

## **THE DIALOGUE AND HARMONY IN THE CONTEXT OF RELIGIOUS PLURALITY IN SRI LANKA**

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God is experienced in many ways. Plurality is a basic human reality and experience. It is the law of life. It only shows the richness of God's infinite capacity and human limitedness. Religions are many.

People encounter the divine in a variety of ways, and mystery of Divine has its several manifestations in history.

The Guideline for inter-Religious Dialogue articulates the manifold ways in which people perceive the Divine Mystery. It concludes saying "God has surely been present in these historical undertaking of his children" (Guidelines for Inter-religious Dialogue, 1989, no.25).

These experiences are expressed through diverse symbols. Therefore we need to articulate the Christian faith within the dialogical understanding and relationships with God. This task could easily be done not in the language of exclusivity and superiority (Symbols of power) but in a language that relates to the uniqueness of Jesus (Symbol of powerlessness). This powerlessness in Jesus is a total identification with the human situation for human nature is basically powerless because it is inclined to sin.