

1825: Birth of Lavigerie in Huire, St Esprit (Bayonne), to Leon Philippe Allemand Lavigerie (born in Angoulême in 1795) and Laure Louise Latrilhe (born in Bayonne in 1800). His parents lived in a house on the Lathrille family estate.

1879: Foundation of the Tripoli Procure. The station was abandoned in 1881.

1880: Foundation of the Sacred Heart of Mranda (south of Lake Nyanza). The station is suppressed on 14 November 1881.

1890: Death of Bridoux, Vicar Apostolic of Tanganyika, in the station of Mpala.

Letter to Propaganda Fide requesting the approval of the Constitutions of the Missionary Sisters of Our Lady of Africa (**31 October 1886**)

Your Eminence,

I have the honour to submit to the Holy See for its consideration and approval the rules of the Congregation of the Sisters of Our Lady of the Missions of Africa, which was founded by me eighteen years ago in the diocese of Algiers where its mother house is still located.

To the copy of the Rules and Constitutions which you will find enclosed, I add a printed copy of the Directory to which the afore-mentioned rules refer on several important points.

The community of Our Lady of the Missions of Africa is dedicated to working for the salvation of the infidels, and especially the pagan women of Africa. At the moment, there are sixty-six religious, twelve of whom are still novices or scholastics [i.e. still in formation]. It has nine houses, all established in the dioceses of Algiers and Carthage, namely: the mother house, in Kouba, near Algiers, with the novitiate separate from it; a hospital for the indigenous population in Saint-Cyprien des Attafs; a school in Saint-Cyprien; a school at Sainte-Monique; an establishment with a work shop and dispensary in Ouad'hias, in Kabylia; another similar establishment, in Beni-Ismaïl, also in Kabylia; a school in La Marsa, Tunisia; a refuge for abandoned women, both indigenous and European, in the same centre.

I can bear serious witness to the good spirit that animates this community, to the piety, virtue and apostolic zeal of its members, and it seems to me, therefore, quite worthy of receiving a first sign of encouragement from the Holy See. As for the material needs, these are provided for by the property that has been definitively donated to them by me in both Algeria and Tunisia, in a definitive way; at the moment this brings in an income of about one hundred thousand francs, not to mention the stipends of the majority of the Sisters.

While asking Your Eminence to submit this matter for consideration to the Sacred Congregation, I have the honour of humbly kissing the hands of Your Eminence and of respectfully professing myself to be your very humble, very obedient and very devoted servant.

