



ATA

The Official Newsletter of Asia Theological Association

news online

THE ATA'S ANNUAL REPORT FORM IS NOW AVAILABLE ONLINE!

By Dr. Rick Weymouth

ATA Associate Secretary for Accreditation

As most ATA schools have ended their Academic Year, it is time to submit your Annual Report to the ATA. However, from now onwards, please do this via the new Annual Report online form, accessible on the ATA's revamped website: <https://ATAasia.com> – first open the Membership menu, then click on Annual Report online form to get started. More details on this are given in the pages that follow.



Welcome To Asia Theological Association

Connecting theological institutions across Asia for excellence in ministry education.

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What is the story behind the Annual Report form moving online?

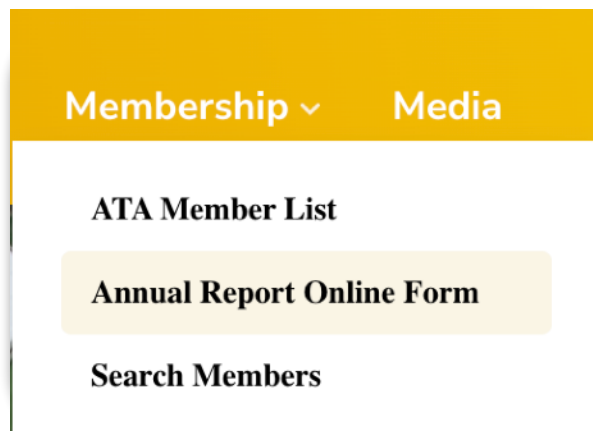
Dr. Theresa Lua, General Secretary of the ATA, reports that for many years now, the ATA has struggled to respond to questions and requests concerning the number of students in our institutions, total numbers of graduates, program numbers, student numbers per program, faculty qualifications and their specializations. External organizations such as ICETE, regional training partners, and funding agencies all want to know what is happening in Asian theological education. They (and we, the ATA) need hard data on the ATA member institutions and schools. This data is needed to help in making decisions, supporting institutions and their programs, understanding existing training provisions and identifying new training needs across Asia.

Dr. Lua notes it has recently been said, "Church growth is like a bullet train but theological education is like a bicycle" - struggling to keep up. We really need to know how many pastors and leaders we are training each year. We also need statistics that will help us to know how many pastors in the region do not yet have adequate training. Research being done in Asia needs to be supported by solid statistical information. Knowing the number of graduates, particular programs, number of students, faculty, especially in terms of their qualifications and specializations will help the ATA to identify faculty development training needs, including what further collaborations are needed to support the task of theological education in Asia.

Dr. Lua adds "I am very glad that we are now able to have a digital Annual Report form, supported by data gathering and analytics... We hope that our member institutions will really help us in gathering this data."

The Annual Report is required for all ATA member institutions

Dr. Rick Weymouth, Associate Secretary for Accreditation, has been following the development of the Annual Report online form, and a brand-new Online Accreditation system (ATA OA), which is nearly but not yet available. (More on this new OA system in the next ATA News.) However, the Annual Report online form is now live and ready to receive member institution's Annual Reports. Dr. Weymouth notes that submitting the Annual Report form is compulsory for member institutions. *Just as non-payment of annual fees can result in losing both ATA membership and accreditation, so also can non-submission of the Annual Report form.* It is one of the key responsibilities of institutions to the ATA, alongside fulfillment



of the accreditation tasks set by Visiting Evaluation Teams every five years in the ATA's Accreditation cycle.

Dr. Weymouth says the Annual Report form also allows member schools to provide updates on their compliance with ATA recommendations and notations and to advise of any significant personnel, institutional or program changes or developments. "This keeps the ATA in touch with what is happening in your school and helps us to see the progress you are making in improving your ability to serve your students better, year by year, and this helps us to help your school better, too." With the provision of data collection and analytics available to us through the new online form, he adds, "the ATA will also be able to serve the whole region and specific Asian countries better."

Getting Started: Create an Institutional Account for the online Annual Report

Once again, go to the ATA website, <https://ATAasia.com> – then first open the Membership menu, and click on Annual Report online form to get started. Then click on either the "Get Started" (first-time users) or "Member Login" (returning users) button.

