

Health and Development at Tokombéré in the Far-North of Cameroon.

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The catholic missions were officially authorized by the colonial administration to go to the Far-north of Cameroon in 1946. The presence of a hospital in the area of Tokombéré constituted the beginning of a project called “Centre de Promotion Humaine”. This new name enables us to ask the questions : what process led the actors and institutions to adapt the challenges of hospital centered health services to the social environment? Moreover, how does this change affect the conception of health in relation with development? This paper intends to put in evidence the link and the interconnection between health and development in a catholic hospital located in Tokombéré. The work is organized into three main parts: from healing in the name of God and development, the social profile of the main promoter of the hospital, and the organization of hospital which gives different activities as health promotion and committees of development.

The methodology of the study is based on archives research at the national archives of Cameroon, the Centre des Archives d'Outre-Mer andarchives of Institut de medicine Tropicale du Service de Santé des Armées. Moreover, interviews were made with the caregivers and the populations who are recipients of various health services provided by the catholic hospital between 2005 and 2007.