

# Egypt-Sudan Province

## Comboni College of Science and Technology

In 1929 the MCCJ founded Comboni College Khartoum (CCK). Fr. Agostino Baroni and his successors in the fifties planned the extension of this educational proposal to university studies in line with Comboni's Plan. Political events prevented this step in 1964.



In 1982 the Sudanese president, Mohammed Jaafar Nimeiry asked the Holy See for the opening of a Polytechnic University of the Church. The Sacred Congregation for Catholic Education set up a Committee that described the request in these terms: "At no time in the past, [...] has an occasion presented itself with the political will to proceed. We also believe that such an institution would help strengthen the position of the Church with the Catholic minority in Sudan [...] We believe that this could well be as important a step as the opening in China. This is a rare opening in the Moslem world". Saint John Paul II insisted on several occasions on the importance of this project



In 2001 a group of Muslim Sudanese parents of students at CCK got the approval from the Ministry of Higher Education and Scientific Research for the Comboni College of Science and Technology (CCST).

Approved in	UNIVERSITY PROGRAMS	Students
2001	BSc Computer Science	27
2004	+ Dipl. Information Technology	141
2008	+ BA in Educational and Religious Studies	315
2011	+ BA in English Language and Literature	658
2015		790

From 2004 new programs have been approved by the Ministry: Information Technology (with two branches, Management and Accounting); BA in English Language and Literature and a BA in Educational and Religious Studies. The last program, which trains teachers of Christian religion, is the result of an agreement with the Archdiocese of Khartoum and the Diocese of El Obeid and meant the transformation of CCST into a partnership between the MCCJ and the local Church.



Today just one program is left for CCST to become a full university. Besides the university programs, CCST offers courses in English, Italian, Spanish and Arabic languages, Computer knowledge and Palliative Care for Health Professionals. It represents for the church a qualified platform of encounter and dialogue in a Islamic country where Catholics are just 0.5% of the population. CCST is also the only university institution in the country where Christian youngsters study Christian religion instead of the Islamic one.

UNIVERSITY STUDENTS in 2015				
Sudanese	South Sud.	Eri-trean/Ethiopian	Christians	Muslims.
356	300	134	514	276
45%	38%	17%	65%	35%

