Yannick Fer

Le protestantisme polynésien, de l'Église locale aux réseaux évangéliques

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The spectacular growth of Evangelical Protestantism and its "network culture" in Polynesia relies on regional migrations and young generations who aspire to disentangle personal faith and obedience to church authority. And yet, this growth can't be simply reduced to a trend of globalisation, breaking away from the deep cultural roots of historical Protestantism in the region. The analysis of regional networks linked with the charismatic international organisation Youth With a Mission thus shows how some Evangelical movements re-appropriate, in their own terms, the Polynesian missionary history and local cultural identities; and how they finally interpret them in the frame of a global theology of spiritual warfare combining a "folklorisation" of culture and a de-territorialisation of personal membership with the exaltation of the "natural" bonds between individuals and territories.