



WEERAMANTRY INTERNATIONAL
CENTRE FOR PEACE
EDUCATION AND RESEARCH
(WICPER)

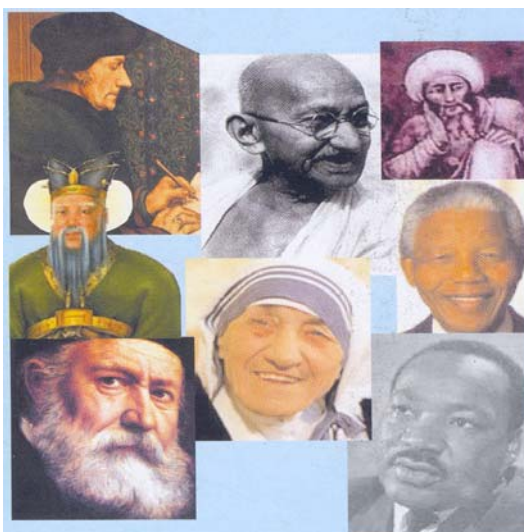


SRI LANKA NATIONAL
COMMISSION FOR
UNESCO

TRAINING FOR TRUSTEESHIP

Residential Workshop On
Peace, The Environment and
The Human Future

27th – 30th November 2008



RI DISTRICT 3220



American
Center

PUBLIC
DIPLOMACY
SECTION

TRAINING FOR TRUSTEESHIP

RESIDENTIAL WORKSHOP ON PEACE, THE ENVIRONMENT AND THE HUMAN FUTURE

CONCEPTUAL BACKGROUND

The concept of trusteeship for the future is fundamental to human welfare, yet scarcely receives attention in today's educational curricula. This concept, which is stressed alike by religion, philosophy and law, underlines the fact that every generation, far from being in a position of ownership or overlordship, is in a position of trusteeship for generations yet to come. Unfortunately it is the concept of dominion rather than trusteeship which is prevalent throughout the world.

Ownership rather than trusteeship, rights rather than duties, individual interests rather than community welfare – these are the notions that cause so many conflicts throughout the world and the corrective to this is the concept of trusteeship.

The concept of trusteeship is far reaching, for it covers trusteeship of the environment, trusteeship of earth resources, trusteeship of power, trusteeship of archaeological and historical resources and trusteeship for future generations.

Trusteeship is an integral part of peace and social studies, not only because its neglect is a major cause of conflict but also because it is an important key to the better world of the future which we all desire. The concept is of special importance to youth, for they are entitled to their rightful inheritance and at the same time obliged to preserve it for future generations.

Trusteeship is hence one of the concepts underlying the philosophy of the Weeramantry International Centre for Peace Education and Research (WICPER) and every effort is being made by us to instil at all levels the realisation that we are stewards of the environment and the cultural treasures we have inherited. We owe a duty, therefore, to look after them for the benefit of those who are to come. It is for this reason that trusteeship has been selected as the key concept for a series of activities now planned.

THE URGENCY OF ATTENTION TO THIS PROBLEM

The human inheritance, far from being preserved and cherished, is being damaged and pillaged at such a rate that succeeding generations will be deprived of their birthright, both environmental and cultural. The task is urgent, therefore, of providing the necessary correctives by inspiring the requisite frame of mind and enthusiasm to correct, prevent and redress these errors.

The purpose of the proposed camp is to inspire concerned youth with a firm resolve to do whatever they can, both as individuals and as future leaders of society, to propagate this idea and inspire a change of thought and a change of attitude in the community.

OBJECTIVES

When more people realize with what struggle and sacrifice the world has achieved even such concepts and institutions as we now have, they will strive harder to protect and develop them. Youth in particular need to be instructed regarding the protection of the environment and the rights of future generations. This camp seeks to correct this imbalance in our educational system and to spread these concepts as widely as possible, as part of a national and international campaign towards this end.

It is hoped to inspire participants with a desire to be of maximum service to the community by working actively towards this end, strengthened by the requisite background knowledge.

All participants will be expected to carry to their respective groups the knowledge that they acquire during the workshop and stimulate others in their groups towards greater concern and activity.

