

Summary

The title of this thesis is “The Contribution of Schweitzer’s Thoughts in Humanitarian and Development Aid”. The main aim of the thesis is to present the contribution of Schweitzer’s ideas that are valuable for the area of humanitarian and development aid. The concrete examples of aid in Ethiopia provided by humanitarian organizations today show the practical impact of Schweitzer’s ideas.

The thesis is divided into four chapters. The first chapter describes a life and work of Albert Schweitzer. In the second chapter, attention is drawn to his ethical concept of reverence for life. The following chapter entitled Humanitarian and Development Aid in Ethiopia is divided into three smaller chapters. In the first one, the terms of humanitarian and development aid are defined. In the second one, the country of Ethiopia is described and its living conditions. This chapter is followed by the last section which presents the humanitarian organizations operating in Ethiopia and their work there. The biggest organization is People in Need, the next two are organizations with spiritual impact, the Endowment Fund Nehemia and the Exodus Association. I have chosen the aspect of spiritual impact because Albert Schweitzer was a Christian and his belief influenced his decision-making and work throughout his life. The final, fourth chapter formulates the contribution of Schweitzer’s ideas in humanitarian and development aid presented on examples of current aid in Ethiopia.

Keywords

Albert Schweitzer, ethics, reverence for life, humanitarian aid, development cooperation, Ethiopia, People in Need

