



T.Y.S. Lama Gangchen - Lama Healer
Lama Gangchen World Peace Foundation

A Solution for the Third Millennium

Peace Media

&

Proposal for the creation of a
Spiritual Forum for World Peace

“10th anniversary: 1995 - 2005”

In support of
United Nations Millennium Development Goals
Decade of Education for a Sustainable Development



Lama Gangchen Peace Publications

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**“A Solution ofr the Third Millennium, Peace Media
and Proposal for the creation of a Spiritual Forum for World Peace”**

Author: T.Y.S. Lama Gangchen - Lama Healer

Third Edition: 7th of July 2005

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*We dedicate the aims of this book to the Eternal Holy Memory
of Pope John Paul II who opened a way for all to follow as a true example
of pure selflessness and compassion for all human beings.*

*We shall forever treasure His holy memory in our hearts as we recall
His great achievements for peace and reconciliation with deep respect.
He was a great spiritual leader and promoter of harmony
among all religious and spiritual traditions of the world.*

*His humility and respect for different faiths, nations, races and cultures
make Him forever a precious example for hope and peace,
and a great inspiration to both present and future generations.*

*T.Y.S. Lama Gangchen
Lama Gangchen World Peace Foundation*



ཕ་ཡུལ་དྭན་གསོ



Welcome to "Piccolo Tibet"
Peace Mountain Community

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Acknowledgement

I am very grateful and happy that my dear friend Dawn Steve Cain and her children Gemma and Graziano Gavinelli, have sponsored the (re-)printing of this book on the occasion of my 65th birthday on the 7th of July 2005; the great emphasis placed in understanding what is needed this century and participating as a family, gives even more value to their contribution.

I would like to dedicate this book to all my friends and collaborators.

Proposal for the creation of a permanent Spiritual Forum for World Peace

Commemorates the 10th anniversary of both my own efforts and that of many friends and supporters to create a permanent Spiritual Forum for World Peace at the United Nations, and thus give a voice to the wisdom holders of all traditions - as an essential contribution to the Millennium Development Goals of the United Nations.

World Peace Media

We celebrate over ten years of Peace Media activities and the founding of “Peace Times for the World” (October 1996), and I am therefore very happy that all our efforts have brought fruit with the creation of Lama Gangchen World Peace Media owing to the generosity and dedication of both Mr Felix S.T. Chen and Mr Sunny Kuo. They have taken us on a broader global communication journey at world level with DVD and television. Their peace investment contributes invaluable to the expanding peace message broadcasting and I am very grateful that they have also given headquarters to LG World Peace Media in South China.

International Collaboration and exchanges with Non-Governmental Organisations

This year new history is in the making with our III World Congress “Verbania 2005”: Peace Environment for Your Health. We have pledged to make the best investment by taking care of our sacred mountains, oceans, rivers, and lakes (such as the beautiful Lake Maggiore and surrounding lakes), our plants, trees and all the beings which depend on them for their lives. With globalization we now need to foster friendship even more: from Lake to Lake environment, Mountain to Mountain environment, City to City environment, Village to Village environment, East to West, and thus cultivate new meeting points and great human feelings.

I wish to express my special thanks to the China Society for Promotion of the Guangcai Programme-China, United Nations affiliated NGO and to the China Association for the Preservation of Tibetan Culture for our long and fruitful cooperation.

Historically, Italy and China already established a strong connection during the time of Marco Polo and now we are bringing together lakes and mountains through Lama Marco Polo!

I would also like to thank the Wu Tai San World Buddhist Foundation, China-NGO. We are working together to create a holy Buddhist temple and a World Peace Culture museum and library, as well as a Peace magazine.

May all be auspicious for all our projects as we make the best investments for this new millennium at personal, local, national and international levels towards a true culture of peace.

This book is given on the occasion of our journey to the Holy Wu Tai Mountain Celebrations in 2005 to receive the Five Wisdom Mountains' blessings, before being distributed to the five continents.

By the Power of the Truth
Non-Violent Investments
Peace Investments - Best Investments
Truly Beneficial Investments

Inner and World Peace Now and Forever
By all Holy Beings Blessings
By all Human Beings Attention - Please!



T.Y.S. Lama Gangchen - Lama Healer

前言

适逢本人2005年7月7日65诞辰之际，我亲爱的友人史蒂华-凯-德恩及其女儿佳玛●加菲奈力，儿子葛智阿诺-加菲奈力一家，赞助再版翻印此书，●本人仅表万分高兴与感激。而了解本世纪我们究竟该作甚么及她们全家参与此善事的意义；这远比她们所作的贡献更具价值，应是值得大书特书的。

我仅将此书献给我的所有友人与同道者。

建议设立永久性世界和平精神论坛

在此本人还想对那些为联合国新世纪发展里程碑作出主要贡献之诸传统之智者说几句话，作为纪念我个人及众多友人及支持者为设立永久性世界和平精神论坛所付出努力的10周年铭记。

世界和平传媒

我们还纪念十年来和平传媒之诸活动，及1996年10月“世界和平时报”的创刊，我也特别庆幸正是出于这些努力催生了“刚坚喇嘛世界和平传媒”这一结晶，这乃出自陈盛田先生及郭松年先生之无私奉献。他们以DVD及电视传播将我们带到泛全球通讯之旅，他们的和平投资对拓展和平信息传播作出了无以估价的贡献。我很庆幸他们在南中国建立了“刚坚喇嘛世界和平传媒”基地。

与非政府机构之合作与交流

今年我们在以<为您的健康营造和平环境>为主题的“费尔巴尼亚2005”第三届世界大会上，踏出了历史性的一步。我们竭尽己力为保护我们的圣山、圣海、圣河、圣湖(诸如优美的麦基瑞湖及其周边诸湖)、我们的植物、树林及所有赖以生存的万物作了最佳投资。由于全球一体化，我们更应促进我们的友谊：从湖到湖的环境、●从山到山的环境、●从城市到城市的环境、从村庄到村庄的环境、从东方到西方去培育新的交会点及更伟大的人类情感。

我对联合国非政府机构成员中国光彩事业促进会及中国西藏文化保护发展协会与我们长期、成果丰硕之合作表示衷心感谢。

历史上，义大利与中国，在马可孛罗时代曾有过紧密的联系；而今马可孛罗喇嘛将我们牢牢团结在五湖四海。

我也要感谢中国非政府机构：五台山世界佛教基金会。我们将紧密地结合在一起，为共同建立神圣的佛寺、世界和平博物馆、图书馆及和平杂志而努力。

让我们为所有这些工程项目祈福，因为这是我们在这一新世纪，面向真诚和平文化之所有个体、地方、国家、或国际层面，所作的最佳投资。

在分发此书到世界各地前，在2005年我们赴五台圣山庆典之旅的时节，此书将受到五座圣山的加持。

以真理的力量

非暴力投资

和平的投资

乃最佳的投资

真正利众生的投资

内心与世界的和平

从现在到永远

以所有圣者的加持

恳请全人类的关注

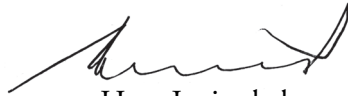
活佛刚坚喇嘛



T.Y.S. Lama Gangchen - Lama Healer

Testimonies

... Lama Gangchen has become an icon of international understanding, tolerance, and harmony with nature. His writings, his healings and above all his concept of a Spiritual Forum for the United Nations has earned him the respect of world leaders. A Tibetan Lama Healer of universal significance he has found the words to express the deepest desires of mankind: peace, freedom, love and happiness ...



Hans Janitschek
President of United Nations Society of Writers
New York

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 শ্রী মহাশয় (শ্রী) T.Y.S. Lama
 Gangchen
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 ২২৫ নং, এনএল হিল রোড, ১০০
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 মহাশয়, ১০০ শ্রী শ্রী
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The Most Respected Spiritual Leader of the world, His Eminence T.Y.S. Lama Gangchen, today came here to the International NGO Conference in Seoul, South Korea, to bring a message for Universal Peace: Through His legacy, I believe this message may play an effective role to establish peace throughout the world.

The dedication of this spiritual leader, T.Y.S. Lama Gangchen, towards mankind and international security, is appreciated by world leaders and spiritually recognised by the World Spiritual Assembly of the USA.

I pray to All Mighty God for His long life and success in his goal.

God Bless You

His Eminence Shah Sufi Mohammad Nurul Alam
 President - a World Spiritual Assembly
 New York, USA

Seoul - South Korea, the 13th of October 1999

Foreword

As we prepare to cross the cosmic gate which signals that we are part of this Planet's life in the next millennium, this book must be one of our essential companions. I must confess that my primary and secondary education, BA, MS and Ph.D. did not prepare me to address many aspects of my every day life. Despite many years of formal education, these did not contribute much to teach me how attain peace on Earth and, more importantly, how to attain my own inner peace. That is why I believe this book is one of the most beautiful gifts that Lama Gangchen has given to humanity!

Reading this book (more than once) will enliven your hearts, as you will begin to see his clear vision of where humanity should be. This book presents in simple words his profound and unique understanding of life on Earth. It opens the holy space we all are searching for to finally live that personal encounter with the fundamental solutions to our uncertain future. A very beautiful collection of powerful messages on how to «Create a Peaceful Media Environment». Each chapter enlivens a singular aspect of our existence in ways I never thought it was possible. Reading this book felt like a masterfully crafted inner experience of becoming one's own reality and acquiring holistic self-empowerment. His thoughts will assist all of those who are trying to conquer their fears and will touch on the most intimate mechanisms of our existence.

As the next millennium approaches so rapidly, I always thought that the time has come to reflect on our achievements. It seems fundamental to evaluate our actions in relation to what we have accomplished as we attain different (hopefully higher) levels of welfare. However, after reading this book, more than once, I came to the realisation that such evaluation is not sufficient. The perspectives of Lama Gangchen call also for an evaluation of the legacy we are leaving behind, as our societies get (hopefully) better off. In essence, it is not a matter of what one has accomplished (as a person or as a society), but of what we have left for future generations.

Let us look at the record. From the point of view of our achievements, there seems to be a consensus that the «material» balance sheet of the world is much better than ever before. In terms of literacy, life expectancy, access to essential material goods and services, and the like, the last generations have not done so bad. Technological change has been one of the essential ingredients, allowing us to shorten distances; to communicate better, faster and cheaper; to understand life here on Earth and in other planets; to eliminate major diseases; to increase the productivity of our lands and avoid unnecessary famines, and so on.

However, in terms of our legacy, we see something more disheartening. Specifically, we see that in spite of the billions of dollars spent in the name of economic development, there are still 1.3 billion people who live with less than a dollar a day, and more than half a billion people who

suffer from severe malnutrition. Furthermore, there are approximately 600.000 women who die every year of complications during pregnancy and childbirth because they do not have access to health care, and there are thousands of children who die every day of diseases whose cures are well known. This is a century that will be remembered as one that left a legacy entitled «poverty». The same fragile balance permeates our natural environments, as the tropical rain forests are being depleted at alarming rates, wildlife and other bio-diversity resources are not sufficiently managed or protected, water and air pollution of many sorts are at its highest levels... This is a century that will be remembered as one that left a legacy entitled «environmental destruction». But, there is another dimension of this legacy: our inability to attain peace and social stability on Earth. And, this is where the book becomes mandatory to all of those who are engaged in decision-making. When historians begin to look back at the 20th Century, they will not only report on World War I and II - where so many people were killed and so many nations destroyed. In addition, they will report on the more than 100 wars or civil strifes that have taken the life of nearly 30 million people.

This will not be remembered as the century of peace. This century did not look at peace as the source of empowerment for humanity; on the contrary, empowerment has been sought through an arms race of alarming proportions that has become the most important threat to life on this planet. There has been the arms race by all nations - not only the rich nations - which has been used as an instrument of peace and stability. An approach that could not be farthest away from the sources and foundations of peace!

