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## Schoentube's "Gospel in transformation: Rethinking of Goessner's insights, Lutheran heritage in relation to mission" (book review)

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# Book Reviews

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*Schoentube, U. (2017) Gospel in transformation: Rethinking of Goessner's insights, Lutheran heritage in relation to mission.* Uhrichsville, New Deli: Christian World Imprints and Ranchi: Gossner Theological College. 171 pp. \$ 27.00. ISBN 9789351481249

The Rev. Dr. Ulrich Schoentube (Evangelical Church in Germany) was the director of the Goessner Mission Society from 2007 to 2014. The book is largely about the Goessner mission with an emphasis on Adivasi (Jharkhand area of India) in the 19th century. One part of the book is Johannes Goessner's view of what a mission is. Another section is adopting the message using pictures, the order of a service, and music to the culture; explaining this through Luther's lens. The author also discusses the social injustice that befell the Adivasi and how the German missionaries, and other missionary groups, dealt with this issue. Another section is a juxtaposing of two radical figures; Thomas Muentzer, a contemporary of Luther, and Birsa Munda, an Indian religious figure of the 19th century. The last section is about religious tolerance and codes of conduct for missionaries in the 20th and 21st century for missionaries. There are notes and a bibliography, many of the references are German sources. This book is easy to read for all levels of academia. The Church History Association of India recommends this book as a good resource for courses about the India mission. I would recommend it for a course on culture and missions since this book is about culture and missionaries from Luther's perspective. This book must be bought directly through the publisher.

## Reviewer

Gary R. Averill