



## Ontario Conference News

Electronic Newsletter of the Ontario Conference of Seventh-day Adventists®

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January 22, 2010

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### NEWS

#### [Conference Prayer Meeting for Haiti Featured on CTV News](#)

*January 22, 2010, Oshawa, Ontario..OCN*

On its Toronto late news Saturday night, January 16, CTV featured the prayer service for Haiti at Willowdale Seventh-day Adventist Church in Toronto.

Organiser, Pastor Eustace Williams, Prayer Ministries director for the Ontario Conference of Seventh-day Adventists, was both pleased and surprised to see the CTV crew with their cameras turn up for the prayer service.

"When we made the call for prayer," said Williams, "we were not thinking of any media coverage. Our entire focus was to supplicate God in prayer on behalf of our fellow human beings who are suffering in Haiti."

A CTV crew also turned up at the prayer service in Ottawa that was hosted by conference president, Pastor Mansfield Edwards.

Both prayer services were attended by church members and visitors who felt the urge to join in corporate prayer. In Ottawa, the service was called in order to pray for Haitians from the community who were anxious for news of their loved ones or were

already grieving over the loss of family, friends or simply their fellow Haitians.

The Ontario Conference of Seventh-day Adventists has also issued an invitation for church members to take an **offering in Sabbath services on January 23**. The money collected will be used to specifically help the church in Haiti. This is in addition to the work that ADRA Canada and its partners are doing among the general population.

### **Annual Workers' Meeting Inspire Ontario Pastors, Bible Workers and Teachers**

*January 20, 2010, Oshawa, Ontario...OCN*

"Only those who obey have a right to pray," quoted Dan Augsburger, in his first of six presentations to pastors, Bible instructors and teachers during Ontario Conference's annual workers' meetings at Kingsway College on January 18-20.

Dan Augsburger, a full-time presenter of prayer seminars and an adjunct professor at the Adventist Theological Seminary, quietly led everyone through a period of revelation, hope, introspection and commitment in regards to spirituality, God's promises and the believers' prayer life.

"How do we know that we are praying correctly?" asked Augsburger. "When we get answers to our prayers" he answered.

Augsburger was one of two main presenters. He was joined by Dr. John Trusty, Family Life director for Allegheny East Conference of Seventh-day Adventists. Trusty gave Monday's and Tuesday's devotional message as part of each morning's inspiring worship led by Pastor David Schwinghammer, Stewardship director of Ontario Conference.

Trusty was also the presenter for two plenary sessions. He focussed on the place of family in evangelism. Many were captivated by his keen perception of the generations within the congregation, their needs and his suggestions as to how they may be effectively ministered to.

In his first workers' meeting as conference president, Pastor Mansfield Edwards called for pastors and Bible instructors to be spiritual leaders.

"While it's important to be professional, it's more important to be spiritual leaders", said Edwards. "While it's important to be good organisers, your churches need pastors who are led by the Spirit of God."

The meetings concluded with worship, and pastors and Bible instructors left for their churches inspired to give humble, spiritual leadership during 2010.

### **Pastoral Changes**

*January 22, 2010, Oshawa, Ontario...OCN*

Over the next four Sabbaths, ten pastors will be installed at sixteen congregations in Ontario.

Tomorrow, January 23, Vincent Lue will replace Joseph Bulgin at Shiloh Church. Bulgin will be installed at Ruth Church. Garth Dottin has returned from the seminary and will be installed as the assistant pastor of Immanuel Church.

On January 30, James Rooney will be installed at Hamilton Mountain, replacing

Wesley Torres who has moved to British Columbia. Pastor Rooney comes to Ontario from British Columbia.

The first Sabbath in February, Nephtaly Dorzilme will be the pastor of Bethel Church and Parkdale Company, replacing Vincent Lue. On the same day, February 6, Carter Stanley will be installed at Bracbridge and Parry Sound churches and Darryl Blahovich will be installed at Paris and Brantford churches and Good News Fellowship.

On February 13, Anthony DaCosta, Clarence Baptiste and Charles Leader will be installed at Woodbridge and Toronto Heralds; Guelph and Milton; and Berea, respectively. Pastor Leader was formerly an associate director in the Ontario Conference.