This is a century that will be remembered as one that left a legacy entitled «social deterioration and instability».

As one understands better the demographic projections regarding our future (e.g., population and urbanisation in the world), it is now clear that we will see the doubling of the world population in the early part of the next millennium. Thus, there will be a very large number of crowded cities, particularly in developing countries, and we are seeing that the risks of increased crime, drug addiction, social deterioration, unemployment, and the like, are extremely high. Therefore, it will not be unreasonable to expect a world with a large mass of younger people looking for work and an equally large group of elderly persons to whom the «productive» strata of the population will have to take care of.

All the economic, financial, social, ecological and political crises of today are the mirror images of the major spiritual crisis that the world lives today.

Good economics is only a necessary condition to eradicate the economic crises. By the same token, all the good financial, social, ecological and political practices within our societies seem to be several steps removed from the real and sustainable solution to their problems. And, it is no surprise then to see a number of paradoxes facing humanity today (e.g., food production is significant while malnutrition still exists, growth of material welfare is at its peak while poverty continues to increase). In the final hour of the day, actions confined to the economic, financial, ecological, social and political fields are just short-term palliatives. Lama Gangchen's message is clear in this respect: the real solution to major world problems requires us to adopt a set of «superior» values and goals that can only be developed and sustained within the inner space of our lives.

This book tells us that there is only one way out from these crises: peace. And, that peace is the sharp and shining diamond that must be used to carve a real and lasting prosperity on Earth.

Now is the time to reflect upon our existing approaches to development and social change. We should ask ourselves if these are effective or even suitable to address the above mentioned legacies. This book teaches us that major transformations need to take place, and that these have their

origin exactly in the opposite «space» we have been using and relying upon in the past. The major lesson today is that the transformation process must start with inner change rather than with outer change. This is to say that: the source of peace and security is rooted in ourselves; the roots of change will not come from changing the outer notion of our lifestyles, but rather as a result of higher levels of consciousness and behaviour; and the quality of development and change will depend mainly on the quality of our decisions and our choices, all of which are a mirror image of our inner souls.

At the foundation of Lama Gangchen's message there is a key principle I fully share: that peace is the only source of (material and non-material) wealth and prosperity, environmental healing and conservation, and social stability.

The messages in this book show that a single-barrel approach to the creation and distribution of material wealth - enhanced through economic, social and political decisions anchored in the outer world - is not enough to resolve the fundamental problems we will face in the next millennium.

It is a fact that today's global problems need a different set of solutions. We have reached some level of «economic and financial fatigue». We have also reached «political fatigue». The world cannot depend only on such outer mechanisms, without understanding fully that at the root of markets and governments lies each and every one of us. We are the pillars of all the instrumentality we see «outside» us.

This book teaches us another way of making decisions: it teaches us that there are inferior and superior instruments to pursue progress or welfare enhancement and that we seem to be using inferior instruments to achieve superior states of human welfare; it teaches us that «peace» is a superior form of human welfare, and superior to any other objective we may articulate in the context of economic and social development. As long as we delay bringing peace to the core of decision making, the puzzle will always lack in essential pieces to make this a different world.

The beauty of Lama Gangchen's principles and philosophy is its simplicity. Our reality is essentially simple. Our life is simple. The truth is simple. He teaches us that fear, misunderstanding of who we are, our misconstrued attitudes towards money and wealth, our language and behavioural patterns, and some parts of our value and belief system have become the most effective blindfolding mechanism of our hearts and souls. We are the ones who make every aspect of life complicated! Within this context, Lama Gangchen: focuses on non-formal education as a centrepiece for teaching the real foundations of peace; assesses the media and its importance for peace making and peace loving; points out who is responsible for peace - all of us!! -; sees how even sports can be a source of peace or of its destruction; shares his vision of inner transformation and self-healing which begins not in the science but in the intuition and feeling level of humanity; assists us in walking from separation and duality - the here and there, the outer and the inner, the matter and the non-matter - to the essence of who we really are: oneness (one in all and all in one).

The most powerful realisation comes when the heart begins to read the book rather than our eyes or our brain. As the heart takes over, one begins to really understand peace environment, peace economy and peace development and progress. The boundaries between individual and collective actions or between individual and collective responsibilities begin to disappear, to enter into our world with total unity in purpose. Where, for example, the meaning of the word «globalisation» goes far beyond simple notions of trade and finances; rather, it penetrates into the foundations of who we really are and into our collective mission and responsibilities. Thus,

a person's pain from the negative impacts of globalisation becomes the pain of his or her community, the pain of the community becomes the pain of the nation, and the pain of any nation becomes our collective suffering.

The book brings Lama Gangchen's gift of transformation, from a paradigm of «to fit or not to fit» or «to win or not to win», to what was expressed so well by William Shakespeare: «to be or not to be». It is a call for bringing the economic, social, environmental and political structures we are so involved in these days into the «peace» and «being» dimensions of our lives, and for addressing inner violence as the source of our destruction as a civilisation. It teaches us that the solution to most of our «outer» problems begin with inner growth and evolution. The book presents the naked expression of the laws of nature, the laws of non-violence, and the laws of human rights, all inserted in the most beautiful constitution of the universe.

Thanks, Lama Gangchen for bringing to us the real message of peace on Earth. But most importantly, thank you for being the essence of peace!

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Alfredo Sfeir-Younis', with a stylized, flowing script.

Alfredo Sfeir-Younis
Special Representative at the United Nations
of the World Bank, New York, USA

Voices of peace

A third millennium challenge to the media «become messengers of peace».
Cultivate attitudes of non-violence by spreading positive messages.

Millions of newspapers are published throughout the world: all engrossed in printing bad news, offering bad examples, emphasizing violent acts, amplifying vulgar small talk. In order to offer an alternative to these negative informations and to contribute towards the transformation of a culture of violence into a culture of peace, I wanted to see the birth of «Peace Times». Published quarterly, its focal point and strength will be in spreading news that yield good feelings. It shall primarily offer information about the Lama Gangchen World Peace Foundation's activities, which are the very testimonies of my efforts in showing how relevant the teachings of Buddha Shakyamuni and Lama Tsongkhapa still are today, and how they can be integrated into our daily life. «Peace Times» will however also be committed to reflecting the realities of other associations, foundations and spiritual traditions working for inner development and world peace. It will always be a product of the «good thought supermarket».

«Peace Times» sees the light in Milan, Italy, and takes up the challenge of educating people to cultivate inner peace in order to enjoy world peace, and to practise the Ngalso Self-Healing methods. It aims to go from strength to strength. I am convinced that newspapers can be a fantastic peace messenger, and that everyone needs inner peace to be happy: if we allow ourselves to be devoured by anxiety, anger, jealousy and hate, we will suffer, even if we are rich, beautiful and loved.

This publication, already destined to double in size by the next issue, to be printed in January, will inform you about the development of the proposal to create a permanent Spiritual Forum within the United Nations, and elaborate a global system of peace education. This is my gift to the generations of the third millennium. We will keep you informed on the progress of Peace Publications and Peace Radio. We will of course not forget the Global Open University, the Lama Gangchen International Peace Association and the Himalayan Amazon Andes Healing Arts Association which spread environmental culture with the use of tantric practices; nor will we forget about the World Peace Services Association which, in Milan organises dharma courses, Self-Healing courses, the art of sacred painting workshops, as well as traditional Tibetan medicine, astrology and massage courses. It further organises art exhibitions and concerts with, among others, the United Peace Voices who re-elaborate the antique Tibetan tradition through the sounds of modern world music; or still the Kunpen Lama Gangchen Institute successfully appealing to the public and finding generous people sponsoring the education of needy Tibetan

children, as well as economically helping various monasteries, schools, medical dispensaries and hospital in India, Nepal and Tibet. The Institute further finances fund-raising tours in Italy for groups of monks specializing in Cham dancing and the construction of sand mandalas.

«Peace Times» will also share with you the experiences of the pilgrimages made throughout the world by the Foundation's group of peace messengers, and inform you about forthcoming pilgrimages. Even if until now, we have not had time for peace, the time has come for us to take on the commitment to heal ourselves, our society and the world by the power of the truth.

(Peace Times 1, October 1996)



Peace Media

Transforming violent media
into non-violent media

Peace Culture
Peace television
Peace radio
Peace newspapers
Peace magazines
Peace films
Peace internet
Peace entertainment
Peace music
Peace clubs
Peace songs
Peace dancing
Peace fashion
Peace art

Please
Peace with everything
Everything with peace



Defeat fear, make peace triumph

Abandoning aggressive and self-destructive behaviour to live in harmony.
Become a spiritual gardener and cultivate the positive by following the principles of non-formal education and non-violence.

There is one solitary battle to fight: against fear. The fear to err; the fear of past mistakes; the fear of delusion; the fear of something unpleasant happening to us; fear manifests in a thousand ways. If we take a closer look even jealousy and pride are faces of fear. We are afraid of the street and we are afraid in the house with our wife or husband, with our children, with our parents. We are afraid to stay in a crowd and we are afraid to be alone. We are afraid in the face of scholastic education as well as ordinary education. We are afraid to be without money and we are afraid if we have a lot of money. We are afraid even of love. We are at the mercy of fear. Fear is our number one enemy, capable of generating violence in us and in society: we are afraid of others and therefore we use violence to protect ourselves; we are afraid of not being liked, of losing our beauty or our good fortune and so, violence runs wild inside us. We continuously live our lives finding ourselves swaying between aggressivity and self-destruction.

There is, however, a way to defeat fear: we can do it by cultivating inner peace. You may ask how? By transforming ourselves into humble, spiritual gardeners, passionately dedicated to yielding beautiful flowers of pure energy in the deep of our body and mind.

We start by purifying our inner ground, physical, mental and emotional. We then sow the seeds of peace. We tend them. And when our garden is in full bloom, we will have finally dispersed our fear and the other negative emotional bonds we are carrying inside, everything will be easier both in our daily life and in society.

Peace does not reign in the world because it does not reign within us. It is the inner peace of each living being which creates the base for universal peace.

In order to live in peace, we must educate ourselves to live without fear. Peace education is the only education which teaches us how to live in happiness; it is a non-formal educational method of positive thought and non-violence, and we all need it. Scientists need it just as politicians need it and so too psychologists, children, teachers and students... peace is the one morality that society needs, and it is the only thing which can help us to live even the most difficult situations without suffering. Governments' efforts to overcome the various causes for social violence are not enough. I propose to launch peace education programmes, mainly in elementary schools: men and women of the future could learn today to listen to their inner world and to transform emotions into positive thoughts and actions.

(Peace Times 2, January 1997)

“

Inner Peace

Transforming violent minds
into non-violent minds

Peace emotions

Peace feelings

Peace thoughts

Peace wishes

Peace memories

Peace hopes

Peace experiences

Peace mindfulness

Peace attention

Looking peacefully

Listening peacefully

Touching peacefully

Moving peacefully

Thinking peacefully

Peace relationships

Peace therapy

Peace union

Peace marriage

Peace separation

Peace divorce

Please

Peace with everything

Everything with peace

”

Choose non-violent culture

Renounce the aggressivity and self-destruction of modern society.
Stop fighting for enjoyment and rediscover a new possibility for your life
through non-formal education.

Violence is everywhere. It is not only in the streets of big cities, but also inside our own mind. It lives inside us, continuously nestling between our thoughts and manifesting in frowns, harsh movements and angry words. It pollutes family relations, love, friendship and work; even children's games and sport activities reflect the culture of violence of modern society; we even fist fight for fun... We are so used to violence that we consider it normal.

Television, radio, cinema and newspapers continuously spread bad news, and so infiltrate our mental computers with a series of endless aggressive and self-destructive informations, to which we automatically refer to in our various daily behaviours. Consequently, our actions will be tinged with violence and negativity.

Nowadays, everything is streamlined by violence. World cultures resemble one another so much because they are all permeated with violence. Where is the ancient wisdom which made us interact in a peaceful and serene way whatever the relative reality.