The Get Started option allows you to register your institution on the ATA website for the Annual Report form. Instructions are provided for subsequent logins and for completing the Annual Report form. Information can be saved as you work, so that users can log off, return and login again later, and complete the form over several days or a week before finally submitting it.

Get Started

Member Login

Institution Registration

Name of the College

Name of the person in-charge

Country

Select Country

Official Email ID

Register Institution

Already have an account? [Login](#)

Complete Your Registration

Dear

Thank you for registering for our system.

Important Instructions:

1. Please use this same email ID for login
2. Please have a common password for other internal departments to access the system
3. Save this login URL on your browser: <https://portal.ataasia.online/login>
4. You can save information as you work and do a final submit when completed
5. If some fields are not applicable, leave it as blank
6. Check your email for communication at every stage

Activate Your Account

Thanks,
ATA Asia

 **Save Draft**

Save Draft lets you return later (a fresh login may be needed).

Filling the data fields.

The online Annual Report is designed to allow for various options to be selected quickly as institutional leaders complete the form, as shown in the screenshots here for

Question #5. Program Summary for the Recent Academic Year, and for Question #8. Educators in Campus-Based Programs.

However, some typing (or copy and pasting) will also be needed.

5. Program Summary for the Recent Academic Year
Please list all programs offered in your institution. (If a Compliance Report was required for any program, please attach a copy of it and the VET Report.)

Program / Degree Name	Accreditation Status			For The Recent Academic Year		
	ATA accredited?	Accreditation granted		Number of Active Students (both FT and PT)	Number of new Graduates	
		First year	Most recent renewal			Current status
Select Category Select Program	Select	YYYY	YYYY	Select	125	43

+ Add Row

Select Category: Undergraduate
 Select Program: Bachelor of Theology
 ATA accredited?: Yes
 Accreditation granted: First year 2020, Most recent renewal 2025
 Current status: Full

8. Educators in Campus-Based Programs
Please give the following information for each educator (use abbreviations where possible):

Educator personal details					Teaching and other responsibilities			
Full Name	Highest Degree	M/F	Nationality	Which award programs?	Main area of specialization	Courses taught during past year	FT/PT?	Other admin duties
Full Name	Select	Sei	Select national	List	Select specialization	How many?	Sele	List

+ Add Row

In subsequent years, some of this data may be pre-filled for the next Annual Report but such data will require both careful checking and updating.

Upon submission, a PDF copy of the submitted Annual Report may be downloaded for your own records. However, from 2025 onwards, all Annual Reports submitted online, year by year, will also be accessible through the ATA digital portal.

✓ **Submit Report**
Click **Submit Report** when ready.
You'll receive confirmation and can download a PDF.

Help needed? Any suggestions?

If you need help with the Annual Report form, please email either Info@ATAasia.com or ITsupport@ATAasia.com with your name, institution name, institutional email address, and a social messaging contact, with a brief description of the problem faced, and we will get back to you. Likewise, your suggestions for improving the online Annual Report are most welcome!



Redefining Holistic Formation for Digital Natives: ATA India's AGM and Theological Consultation 2025

By Peter Francis, Digital Media Secretary, ATA India

ATA India held its Annual General Meeting (AGM) and Theological Consultation 2025 from September 9-12, 2025, at the Four Points by Sheraton, Mahabalipuram, Tamil Nadu. The serene coastal ambience and world-class facilities of the venue provided a refreshing and inspiring environment that enhanced the spirit of fellowship, learning, and reflection throughout the gathering.

Building on a Continuing Conversation

The 2024 consultation focused on “Theological Education for Digital Natives”, examining how evolving learning habits challenge traditional pedagogies. This year, ATA India built upon those vital discussions, moving from understanding how digital natives learn to exploring how they can be formed - spiritually, morally, and ministerially.

Hence, the theme for the Theological Consultation 2025 was: “Theological Education Meets Technology: Redefining Holistic Formation for Digital Natives.”

This theme invited participants to reflect deeply on the integration of technology into theological formation. How might digital tools be used meaningfully to nurture character, spirituality, and ministerial competence in a tech-saturated age? How can educators disciple and mentor future leaders without compromising the theological depth and integrity of their calling?