### **International Religious Liberty Association (IRLA) Applauds Secretary Clinton's Speech on Internet Freedom**

*January 21, 2010, Washington, DC... NARLA*

US Secretary of State Hillary Clinton delivered a major policy speech on internet freedom in Washington today in which she warned, "With the spread of...restrictive practices, a new information curtain is descending across much of the world." She identified religious freedom as one of the casualties of this growing information curtain. Secretary Clinton elaborated:

Some nations... have co-opted the internet as a tool to target and silence people of faith. Last year in Saudi Arabia, a man spent months in prison for blogging about Christianity. And a Harvard study found that the Saudi government blocked many web pages about Hinduism, Judaism, Christianity, and even Islam. Countries including Vietnam and China employed similar tactics to restrict access to religious information. Just as these technologies must not be used to punish peaceful political speech, they must not be used to persecute or silence religious minorities... We must work to advance the freedom of worship online just as we do in other areas of life.

"We applaud Secretary Clinton for talking openly and honestly about this serious problem," declared James Standish, Deputy Secretary-General of the IRLA, who along with Barry Bussey, the executive director of NARLA, were among the invited guests in attendance for the speech. "The silencing of peaceful people of faith in the world's electronic public square is an affront to the concept of universally guaranteed rights. We appreciate Secretary Clinton not only focusing attention on this violation, but her willingness to work with the NGO community to remove barriers and advance the cause of religious freedom."

*Source: North American Religious Liberty Association Newsletter*

### **Adventists to Build First Ever Church in the Gulf**

*Gureni Lukwaro/TED News Staff/TED News*

United Arab Emirates (UAE) – A groundbreaking ceremony was held on 8 January 2010 for the first ever Seventh-day Adventist Church to be built in the Arabian Gulf region, in Ras Al Khaimah, one of the seven emirates in the UAE.

About 250 Adventists from all over the UAE gathered at the site where Victor Harewood, Senior Pastor of the UAE and Oman area, together with Rogelio Taer, Middle East Union (MEU) associate treasurer, representing the MEU president at the ceremony, unveiled the corner stone for the building to officially mark the breaking of the ground of this construction project.

The building, which is expected to be finished within 8 months, will have three floors. The ground floor will be used as a worship hall seating up to 500 people, with ancillary rooms and a caretaker apartment. The first floor space will be for offices and residences for the administrative staff of the Gulf region. The mezzanine floor will be used as an all-purpose hall and it will have a kitchen. There is also a middle floor in the back of the building where there are rooms of different sizes for church use.

According to Pastor Harewood, the building will host the headquarters for the Gulf Section of the Seventh-day Adventist Church comprising Saudi Arabia, UAE, Kuwait, Qatar, Bahrain, Oman and Yemen.

“This is the first time an Arab ruler has given us land which will give Adventists the official registration, recognition, immigration profile and ability to have our own church building,” said Rajee Mathew, project manager for the building. Previously, Adventists have been meeting in church members’ homes and rented rooms that belonged to other Christian denominations.

Adventists in Ras Al Khaimah decided to approach the Government for a piece of land for a building. “We faithfully prayed and brought this plan to the attention of Pastor Harewood”, George Mathew, Elder of the Ras Al Khaimah church explained. Arrangements were made for the Adventist delegation, headed by the MEU President Kjell Aune, to visit His Highness Shaikh Saud Bin Saqr Al Qasimi, Crown Prince and Deputy Ruler of Ras Al Khaimah.

The Adventist Delegation, met with the Crown Prince on 20 February 2007 with an official request for a place for worship. As a result, on 17 November 2008 the Adventist Church received an official letter from the Ruler’s Office, awarding the Adventist Church Plot No. 7 in Al Hamra, Ras Al Khaimah.

Since then, the Adventist denomination has been trying to raise the funds needed. Support from the World Church Headquarters, the Trans-European Division and the MEU made it possible for the church to move ahead with this project. “We are all very excited about this development and pray that this project will be the start of a new era for our church in this part of the world”, Jóhann E. Jóhannsson, TED treasurer said.

The cost of construction is expected to be 3,238,973 USD, with a further 170,000 USD still needing to be raised locally for furniture, fixtures, generators, and other equipment.