We have ended up forgetting all those non-formal educational teachings, which in the past made us develop our intuitive abilities, our instinct, patience, understanding and tolerance. In a world which is so used to angry reactions, balanced on nervous tension, even to the extent of making it difficult to listen peacefully, the first step is simply to recognise the real state of affairs; change the course and travel towards a more just and more stable society, which is above all compassionate and wise. Suffice to decide no longer to live on the swing between negative emotions, prey to anger or depression and always victims of fear.

We must personally assume responsibility for giving a new base to a culture of peace, without expecting someone else to do it.

Let us turn the tables around and stop agreeing with our arrogance and selfishness: violence deserves no indulgence. Let us decide now to transform violence into non-violence, darkness into light, hate into love, just as tantra teaches us. Let us absolutely refute violence. Let us do it for ourselves - and let us be honest - we have had enough of enduring and inflicting, let us do something for the future generations who really have the right to a «possible» world to live in. The non-formal education of non-violence contributes towards the creation of more balanced individuals, able to form a peaceful and harmonious society, with the most absolute respect for the natural surrounding environment as well as its inhabitants.

Peace education does not end after one course, it lasts a lifetime. All we need is a good and altruistic motivation, and: the first to benefit from renewed peace will mainly be ourselves; and then our wife, our husband, our children...

Everything, even the hardest experiences life has in store for us, will have the taste and delicate scent of perfect original beauty in the culture of peace and universal harmony.

(Peace Times 3, April 1997)



Peace Culture

Transforming a culture of violence
into a non-violent culture

Violent times transform into non-violent times
Violent people transform into non-violent people
Violent jobs transform into non-violent jobs
Violent sports transform into non-violent sports
Violent medicines transform into non-violent medicines
Violent minds transform into non-violent minds
Violent therapies transform into non-violent therapies
Violent religions transform into non-violent religions
Violent environments transform into a non-violent environments
Violent foods transform into non-violent foods
Violent travels transform into non-violent travels
violent societies transform into non-violent societies
Violent scientific researches transform into non-violent scientific researches

Please
Peace with everything
Everything with peace



Thumbs Up non-formal education

Let's integrate formal and non-formal education to develop inner peace.

An education to enhance our life by improving our inter-personal and working relationship

Some things are not taught in school. For this reason, even if we have a very high level of education, we often find ourselves in difficulty in our everyday life. The fact is that the knowledge we acquired from elementary school through to university level, does not help us to live in peace with ourselves and with others; it does not save us from the emotional vortex, it does not liberate us from doubt and from fear.

When we experience some suffering be it physical or mental, the education which we received at school confirms its limits: all of the abstract concepts we have learnt become irrelevant and we find ourselves alone with our anger, jealousy, hard feelings and pain.

Of course a scholastic education has an important and unquestionable social value. However, even more important is an education we can define as “non-formal”: it is an education aimed at deeply forming a person, teaching how to interact with instinct and feelings, deal with one's own mind in a positive way, making it clear, strong and happy in any given moment, in order to develop personal, psychological and creative potentials to their maximum.

Non-formal education is a permanent process: it begins in the mother's womb and continues day after day; it supports us in accepting ageing, or in the case of illness.

Even at the time of death, non-formal education helps us to die in peace without ever abandoning our mental continuum. It is a deep form of education and at the same time very subtle, which unleashes the warmth of love. Nothing complicated: in essence we are taught how to cultivate inner peace to live in harmony with the nature of things. Its precepts are of help in our inter-personal and working relationships; they help us deal with any life situation with serenity and awareness, even those more painful. It is reflected in our way of looking, moving, talking and naturally thinking. Learning how to think in a positive way and creating space in one's mind is both possible and necessary.

All great religions have always treasured that which can be considered the fundamental principles of non-formal education.

The holy beings of any traditions, have all taught meditational methods to interact with one's own subconscious with pureness, as well as with that of the surrounding environment, in the name of the culture of non-violence and universal peace. Therefore, the contribution from spiritual traditions could be decisive in turning about the violent tendency which today distresses the world. Their message could be truly universal, offering new solutions to life, even for non-believers.

At the dawn of the third millennium, the challenge is to integrate non-formal education into the existing school system, and liberate learning from fear.

Moreover, in the new process of integrated learning, great merit could go to the modern systems of mass communications, as well as international institutions. If everyone learns to live in perfect inner balance, society will then also know peace.

(Peace Times 4, July 1997)

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Peace Education

Transforming a violent society
into a non-violent society

Peace school
Peace nursery
Peace college
Peace university
Peace hospital
Peace police
Peace army
Peaceful prisons
Peaceful borders
Peace organisation

Please
Peace with everything
Everything with peace

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New solutions for our planet

Let us take personal responsibility for healing the world eco-system.
In this technological era, nature is deeply polluted and so is our inner world.
Non-violence is our only hope.

We are living in times of high technology and mass communications, but on the energetic and environmental level, this is a time of degeneration. The great scientific progresses over the last decades, have been spelled out by too many choices that led to enormous damages to nature; this has now resulted in our modern global village of a thousand comforts to be on the verge of collapse.

We must urgently find new solutions to save our planetary eco-system from total destruction: let us take personal responsibility to change ways, let us recognise the preciousness of Mother Earth, and let us choose to use only those technologies which respect the environment. Naturally science can be very useful, however, we want it non-violent and clean, that is sustainable.

Nowadays, all the elements of nature are deeply upset by pollution and, through the interdependence of cause and effect which exists between the planet and the human body, our inner world is also contaminated. The mind and body of human beings make up a microcosm which mirrors the external world: the energies in both universes are exactly the same, although on a different scale. By unbalancing the planetary eco-system, we unbalance both our body and our mind. By destroying the Earth, we destroy ourselves.

If we understand the interdependence which links all phenomena, and if we analyse both the positive results as well as the negative results of our actions upon the environment, we will learn to act in accordance, and we will develop the wish and the necessary energy to purify the five elements which make up the microcosm and macrocosm.

By purifying the elements and the energies of our inner universe, we can positively influence the elements and energies of the entire cosmos. In order to heal the environment it is therefore fundamental that we recognise the existence of the inner world. To regenerate the eco-system it is not necessary for us to revert to primitive living, we simply must transform our inner attitudes, by developing an ecological vision of existence, and by facing the problems of our times without fear, but with wisdom and a great sense of responsibility. Our negative thoughts are a very powerful cause for pollution: they invariably lead us to committing wrong actions and to taking the wrong decisions: fear, for example, drives us to protect ourselves by projecting aggressive behaviour around us.

The Earth is pervaded by female energy, the very energy which is the most potent medicine to heal the planet. Naturally, both men and women possess this energy: the time has now come to rediscover the positive female energy which is in us all, in order to make peace with the environment. According to Buddhism it is possible, through the power of meditation, to transform, regenerate and heal the essence of the five elements that make up both the planet and our inner world. Of course, all religious and spiritual traditions contain the principle of respect for nature: in order to contribute effectively to the healing of the eco-system, religious leaders should reveal those ancient and secret spiritual practices which pacify the negative inner attitudes that lead us to destroying the world, by committing themselves to increasingly cooperate with scientists, with politicians and particularly in partnership with the United Nations.

(Peace Times 5, October 1997)



Environmental Peace

Transforming a violent environment
into a non-violent environment

Peace homes
Peace villages
Peace cities
Peace habitat
Peace planet
Peace elements
Peace mountains
Peace valley
Peace savannahs
Peace plains
Peace forests
Peace rivers
Peace oceans
Peace animals

Please
Peace with everything
Everything with peace



Peace & money

How to win over economical instability.

No more fear and increased profitable business with a clear and stable mind.

Money is one of life's great preoccupations, whether we have a lot of it or too little: we are afraid to lose it just as we are afraid of being unable to have enough. We are all practically slaves of money, and some go as far as considering it the only true god. We tend to identify ourselves with our bank account and so, when its balance goes down, so too does our self esteem. Not only do economic difficulties destroy our homes, unfortunately they can also destroy our friendships and our family; this is the work of our mind. If the stock market crashes or inflation gallops, our material riches immediately dissolve and as a result, the stability of our lives is at risk: our mind increasingly weakens, crushed by fear, anger and frustration. On the other hand, we cannot think to control at will the innumerable factors which influence the economy and the working world. That which we can certainly do instead, is to develop our inner qualities, which are not subject to the financial market's oscillation... in this way we can learn to keep our minds stable and peaceful in any circumstance. With a stable mind, we will know how to increase our business even more, or sustain it in case of a drop, because peace makes us fearless.

There are those who think that peace makes one less strong. Not true. Quite on the contrary, it is a powerful font of energy which can be used to promote one's own social image and increase income. Do try and organise your business according to the ethics of non-violence towards others and the environment: you will realise that peace pays, and how. He who points to aggressivity to better sell his own work is the one who is mistaken. One is by far more intelligent when one uses positive non-violent energy, and it is human warmth which generates a top quality product. In those dark moments it will be much easier to discern the solutions from the problems with a still, clear and calm mind. To face stress and the fear of losing one's acquired social status - the uncertainty and alienation from work - only becomes possible if one develops love and compassion; qualities which are more useful than degrees when one is in difficulties. To reconcile ourselves with money, let us begin by rejecting any non-ethical work and investments. Let us educate ourselves and both our administrators and employees into a management of money according to the law of non-violence, as well as in the name of cooperation, tolerance, patience and compassion. Any business nurtured by inner peace energy and a happy and altruistic attitude, is destined to be successful and automatically become more stable and stronger.

Let us "finance" our inner peace. It is the best investment there is. Peace is a commodity which will never crash and will always be in fashion. Let us make peace with money.

(Peace Times 6, January 1998)

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Peace Economy

Transforming violent jobs
into non-violent jobs

Peace office

Peace work

Peace business

Peace management

Peace workplace

Peace organisation

Peace corporation

Peace cooperative

Peace money

Peace investment

Peace insurance

Peace taxation

Peace pension

Please

Peace with everything

Everything with peace

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Spirituality belongs in everything

Reflections upon daily life to transform the violent tendencies of society.

The key to peace is held within the precious teachings of all religions.

The search for inner peace is the spiritual practice which each one of us can dedicate ourselves to in everyday life with awareness. It does not matter whether we are Buddhist or Catholic, Muslim or Jewish; nor does it matter in which god we believe or whether we are atheist: peace is the essence of every religion and every spiritual tradition; moreover, it is a lay value which is universally recognised. All - believers and non - agree that peace is necessary in order to live happily.

To triumph upon the earth, peace must first of all affirm itself in our inner world. To cultivate inner peace means to commit oneself to disarming the mind in order to rediscover its pure original nature, by purifying it from prejudice, greed and hate, as well as from all the negative emotions which pollute it and render it reactive, aggressive and «small».

Each thought, glance, gesture and action can be governed by the pure spiritual energy which sustains life. Prayer and labour of course, but also song, dance and games: everything becomes a means to practise peace. To bestow spirituality upon our precious human life, it is not necessary to stay in a monastery or spend the day in rigorous meditational exercises: that which is indispensable is to remember to sow peace within us and around us every moment, in every situation and in every place.

By committing ourselves to opening the flowers of harmony, generosity and joy, we will fill the garden of life: we will all rejoice as a result - including the planet - and even future generations will draw benefit from it.

Whoever and wherever they are, anyone can become a trainee spiritual gardener: teachers and business people, students and old age pensioners, house persons and athletes... Of course, it is a job which requires will, humility, perseverance and patience, but it gives infinite joy and is the only job able to lay solid bases for the realisation of peace in the world. Our inner ground needs taking care of from the moment we awake, with simplicity and love: we begin every new day by purifying the mind of dark thoughts and by deeply strengthening our motivation to transform negative into positive. The strong determination to choose a culture of non-violence in order to become messengers of peace, and do our best both for ourselves, for our family, for our country and for the entire universe, will make every moment of our day a continuous moment of authentic spiritual practice.

