



**1847:** Lavigerie is ordained subdeacon by Bishop Affre, Archbishop of Paris.

**1848:** Lavigerie is ordained deacon by Bishop Sibour, Archbishop of Paris.

**1886:** Father Charbonnier, pro-vicar, makes a blood pact with Kapoufi, king of Ufira.

### **Letter to the cardinal prefect of the Propaganda (24th December 1884)**

Your Eminence, my Lord,

I consider I should be lacking in my duty if I did not inform Your Eminence that the government of France, through the good offices of its ambassador to the Holy See, has just entrusted to me the church of Saint Nicolas-des-Lorrains and the adjoining house, so as to set up a procure for the Society of the Missionaries of Algiers.

I had already had the honour of speaking with you personally about a similar plan regarding Saint-Louis, but this this went no further. The plan we are going to implement is on a smaller scale, but it is sufficient for our needs. The Society of the Missionaries of Algiers has simply decided, in fact, to send some of its best members to be taught at the purest source of Catholic doctrine and devotion. It plans also to accommodate a procurator there who will deal with the Society's relations with the sacred congregation of the Propaganda. The French government is putting at my disposal the church, the rector's apartments and the salaries of six chaplains of Saint-Louis, calculated at 1,500 francs each per year, in total, 9,000 francs per year.

It is on 1st January, 1885, that I must be given possession of the property by the procurator. One of my honorary canons who is at present in Rome will replace me for this formality, the missionaries only needing to come during the course of the year, when I shall be able to take them myself and introduce them to the Holy Father and to Your Eminence. But, in the meantime, I do not want you to find out from anyone else about the actual putting in place of this project. I am overjoyed to know that some of my Sons will be near to you, overjoyed since I know in advance what goodness and what enlightenment are to be found next to His Eminence the prefect of the Propaganda.

### **Letter to Mgr Livinhac (30 December 1890)**

Dear Monsignor,

All that concerns the new association of the Brothers of the Sahara is urgent now, by reason of the coming opening of the novitiate. Today, without further delay, I wish to reply to the different communications in your good letter and in the minutes which you have sent me.

First of all, and I ask you to keep this point to yourself alone, once a decision has been taken and executed with the approval, both written and oral, of the Holy See, to wish to come back on it, to call everything into question, and to withdraw from the charge that Providence has imposed on you, is a failure, dear Monsignor, which you yourself do not sufficiently realise, in your duty as a missionary, and in the respect that you owe to the Holy Father and to myself.

There may doubtless be persons in the Society who would be capable of filling your post, but we are no longer looking for one. As you are, in fact, we chose you and we cannot regret this, and the Holy See that approved of our choice cannot regret it either. So there can be no going back on it. If you do so with empty words, either in your letters or in conversation, you will lose your necessary authority. This is a type of humility which is out of place, and which can only have a bad effect on men of faith and indeed on those of simple good sense.

I beg of you, let there be no question of this anymore. Do you think that I do not have enough worries and embarrassment without your adding to them with such irresolution! If you were aware and understood the pain you are causing me, you would be guilty of sin in God's eyes. This is for you alone, I beg you. This is why I am having it copied on its own. I am replying on another sheet of paper to the matter of your Council.

