Pastoral visit to Cameroon: encounters of fraternity and commitment

From 10 to 17 November, a remarkable pastoral visit took place to the Lasallian communities of Douala, Yaoundé and Lomié. Brothers Armin Luistro, Superior General, and Anatole Diretenadji, General Councillor, were welcomed with warmth and hospitality that deeply moved them. **This visit not only strengthened the bonds between the Brothers and Lasallian Partners, but also celebrated the ongoing commitment to the Lasallian Educational Mission in Cameroon**.

From the moment they arrived, the guests felt the generosity of the welcome given to them by the Brothers and the communities, who had prepared every moment of the meeting with care and joy. This communion was tangible during the various assemblies, which gave rise to enriching exchanges. **These moments of sharing renewed faith in a collective mission that continues to accompany and enrich the Lasallian Family**.

Commitment to the education of the Pygmies

During their immersion in the camps of the Pygmies, indigenous peoples of eastern Cameroon, Brothers Armin and Anatole were deeply surprised by the welcome they received from the members of these often-marginalised groups. **The commitment to the education of the Pygmies, embodied in the *ORA* method, was praised by the Superior General as an important innovation**. This educational model highlights the importance of placing the most marginalised at the centre of the Lasallian mission, while emphasising the fundamental role of evangelisation through education.

Furthermore, during the various discussions, the Brothers highlighted the essential role played by Lasallian Partners. **Their fidelity and dedication tirelessly support the mission**. For example, the success of institutions such as De La Salle College in Douala is largely based on the commitment of these valuable allies alongside the Brothers.

The future looks promising for young people thanks to the clear commitment and vision of the Brothers of the Central Africa District on technical and vocational education. The aspiration to develop a new campus for ETS La Salle shows a collective willingness to face current challenges. This project also represents the ambition to **create a network of Lasallian higher education institutions, contributing to the transformation of youth in Central Africa and beyond**.

Furthermore, the conversations held during this visit underlined the importance of collective discernment and inclusive decision-making. **The Superior General encouraged all members of the communities to participate actively in the decision-making process**, thereby cultivating a shared sense of responsibility for the mission that unites them.

This pastoral visit was a true symbol of communion and light for the Lasallian educational communities with which he met. It highlights **the value of a living fraternity that seeks to honour the rich traditions of the past while embodying the promises of a bright future**. Moving forward together, the Brothers and their Partners aspire to build a more just and hopeful world, a mission that resonates at the very heart of the Lasallian Family.

Brother Superior General invited all those who feel called to this mission of educating and giving voice to the marginalised to join the efforts of Lasallian communities. Together, **we have the power to bring about meaningful and lasting change in our society, for the good of all**, affirmed Brother Superior General.

* *Article written by Brother Anatole DIRETENADJI, General Councillor.*