

NAIROBI EVANGELICAL GRADUATE  
SCHOOL OF THEOLOGY

THE ROLE OF MIRACLES IN THE PROCESS OF  
CONVERSION OF MUSLIMS FROM ISLAM TO  
CHRISTIANITY: A Case Study in Voi

BY  
EVANS KHISA MUTAMBA

A Thesis Submitted to the Graduate School in Partial  
Fulfillment of the Requirements for the Degree of Master  
of Arts in Missions

JULY 2007

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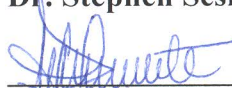
**Approved:**

**Supervisor:**



**Dr. Stephen Sesi**

**Second Reader:**



**Dr. Henry Mutua**

**External Reader:**



**Dr. Samuel Linge**

**July 2007**

## STUDENT'S D ECLARATION

### THE ROLE OF MIRACLES IN THE PROCESS OF CONVERSION OF MUSLIMS FROM ISLAM TO CHRISTINANITY: A CASE STUDY IN VOI

I declare that this is my original work and has not been submitted to any other College or University for academic credit.

The views presented herein are not necessarily those of the Nairobi Evangelical Graduate School of Theology or the Examiners.

Signed  \_\_\_\_\_  
Evans Mutamba

July 2007

## ABSTRACT

This research stemmed up from the need of evangelizing Muslims. Muslims are known to be very resistant to the Gospel and hence the need to identify many possible ways in which Christians can lead Muslims to conversion is necessary. Folk Muslims are the majority of Muslims in Voi; these consult shamans, witchdoctors, and other groups of people who can provide solution for the problems that they do encounter in their day-to-day life.

In this study the researcher set out to seek to understand the role of miracles in the process of Muslim conversion in Voi town and its environs. As the research revealed, miracles contributes more than thirty seven percent towards conversion of Muslims. Most Muslims who converted had experienced miracles of healings and deliverance from demonic oppression. Also this research revealed that many Muslims experienced miracles that led to their conversion while in their own homes.

From this research, it was discovered that not all Muslims who experienced miracles converted to Christianity. This being the case, there is need to combine all methods of evangelism, which include witnessing, relationship and good conduct. Since this study established that Muslims have a good attitude towards miracles performed by Christians, Christians should seek more opportunities of visiting Muslims in their homes especially those who are in need to pray for them. However, reaching Muslims with the gospel and converting them to Christianity should be followed up with good discipleship so that there can be firm and established Christians who have converted from Islam.

## **TO**

I dedicate this work to all those with passion for Muslims whose desire is to win as many as possible to the kingdom of God. May you continuously strive to minister to the Muslims who are like sheep without a shepherd; they are bruised and crushed by demonic powers. Let the anointing of God rest on you to proclaim the freedom for the captives.

## ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

First and foremost I wish to express my sincere and inner most gratitude to our Heavenly Father who has really been gracious to me, encouraging and providing for me and my family throughout my studies and during the period of this research work. I have seen Him being faithful in every way and I give all the glory to Him.

Secondly, I sincerely appreciate the support I have enjoyed from my wife Christine who has been a great source of encouragement to me. She has tirelessly corrected my work and given me all the support I ever need to complete my work. I would like equally to appreciate my child Favour who gave me ample time to do my work.

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Thanks to my parents and my parents' in-law, your prayers and financial support has been great. Last but not least, my brother and friend Albert your contribution in my life and family only eternity will tell. Special thanks to pastor Mamuli and Mbamalu for the spiritual and moral nourishment, May the Almighty God, the only wise God richly bless you all.

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## **CHAPTER ONE**

### **INTRODUCTION**

Christians have put in a lot of efforts to ensure that the Gospel has been preached to every person so that they have the opportunity of coming to the saving knowledge of the Lord Jesus Christ. The Lord left the commission to the disciples to preach this good news to the whole world before the end comes. Before Jesus commissioned his disciple he first promised them power and authority against the devil, evil spirits and their works; and in Islam the great need is protection against evil spirits and demons.

Many Muslims in Africa are not practicing what is known as orthodox Islam but rather folk Islam. This type of Islam is a mixture of Islam and African traditional practices. Many Africans have embraced this kind of Islam because it seeks to address their felt needs. For that reason the Muslims who follow folk Islam seek the witch doctors, sorcerers, mediums, diviners, fortunetellers and others of that kind. They do all these for purpose of finding solutions for their problems, seeking protection against evil eyes, and other felt needs of these people.

Since folk Muslims go to diviners and other spirits to seek help for their felt needs I strongly believe that the God of Christians is more relevant to them, in terms of ministering to their felt needs. Jesus knew in advance that people have got needs, which must be attended to. That is why when He began to preach the Gospel, He declared the spirit of the Lord is upon me; he has anointed me to preach good news, set captives free, and declare the acceptable year of the lord. Jesus came to minister to

the felt needs of humanity, of which the church is expected to continue as long as Jesus has not come back. Miracles of Jesus would be found to be very useful in offering help to this community.

#### Problem Statement

In this study the researcher has investigated the role of miracles in the process of conversion of Muslims from Islam to Christianity in Voi town and its environs.

#### Research Questions

1. What are the Muslims' perceptions of miracles?
2. To what extent have miracles contributed to conversion of Muslims to Christianity?
3. In what ways do Muslims respond to miracles when performed by Christians to intervene in their lives or situations?

#### The Purpose of Study

The purpose of this study was to establish the role and effectiveness of miracles in evangelizing Muslims. Once this is established then Christians will be challenged to pray for God's manifestation of miracles for the purpose of winning Muslims to Christ.

#### Significance

Given that this study was set to seek to understand the role of miracles in evangelizing Muslim in Voi, it is of significance to:

1. My missionary activities to Muslims in the East Africa coastal region, and even beyond.
2. This study will also be of significance to pastors in Voi who are endeavoring to Evangelize to Muslims in the region.
3. This study is also to be of significance to those who have a heart for mission to