Engagement and Participation

Over 140 participants from theological institutions across India actively engaged in the four-day gathering. The Consultation featured 5 plenary speakers, 6 panellists, 13 breakout session presenters, and 3 devotional speakers, representing a diverse and dynamic exchange of ideas.

Highlights from the Sessions

Dr. Marvin spoke on
“Character and Virtue in
Theological Education.”

Using Mentimeter, he kept the audience thoughtfully engaged through live polls and reflective questions, prompting participants to reimagine how virtue can be intentionally cultivated in theological learning.



Dr. Buno Iralu addressed
“Who Digital Natives
Are?”, unpacking their unique
challenges and needs.
She emphasised the urgent
need for new educational
infrastructures that adapt to
changing modes of learning
and digital realities.



Dr. Bennet Lawrence explored “Digital Natives and Theological Education”, challenging educators to innovate pedagogical methodologies that ensure effective learning and spiritual depth among digital-native students.

Pastor Freddy Joseph offered an inspiring reflection from his ministry experience, emphasising that discipleship is not merely knowledge transfer but life transfer. Drawing from the models of Jesus and Paul, he urged institutions to mentor students intentionally, combining academic excellence with spiritual formation and field exposure.



Dr. John Daniel presented on “Integrating Theological Education with Spiritual Formation in Residential Seminaries.” Addressing existing challenges, he reminded participants that the call is not to lower standards, but to align scholarship with mission, urging theological educators to produce leaders who are skilled, spiritually mature, resilient, and Christlike.

The Panel Discussions had six panellists representing diverse theological institutions who shared how their campuses foster formation among students. Their reflections on guiding digital natives through a thoughtful blend of technology and embodied practices demonstrated that deep, authentic formation is indeed possible, when educators are intentional and relational.

The 13 breakout sessions provided space for participants to delve into specific topics of interest. The theologians presenting papers stimulated rich dialogue and mutual learning, contributing to ATA India's ongoing vision for contextually relevant, transformative theological education.

Beyond the sessions, participants enjoyed moments of fellowship and cultural enrichment through a Heritage Tour in Mahabalipuram. Exploring the historic temples and rock monuments offered both relaxation and a time of fellowship among the participants.

Conclusion

As ATA India continues its commitment to shaping the future of theological education, the 2025 Consultation reaffirmed that technology, when used with wisdom and purpose, can serve as a powerful ally in forming Christlike leaders. Rather than replacing personal mentoring and spiritual depth, technology can enhance access, creativity, and engagement in theological learning. The gathering reminded all that the heart of theological education remains the same: to raise leaders who think deeply, live faithfully, and serve effectively in today's digital world.



***MEDIUM
CHANGES,
MISSION
REMAINS!***



ATA Korea holds IT General Assembly in Hapdong Theological Graduate University

Last October 17, 2025, ATA-Korea held its General Assembly at the Hapdong Theological Graduate University located at Suwon, Gyeonggi Province, South Korea. In that gathering, plans and recommendations were made, and new officers were put in place, details of which follow below.

New leaders for the said Regional Office were elected into office and they are as follows:

- Dr. Kyung-Jik Lee - Chairperson
- Dr. Kwang-jin Jang - Regional Secretary
- Dr. Sang-Hyeok An - Associate Regional Secretary

