

Bitavhati Madinkha d'Maninaye

## THE MANICHAEAN WORLDWIDE ORGANISATIONAL COMMITTEE

"To Promote the Unity of the People of the Religion of Light"

Email: woc @ manichaean.org Web: Manichaean.org/woc

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## Call for Missionaries and Outreach Workers for South America, Spain, Tibet, U.S.A. and Uzbekistan

Dear Brethren in the Religion of Light, Shlama!

"The Hearers follow the example of those taking the lead, and often times are inspired to take the lead themselves in sharing the Message of Light with all others and helping to spread the call throughout the world...Those who first respond and act upon the Message of Light in their lands will also be the first to be blessed." (*Malpanuta d'Mar Mani*)

The Manichaean Worldwide Organisational Committee wishes to begin organising new mission centres within South America, Spain, Tibet, the United States and Uzbekistan, and will also be assisting in some educational and training efforts with missions already established, with the goal of eventually developing Religion of Light "campuses."

Religion of Light campuses will serve the needs of various spiritual communities within the Religion of Light and especially for regular, daily and/or weekly outreach programs.

With this in mind, the Mother Church is requesting that brothers and sisters who are able to speak, read and write one or more of the following languages consider their talents, other abilities and their current situation so they may determine, without uncertainty, whether or not they will be able to serve as missionaries (teachers), mission assistants or clerical workers, to

establish and/or oversee or volunteer by other means with a particular mission centre in the countries listed above.

## Languages

- Chinese (required for certain areas of Tibet and the U.S.)
- English (required for all brethren appointed as administrators)
- Portuguese (required for Brazil and certain areas of the U.S.)
- Russian (required for certain areas of Uzbekistan)
- Spanish (required for Spain and certain areas of the U.S.)
- Tibetan (various dialects, required for Tibet)
- Uzbek (required for certain areas of Uzbekistan)

One of the requirements is that individual brothers and sisters range between 21 and 45 years of age – especially for missionary work, which in some locations can be very rigorous. Some individuals up to 55 years of age may be able to apply to serve as missionaries, with the exception of Tibet and Uzbekistan. In some cases, brothers and sisters who are older than 45 years of age may be assigned clerical work or teaching positions on Religion of Light campuses.

At this time, the Committee believes the greatest needs for missionary and other outreach programs are to be found in the following geographic areas:

- California, USA (entire state)
- New York, USA (western part of the state)
- Oregon, USA (greater Portland area)
- South America (most regions, including Brazil)
- Tibet (south eastern region)
- Uzbekistan (all regions)

Individuals who wish to apply should answer the following questions honestly:

- I am in good standing with the Church.
- I have been a member of the Church for at least 12 months.
- I have studied and am familiar with the teachings within the Karuzuta d'Mar Mani, the Mitnaranuta d'Mir Izgadda and Malpanuta d'Mar Mani and have committed these sacred teachings to memory to the best of my ability I also read from these very texts daily.
- I am an adult (at least 21 years of age), and not older than 45 years of age.
- I am healthy.
- I have never been prescribed or taken any medications for a mentally related issue (depression, etcetera).

- I have never been diagnosed with a mentally related disease or issue within the last 5 years.
- I have never been diagnosed with a life-threatening and/or deadly contagious disease.
- I have not had any major surgery within the 12 months.
- I do not require ambulatory devices to walk.
- I am not addicted to alcohol or other mind altering drugs.
- I am currently not going through a divorce or separation, nor do I see such activity in the future.
- I am single and currently not in a relationship.
- I am committed to a partner and my partner also wishes to apply.
- I do not have immediate family obligations (minor children, caring for adult member(s) of family, etcetera).
- I have not been convicted of a criminal activity by the church or state in the last 3 years (minor traffic violations do not count).
- I can volunteer for short term voluntary missionary work (3 to 6 months)
- I can volunteer for long term voluntary missionary work (6 to 12 months)
- I can volunteer for permanent voluntary missionary work in an assigned territory.
- I am financially able to provide for myself (and if necessary anyone that I am personally responsible for that may be accompanying me) including travel to and from one country to another.
- I understand that work as a missionary, assistant or clerical worker is completely voluntary and that the Mother Church, the Manichaean Worldwide Organisational Committee, the Arkhegosate, the Patriarkuta, individual congregations, manistans or other institutes affiliated with the Manichaean Church can not reimburse me for any costs of travel or other expenses related to my volunteer work and stay within the United States.
- I understand that if I qualify and my application is accepted, I will be assigned a territory by the Manichaean Worldwide Organisational Committee strictly at the Committee's discretion.

There are additional questions and an interview that will take place if you are considered as a potential candidate for missionary work in the United States of America. This may take place by telephone, writing or email. It will also be necessary for you to provide at least two letters of good standing from an authorised Manichaean institute. The first applicants to be considered for outreach work will be those who have experience in missions.

If missionary activity in another land is work that you believe you are called to do at this time, we ask that you consider this work seriously and in earnest prayer and meditation. For additional information and applications, please write to the Committee.

If you already live in one of the lands mentioned above, but currently do not have an officially recognised by the Mother Church and the Committee, please contact us if you wish to receive a

Letter of Recognition. Additional information will be sent to you.

Additionally, you should be aware of certain directives from the Mother Church and the Committee regarding persecution that often takes place in certain areas of the world. You should also be aware that due to the nature of the political system in some countries, there are some congregations and outreach programs that are required to work underground to assist in avoiding physical harm from enemies of the Holy Faith.

We also wish to make you aware that at certain times, the current and newly established congregations and manistans (monasteries and convents) in countries listed above may at times be visited physically by His Divine Presence Mir Izgadda, H.H. Mar Mani Khaila and various sons of Mir Tarendra. As such the Elders will expect you to dress and act appropriately – always with due respect. You would be expected to do this regularly outside of their presence, but to be especially mindful during one of the special visits. There is a very high level of trust that must be developed and maintained before you are permitted to work directly with any of these individuals unless they already know you.

Please carefully read or re-read the following letters from the Committee:

- On the Subject of Isolation and Persecution (13 July 2012)
- On the Subject of Various Means of Sharing the Message of Light (22 July 2012)
- On the Subject of Ecclesiastical Jurisdictions and Administrative Territory Assignments (10 July 2013)

On behalf of His Divine Presence and the Bitavhati Madinkha d'Maninaye, your brothers, in sincerity,

The Manichaean Worldwide Organisational Committee