The cross cultural instructions students will receive in the camp will bridge all cultural differences. Our experiences of previous camps, which we have held both for school children and for undergraduates, are that the students emerging from them express the view that they have made friends for life with those from other cultural groups. This is sorely needed in our country today.

CONTENT

The programme of the workshop has been carefully designed so as to give the participants both a theoretical and conceptual background as well as glimpses from experienced leaders of particular areas of possible practical activity, e.g. solar energy, protection of coral reefs, waste and water management and training for leadership.

The programme also includes much provision for interaction between students of different disciplines, different cultural backgrounds and different regions.

Participants will be encouraged through the award of two sets of prizes of Rs. 25,000.00 and Rs. 10,000.00 for excellence in conceptual and practical approaches toward social improvement.

VISION

The vision of this camp is :

- To communicate to concerned students a sense of the importance of the concept of trusteeship and the responsibilities this imposes on them
- To give them the necessary conceptual background – historical, philosophical, religious and legal
- To evoke from the participants ideas regarding what each one of them can do to spread this information throughout the community
- To work out practical programmes which can be undertaken in their areas for such projects as garbage disposal, beach cleaning, compost creation, cottage crafts, home gardens, recycling and water conservation
- To work towards educational programmes in their communities directed towards leadership training, civic education, environmental education, and cross cultural understanding
- To bridge all cultural divisions by showing the commonality of the teachings of all cultures on these fundamental matters

TARGET AUDIENCE

Student leaders from all racial and religious groups will be carefully selected for their demonstrated concern with the environment and social service. They will be expected to pledge that they would organize similar discussion groups among their colleagues and that they will seek practical ways of implementing these ideas.

Participants will include university students and student leaders from around the country belonging to all social and cultural groups.

METHODOLOGY

A residential workshop will be held from 27th November to 30th November at SUBODHI Institute of Integral Education Piliyandala. The programme consists of several sessions spread throughout the workshop. Participants will be required to exchange experiences and ideas among themselves and to make a presentation regarding what each individual can do to stimulate more interest in these matters among colleagues and neighbours. They will be expected also to work out projects for their communities and groups in order to translate their knowledge into programmes of effective action.

COURSE CONTENT

The course will consist of a mixture of lectures on the concept of peace and sustainable development, lectures on practical aspects of translating this concept into terms of community welfare, the announcement of competitions and prizes for essays on the peace concept as well as field work, games, a bonfire and a sing-song session. There will be a focus on group activity and on what each individual can do.

In short, the course will be a miniature version of extended courses that can be constructed on the basis of trusteeship and it is hoped that this will be an inspiration to the participants to carry back to their communities, both concepts of peace and sustainability and practical ways to achieve them.

COURSE MATERIALS

These will include materials on :

- Protection of the Human Habitat
- Philosophical Perspectives on Trusteeship
- Religious Perspectives on Peace and Trusteeship
- Sustainable Development
- The World Court: Its Conception, Constitution and Contribution
- The Philosophy of Ahimsa
- Why The Nuclear Danger Grows From Day To Day?
- Relevant extracts from the Advisory Opinions of the International Court of Justice
- Materials on Coral Reefs Conservation, Water Conservation

CONTINUITY OF PROGRAMME

It is envisaged that this programme will be repeated at least once a year and will be expanded to make it regional and international. We hope the experiences gathered from this inaugural venture will assist programmes in other countries as well to incorporate the idea of Trusteeship into their training programmes.

Monitoring and follow up mechanisms will also be set in place to coordinate the effects of this programme, and ensure its continuity.