Pastor Kjell Aune, president of the MEU commented, “The Middle East Union is thrilled to see this project come true. It is a miraculous story and will mark a new era for the Adventist Church in the Gulf.

It will be the first Church-owned property in the Gulf area and because through it we will get legal registration, we will finally be able to organize the work in the seven Gulf countries in a separate Field with a local administrative office. We are indebted to the World Church for making this financially possible, to the local members for their dream, initiative, drive and very hard work to succeed with the project, and to God for working out miracles along the way.”

Pictures can be viewed at: [www.adventistgulf.org](http://www.adventistgulf.org)

**Camp Frenda 2010 Available Dates**

Camp Frenda has the following dates available for weekend retreats: March 26-28, 2010; June 4-6, 2010; June 25-27, 2010; September 17-19, 2010; September 24-26, 2010; October 29-31, 2010; November 12-14, 2010; November 19-21, 2010; November 26-28, 2010; December 3-5, 2010; December 10-12, 2010. Churches interested in any of the above dates need to complete a reservation agreement. The reservation package is available online at [www.campfrenda.com](http://www.campfrenda.com). Included in this package is a reservation agreement form. The form needs to be signed by the pastor or head elder, along with a church board approval. The completed document with deposit needs to be forwarded to the Camp Frenda office at the Ontario Conference. Reservations will be taken on a first-come first-served basis.

**Summer Weekend Getaway on Lake Rosseau in the Muskoka Region:**

For the first time, Camp Frenda is offering two weekends in the midst of the summer camping season for any church that would like to relax and enjoy the beauty of the #1 cottage region in Ontario. The dates are: July 9-11, 2010 and August 13-15, 2010. To qualify for this amazing offer, your group must have a minimum of 100 paying adults. Please note that resorts on Lake Rosseau during the months of July and August will charge a minimum of \$500/night (not including meals). Camp Frenda is charging \$50/day/person including 3 meals. Churches interested in these dates can contact the Camp director at [gdesilva@adventistontario.org](mailto:gdesilva@adventistontario.org). **These dates will not be available for long.**

**Camp Frenda 2011 Reservations:**

Camp Frenda will start accepting reservations for Jan-Dec, 2011 camping year, on February 1, 2010. A reservation package is available on our website ([www.campfrenda.com](http://www.campfrenda.com)). Included in this package is a reservation agreement form. The form needs to be signed by the Pastor or Head Elder along with a church board approval. The completed document with deposit needs to be forwarded to the Camp Frenda office at the Ontario Conference. Reservations will be taken on a first-come first-served basis.

**Seeking Volunteer Nurses for Summer Camp Season 2010:**

Camp Frenda is in need of volunteer nurses for the 2010 summer camping season. Session dates are available online at [www.campfrenda.com](http://www.campfrenda.com). Successful applicants and their immediate family will receive lodging, meals and activities at no cost. Those interested in applying please submit your available dates to the camp director at: [gdesilva@adventistontario.org](mailto:gdesilva@adventistontario.org).

**NAD RESOURCES AND EVENTS**

- NAD LEADERSHIP PRAYER SUMMIT — Enjoy inspiration and learning from guest speakers such as John Ashcroft (former U.S. Attorney General), Mark Finley, Jose Rojas, and others, during this 3-day retreat in the beautiful Blue Ridge Mountains in N. Carolina, Mar 7-10.

Contact: <http://tinyurl.com/yd4y4bs> to download an 8-1/2" x 11" poster about the summit. Go to [www.youtube.com/watch?v=1qJxFDBP0fM](http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=1qJxFDBP0fM) to watch a video about the summit, and to [www.plusline.org](http://www.plusline.org) to register.

- FREE WEBINAR: CREATING PAGES AND LINKS — Jan 26, at 7 p.m. EST, or Jan 28 at 10 a.m. EST. Join Adventist Church and School Connect to discover strategies for effectively using your free website. This webinar will focus on creating and editing pages, creating links to pages on your own website, other websites, and email addresses. It will conclude with a live question and answer session.

Contact: <http://help.adventistchurchconnect.com/article.php?id=174> to learn more about it, and email [support@adventistchurchconnect.com](mailto:support@adventistchurchconnect.com) with questions about participating.

