onslaught. In this context, the launching of a new series of broadcasts in the city of Bukavu (East of the Democratic Republic of the Congo, close to Burundi and Rwanda) embodies our determination to take up the sword of the Spirit, which is the Word of God (Eph. 6:17). We must never lose sight of the fact that we are dealing with a spiritual struggle that necessitates first and foremost the use of spiritual weapons. The novelty with this new series of broadcasts consists in associating a local pastor assisted by a team of elders. They use part of the air time at our disposal to convey the text of my messages in Swahili, the most-spoken language in this region of Africa.

### Support to radios in Mali

In the meantime, our support towards Christian radios in Mali also continues. *Radio Espoir* in Bamako (where RFL organized a seminar for radio administrators in 2012) started broadcasting our short podcasts. Mali is still at the heart of a major offensive by various Jihad groups aiming to conquer the whole Sahelian strip and impose sharia law on everyone. While France keeps a contingent of five thousand soldiers in the North of Mali and these are regularly involved in deadly clashes with terrorists, there too our combat is of a spiritual nature. The actual battlefield is the mind and heart of men and women enslaved in the monolatric religion of Islam, a religion devoid of the love and mercy

of the Almighty Father, manifested in His only begotten Son, our Lord and Savior Jesus-Christ. It was significant and extremely encouraging to note around Easter, though, that a series of videos I recorded and posted on our ministry's Facebook page (about the notions of Christ as ransom, as perfect sacrifice for our sins, as willingly and actually dying for the sake of sinners, etc.) reached at times no less than 261000 viewers in Morocco, Algeria and Egypt, generating a few thousand "likes" and "shares" (also a few angry comments and even curses!) This shows that in these countries there is a much larger public eager to hear the Gospel directly from the mouth of a Christian than what we usually tend to think. *How then will they call on him in whom they have not believed? And how are they to believe in him of whom they have never heard? And how are they to hear without someone preaching?* (Rom. 10:14)

“

THAT TRUTH  
CONCERNS NOT  
JUST OUR ETERNAL  
FUTURE IN HEAVEN,  
BUT ALSO OUR  
PRESENT LIFE

”

## Reflecting on the Church of Jesus Christ

Back home, we observe the rapid disintegration of whatever remains of a Christian heritage in terms of valuing human life and understanding what is (or rather was) commonly called "nature". What are we to do in order to resist the countless delirious and debilitating influences that undermine the very fabric of our individual and collective existence? Having turned away from the Creator after whose image He was fashioned, mankind is gradually transforming itself into a mindless *thingkind*: a hybrid social – and soon biological – creature, a would be Cyborg less than kind towards the unborn and the elderly. I firmly believe that teaching existing churches to govern themselves properly under the rule of their only Head, Christ, accepting fully His yoke and discipline, is the necessary antidote to the culture of death that surrounds us. For that is where spiritually newborn creatures are to gather and worship the One true God, maintaining their redeemed identity. *Reformed Faith and Life* has started a series of webinars on various topics related to this central theme. We are also initiating among our members a group of reflection on the Church of the living God, and the true marks that make of her *a pillar and buttress of the truth* (1 Tim. 3:15). For, no doubt, that truth concerns not just our eternal future in Heaven, but also our present life until our Lord and Savior comes to meet us in glory, claiming His heritage.

*Rev Eric Kayayan*

Our next webinar on the topic of the Church will take place on Saturday 29 May



Église invisible,  
Églises visibles  
QUEL LIEN, POUR QUELLE UNITÉ ?

**SUR**  
**INSCRIPTION**  
29 MAI 2021  
14H00 - 18H15

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