CONFERENCE PROGRAMME

Thursday, 27th November 2008

TIME	ACTIVITY
07.45 – 08.45am	Registration
09.00 – 09.15am	Opening Ceremony <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • National Anthem • Lighting of Oil Lamp
09.15 – 09.30am	Welcome Address by Mr. Rodney Vandergert , Trustee, Weeramantry International Centre for Peace Education and Research (WICPER) and Rev. Fr. Mervyn Fernando , Founder of SUBODHI Institute of Integral Education, Piliyandala
09.30 – 09.45am	Introduction to WICPER and its Work by Mr. Anuruddha Perera , Director, WICPER
09.45 – 10.45am	Ice Breaker Activities and Divisions into Working Groups
10.45 – 11.30am	Keynote Address : “ The Importance of the Concept of Trusteeship” by Judge C. G. Weeramantry , Founder Chairman, Weeramantry International Centre for Peace Education and Research (WICPER)
11.30 – 12.00am	Question & Answer Session
12.00 – 01.30pm	Lunch
01.30 – 01.50pm	Message by Mr. Jakob von Uexkull , Founder, World Future Council
01.50 – 02.10pm	“Rights of Future Generations and Intergenerational Equity” by Mr. Neshan Gunasekera , Deputy Director, WICPER
02.10 – 03.10pm	Group Interaction on ‘Role of Youth and Youth Leaders in Protecting Interests of Future Generations’
03.10 – 04.10pm	Reports by Groups to Plenary
04.10 – 04.30pm	Evening Tea
04.30 – 05.00pm	Evaluations of Day’s work
05.00 – 06.30pm	Leisure Time
07.00 – 07.45pm	Cultural Show by Sarvodaya Sawan Sahana Sewa , Dr. Reijntjes School for the Deaf
08.00 – 09.45pm	Dinner

Training For Trusteeship

Friday, 28th November 2008

TIME	ACTIVITY
06.00am	Rising
06.45 – 07.30am	Meditation/Reflection
07.30 – 08.30am	Breakfast
08.30 – 09.00am	Discussion Groups
09.00 – 09.25am	“Peace Movements, Peace Leaders and their concern for the Future” by Judge Weeramantry
09.25 – 09.40am	Question & Answer Session
09.40 – 10.00am	“Education Towards Peace and Sustainability in South Asia” by Mr. R.P.Perera , Secretary-General, National Commission for UNESCO in Sri Lanka
10.00 – 10.15am	Question & Answer Session
10.15 – 10.40am	Midmorning Tea Break
10.40 – 11.10am	“Role of Youth in the Protection of Coral Reefs” by Dr. A.A. Boaz , Director-General, SACEP
11.10 – 11.25am	Question & Answer Session
11.25 – 12.00am	Small Group Discussion
12.00 – 12.30pm	Reports by Groups to Plenary
12.30 – 02.00pm	Lunch
02.00 – 02.45pm	Group Exercise on Trusteeship
02.45 – 03.15pm	“The Environmental Problems Facing Future Generations” A presentation by WICPER Interns (Chinthaka Rankothge, Denooja Undupitiya, Janani Wijetunge and Damithri Welikala) and Youth Delegates (Randhike Cooray, Zuleyha Markar, Uthpala Wickramaarachchi)
03.15 – 03.30pm	Question & Answer Session
03.30 – 03.45pm	Evening Tea
03.45 – 05.00pm	Some specific environmental concerns which youth can address; <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Energy • Coral Reefs • Sanitation • Water Resources • Any other Participants will be expected to contribute their own experiences of problems in their

Training For Trusteeship

	areas
05.00 – 06.00pm	Relaxation, Outdoor Games
06.00 – 06.30pm	Rest Period
06.30 – 07.15pm	Review of day's work
07.15 – 08.00pm	Time for interaction among participants
08.00 – 09.00pm	Dinner
09.00 – 10.00pm	Sing-song

