

Armando Lampe, Independent researcher

*John was Their Name: About the Conversion of Two Maroons to the Moravian Church in the Slave Society of Suriname*

The paper analyzes exceptional documents we have about the conversion of two maroons in the Surinamese jungle to the Moravian Church, one in the eighteenth century and the other in the nineteenth century. Both of their names were John (Johannes). What does it mean that conversion to Christianity took place in the Caribbean? The paper will analyze their stories by stressing the continuities between the old and new beliefs. It is indeed more usual to study in the conversion process what has changed, but this paper prefers to study what did not change. The paper approaches Christianity from a post-colonial and post-missionary perspective, analyzing the case of the Caribbean, the first region ever to be colonized by Western Europe.

Curriculum Vitae - Armando Lampe

Born in Aruba (Dutch Caribbean) on January 13, 1958.

Master's degree in Theology (cum laude) at the Radboud University of Nijmegen (The Netherlands).

Master's degree in Sociology (cum laude) at the Universidad Iberoamericana in Mexico City.

Doctorate Program in Latin American Studies at the Faculty of Social and Political Sciences at the National University of Mexico.

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One of his numerous publications: *Mission or Submission? Moravian and Catholic Missionaries in the Dutch Caribbean During the 19 th Century*, Vandenhoeck & Ruprecht, Goettingen 2001.