The archives is part of Mission 21 and does not receive any government or other financial support. The long-term preservation of the archives can only be guaranteed by regular donations.

For more information on the archives, see www.bmarchives.org

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Of course, individual donations for the archives are also very welcome!

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Endorsement: «Archivspende» (donation for the archives)

Mission 21 lights beacons of hope in 20 countries in Africa, Asia, and Latin America. It does so based on the gospel and in collaboration with 70 partner organisations. In approximately 100 projects, it focuses on the reduction of poverty, education, health and healthcare, the promotion of peace, and the advancement of women. www.mission-21.org

Friends of the Archives

Give the Past a Future – become a Member of our Patronage Club

200 Years of World History

Our archives document more than 200 years of world history comprehensively and in many facets. 2000 linear metres of files, 60’000 historical photographs from before 1950 as well as over 7000 maps and plans testify to the mission’s activities all over the world. Most of the archival material comes from the Basel Mission, which was founded in 1815. Their mission fields were mainly Ghana, Cameroon, southern India, southern China and Kalimantan (Indonesia).

An interdisciplinary Research Archive for everyone

Researchers from all over the world visit the archives in Basel and work with our documents. They come from a wide range of disciplines such as history, ethnology, anthropology, religious studies and linguistics. People and organizations from the former mission areas contact us to learn more about their own history. The photo collection of the Basel Mission includes unique images from all over the world from the beginnings of photography up to around 1950.
Conservation urgently required
The valuable archive holdings are threatened by decay due to ageing. In order to
preserve them further, the documents must be packed in acid-free folders and
boxes. This is time-consuming and very costly. The ageing process in photo-
graphs can only be slowed down in limited ways. The digitization of the images is
essential in order to preserve these contemporary testimonies for the future.

The restoration of damaged works is so expensive that it can only be carried out
with own resources in the most urgent cases.

Digitization: Preserving the original and facilitating Access
In the field of images (photographs, maps and plans), large digitization projects
have already been carried out since the 1990s thanks to external support.

The digitization of documents is also indispensable in the long term and can only
be achieved through donations and contributions from charitable foundations.

Digitization means:
- Protection of the valuable originals
- Preservation of photographic material
- Facilitated access for international research
- Enabling access for people from all over the world and especially from the for-
mer mission areas for whom a visit to the archives in Basel is not possible.

Become a Member of the Patronage Club!
With your contribution you help to preserve the unique archival material for posterity.

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the former mission areas.

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- As a member you will receive a newsletter with news from the archives once a year.
- As a premium member we invite you to an event in the archives once a year. On
this occasion we will show you exclusive treasures from the archives’ holdings.
- If you are paying an annual donation of CHF 1,000 or more, you can request an
exclusive guided tour once a year.

Help to preserve the historical heritage of our unique archives!
Thank you very much!