We must train hour after hour to live in peace, at home, in the office, in the bar, the school, whilst we are driving, whilst we are concluding business, when making love... On the threshold of the third millennium, we must decide to invert the violent tendency which permeates and spreads across all of our lives and the cultures of this world. Even scientific research and medicine can be violent, and so too can sports and entertainment, just like the mass media which assaults us increasingly by emphasizing cruelty and horror. We are the first to be violent even with those whom we love as well as ourselves: we attack to defend ourselves, we self-destruct out of fear, and this continuously. Degeneration is global and we are all partly responsible: let us immediately change course, let us invest in peace.

Religions have always taught how to sow, cultivate and stabilize inner peace. The practice of any of those powerful wisdom methods is suitable even for those who do not have - or believe not to have - anything to do with spirituality. Because, in these times of confusion and pollution, peace is the only possible morality left, able to bring together religious people, lay people, politicians and scientists in the name of life.

(Peace Times 6, January 1998)



Peace Spirituality

Transforming violent religion
into non-violent religion

Peace company
Peace monastery
Peace missionary
Peace messenger
Peace life
Peace birth
Peace ageing
Peace sickness
Peaceful suffering
Peaceful acceptance
Peaceful death
Peaceful transformation
Peaceful illumination

Please
Peace with everything
Everything with peace



Choose peace sports

Reflecting on physical activity and aggressive behaviour.
On the eve of the World Cup, let us kick off with loyalty and propriety in mind
to enjoy a non-violent competition, please!

Nowadays sadly, even sports have tuned into a culture of violence. The same sports which since “Magna Grecia” used to exalt the virtues of loyalty, propriety and non violence - aside from physical fitness - we find today denatured and virtually drained of their deepest meaning. The historical field slogan: «participation is more important than winning» - sounds rather anachronistic and out of mode, in a world where everyone wants to win at all costs, and no one recognises neither their own limits nor the merits of others. The motto: «mens sana in corpore sano» (healthy mind in a healthy body) - already dear to ancient Romans - no longer seems to make much sense, if athletes are willing to violate their own body by taking chemical substances to increase their chances of standing on the podium.

Competitive sport has come down with the violence sickness, as the numerous publicised cases of doping testify. Upon closer look, even recreational sports have unfortunately revealed themselves ratified by a culture of violence: the scope of physical activity should be one of health and pleasure, to strengthen the body and optimise one's own psycho-physical abilities. Instead, as we near the end of the century, fashion dictates that bodies should resemble top models and Hollywood actors, and so we find ourselves practising that which should be healthy physical exercise, with the paranoid vision of fanatical fitness.

We need to educate our children in choosing to practise and follow only those sports that go hand in hand with living in peace.

It has become of paramount concern that people should give growing attention to extreme sports, which are based on violent confrontations and danger: violent behaviour not only affects those performing, but also those who spectate: suffice to think about the terrible and frequent explosions of anger between opposing fans which plague football stadiums all around the world. The time has come for an urgent and sincere in-depth examination of the reality of sport and associated violent behaviour. As the World Cup is about to kick off in June, this is surely an opportune moment for everyone to reflect and meditate upon their own sporting behaviour. Let us rediscover the true values of sport. Enough with violence on the field. Let us transform violent sports into non-violent sports. And let us give ourselves whole heartedly to peace sports.

(Peace Times 7, April 1998)

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Peaceful Sports

Transforming violent sports
into non-violent sports

Peaceful martial arts
Peaceful competition
Peaceful shooting
Peaceful boxing
Peaceful games

Please
Peace with everything
Everything with peace

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On holiday with peace

Depart for the holidays with the motivation to take advantage of the time for inner growth.
Far away from the daily stress of work, dedicate yourself to living every moment
with a peaceful and altruistic attitude.

Free. Light. Without stress. Without problems. Holidays, by definition, are for resting and enjoyment. But, they can also be used for something much more important. Far away from our normal daily commitments, which are marked by the relentless ticking of a clock, we can dedicate ourselves with tranquillity to opening our mind: overcoming our prejudices and enriching our inner life through reading good books, intelligent company and meditation.

It is not by chance, that the word «holiday» can be split - into «holy» and «day» - allowing us to discover the spiritual vocation of this time of year, in which we are allowed to stop work and enjoy a well earned rest... Our minds are very much attracted by the mountains, beaches and forests: contact with nature automatically makes the mind more aware of the interdependence of life and phenomena, making us feel more calm and satisfied.

During a holiday, we feel more stimulated and creative, and also more inclined to thinking positively. It is for this reason that, during this time we can learn with ease many new things regarding the world, other people and ourself. Visiting distant places and speaking with different people makes us without a doubt more educated, experienced and wise: examining our reactions helps us to achieve a new awareness about ourselves, and to rediscover the original nature of our mind which is pure like a crystal.

We can also use travel to overcome, one by one, our inner-most fears, our most profound hates and jealousies. In every place that we arrive, we can meditate on our particular torments and problems, but at the moment of departure we should leave them behind - simply abandon them. We have to put our «ego» under the spotlight to discover that we ourselves are generating our own suffering and unhappiness, and that the true enemy inside of us is exactly the same negative force which continuously pollutes our mind, makes our body weak, and causes violence in our gestures, in our speech and in our looking - putting all our relationships at a compromise.

Now, as we approach the moment of departure, between our bikini or thermal mountain socks, we should not forget to pack in our luggage the aim to live each moment of our holiday with an altruistic and peaceful attitude. In this way it will be a really profitable holiday.

(Peace Times 8, July 1998)

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Peace Times

Transforming a violent time
into a non-violent time

Peace morning

Peace night

Peace sleep

Peace dreams

Peace awakening

Peace second

Peace minute

Peace hour

Peace day

Peace week

Peace month

Peace year

Peace decade

Peace century

Peaceful third millennium

Peace future

Please

Peace with everything

Everything with peace

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Peace with the animal world

Learn from the animals how to offer a better future for the children of the third millennium.

Let's use our intelligence and knowledge to live peacefully with the animal kingdom,
by respecting and protecting their natural habitats.

Without birds, without fish, without insects... without animals of every form and size, the world would certainly no longer be the world. Helping animals to live, cancelling the risk of extinction, has got to be the aim and common task of all human beings at the dawn of the third millennium. It is our turn - animals of the human species - to assume the enormous responsibility of taking care of other beings, who like us, live on Mother Earth. By saving the fauna and flora of our planet, we save not only our present but we also offer the possibility to the children of the future to live in a better world. Due to the laws of interdependence that govern all phenomena, there is no doubt that if all the animals disappeared from the face of the Earth, we humans and the whole world would also disappear.

The national and international laws that have been approved, with the aim of protecting animals and their habitat, are of course important but they are not sufficient to fully realise this objective. We all need to learn as individuals to respect all living beings that are different from us, learning to relate with their needs in a peaceful way. We love our domesticated dogs, cats and canaries, treating them in all ways like sentient beings - as our true brothers and sisters, whilst this is wonderful it really does not have much sense if we continue to ignore the fact that the animals in the Amazon are everyday in greater danger of extinction.

We human beings believe that we are decidedly better than other animals. We feel superior because we consider ourselves gifted with intelligence, one which allows us to speak and express our will inside our democratic societies. Therefore, we are convinced that our rights are more valuable than those of animals - completely forgetting our true origin which is well known in both eastern and western cultures. We think that we are so intelligent, but at the end of the day we use our intelligence, of which we are so proud, to commit huge errors and create negative situations - the results of which fall upon other forms of life on the planet. The animals, that we judge as so inferior, live simply without imposing anything that is not their natural instinct. All of them have extraordinary qualities and over time they have demonstrated that they know how to do something which we humans do not: they do not harm the environment in which they live.

We live in our great cities, where we find it difficult to recognise even the seasons, and which do not help us at all to feel less lonely or isolated. And, if we really wanted to be sincere, we would

also recognise that the fear we experience every time we leave the house, is far greater than that our ancestors experienced when they left their caves to confront the ferocious and poisonous animals of the forests. It is time that we learnt to use our intelligence and the great knowledge that we are blessed with to free ourselves from all violent behaviour.

May peace triumph for all the animals that live in the high mountains, in the dense forests, in the dry deserts, in the sweet waters of lakes and rivers as well as in the salty water of seas and oceans, for those that fly in the air and those hidden underground. Let us save the animals and their natural habitats!

Peace Times 9, October 1998



Peace fauna

Making peace with animals

Peaceful mountains

Peaceful forests

Peaceful rivers

Peaceful oceans

Peaceful sky

Peace birds

Peace insects

Peace fish

Please

Peace with everything

Everything with peace



Religions uniting for peace

Proposal for a permanent spiritual forum at the UN
in answer to the challenges of the III millennium

How to live in harmony with oneself, with others and with the environment.
Let us listen to the voice of wisdom of religious leaders

Sometimes religions have caused war or have been used by political and social leaders to justify various forms of violence and oppression. But at the same time, religions have been able to contribute significantly to the development of a culture of peace, crossing state borders and cultural differences, by promoting values such as non-violence, mutual respect, solidarity, compassion and justice in unison. All religions teach how to live in harmony both individually, with others and with the environment; in essence they are methods to cultivate inner peace. All the religions - even though each has their own doctrine - can play a decisive role in the building of a world of peace, seeing as inner peace is the most solid basis for world peace.

What we need is a permanent spiritual forum to hear the voices of the leaders of all religions, united in cooperation; a forum based upon pure ethical values, which is actively involved in the peace process. Such a forum would have to be able to enter into systematic dialogue with the United Nations, the most important international institution which has been working for over fifty years to make peace triumph upon the planet; in this way - based upon their ancient wisdom - they would suggest new solutions to those responsible for social, economic and environmental global development. Religions would also benefit from the constitution of a permanent spiritual forum under the umbrella of the UN: doubtlessly this would draw new energy by being truly relevant to the lives of billions of beings living on the earth; it would receive extraordinary impulses to resolve even those self generated conflicts. Peace is the essence of every religion; it is the only thing which guarantees true happiness. In fact, it is the objective of both believers and atheists, politicians and scientists, economists and ascetics. Peace is in our hands!

(Peace Times - 10 - January 1999)

Never too late to live in peace

Let us educate ourselves to use our time well,
and learn to give a true sense to our existence

When it was born nearly three years ago, I entitled this newspaper «Peace Times». I did not choose to link these two words by chance or because they sound good together, I chose them and united them for the deep meaning they contain. That which I request you to buy is not a subscription to «Peace Times», - (even if the Lama Gangchen Peace Publications which publishes it is in need of your support) - but the very deep meaning which is symbolised in its name.

Nowadays time has become merely something of which «there is never enough». Peace has been reduced to being something which paradoxically is only obtainable through violence. «Peace Times» also refers to moments of peace, which in itself means that we must learn to use time well, and educate ourselves to living all «times» of our life in «peace». In order to fully appreciate the precious gift of a human life, peace must be present in every moment of every day. All our thoughts, words and actions should constantly be permeated with peace. With the motivation of wishing to do our best both for ourselves and for our family, for our country and the whole world, we truly dedicate our peace time to being insoluble. «Peace Times» is an easy slogan to remember, we can repeat it as if it were a short prayer in order to remember at all times and in whatever we are doing, that peace is an essential part of our life.

Upon waking in the morning, whilst we are taking care of our body, let us not forget to beautify our mind too by using the best existing make-up on the market: peace.

With peace within us, we are sure never to be alone no matter what the season or age in our existence. Peace accompanies us to school, in the office, when we go shopping, on our holidays, and even to hospital; it lives with us in our own home. It is present among us and our wife, husband, boyfriend, girlfriend, our parents, our neighbours, our colleagues, our children... Peace will never abandon us, not even when we are desperately looking for a parking space...

