

History of Christian Mission in Benares: Local Challenges, Establishment and their Failure

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Abstract: *Christian missionaries added to the urban landscape of Varanasi. They brought major changes and utilized them to strengthen their empire but failed in Benares. According to the opinion of the various missionaries, they came to Benares for the expansion of Christianity. The thought behind the coming of Benares is "If they would be successful to convert the Brahmins of Benares into Christianity, then the whole of India could easily accept the Christianity". So, they wanted to convert the people of Benares for the conversion of the whole of India. The Brahmins of Benares were representative of the Hindu cultural identity. So they wanted to establish Christianity in Benares for the cultural conquest of India. Therefore this research paper is an attempt to see the history of Christian Mission in Benares. This research Paper has two objectives: First the role of Christian mission in the making of urban landscape of 18th century Benares with the introduction of numerous churches, Hospitals and English Schools, and also try to investigate the real cause of conversion. Secondly, it also explore the role of Christian mission to expand the Christianity and make the British Rule permanent in Benares, and also investigate the challenges of native peoples towards the objective of Christian Mission*

Keywords: Christian Mission, Anglican Church, Civilizing Mission, Romanticism, Eastern and Orient

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