

## MADAGASCAR: HUMAN RIGHTS WORKSHOP



From 21-22/09/2021 the Regional Coordinator for Justice and peace organized a workshop for a number of rural parishes in the diocese of Mananjary. Each parish presented 5 participants made up of males and females. It is important to note that these parishes are manned by diocesan priests of the aforementioned diocese. This was the first time such a workshop was organized by the svd Coordinator for the faithful of the diocesan parishes.

In the course of the two-day workshop conferences were given by specialists on Human Rights, Children Rights (early marriage, rape cases, the responsibilities of their parents), Women's Rights, Property Rights, Rights and Responsibilities of the Citizens vis-à-vis to the state, laws in line with land acquisition, Ecosystem, Rights of criminal suspects (especially on the fact that more than 48 hours in cells would require a special permission from the public prosecutor).

Most of the participants were happy and at the same time astonished by the quality with which the specialists treated and answered questions to the understanding of the rural population. Among the specialists were a Juvenile lawyer, a Juridical police officer, an officer from Land and Survey department who took turns to give talks and kind of complimented each other during the whole process especially with regards to related and common questions.

During the evaluation, the recommendations revealed that the over 60 participants had wished the workshop didn't come to an end especially that they were going back to their villages with a lot of unanswered questions. It was agreed that the workshop be organized twice a year.

Brother Benediktus Uran SVD