

# SOURCES ON THE HISTORY OF THE SEVENTH-DAY ADVENTIST CHURCH IN THE FAR EAST AND SOUTHEAST ASIA

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## HANDOUT

### (1) Timeline

- First Seventh-day Adventist missionary to the Far East: Abram La Rue, who arrived in Hong Kong on May 3, 1888
- First missionary to Japan: William C. Grainger, arrived November 1896
- First ordained minister to work in China (Hong Kong): J. N. Anderson, Feb. 1902
- First missionaries to Mainland China: Edwin H. Wilbur & his wife, Dec. 1902
- First missionaries sent to Southeast Asia: Ralph W. Munson & wife, arrived in Padang, on Sumatra, Jan. 1900
- First missionary to the Philippines: R. A. Caldwell, arrived in 1905
- 1903-11: Southeast Asia is under the Australasian Union Conference
- 1909: the Asiatic Division Mission formed—the first division
- 1919: Asiatic Division reorganized and renamed, Far East Division (FED)
- 1931: China Division formed; rest of East & Southeast Asia remains in FED
- 1949: China Division becomes defunct
- 1950: South China Island Union Mission placed with Far East Division
- 1986: Bangladesh, Burma & Sri Lanka transferred from Southern Asia Division to FED
- 1995: FED becomes Asia-Pacific Division
- 1997: Northern Asia-Pacific Division and Southern Asia-Pacific Division separated out of the older territory of FED

### (2) Sources

#### *Secondary and other published sources*

- FED official history: *Light dawns over Asia* (1990)
- Gary Shearer (formerly librarian at PUC) bibliographies:
  - Available to download at <http://library.puc.edu/heritage/bib-index.shtml>
  - Bibliography of SDA history in Japan (to May 2001): 210 periodical articles listed
  - Bibliography of Adventism in China (up to Aug. 2008): listing of periodical articles 127 pages long

#### *Archival and other manuscript sources*

- Avondale College/SPD Archives: very little, even though SE Asia part of Australasian Union to 1911
- Union College
  - Jacob Nelson Anderson Collection (Collection 3) - [www.ucollege.edu/files/users/library/docs/C2-JNAnderson.pdf](http://www.ucollege.edu/files/users/library/docs/C2-JNAnderson.pdf)
  - Edwin H. Wilbur Family Collection (Collection 2) - [www.ucollege.edu/files/users/library/docs/C3-Wilbur.pdf](http://www.ucollege.edu/files/users/library/docs/C3-Wilbur.pdf)
- Andrews University

- Andrews/Spicer Collection: Collection 250 – [www.andrews.edu/library/car/collection/A/Andrews-Spicer-Collection-Collection250.pdf](http://www.andrews.edu/library/car/collection/A/Andrews-Spicer-Collection-Collection250.pdf)
- David Lin Papers: Collection 246 – [www.andrews.edu/library/car/collection/L/Lin-David-Papers.pdf](http://www.andrews.edu/library/car/collection/L/Lin-David-Papers.pdf)
- Harry Miller Collection: Collection 252 – [www.andrews.edu/library/car/collection/M/Miller\\_Harry.pdf](http://www.andrews.edu/library/car/collection/M/Miller_Harry.pdf)
- John P. Anderson Collection: Collection 20 – [www.andrews.edu/library/car/collection/A/Anderson,%20John%20P.%20Papers.pdf](http://www.andrews.edu/library/car/collection/A/Anderson,%20John%20P.%20Papers.pdf)
- John Oss Collection: Collection 67 – [www.andrews.edu/library/car/collection/O/Oss,%20John%20Collection.pdf](http://www.andrews.edu/library/car/collection/O/Oss,%20John%20Collection.pdf)
- W. H. Branson Collection: Collection 109 – [www.andrews.edu/library/car/collection/B/Branson,%20W%20H.pdf](http://www.andrews.edu/library/car/collection/B/Branson,%20W%20H.pdf)
- of J. L. McElhany Papers: Collection 001 – [www.andrews.edu/library/car/collection/M/McElhany%20Register.pdf](http://www.andrews.edu/library/car/collection/M/McElhany%20Register.pdf)
- Theodora Wangerin Collection: Collection 92 – [www.andrews.edu/library/car/collection/W/Wangerin-Theodora-Collection.pdf](http://www.andrews.edu/library/car/collection/W/Wangerin-Theodora-Collection.pdf)
- General Conference Archives: *Some examples...*
  - Six boxes of AWR Asia files
  - Folder of records of nursing students at Yeng-Cheng Sanitarium in China, in the 1930s and 1940s
  - Three folders of files on nursing education and care in Asia in general
  - Five folders of general files from the Asiatic Division
  - 19 boxes of Far East Division correspondence from before World War II
  - 14 boxes from the 1940s
  - 8 from the 1950s through the 1970s
  - Minutes for executive committees, annual & mid-year councils, and officers' meetings:
    - Fairly complete for Far East Division throughout its history,
    - Incomplete for the Asiatic Division and China Division
    - Entirely complete sets for NSD and SSD
  - At least another 300 linear feet of records relating to various aspects of church history across Southeast Asia as a whole which as yet we have not been able to analyse