Our days, our nights and also our dreams must become of the same nature as peace. Just as each of our gestures, looks, words, each of our five senses should vibrate with peace.

With inner peace we shall have no more enemies; we shall be more beautiful because we will be rich inside.

Peace with everything, everything with peace.

(Peace Times - 11 - April 1999)

Peace at long last

Reflecting upon the long suffering war ending in Kosovo: who really won and who lost?
Armed conflicts defeat all. Lets put a stop to violent energetic and financial investments

Finally, there seems to be a ray of hope for peace in Kosovo. Thanks to the deep wish and prayers of all of us. It is the ideal moment to reflect upon who has lost and who has won. The answer can only be a dramatic one: everyone has lost, we have all lost. Even those who seem to have won, have in reality been defeated. A war only leaves behind a trail of death, desperation and devastation. By fighting, all the more when using weapons, one is anyway always destined to lose, because in the end there is nothing left for anyone, if not the tiresome task of rebuilding everything and every relationship.

Peace does not merely depend upon the will of governments, it is not only a question of international politics: it is a principle of global education. It literally depends upon each and everyone one of us. Even so, who knows why then we do nothing else than invest our energetic resources into fighting one day in one country and the next in another. The same goes for our financial reserves, we certainly act unwisely and without thinking long term: we relentlessly choose to invest in those sectors concerned with the production and commercialisation of violence; yet by doing so we blindly seek security and happiness in the wrong direction, merely creating an infinite vicious circle of suffering and fear of which we ourselves are sooner or later to fall victim.

Indeed what an example we give to our youngsters. And what devastating effects our warmongering has upon the environment: increasingly polluted by poisons, invaded by landmines and filled with intolerance, selfishness and hatred.

Until today, we have nothing better to show for it than incessant battling both with words and on the actual fields. It is time now for all of us to concentrate our efforts to create a better world for all: peace must be our common objective. Let us become more self-responsible in order that we may contribute actively to the creation of a new system of peace education, which can be viable for each and everyone, regardless of creed, colour or culture and this for the whole world. If we could only rediscover our original loving and compassionate nature, we would automatically find the solutions to all of our problems and the entire world would benefit from it. Human rights reside in the exclusive peace residence. By taking care of our inner peace, we can contribute concretely to the building of world peace.

Inner peace, world peace, now and forever;
with the attention of all human beings and the blessings of all holy beings.

(Peace Times - 12 - July 1999)

The challenge of the III millennium

The new Millennium is dawning, may it rise triumphant with peace! Let us put aside fear and harming prophecies by concentrating on positive thought, so that the future is not filled with desperation and suffering as the past has been. The priorities are many: put a stop to wars, child labour, the destruction of the eco-system, world famine... It has become a necessity to make life less expensive: both on the economic level as well as on the more subtle vital energy level. We must change our habits and diminish the amount of violence present in our daily lives and in the world at large.

The people of the XXIst century need to be educated to keep a peaceful mind, in order to act non-violently at all times and in all situations. It is becoming increasingly more evident that we need to rediscover the invaluable contribution to humanity of spiritual wisdom: to support a true global culture of peace it is important that a major United Nations Spiritual Forum is created. The new Millennium must include education programmes to transform the culture of violence into a culture of peace, so that we can recover the original harmonious nature of our mind and overcome any negativity... only inner peace can give us the clarity and courage to face all the problems we have inherited from the XXth century and the shadows which the dawning of the XXIst century has brought along. Let us renounce all forms of violence and give both our lives and our planet a new perspective of love and joy. Our individual inner peace is the most solid base we can offer to world peace. Peace is the solution to all our problems. By choosing peace we automatically bring a solution to our personal, family, social and even international conflicts.

The future of the world depends on us: let us act so as to permeate politics and science, medicine and economy, information and entertainment with the principals of non-violence. Peace is without a doubt the best investment for ourselves, for the global village and for future generations.

(Peace Times - 13 - October 1999)

Peace in 2000: best investment!

Auspicious new year to change our lifestyle

Welcome to the new century! We are in the sixteenth Rab Jung, the 60 year cycle of the lunar calendar adopted by Buddhists worldwide: the year 2000 is the year of the metal dragon. This year has great surprises in store as well as offering new opportunities; an ideal year to launch new and ambitious projects, and to “cut” all bad habits, negative thoughts, damaging emotions and all other interferences. The Metal Dragon is characterised by a stable and strong energy and therefore favours changes, inner as well as daily transformations, by reinforcing our motivation to better ourselves and make our positive qualities shine. Let us change our life now: let us make it more economical in all senses of the word: financial, energetic and emotional, as well as environmental. Let us invest in peace: it is the best investment we can aim for towards a good future for ourselves and that of our children, grand-children and great grand-children...

On a financial level, let us choose to spend our money to buy politically and ecologically sound products and advocate the respect for human dignity in the workplace and the production of materials which are non-polluting and non-violent towards any form of life. And let us invest our savings ethically: that means avoiding to put them at the service of any companies which may produce arms or poisonous substances, for instance.

Moreover, we should stop considering money as the supreme “best friend” of our life: everyone knows that money cannot buy happiness and cannot preserve us from death and sickness; peace on the other hand, can: it never abandons us, it pervades our mental continuum with bliss from life to life, helping us to overcome any situation - no matter how adverse - with a smile upon our lips.

Emotionally and energetically, it is easy to understand that anger, being consumed by hatred or jealousy, being suffocated by fear are all far too expensive. We only put our physical and mental health at risk, when we allow ourselves to be ruled by our emotions and by negative thoughts. We also put the stability of our work, family and friendships at risk.

As far as the eco-system is concerned, it is obvious to anyone - from Rome to Beijing, from New York to Cape Town - that we are dangerously nearing collapse. Therefore, let us stop polluting the seas, the earth and the skies; let us put a stop to over-consumption, to littering the four corners of our planet unnecessarily, to abuse electrical consumption.

We can have peace with us at all times: when we fall asleep and when we wake, during dreams and throughout the day, in every gesture, glance and word; the choice is ours, let us therefore choose peace, please!

(Peace Times - 14 - January 2000)

Life is made of this

Millions are still deprived of the right to clean water

Water, more precious than gold or even oil. The one element without which there is no chance of life. Nothing new of course in this statement, but at long last the issue has come off the 'backburner' and is making headline news, since the United Nations meeting in the Hague last March, which brought together experts, scientists and politicians from around the world who, in a collective voice, underlined the fact that the world today leaves billions of people without water. For example in Africa, where in the depth of its womb, Mother Earth would be rich in water resources, that which is missing is therefore not water, but the will to make financial investments in order for water to become available to all. In the meantime, in third world countries still far too many people are without access to drinking water and have no adequate sanitation or running water in their homes. On another level, it can be said that sadly things are not much better in western countries where this naturally available element, indispensable to life, has become an object of monopoly by governments and is, in some countries, financially run by private companies.

Water has taken on the role of «the gold of the third millennium»: its use traces a clear separation between poor and rich, between developed and under developed, between clean and dirty...

In the west, with showers and baths, washing machines and dishwashers, sanitation and gardens to hose, we take the privilege of consuming some 300 litres of water a day per person. Whereas in poor countries, like in Tibet for example, at this very moment there are thousands of men, women, elderly and children who are forced to walk miles to bring a tiny amount of water to their home; water which comes from dubiously hygienic wells and which therefore contributes to the spreading of sicknesses and infections.

This water to them is so precious that they cannot even use it to wash themselves or to clean their clothes and the environment, and even less to irrigate their fields.

According to dharma, the spiritual tradition which takes its roots in the teachings given by Buddha Shakyamuni 2,500 years ago, water is a very important and essential element. If we consider that the human body is mainly made up of water (about 75%), and that even the planet has more water than earth (in the form of lakes, seas, oceans, rivers and geysers), and that since centuries teachings have been passed down on how to respect, purify, strengthen an element so important to life, we too can clearly appreciate the vital role of water for life.

We can learn how to meditate upon the Tibetan letter Bam, which represents the water element, both on the macrocosm and microcosm levels, and invoke the great water mother Lochana - a Buddhist female divinity, white in colour - and her spheric mandala, to request her help in healing and transforming the impure water element of our internal and external environment. Through concentrative meditation, we definitely develop more awareness and learn to better use our planet's water resources so that all living beings may drink pure water and so that animals and all other forms of life may be free from the danger of extinction.

According to traditional Tibetan medicine, the water element corresponds to the heart chakra, as well as relating to the kidneys, bladder, ears and hearing sense. It is the water element which is responsible for the circulation of body fluids, such as the blood stream, lymphatic system, and so forth.

By making heartfelt requests to the great water mother, it is possible to passify all immune system disturbances, any allergies and cold natured related illnesses, as well as any astrological problems and negative interferences deriving from the influences of Mars and Mercury.

On the environmental level, by invoking the great water mother, excessive monsoons, acid rainfalls, floods, storms and the excessive rise in sea levels can all be appeased.

Aside from meditating to purify the water element present in the body and the environment, we can and must commit ourselves to doing something on a concrete and material level, in syntony with the teachings of the 'awakened one', that is Buddha Shakyamuni. This is of course also true according to the teachings of Jesus Christ who said «give water to those who thirst».

For this reason, the Lama Gangchen World Peace Foundation's commitment to bringing water in a poor and and all but forgotten part of the world, such as the place in Tibet where I was born, near Shigatse, is something to follow with full determination and a sincere sense of achievement.

(Peace Times - 15 - April 2000)

From east to west

Friendship in the name of spirituality and humanitarian aid

I was born and brought up in Tibet, in the “old Tibet” which existed before 1959. The Tibet of my youth was a society that had remained unchanged for centuries, profoundly permeated by spiritual values.

Due to circumstances, in the 80's, I was catapulted to the west, where I was immediately struck by the evidently deep suffering that surrounds the majority of people who live in this part of the world: stress, fear, doubt about the meaning of their own actions and of the value of their very existence.

Since then I have never stopped trying to share, with the greatest number of people possible, the invaluable patrimony of spiritual wisdom from my place of birth. The meditation practices taught by Buddha, and preserved for centuries in Tibet, can also be useful for those who belong to other religions and even for those people who only believe in finding personal happiness, inner harmony and peace of mind.

I have travelled the world spreading the NgalSo Self-Healing practice which condenses those antique teachings, and recently I have founded a centre of healing and meditation at Albagnano di Bee, near Lake Maggiore in Italy, with the aim of regularly transmitting the knowledge of dharma which offers new and more meaningful perspectives to daily life.

But I have never forgotten for even one day my own land, where people live in conditions of extreme poverty, without electricity and running water, without the support of primary social structures such as schools and hospitals. For this reason, I have dedicated myself to using every possible occasion to stimulate western people into helping humanitarian projects in Tibet. If it is true that Tibet can help western countries to develop a system of peace education, it is just as true that western countries can help Tibet to overcome their poverty. Help in Action, for example, collects money to help the poorest children and the most needy elderly people. The Association, which has its seat in Milan and is recognised by the Italian Government as a non-profit voluntary association of social utility, now counts more than 1000 sponsors (the majority of whom are Italian citizens, but also Swiss, German, French, Spanish, English and American) who financially sustain the same number of people living in Tibet or in the Tibetan refugee camps in India and Nepal. It does not take much to change the life of a person who is living in total poverty: with an amount equivalent to a pair of good shoes a child can be maintained in school for a whole year!

Moreover, for the past two years I have dedicated myself to finding the funds necessary to rebuild Gangchen Monastery, which was founded by my previous incarnation, to guarantee through its existence concrete help and full solidarity for the entire population of the area, as well as to preserve the unique teachings that have been passed down from guru to disciple for centuries. That which I propose is a reciprocal exchange between the east and the west, where each side offers that which is most easily available to them: Asia gifts peace to individuals and therefore offers a base for world peace, the west finances projects of social development. These aims, whether in the east or west, are equally important: they deal with healing diverse and difficult situations to return a sense of dignity to living beings.