- PRINCIPLES AND TECHNIQUES OF FUNDRAISING, Mar 22 to 26, will be offered by PSI, partnering with The Center on Philanthropy at Indiana University's The Fund Raising School (TFRS). Early bird registration for this five-day course is \$650 for PSI members — more than a 50% discount from the TFRS regular tuition. Scholarships are available for those who qualify.

Contact: [www.philanthropicservice.com](http://www.philanthropicservice.com) for additional information.

- LEARN HOW TO SHARE JESUS CHRIST WITH MUSLIMS in a way that they can hear and be blessed. Attend the NAD Adventist Muslim Relations (AMR) Summit East, Mar 12-14, at Southern Adventist University. Guest speaker, Mark Siljander, former Congressman and author of A Deadly Misunderstanding, will relate personal experiences to help explain the common ground we share with the largest unreached people group in the world. Several national leaders in Muslim ministry will come together to share powerful tools that can help bridge the gap between Adventism and Islam.

Contact: Bryan Gallant at 423-368-2343, or [NADAdventistMuslimRelations@gmail.com](mailto:NADAdventistMuslimRelations@gmail.com) for details.

- WONDER HOW OUR CHURCH IS RESPONDING TO THE EARTHQUAKES in Haiti? The Washington Conference is maintaining a list of a collection of news stories, reports, and updates.

Contact: [www.washingtonconference.org/haiti](http://www.washingtonconference.org/haiti).

- THE NAD IS SENDING \$500K OF TITHE TO HELP REBUILD THE MINISTRY OF THE ADVENTIST CHURCH in Haiti. In addition, the NAD will also send \$100K of non-tithe funds. The union conferences combined have already pledged an additional \$175K and that number will go up.

- "FOLLOW THE BIBLE" TOUR HAS COME TO NORTH AMERICAN DIVISION — It has been at the Beltsville, MD church and will be at Andrews University this weekend. It will return to NAD on May 31 and stay here until it reaches Atlanta, Ga, where the tour will culminate at GC Session. The tour, initiated by the General Conference to stimulate more interest in reading the Bible, began in the Philippines in 2008.

Contact: [www.followthebiblesda.com](http://www.followthebiblesda.com) to learn more about the program. Read about the visit to Andrews University at [www.andrews.edu/events/event/16242/](http://www.andrews.edu/events/event/16242/).

## EVENTS/ANNOUNCEMENTS

### Adventist Book Centre Business Hours

**Please remember that our hours have changed as follows:**

Sunday 10-5  
Monday-Wednesday 9:00-6:00  
Thursday 9:00-7:00  
Friday 9-1

**January 30**  
**"Eating!" - Health Vespers at Willowdale**

"Eating!" It's the biggest cause of disease, disabilities, and death in North America today! Join us at Willowdale Church for vespers on **Sabbath, January 30, at 5:00 pm** as we view this excellent, award-winning film that shines a spotlight on our eating habits and how they are affecting our health. You absolutely cannot miss this "Eating!" DVD presentation. Please join us at Willowdale Church, 535 Finch Avenue West (beside Branson Hospital) for this insightful and potentially life-changing DVD presentation.

**January 30**  
**7x7 Youth Evangelism Workshops 2010**

Learn how to share Christ with your friends by attending this 4-part youth evangelism training program which starts on **Sabbath, January 30, from 4:00-6:30 p.m.** at the Mount Zion Filipino Seventh-day Adventist Church, 140 Regis Cres. South, Downsview, ON. The rest of the series will be held on June 19, Sept. 18, and Nov. 6 at the same time and place.

**Workshops**

Youth Bible Study  
Evangelism Through Dialogue  
Health & Lifestyle Evangelism  
Internet Evangelism  
"Jesus Loves Jeans"  
"Voice of Youth" Evangelism  
Youth Preaching

**Resource Speakers**

Liz Pule  
Rodolfo Alvir  
Maria McClean  
Mirthell Mitchell  
Patrick Jacques  
Edwin Martin  
Kenton Perrin

This seminar is free, but registration is required by Jan. 27. Registration form is available at [www.adventistontario.org](http://www.adventistontario.org) . For further details, please contact Pastor Cyril Millett at 905-571-1022 ext. 214 or [cmillett@adventistontario.org](mailto:cmillett@adventistontario.org) .