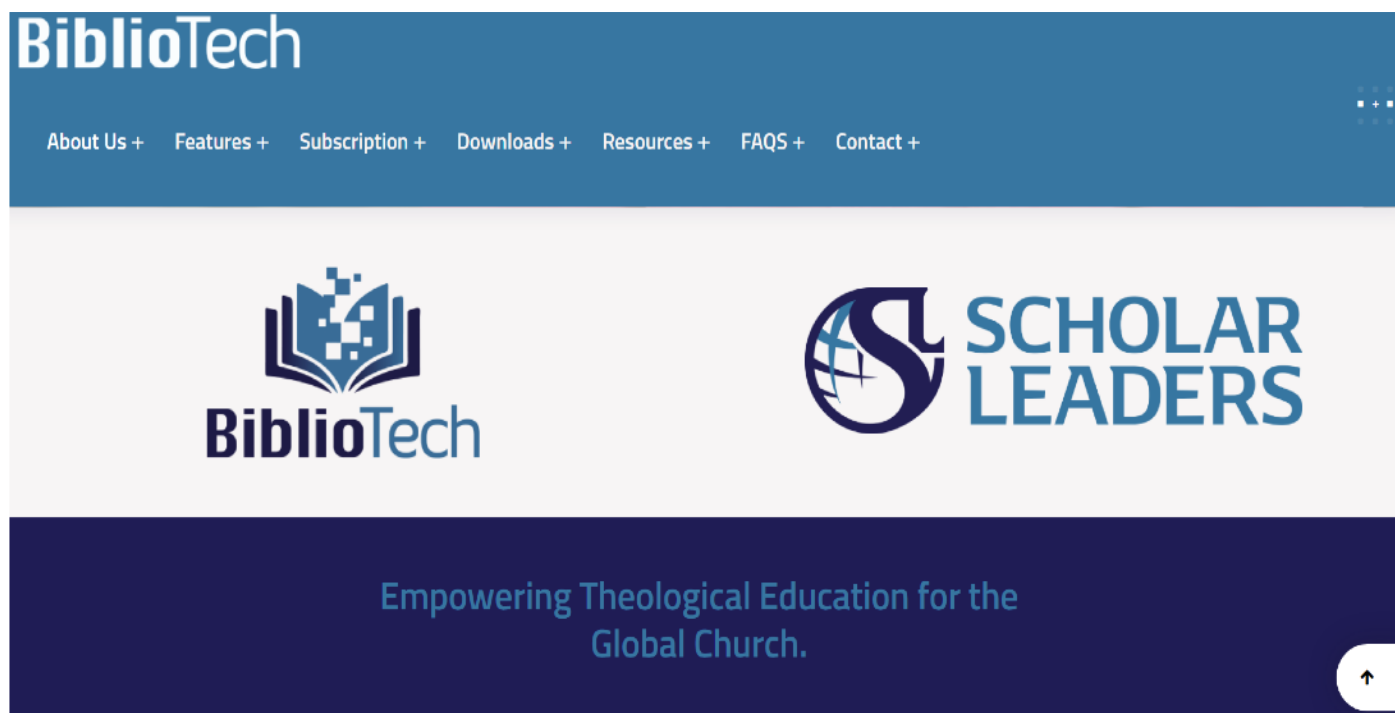
Besides being Regional Secretary, Dr. Kwang-Jin Jang will also be serving as a member of the Commission on Accreditation and Educational Development (CAED), taking the place of Dr. Sang-Hyeok An.

Additionally, on the agenda also was the planned Bi-Annual Conference by ATA-Korea and ATA-Japan— and discussions on topics for presentations were undertaken then. The conference will be held on August 18–20, 2026 at the Hapdong Theological Graduate University.

We congratulate ATA-Korea on its successful General Assembly and we wish all its news leaders well as they plan forward and serve our member institutions there.



Introducing Bibliotech: A Revitalized Digital Library



Quality resources are critical in training leaders to fulfill God's mission. Yet anyone who has undertaken that task knows what a humongous challenge it is to get hold of these resources. Financial and language constraints and limitations to access are just some of the obstacles for both educators and students alike. The problem was exacerbated by the COVID pandemic that brought schools to shift to either fully online or hybrid modes of delivery.

To help provide a solution to the pressing problem, Scholar Leaders has developed Bibliotech. Formally launched last September 24, 2025, Bibliotech is a digital library that offers carefully curated, high quality academic resources. In collaboration with leading publishers, Majority World theological institutions can subscribe and have access to an entire library for the price of one book per annum! Each subscription allows an unlimited number of book downloads for each student, and these books can be used offline for two weeks per reader. And yes, students can use the same resource simultaneously!

But there's more to Bibliotech than simply being a library within reach... it likewise has language features that allow access in multiple languages, regardless of the language it was published in! Furthermore, the interface of Bibliotech is designed with Majority World institutions in mind.

If your school is interested in subscribing to Bibliotech, find out more through this link: <https://bibliotechsl.com/subscription/>



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