Saturday, 29th November 2008

TIME	ACTIVITY
06.00 am	Rising
06.45 – 07.30am	Meditation/Reflection
07.30 – 08.30am	Breakfast
08.30 – 09.00am	Interaction among participants
09.00 – 09.25am	“The Confluence of Religious Teachings on Peace and Trusteeship and Sustainable Development” by Judge Weeramantry
09.25 – 09.45am	Question & Answer Session
09.45 – 10.30am	Midmorning Tea Break
10.30 – 10.45am	“Rural Community Development and the Philosophy of Goodness” by Mr. Kushil Gunasekara , Founder, Foundation of Goodness
10.45 – 11.00am	Question & Answer Session
11.00 – 11.30am	Group Interaction
11.30 – 12.30pm	Opportunity for Participants to address plenary
12.30 – 01.45pm	Lunch
01.45 – 02.30pm	Time for Interaction of Participants
02.30 – 02.50pm	“Solar Energy for Village Communities” by Mr. Daya Senanayake , Patent Holder in Solar Energy Projects
02.50 – 03.00pm	Question and Answer Session
03.00 – 03.30pm	Interaction of Participants
03.30 – 04.00pm	“Sustainable Sanitation Concepts” by Ms. Constanze Windberg , Stockholm Environment Institute
04.00 – 04.30pm	Question & Answer Session
04.30 – 04.50pm	“International Law as Protector of the Human Future” by Judge Weeramantry (with associates of WICPER)
04.50 – 05.05pm	Question & Answer Session

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05.05 – 06.15pm	Games and Relaxation
06.15 – 06.45pm	Review and Evaluation
07.30 – 08.15pm	Dinner
08.15 – 10.00pm	Bonfire

Sunday, 30th November 2008

TIME	ACTIVITY
06.00 am	Rising
06.45 – 07.30am	Meditation/Reflection
07.30 – 08.30am	Breakfast
08.30 – 10.00am	Group projects: “ Greening of Sri Lanka”
10.00 – 10.30am	Midmorning Tea Break
10.30 – 11.30am	Presentations by Participants on “How to Make Your Village Green?”
11.30 – 12.30pm	Stocktaking and Future Activity
12.30 – 01.15pm	Lunch
01.15 – 02.00pm	Announcement of Prize Winners, Distribution of Certificates
02.00 – 02.30pm	Conclusion of Workshop by Judge Weeramantry

PROGRAMME ADMINISTRATION

- **Weeramantry International Centre for Peace Education and Research (WICPER)**

The Weeramantry International Centre for Peace Education and Research (WICPER), founded by Judge C.G. Weeramantry, former Vice President of the International Court of Justice, has centred its work mainly in the areas of International Law, Peace Education and Cross Cultural understanding - these being the “three pillars” of the Centre. The UNESCO Peace Prize and the alternative Nobel Prize (The Right Livelihood Award) were two recent International awards which were conferred in 2006 and 2007 respectively on Judge Weeramantry in recognition of the work carried out by the Centre.

Founder Chairman-

His Excellency Judge C.G. Weeramantry:
Former Vice President, International Court of Justice,
Emeritus Professor Monash University,

Board of Trustees-

Mr. Rodney Vandergert:
Former Chairman
Public Services Commission Sri Lanka
Former Secretary
Ministry of Foreign Affairs

Mr. D. C. Amerasinghe:
International Legal Consultant
Former Secretary and Deputy General Counsel
Asian Development Bank

Mr. Gritakumar E. Chitty:
International Legal Consultant
Former Registrar
International Tribunal for the Law of the Sea
Former Assistant Secretary General of the United Nations

Mr. Sinha Basnayake:
Member of the UN Internal Justice Council
Former Director
General Legal Division Office
United Nations Office of Legal Affairs

Mr. Ravi Weeramantry:
Managing Director
Rent Lease Group Pty Ltd
Melbourne

Mr. Romesh Weeramantry:
Assistant Professor of Law
City University of Hong Kong

Director- Mr. Anuruddha Perera:
LLM (Cantab.), Attorney-at-law.

Organizing Committee

Deputy Director- Mr. Neshan Gunasekera:
Attorney-at-law.

Interns- Chinthaka Rankothge:
LLB (Hons.) Lond.
Denooja Undupitiya
Janani Wijetunge
Damithri Welikala

Working group for Training For Trusteeship;

Randhike Cooray – Delegate for Sri Lanka at the first Asian Youth
Climate Summit in Hong Kong 2008

Zuleyha Markar
Uthpala Wickramarachchi
Rasika Samarawickrama
Sumudu Saparamadu
Chandima Dharmasena
Sampath Perera
Thushara Jeewapriya
Gaurawa Liyanage
Dhanushan Kaneshayogan

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