**January 31**  
**OPMASDA Annual Business Session**

The Annual Business Session of the Ontario Prison Ministry Association of Seventh day Adventists will be held on Sunday, January 31, 2010, at 11:00 a.m. at Downsview Seventh-day Adventist Church, 37 Bakersfield Street.

The Agenda will include the 2010 budget proposal and a proposal to approve a new home base for OPMASDA Ministry.

All Prison Ministry volunteers are requested to attend but only paid up members will have voting privileges.

**February 13**  
**Latter Rain's Valentine Banquet**

Latter Rain Church invites you to our annual Valentine Banquet on Saturday, February 13, 2010, at 7:00 p.m. In formal dress, you would enjoy delicious food, good music, fashion show, wonderful prizes, fun games and other activities. Proceeds go to our church building fund. Tickets are: adults, \$40 and children under 12, \$20. The venue is at the church location in the auditorium at 7 Elinor Avenue, Scarborough (Lawrence E/Pharmacy). Tickets are available from any church member or Paulette Burnett. For more details, please visit [www.latterrainsda.net](http://www.latterrainsda.net). See you there!

### **February 21**

#### **Healthy Cooking at Willowdale**

"Hey, good cooking!" Do you want to make healthier meals for you and your family, but wish you had some help? Join us for our "Hey, Good Cooking!" series at Willowdale Church on Sunday, February 21, 2010, 12:00 - 2:00 pm with guest chef, Sandy Grant. Sandy is the author of *Eden's Plate: The Ultimate Vegan Vegetarian Cookbook*. Come and learn to make delicious oat waffles, TVP meatloaf, Sandy's award-winning tofu cheesecake, and more! \$20 per person for this two-hour class. Call Bev at (416) 203-0451 to reserve your seat! Willowdale Church is located at 535 Finch Avenue West, just west of the Finch & Bathurst intersection, beside Branson Hospital.

### **February 26-28**

#### **Fifth Annual Multicultural Day**

The Agape Temple Adventist Church in Pickering will be hosting its 5th Annual Multicultural Weekend from Friday, February 26, to Sunday, February 28. This is a wonderful opportunity for you to experience different cultures through worship, praise, food and song. Highlights include: musical vibes, critical insights about different cultures, fashion show (Feb 27 at 7:00 pm), reception and taste of the Caribbean games and interactive activities.

This promises to be a weekend you don't want to miss. For more information, contact Pierre Andre at 416-985-1641 or stop by Agape Temple, 1999 Fairport Rd (Fairport & Finch) Pickering ON. Tel.: 905-837-1892.

### **February 27**

#### **Attention all Family, Men's, Singles, Women's, & Young Women Ministries Leaders:**

Ministries Leadership Training for you will be held on Feb. 27, 2010 at Toronto Kingsview Village Church from 11 am to 6 pm, featuring:

- 11 am divine service speaker, Pastor Glenn DeSilva
- 2 afternoon seminar sessions (beginning 2:15 pm) for each ministry
- 5 pm *Meet the Presenters* – network with over 20 seminar presenters that can assist your ministry
- Free soup and sandwich light lunch

Free event but kindly register with Donna Jackson – [djackson@adventistontario.org](mailto:djackson@adventistontario.org) by Feb. 22.

### **March 5 & 6**

#### **Immanuel's 25<sup>th</sup> Anniversary**

Immanuel Seventh-day Adventist Church on Drewry Avenue in Toronto will be celebrating its 25<sup>th</sup> Anniversary on March 5 and 6 2010. A special invitation is extended to all former pastors, former members and friends of Immanuel to join with us as we celebrate this quarter century milestone. The celebration will begin on Friday with Pastor Manuel Silva from the British Columbia Conference. Pastor Dennis Uffindell, the

first pastor of Immanuel, will be the divine service speaker. A special musical program and drama will be presented in the evening. Former youth pastor, Marian Kossovan, will be our guest soloist, along with an array of musical talents from the past and the present. The evening will conclude with a reception in our fellowship hall. To God be the glory great things He hath done. Contact person: Vermont Cleghorne, anniversary chairman.

