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Call for Radical Conversion in the thought of the Federation of Asian Bishops' Conferences (FABC)

The Federation of Asian Bishops' Conferences (FABC) has recently taken an active stand on their theological position in challenging the Church in Asia to start calling for conversion, promoting an alternative lifestyle, a new culture of respect for nature, of simplicity and of hope and joy.

The FABC's call is a response to Pope Francis's encyclical *Laudato Si*; the Asian bishops speak out from their own context, amidst of Asian contextual realities (Asian cultures, religions and the masses of the poor). In the thought of the FABC, the crises and challenges verbalised in the Pope's encyclical constitute serious threat to all life on the Earth, our common home. Many of these threats are already experienced in many parts of Asia. The Asian bishops seek to respond to these threats by calling the Church to conversion. But the call for conversion is not merely addressed to the Church, but the FABC adopts this call also as a part of the mission of the Church in Asia. The call rings out to all humanity.

In order to successfully perform the task for a radical conversion the FABC emphasises the need for theological reflection, based especially on the "mystery and truth of creation".

The FABC's response to Pope's encyclical can be seen as a new and fresh theological initiative as the Asian bishops discern the "signs of the times" and seek for a solid theological response to the current ecological threats.