The first results are encouraging: Gangchen Village has been reborn with the realisation of the new monastery and medical clinic, both built with thanks to the financial commitment of westerners; and the village of Albagnano also has something to look forward to with the beginning of Dharma courses and the arrival of many people who want to develop their own spirituality.

(Peace Times - 16 - July 2000)

Make peace the new fashion

I rejoice in the ever increasing number of meetings organised between the members of different spiritual traditions because I am convinced that interreligious dialogue can offer peace to each and every individual, as well as to the entire world. I also consider it particularly important that, in this day and age, organisations such as the United Nations and Unesco are opening their doors to spiritual leaders. I sincerely hope that peace will emerge as the new «fashion» in this millennium, followed and desired by everyone!

Many years ago, I left my monastery and the social status reserved in the east for reincarnated spiritual leaders to live in the west. I travel continuously propagating a message of inner peace, self-healing and environmental care. My principal spiritual practice is, in fact, based upon the development of inner peace. I have no knowledge or particular interest in politics; my only wish is to somehow contribute to the creation world peace.

We are now in the era of kaliyuga, the age of the five degenerations. The inner worlds of both people and the planet are restless and angry; the elements of the container (the earth) and of the contents (living beings) are seriously imbalanced and polluted. In these times, negative emotions and mistaken viewpoints are prevalent, death arrives all too easily and the global situation is fragile and dangerous.

Throughout history, various secular educational systems have been developed which, in some ways, have proved to be inadequate or difficult to enact. There also exist already many peace structures and systems, which are wonderful, but unfortunately these alone are not sufficient to satisfy all the needs of living beings. For this very reason today, at the beginning of the third millennium, it is necessary for religious leaders to seriously assume responsibility for the future of humanity and the planet by uniting to resolve the innumerable problems which torment the XXI century. It is their responsibility, and that of every practitioner, to build a solid foundation which makes inner peace education available to all.

All spiritual traditions and religions are rich in educational methods to develop inner peace which, however, have no weight in our modern society. To rediscover these ancient peace teachings religious leaders have to present them in a new updated package - adapted to the mentality of the new generations. The development of inner peace is a fundamental necessity of human beings, like food, clothes, shelter...

I am certain that the spiritual traditions can save humanity and contribute to the creation of world peace, by putting at the disposition of the planetary community their precious educational methods, after they are repackaged to adequately fulfil the needs of present day lifestyle.

Spiritual traditions can and should make constructive contributions to the organisation of this world, until the planet is a livable place for all beings. The super accelerated changes that have deeply affected global society have induced a great number of people to search for peace, health and happiness in the wrong directions. It is the duty of religious leaders to show to them the correct path. They have to work together on areas of common interest, without losing their cultural and philosophical doctrine, to make available all the ideas of their spiritual tradition. I believe that peace is the wish and objective of everyone - the essence of every religious tradition and the desire of all holy beings. I pray that the World Peace Buddha, Omniscient God, all the divinities and enlightened beings will help us to preserve our ancient inner science techniques, because peace education is the best opportunity we have to attain health and happiness for our children and the future generations of the third millennium.

(Peace Times - 17 - November 2000)

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Since the 8th of June 1995, when the proposal for a United Nations Spiritual Forum was first presented at ECLAC (the Latin American Headquarters of the United Nations Economic Commission) in Santiago, Chile, it has been publicised worldwide through mailing, conferences, interfaith celebrations, world peace Prayers, and so forth. It was further offered to many inter-religious, indigenous, multicultural and multifaith organisations, such as: the World Conference on Religion and Peace; the United Religions Initiative, the World Peace Prayer Society; the Council for a Parliament of the World's Religions; the Interfaith Center of New York; the Temple of Understanding; the Institute for Religious Studies (Rio de Janeiro); to name but a few.

Lama Gangchen both appreciates and supports the efforts of all organizations and initiatives working towards the one aim of peace, wishing for all to unite in a common Forum under the auspices of the United Nations: a gift for world peace in the third millennium.

དམིགས་ལུལ་དང་དགོས་པ།

གོང་དུ་སྒྲིམ་པའི་དགོས་མཁུ་འདི་དག་བསྐྱང་ཕྱིར་ཀླུ་སྤྱི་ཚོགས་ཆེན་ལོག་གམ་ཀླུ་ཚོགས་ཀྱི་ཡན་ལག་གིས་ཡོན་ཤིག་གནས་ལྷན་ཁང་གང་དུང་འོག་འཇམ་སྒྲིང་ཞི་བདེའི་དོན་དུ་འཇམ་སྒྲིང་ཀླུ་ཡོངས་ཚོས་ལྷགས་ཡོངས་ཀྱི་སྤྱིགས་བུ་ཞིག་གསར་འཛུགས་ཡོང་བའི་འཆར་སྟེན་ཞུ་ཡི་ཡོད། ཀླུ་ཡོངས་ཚོས་ལྷགས་ཡོངས་ཀྱི་སྤྱིགས་བུ་འདི་བཞིན་ཟེས་མེད་ཚོས་ལྷགས་ཆེ་ཕ་ཆང་མའི་དབུ་འཁྲིད་རྣམས་དང་ཚོས་ལྷགས་སོ་སོའི་འཐུས་ཆ་བ་རྣམས་ཀྱི་དགོངས་འཆར་དང་བསྟོ་སྒྲིང་གནད་སའི་གདན་ཆགས་ཀྱི་སྤྱིགས་བུ་ཞིག་དང་སྤྱིད་དོན་གྱི་སྤྱིགས་བུ་ལའང་ཟམ་པ་ཞིག་ཆགས་སྟེ་རེད།

ཚོས་ལྷགས་ཡོངས་ཀྱི་སྤྱིགས་བུའི་བསམ་ཚུལ་འདིས་ཟེས་མེད་ཚོས་ལྷགས་ཡོངས་ཀྱི་ནང་ཕན་ཚུན་གྱི་བཞེད་པ་མཐུན་པ་དང་མི་མཐུན་པ་འདྲ་མིན་སྒྲ་ཚོགས་ཡོད་པ་རང་སོར་གཞིར་བཞག་ཡོད། སྤྱིགས་བུ་འདིའི་དོན་ནི་ཚོས་ལྷགས་དང་ལྷ་བ་མང་པོ་གཅིག་བསྐྱེས་ཀྱི་ཚོས་ལྷགས་སམ་ལྷ་བ་གསར་པ་ཞིག་ཆགས་སྟེ་དང་ཚོས་ལྷགས་ནང་ཕན་ཚུན་གྱི་བཞེད་ཚུལ་མཐུན་མིན་རྣམས་སྤྱི་སྤྱོམས་བཟེ་རྒྱུ་འདི་མིན། འོན་ཀྱང་སྤྱིགས་བུ་འདི་བཞིན་ཚོས་བརྒྱུད་སོ་སོའི་བཞེད་ཚུལ་ངོ་པོ་དང་རྣམ་པ་གང་ཡིན་གཞིར་བཞག་ཆགས་སྟེ་སྤྱི་འདུས་སྤྱི་རང་རང་སོ་སོའི་བཞེད་ལྷགས་ལྷ་བ་གྱི་བཤད་སྐབ་སྤྱོམས་གསུམ་གནད་ཐུབ་རྒྱའི་རང་དབང་ལ་བསྐྱེད་བཅི་ཆ་ཆང་བ་ཞེས་ཐོག་བསྟོ་སྒྲིང་རྒྱུད་ཐུན་མོང་དུ་གྱུར་པའི་སྤྱི་སྤྱོམ་ལྷགས་ཆའི་དགོངས་ཚུལ་དང་བསྐྱེད་བུ་ཅི་མཆིས་ནང་སམས་དང་སྤྱིའི་ཞི་བདེ་འཚོལ་ཐབས་སུ་ཕན་པའི་མཉམ་བསྐྱེད་ཀྱི་རྣམས་ལྷགས་འདོན་ཐབས་མཛད་རྒྱུ་རེད།

འདི་ལྷ་བུའི་དགོངས་ཚུལ་མངས་གཞིར་བུས་པའི་ཚོས་ལྷགས་ཡོངས་ཀྱི་སྤྱིགས་བུ་འདིས་རང་རང་ཚོས་ལྷགས་སོ་སོའི་བཞེད་ཚུལ་དང་ཚུལ་ཁྲིམས། སྤྱིགས་འཛུགས། ཉམས་བཞེས། ཚོས་ལྷགས་ཕན་ཚུན་དང་པ་དྲུང་སྤྱོམས་བྱུང་སྤྱོད་ཤིང་ཡོན་དང་གོ་དོགས་སྤེལ་རྒྱའི་སྤྱོ་སྤྱོམས་བསྐྱེད་བུ་དང་ལམ་ཕྱོགས་སྟེན་པ་གནད་རྒྱུ་དང་ཕན་ཚུན་དགོངས་བསྐྱེད་བུས་ཚོས་ལྷགས་ནས་ཐོན་པའི་སྤྱོ་སྤྱོམས་ཀྱིས་འགྲོ་བ་མི་རྣམས་ལ་འཕྲད་དང་འཕྲད་འགྱུར་གྱི་དཀའ་ཚོག་ཆེ་བའི་གནད་དོན་དཔེར་ན་དབུལ་ཕོངས་ཉམ་ཐག་སེལ་ཕྱོགས་དང་མི་འཕྲོར་སྤྱོམས་འཕེལ་ཆེས་པའི་དཀའ་ཚོག་ཁོར་ལུག་བསྐྱེད་སྤྱོད་ཕྱོགས་སོགས་དང་འབྲེལ་བའི་དཀའ་ཚོག་ཅི་མཆིས་སེལ་བའི་ཐབས་ལམ་སྟེན་པ། ཞི་བདེ་སྤེལ་བའི་ཐབས་ལམ་འདྲ་མིན་ངོ་སའཛིན་གྱིས་རྣམས་ལྷགས་འཁར་བསྐྱེད་གནད་རྒྱ།

ཚོས་ལྷགས་ཡོངས་ཀྱི་སྤྱིགས་བུ་འདིས་ཚོས་ལྷགས་ཀྱི་དབུ་འཁྲིད་རྣམས་ལ་སྤྱིད་དོན་གྱི་དབུ་འཁྲིད་རྣམས་ལ་ཐད་ཀར་འཇམ་སྒྲིང་ཞི་བདེ་དང་འབྲེལ་བའི་གནད་དོན་ཐོག་གསུང་དབུངས་གཅིག་གྱུར་གྱིས་བཀའ་མོལ་དང་བཀའ་སློབ་གནད་རྒྱའི་འགྲོ་ལྷགས་ཐོབ་ཐང་ལྷན་པའི་ཐབས་ལམ་འབྲེལ་རྒྱུ་དང་འཇམ་སྒྲིང་ཀླུ་སྤྱི་ཚོགས་ཀྱི་སྤྱི་ཚོགས་དང་དཔལ་འབྱོར་ཁོར་ལུག་བསྐྱེད་སྤྱོད་ཀྱི་འགན་འཁུར་ལས་དོན་ཁྱེད་ཀྱི་འགན་ཁུར་དང་དཔལ་འབྱོར་ཀྱི་བཀའ་ལས་ཁྲུངས་ཁག་བཅས་ལའང་གང་ཅིའི་འབྲེལ་བ་གནད་ཐབས་ཆེས་བདེ་བའང་ཆགས་སྟེ་རེད། ཀླུ་ཡོངས་ཚོས་ལྷགས་སྤྱིགས་བུ་འདིའི་བསྐྱེད་བུ་རྣམས་ཀླུ་སྤྱིའི་ཐོག་དོན་སྤྱོམ་ལྷགས་སུ་བྱུང་སྤྱོད་རྒྱུ་ཁྱེད་ཀྱི་ཁྱེད་ཀྱི་ཁྱེད་དེ་འོག་སུ་ལྷགས་སོ་སོར་ཚོས་ལྷགས་ནང་ཕན་ཚུན་བསྟོ་སྒྲིང་དང་མི་མང་རྣམས་ཀྱི་ནང་སམས་དང་སྤྱི་ཚོགས་ནང་གི་ཞི་བདེ་སྤེལ་ཕྱིར་མཉམ་མཐུན་གྱི་བུ་བསྐྱེད་པ་སོགས་ཀྱི་དོན་དུ་ཚོས་ལྷགས་ཡོངས་ཀྱི་སུ་གནས་ཀྱི་སྤྱིགས་བུ་རིམ་པར་འཛུགས་གནད་དགོས་ཀྱི་རེད། སུ་ཁྱེད་མི་སྤྱི་དང་དངོས་ཡོད་རྣམས་ཅན་གྱི་འབྲེལ་ལམ་མ་བྱུང་ཆེ་ཀླུ་ཡོངས་སྤྱིགས་བུ་དེ་སྤྱིར་ཡང་མིང་ཅམ་གྱི་ཚོགས་པ་འབྲས་བུ་འབྱེན་མི་རྣམས་པ་སྤྱོན་མ་ཞིག་ཆགས་སྟེ་རེད།