**March 7-9**  
**Canadian University College**

Curious to see what University life is like? Come to College Days, March 7-9, at Canadian University College! It will be a chance for prospective students to meet students in similar areas of interest; visit with teachers; worship with CUC faculty, staff, and students; and have loads of fun! For more information or to request an application, email Nicole Bartolay at [nbartola@cauc.ca](mailto:nbartola@cauc.ca). Deadline is February 1, 2010.

**April 11-May 6**  
**CHIP at Willowdale**

Mark your calendar for another exciting CHIP program at Willowdale Church this Spring, April 11 to May 6, 2010. CHIP is the Coronary Health Improvement Project, the outstanding four-week educational program that has helped thousands prevent, stabilize, and even reverse diseases such as heart disease, high blood pressure, type 2 diabetes, high cholesterol, angina, and overweight. If you are suffering from these types of health conditions, then CHIP is for you! If you have no health issues and want to keep it that way, CHIP is also for you! Let CHIP show you how to take charge of your health today! Program cost is \$250/person, \$400 for a married couple sharing materials, and \$150 for CHIP alumni. Free information sessions will be held in March 2010. Isn't this the year you should be taking charge of your health? Visit <http://www.chiponline.org/chipvideo> to view a three-minute clip about the program. Email [torontochip@hotmail.com](mailto:torontochip@hotmail.com) or call Bev Edwards-Miller at (416) 203-0451 for more information. Cheers to your good health!

**June 18**  
**Journey to the Heart of Worship Seminar**

A 3-part seminar on praise and worship, dubbed as *Journey to the Heart of Worship*, will be held on June 18, Sept. 17, and Nov. 5, 2010 (7:30-9:00 p.m.) at the Downsview Seventh-day Adventist Church, 37 Bakersfield St., Downsview, ON. Resource speaker is Pastor Dave Schwinghammer, Ontario Conference Stewardship director.

All youth, praise teams, choristers, singers, and instrumentalists are encouraged to attend. Come and join the journey - it will truly transform the way you approach God in worship.

Admission to this seminar is free, but registration is required by June 11. Registration form and poster are available at [www.adventistontario.org](http://www.adventistontario.org). For further details, please contact Pastor Cyril Millett at 905-571-1022 ext. 214 or [cmillett@adventistontario.org](mailto:cmillett@adventistontario.org).

*This seminar is co-sponsored by the Youth and Stewardship Departments of the Ontario Conference of the Seventh-day Adventist Church in conjunction with the 7x7 Youth Evangelism Workshops in 2010.*

**July 11**  
**CYSA Track and Field Day**

Christian Youth Sports Academy (CYSA) will be holding its annual track and field day on Sunday, July 11, 2010, at York University. The rally and drill competition will be held on Saturday night, July 10.

## OTHER ADS

A female, young adult member from Guadeloupe is looking for accommodation in the Toronto area. She is completing a bachelor degree in Export/Import in France and has chosen Canada as a foreign country in which to do a work placement from April to July. If you are willing to help this student and serve as a host family, please contact Pastor Millett at the Ontario Conference office for details (905) 571-1022.

### Available Venue for Events for Adventurer and Pathfinder Clubs

Adventurer and Pathfinder clubs, Northview Heights Secondary School, 550 Finch Avenue West, is available for events on the following dates. These are all Sundays. The available time is strictly from 1 pm to 5 pm. The cost per Sunday is \$150.00. Payment must be in at Ontario Conference before confirmation of booking. To cancel, 7 days notice is required. To book, contact Pastor Edwin Martin at the conference office: 905-571-1022 ext. 223 or email [emartin@adventistontario.org](mailto:emartin@adventistontario.org).

**2010:** January 17, January 31, February 21, March 14, March 28, April 25, May 23, June 27, August 1, August 8, August 15, August 22, August 29, September 5, September 12, September 26, October 24, October 31, November 28.

### Padded chairs needed in Owen Sound Church

We are looking for at least 30 padded and stackable chairs if someone has to donate to our social hall. Please contact Pastor Peter at 519-370-0135 or [pccaran@adventistontario.org](mailto:pccaran@adventistontario.org).

***Please send articles in plain text (no graphics or photos) to  
[OCN@AdventistOntario.org](mailto:OCN@AdventistOntario.org)  
(No later than Tuesday evening)***

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**Website:** [www.AdventistOntario.org](http://www.AdventistOntario.org)

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