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Mark Hutchinson and John Wolffe
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A SHORT HISTORY OF GLOBAL EVANGELICALISM

This book offers an authoritative overview of the history of evangelicalism as a global movement, from its origins in Europe and North America in the first half of the eighteenth century to its present-day dynamic growth in Africa, Asia, Latin America and Oceania. Starting with a definition of the movement within the context of the history of Protestantism, it follows the history of evangelicalism from its early North Atlantic revivals to the great expansion in the Victorian era, through to its fracturing and reorientation in response to the stresses of modernity and total war in the late nineteenth and early twentieth centuries. It describes the movement's indigenisation and expansion towards becoming a multi-centered and diverse movement at home in the non-Western world that nevertheless retains continuity with its historic roots. The book concludes with an analysis of contemporary worldwide evangelicalism's current trajectory and the movement's adaptability to changing historical and geographical circumstances.

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A Short History of Global Evangelicalism

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The Open University



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Preface

This book is the fruit of twenty years of friendship and collaboration in the study of global evangelicalism. As young scholars in the early 1990s, we came together in an informal network with others from all five continents who shared a common awareness of the need to see the contemporary upsurge of evangelicalism both in a worldwide comparative perspective and in a long-term historical one. The resulting conversations, especially at conferences hosted by the Institute for the Study of American Evangelicals at Wheaton College in Illinois and the Centre for the Study of Australian Christianity (CSAC) in Sydney, proved to be exhilarating and formative ones. They bore immediate fruit in the publication by CSAC in 1998 of *A Global Faith: Essays on Evangelicalism and Globalization*.

Since then, with the manifold distractions of busy professional and personal lives, we have had ample cause to ponder the wisdom of Matthew Arnold's lines:

And long the way appears, which seem'd so short
 To the less practised eye of sanguine youth . . .¹

Nevertheless, the field has advanced substantially in the intervening years, through much distinguished individual work and two major collaborations funded by the Pew Charitable Trusts: Currents in World Christianity (which incorporated the Evangelicalism and Globalization project) and Evangelical Christianity and Democracy in the Global South. It therefore seemed timely in 2008 when Donald Lewis of Regent College in Vancouver and Andy Beck of Cambridge University Press suggested that we jointly undertake the synthesis offered in the present book.

The endeavour to write a 'short' history of such a historically and geographically wide-ranging movement is obviously in tension with any prospect of achieving comprehensive coverage. We bring to the task our particular perspectives and expertise as historians of nineteenth-century Anglo-American evangelicalism (Wolffe) and evangelical and pentecostal networks in the twentieth-century global south (Hutchinson). Our selection of material should be judged in the context of our central aim of tracing the remarkable development of a religious movement with diverse origins in eighteenth-century central Europe, Britain and New England through numerous subsequent mutations to become a major force

¹ 'Thyrsis', lines 141–2.

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in the global south in the early twenty-first century. It is inevitable that along the way we have had to bypass or only pause briefly to discuss many issues and topics that have received much more extensive attention from scholars who have studied particular national, denominational and local manifestations of evangelicalism. We hope, however, that our footnotes will suggest useful initial lines of enquiry for those who want to pursue such cases in more depth. We are also aware that Edith Blumhofer is currently writing a companion *Short History of Pentecostalism* and, although our narrative naturally overlaps with hers at various points, we have avoided detailed discussion of movements, notably in Latin America, that more properly belong in her volume.

The same information and communication technologies that have had a profound impact on evangelicalism over the last quarter of a century have greatly facilitated our long-distance collaboration between Britain and Australia. We met once in 2008 to plan the book, but have otherwise communicated by e-mail and Skype. We apportioned the initial drafting of the text between us, but have worked closely together on subsequent revision, and take joint responsibility for the result.

Among the numerous debts we have incurred we would first pay tribute to three inspirational scholars of evangelicalism who were fellow-travellers in the earlier stages of this journey but are now sadly deceased: Ogbu Kalu, George Rawlyk and W.R. (Reg) Ward, pioneers, respectively, of the study of African, Canadian and European evangelicalism. We also acknowledge with gratitude the encouragement, friendship and advice of David Bebbington, Edith Blumhofer, Stewart J. Brown, John Coffey, Larry Eskridge, Paul Freston, David Hempton, Bruce Hindmarsh, J.W. (Hoffie) Hofmeyr, Timothy Larsen, Donald Lewis, Mark Noll, R.V. (Dick) Pierard, Stuart Piggin, Mark Smith, Brian Stanley, Geoffrey R. Treloar, Andrew Walls and John Walsh. Our sometimes challenging bibliographical demands have been ably met by the Open University Library, the British Library, the Library of Congress, the archives of the Billy Graham Center, and the J.R. Flower and Alphacrucis Pentecostal Heritage Centres. Last, but by no means least, we enormously appreciate the readiness of Helen and David, Alfonsa, James, Sonia and Andrew to support and divert respective husbands and fathers amidst the pressures of book authorship.

Milton Keynes, England, and Sydney, Australia
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Abbreviations

ADEB	B. Dickey (ed.), <i>Australian Dictionary of Evangelical Biography</i> , Adelaide: Flinders University/ EHA, 1999, online at http://webjournals.alphacrucis.edu.au/journals/adeb/
AICC	African Institute of Corporate Citizenship
AKP	Justice and Development Party
AMP	Australian Mutual Provident Society
BAAC	Business Action Against Corruption
BGEA	Billy Graham Evangelistic Association
BL	British Library
C&MA	Christian and Missionary Alliance
CCM	Christian Contemporary Music
CESA	Church of England in South Africa
CICCU	Cambridge Intercollegiate Christian Union
CIM	China Inland Mission
CMF	Christian Medical Fellowship
CMS	Church Missionary Society
CWLF	Christian World Liberation Front
DEB	Donald M. Lewis, ed., <i>The Blackwell Dictionary of Evangelical Biography</i> , 2 vols, Oxford: Blackwell, 1995
GAFCON	Global Anglican Futures Conference
HCJB Radio	<i>Hoy Cristo Jesus Benedice</i> Radio
ICFG	International Church of the Foursquare Gospel
ICMDA	International Christian Medical and Dental Association
IVCF	InterVarsity Christian Fellowship
IVF	InterVarsity Fellowship, when without country ascription, refers to IVF (UK)
IVP	InterVarsity Press
JHU	Jathika Hela Urumaya Party
KICC	Kingsway International Christian Centre
LAM	Latin American Mission
LES	League of Evangelical Students
MMD	Movement for Multiparty Democracy
mss	manuscript
NGO	non-governmental organisation
OAPEC	Organization of Arab Petroleum Exporting Countries
ODNB	<i>Oxford Dictionary of National Biography</i> , Oxford University Press, 2004; online at http://www.oxforddnb.com .

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ABBREVIATIONS

OICCU	Oxford Intercollegiate Christian Union
PF	Prison Fellowship
PNG	Papua New Guinea
ROC	Russian Orthodox Church
SIM	Sudan Interior Mission
SSEC	South Seas Evangelical Church
SVM	Student Volunteer Movement
TEAR Fund	The Evangelical Alliance Relief Fund
tss	typescript in the possession of the authors
USA	United States of America
WATC	World Action Team for Christ
WBU	Wesley Bible Union
WCD	<i>World Christian Database</i>
WCE	<i>World Christian Encyclopedia</i>
WEC	World Evangelization Crusade
YFC	Youth for Christ
YMCA	Young Men's Christian Association