ཞིར་དུ་འཕྱོར་རྒྱའི་ཕྱོགས་མཐུན་གྱི་འབྲས་བུ་ཁག །

4 ཚོས་ལྷགས་ཡོངས་ཀྱི་སྤྱིགས་བུ་མ་ལག་དང་བཅས་པའི་ཕྱག་ལེན་དོན་འཁེལ་འཐུས་གཙང་བྱུང་ཐུབ་ན་གསུམ་འཁོད་ཕྱོགས་མཐུན་གྱི་འབྲས་བུ་ཁག་སོགས་ཞིར་དུ་འཕྱོར་རྒྱ།

1 ཚོས་ལྷགས་སོ་སོའི་གཞུང་ལྷགས་ནས་གསུངས་པའི་བསྐྱེད་བུའི་བཞེད་དགོངས་མཐུང་དག་དེད་དང་མ་འོངས་པའི་དུས་སྐབས་ཀྱི་གྲངས་ལས་འདས་པའི་འགྲོ་བ་མི་ཀུན་གྱི་སྤྱོ་མོས་དང་རན་ཞིང་འཆམས་པར་དོན་ཕན་ཅན་དུ་གནས་ཐབས་ཡོང་བར་བྱེད་པའི་སྤྱོ་རྣམས་ཚོས་ལྷགས་ཆང་མ་སྤར་ཡང་རྣམས་པ་ཅན་དུ་བསྐྱེད་རྣམས་པ།

3 སྤྱོ་སྤྱོམས་གསར་དུ་སྤེལ་བ་དང་ཞི་བདེའི་ཤིས་ཡོན་དར་སྤེལ་ཐབས་ལམ་ཐད་སྤྱོན་རབས་ཀྱི་སྤྱོ་སྤྱོམས་རྣམས་དེད་རབས་ཀྱི་བད་དོན་དུ་སྤྱོད་ཕྱོགས།

3 དེད་གྲོ་སྤྱོམས་སུ་འཇམ་སྒྲིང་ཞི་བདེ་བསྐྱེད་ཅིང་འཕེལ་བར་བྱེད་པར་འགལ་བྱེད་དུ་གྱུར་པ་ཚོས་ལྷགས་ནང་ཕན་ཚུན་གྱི་འགལ་སྤྱོ་ཅི་མཆིས་རིམ་གྱིས་བསལ་ཐབས་ཀྱི་སྤྱོ་སྤྱོམས་ཆེད་རྒྱ།

མཆོག་གསུམ་ཀླུ་བ་རྒྱ་མཆོའི་བྱིན་མཐུ་ལས་ནང་སམས་ཀྱི་ཞི་བདེ་དང་སྤྱིར་འཇམ་སྒྲིང་ཞི་བདེ་བདེ་བ་བག་ཐེབས་པར་དེད་རྣམས་སྤྱིད་མཐུའི་བར་དུ་གནས་གྱུར་ཅིག།

Spiritual Forum for World Peace

A proposal by T.Y.S. Lama Gangchen

Inner peace is the most solid foundation for world peace.

All religions and spiritual movements promote the spiritual development of their members and look, in one way or another, for the building of inner peace. Religions have sometimes caused wars or at least have been used by social and political leaders to justify wars and different forms of violence and oppression.

At the same time nevertheless, religions and spiritual movements have significantly contributed towards the development of a culture of peace and have fostered world peace by promoting values such as mutual respect, solidarity, compassion and social justice.

The United Nations is the main political forum for world peace. Peace-making and peace keeping are its core functions. Nevertheless there is not appropriate room in that forum for the religions and spiritual movements to be represented and to be actively involved in building world peace.

Although some countries have an official religion, in general religions ignore national borders and co-exist within countries and local communities. *“Religions must not identify themselves with political, economic or social powers so as to remain free to work for justice and peace”*.*

The Governments of the United Nations Member States cannot represent religions and spiritual movements. It is time to give them official recognition within the United Nations and to create for them an appropriate forum within the United Nations environment to hear their voices and actively associate them in the noble task of building world peace.

Concepts and Objectives

To fulfill this need we propose the creation of a United Nations Spiritual Forum for World Peace under the General Assembly. The spiritual forum would be a permanent space for the leaders and representatives of all major and minor religions and spiritual movements for dialogue and concertation, as well as a bridge with the political forum. The spiritual forum concept assumes both diversity and commonalities among religions and spiritual movements. The forum will not entail the creation of a new multi religious philosophical doctrine or the ironing out of

* From the Declaration of the UNESCO Conference on “the Contribution by Religions to the Culture of Peace”, Barcelona, Spain December 12-18 1994.

cultural religious diversity, but would be based on the holders of each religious tradition and identity, finding out in the dialogue common values, views and goals for concerted action in the search for inner and world peace, with full respect for the right of every group to cultivate, practise and teach its own doctrine.

In this spirit, the spiritual forum is expected to provide the space and channels for facilitating a better knowledge and understanding of the beliefs, ethical codes, organisation and practices of each other, a basic condition for mutual respect; to interchange ideas and work out common views from a spiritual perspective on the major problems and challenges faced by mankind, such as poverty eradication, population growth and protection of the environment; and identify specific areas for concerted action in the promotion of peace.

The spiritual forum will also offer an official channel to the spiritual leaders to speak with one single voice to the political leaders with regard to world peace and to relate to the specialised agencies and funding agencies of the UN system which are responsible for promoting social, economic and environmental development. In order to fulfill its mission, the spiritual forum at international level should be complemented by spiritual forums created at national and local levels which will promote inter-religious dialogue and concerted action for inner and social peace in the communities. Without the active involvement of local communities the spiritual forum would remain only as one more superstructure.

Complementary outcomes

The effective operation of the spiritual forum at all levels can be expected to:

1. Re-energize all religions and spiritual movements by enabling their voices to remain relevant to the billions of citizens of this planet now and in the future.
2. Offer new ideas and re-package old ideas in the field of education for peace; and last, but not least.
3. Contribute to solve religious conflicts which are now hindering the development of world peace.

Inner Peace and World Peace now and forever by all the Holy Beings' Blessings

"I would like to be very clear, that although I am the initiator of this proposal, as it is gradually realized and the Spiritual Forum is created both locally, nationally and internationally, that is under the auspices of the United Nations General Assembly, I personally have no wish to be in the forefront of this assembly. My wish is to stay in the background, serving the Spiritual Forum in whichever way I am able, but leaving the leadership to those better qualified to develop this Spiritual United Nations to its fullest potential for the benefit of all humanity.

There are four key points to consider about the Spiritual Forum:

- *The Spiritual Forum concept implies working for development of Spiritual Forums for World Peace in our local communities, in our countries and at international level.*

- *Participants of the Spiritual Forum must respect the rights of every other spiritual group or religion to cultivate, practise and teach its own doctrine.*
- *That we, the participants of the Spiritual Forum, will respectfully try to understand and be sympathetic to other beliefs, ethical codes, organizations and practices with the aim of sharing and exchanging ideas about how to solve global problems such as war, poverty and environmental degradation.*
- *That we will work together harmoniously to identify specific areas for concerted action in the promotion of inner and world peace.*
- *The Spiritual Forum does not entail the creation of a new religious or spiritual doctrine or the loss of cultural-religious diversity; it shall be based on the holders of each religious tradition presenting their own system and philosophy at its best, in an open spirit whilst collaborating with other traditions, to find new perspectives and solutions for the many urgent problems now facing humanity. It is important in the 21st century, both for the development and success of the global village and environment, that religions accept each other and come to some agreement on major issues such as population studies, economy, environment, peace making, and so on. Religions must work together because the harmony of the collective human spirit is the heart of all religions and is beyond any singular religion.*
- *The proposal aims to create continuously functioning Spiritual Forums for World Peace at both the international (United Nations), national and local levels. I hope that you will now collectively accept the proposal as your own and present it to the United Nations, the main international organ in the creation of world peace. Religious and spiritual traditions can make an important contribution towards the development of world peace and so we should collectively request the United Nations to allow this forum to be realised as soon as possible,”*

T.Y.S. Lama Gangchen

喇嘛剛堅活佛建議設立 “聯合國世界和平宗教論壇”

內心的和平是世界和平最堅穩的基石。

所有宗教和宗教運動皆提倡信徒的精神發展，以及設法建立內心的和平。

有時，宗教引起了戰爭，或至少被社會和政治領袖利用，作為發動戰爭和各種暴行及迫害的借口。然而，與此同時，宗教和宗教運動也通過提倡高尚的價值觀，例如互相尊敬、團結、慈悲及社會正義，而對和平文化的發展作出莫大的貢獻，並且促進了世界和平。

聯合國是謀求世界和平的主要政治論壇。締結和平與維持和平是它的核心任務。然而，在這個論壇里，各宗教和宗教運動卻沒有得到適當的代表權，以更積極地參與創造世界和平的工作使命。

雖然一些國家有官方宗教（國教），大體上，宗教超越國界，在各國和當地社群之間和平共存。“宗教絕對不能牽涉到政治、經濟或社會權力，才能自由地致力於正義與和平”。聯合國成員國的政府並不能代表宗教和宗教運動。因此聯合國對各宗教和宗教運動應給予正式承認，以及在聯合國範疇內為宗教和宗教運動提供適當論壇，以聽取他們的心聲，並且讓他們積極地參與建立世界和平神聖工作的時候已經到來。

概念和宗旨

為了落實這個需要，我們提議在聯合國大會或聯合國教科文組織下，成立聯合國世界和平宗教論壇。這個宗教論壇將成為世界所有主要和次要宗教及宗教運動領袖及代表進行對話和磋商的永久論壇，也可以作為和政治論壇溝通的橋樑。

上述宗教論壇的概念以宗教和宗教的多元性及共同性為基礎。設立這個論壇，不是要制定多元宗教的教義或消除文化宗教的多樣性，而是以各種宗教的傳統及特性為基礎，異中求同，在對話中尋求共同的價值與觀點，及目標，以採取一致行動，追尋內心和世界的和平，同時完全尊重每一個族群，所奉行及弘揚本身教義的權利與培育。

在這種精神下，這個論壇將可以提供空間和管道，讓各宗教和宗教運動之間，相互認識、了解彼此的信仰、道德準則、組織和習俗，作為建立相互尊敬的基本條件。此外，這個論壇也可以讓宗教和宗教運動之間，互相交換主意，以及從宗教角度，制定共同立場，以克服人類所面對的各種重大問題及挑戰，例如消除貧窮、人口成長、環境的保護等；同時鑒定特別的領域，以採取一致行動，促進世界和平。

這個宗教論壇也可以作為宗教領袖在世界和平問題上，向政治領袖發表一致言論的正式渠道，和作為宗教領袖和聯合國體系內，負責促進社會、經濟及環境發展的特定組織及提供資金的組織之間溝通的管道。

為了落實上述宗教論壇在國際上的任務，各國的國家性和地方性宗教論壇應該給予協助和配合。這些國家性和地方性的宗教論壇將促進各社群之間的宗教對話和採取一致行動，謀求社群的內部和社會和平。如果沒有這些當地社群的參與，上述聯合國宗教論壇將有名無實。

作用和效用

上述宗教論壇在各層次上有效地運作，將可達成以下作用：

- * 讓全球現在和未來的無量眾生有機緣聽取各宗教和宗教運動的心聲，進而振興宗教。
- * 在和平教育上提出新思想和改進舊思想。
- * 以及對化解目前妨礙世界和平發展的宗教紛爭作出貢獻。

祈求一切聖靈

賜予人類永恆的內心平安和世界和平

倡議人：喇嘛剛堅活佛

PROPOSED BY T. Y. S. LAMA GANGCHEN RINPOCHE

Forum Spirituel des Nations Unies pour la Paix dans le Monde

Une proposition de T.Y.S. Lama Gangchen

La paix intérieure est la base la plus solide pour construire la paix dans le monde.

Toutes les religions et les mouvements philosophiques prêchent le développement spirituel de leurs membres et cherchent, d'une manière ou d'une autre, à établir la paix intérieure.

Parfois les religions ont causé des guerres ou, du moins, ont été utilisées par des dirigeants sociaux et politiques pour justifier des guerres ou différentes formes de violence et d'oppression. Toutefois, les religions et les mouvements spirituels ont en même temps contribué de façon significative à l'extension d'une culture tournée vers la paix et ont œuvré pour la promouvoir dans le monde en prônant des valeurs comme le respect mutuel, la solidarité, la compassion, et la justice sociale.

Les Nations Unies constituent le principal forum politique responsable de la paix dans le monde. Sa fonction essentielle est d'établir la paix et de la maintenir. Pourtant, aucune place n'est prévue dans ce forum, pour que les religions et les mouvements spirituels soient représentés et puissent participer activement à la construction de la paix mondiale.

Bien que certains pays aient une religion officielle, les courants de pensées ignorent généralement les frontières nationales et coexistent à l'intérieur des pays et des collectivités locales. *“Les religions ne doivent pas s'identifier aux pouvoirs politiques, économiques et sociaux, afin de pouvoir œuvrer librement pour la justice et la paix.”** Les gouvernements des états membres de l'O.N.U. ne sont pas en mesure de représenter les religions et les mouvements spirituels. Ainsi, le moment est aujourd'hui venu de les reconnaître officiellement à l'intérieur même de l'O.N.U. et de créer un forum approprié dans le cadre de l'O.N.U. pour qu'ils puissent faire entendre leur voix et contribuer plus activement à la noble tâche d'établir la paix dans le monde.

Concepts et Objectifs

Pour répondre à ce besoin, nous proposons la création d'un FORUM SPIRITUEL DES NATIONS UNIES POUR LA PAIX MONDIALE, placé sous la juridiction de l'Assemblée Générale. Le Forum Spirituel constituerait un espace permanent de dialogue et de concertation des dirigeants et des représentants de toutes les religions et de tous les mouvements spirituels, majeurs ou mineurs tout en gardant une relation étroite avec le Forum politique.

* Extrait de la déclaration de la conférence de l'UNESCO sur la contribution des religions à la culture de la paix, Barcelone, Espagne, 12-18 décembre 1994.

Le concept du Forum Spirituel tient compte de la diversité et des points que les religions et les mouvements spirituels ont en commun. Le Forum Spirituel n'implique ni la création d'une nouvelle doctrine philosophique multi-religieuse ni le nivellement des diversités culturelles et religieuses. Il s'appuierait sur les fondements de chaque tradition et identité religieuse et, trouverait dans le dialogue des valeurs, des vues, et des objectifs communs afin de mettre en œuvre une action concertée pour la recherche de la paix intérieure et établir la paix dans le monde, tout en respectant le droit de chaque groupe de cultiver, de pratiquer et d'enseigner sa propre doctrine. Dans cet esprit le Forum Spirituel devrait: procurer un espace et des filières pour faciliter la communication, une meilleure connaissance et une meilleure compréhension réciproque des croyances, des codes de morale, de l'organisation et des pratiques de chacun, ce qui est la condition minimale pour l'instauration d'un respect mutuel afin de permettre, dans une perspective spirituelle, les échanges d'idées et ainsi trouver des vues communes sur les problèmes majeurs et les défis auxquels l'humanité est confrontée comme : l'élimination de la pauvreté, la croissance démographique de la population et la protection de l'environnement et de déterminer des domaines spécifiques afin de promouvoir la paix par une action concertée. Le Forum spirituel offrira aussi un créneau officiel par lequel les dirigeants spirituels pourront, d'une voix commune, s'adresser aux responsables politiques à propos de la paix mondiale. Ils pourront également traiter directement avec les agences spécialisées et les services de subvention de l'O.N.U. responsables du développement social, économique et écologique.

Afin de pouvoir remplir sa mission au niveau international, le Forum Spirituel devrait être soutenu par d'autres forums spirituels créés au niveau national et local, qui engageraient un dialogue inter religieux et une action concertée pour la paix intérieure et la paix sociale au sein des différentes communautés. Sans la participation active des collectivités locales le Forum Spirituel ne restera qu'une infrastructure de plus.

Objectifs Complementaires

1. Le fonctionnement effectif du Forum Spirituel devrait: stimuler toutes les religions et les mouvements spirituels afin que leur voix restent pertinentes pour les milliards de citoyens de cette planète, aujourd'hui et à l'avenir.
2. Offrir de nouvelles idées et restructurer les conceptions anciennes dans le domaine de l'éducation pour la paix.
3. Et enfin, ce qui est loin d'être le moins important, contribuer à résoudre les conflits religieux qui perturbent actuellement le développement de la paix dans le monde.

Paix Interieure et Paix Mondiale Maintenant et a Jamais Grace aux Benedictions de tous les Etres Sacres

"J'aimerais être très clair, bien qu'étant l'instigateur de cette proposition, si le Forum Spirituel se réalise et qu'il soit créé sous l'égide de l'Assemblée Générale des Nations Unies, je n'ai pour ma part aucunement l'intention ni même le souhait de me placer au premier plan de cette assemblée. Mon vœu le plus cher est de servir le Forum Spirituel au mieux de mes possibilités mais d'en laisser la direction à ceux qui seraient plus qualifiés pour en développer toutes les potentialités au bénéfice de l'humanité toute entière."

T.Y.S. Lama Gangchen

Foro Espiritual de las Naciones Unidas para la Paz en el Mundo

Propuesta de T.Y.S. Lama Gangchen

La paz interior es la base más sólida para la paz en el mundo.

Todas las religiones y movimientos espirituales promueven el desarrollo espiritual de sus miembros y buscan de una forma u otra alcanzar la paz interior. En ocasiones, las religiones han producido guerras o han sido utilizadas por dirigentes sociales y políticos para justificar conflictos y diferentes formas de violencia y opresión. Sin embargo, al mismo tiempo, las religiones y los movimientos espirituales han contribuido de forma significativa al desarrollo de una cultura de paz y al crecimiento de la paz en el mundo, promoviendo valores tales como el respeto mutuo, la solidaridad, la compasión y la justicia social.

Las Naciones Unidas son el principal foro político para la paz en el mundo. Establecer y mantener la paz son sus funciones centrales. Sin embargo, en dicho foro no hay un lugar adecuado para que las religiones y los movimientos espirituales estén representados y puedan involucrarse de forma activa en la construcción de la paz mundial. Las religiones están por encima de las fronteras nacionales y aunque algunos países tengan una religión oficial, en general, éstas coexisten en naciones y comunidades locales. *“Las religiones no deben identificarse con los poderes políticos, económicos o sociales, manteniéndose así libres para trabajar por la justicia y la paz.”**

Los gobiernos de los estados miembros de las Naciones Unidas no pueden representar a las religiones y movimientos espirituales. Es tiempo de darles reconocimiento oficial dentro de la ONU y de crear un foro apropiado que les permita hacer oír sus voces y asociarse activamente en la noble tarea de construir la paz en el mundo.

Conceptos y Objetivos

Para satisfacer esta necesidad, proponemos la creación en el ámbito de las Naciones Unidas de un FORO ESPIRITUAL PARA LA PAZ, dependiente de la Asamblea General. El Foro Espiritual sería un espacio permanente para el diálogo y la concertación entre los dirigentes y representantes de todas las religiones mayoritarias o minoritarias y de los movimientos espirituales, así como un puente con el foro político.

* Declaración de la Conferencia de la UNESCO sobre La Contribución de la Religiones a la Cultura de la Paz, Barcelona, España, del 12 al 18 de Diciembre de 1994.

El concepto de Foro Espiritual asume, tanto las diferencias, como las afinidades entre las distintas religiones y movimientos espirituales. No se pretende propiciar la creación de una nueva doctrina filosófica multirreligiosa, o la eliminación de la diversidad cultural-religiosa, sino que, apoyándose en la tradición e identidad propia de cada religión, descubrir a través del diálogo, los conceptos, valores y objetivos comunes que hacen posible una acción conjunta en la búsqueda de la paz interior y de la paz en el mundo, con pleno respeto al derecho de cada grupo para cultivar, practicar y enseñar su propia doctrina.

Con este ánimo, se espera que el Foro Espiritual provea el espacio y los canales para facilitar un mejor conocimiento recíproco y una mejor comprensión de las creencias, códigos éticos, organización y prácticas de las diferentes religiones y movimientos espirituales, condición básica para el respeto mutuo; que permita intercambiar ideas y generar puntos de vista comunes desde una perspectiva espiritual sobre los principales problemas y desafíos que afectan a la humanidad, tales como la erradicación de la pobreza, el crecimiento demográfico y la protección del medio ambiente; y por último, facilite la identificación de áreas específicas donde realizar acciones concertadas para la promoción de la paz. El Foro Espiritual ofrecerá también un canal oficial a los dirigentes espirituales para que puedan hablar como una sola voz a los líderes políticos, en lo que se refiere a la causa de la paz, así como relacionarse con las agencias especializadas y financieras del sistema de Naciones Unidas, responsables de promover el desarrollo social, económico y medioambiental.

Para cumplir su misión, el Foro Espiritual Internacional deberá ser complementado con foros espirituales creados a nivel nacional y local, que promuevan el diálogo interreligioso, así como acciones concertadas para el fomento de la paz interior y social en las distintas comunidades.

A menos de que exista una activa participación de las comunidades locales, el Foro Espiritual Internacional permanecerá tan sólo como una superestructura más.

Beneficios Adicionales

Del funcionamiento efectivo del Foro Espiritual en todos los niveles, cabe esperar:

1. La revitalización de las religiones y movimientos espirituales, al permitir que sus voces tengan relevancia para los miles de millones de ciudadanos de este planeta, ahora y en el futuro.
2. El surgimiento de nuevas ideas y la reformulación de las viejas, en el campo de la Educación para la Paz.
3. Por último y no menos importante: Una contribución para resolver conflictos religiosos que en la actualidad obstaculizan el desarrollo de la paz en el mundo.

Paz interior y paz mundial ahora y para siempre Con las bendiciones de todos los santos

“Quiero aclarar, que, aun siendo el propulsor inicial de esta propuesta, en case de que bajo los auspicios de la Asamblea General de las Naciones Unidas, se creara el Foro Espiritual, personalmente, no tengo deseo alguno de estar al frente del mencionado foro. Es mi deseo trabajar y servir al Foro Espiritual desde la base, en la forma en que pueda serle util, dejando el liderazgo para los que esten mejor cualificados para desarrollar unas Naciones Unidas Espirituales hasta su pleno potencial, para el benefico de la humanidad.”

T.Y.S. Lama Gangchen

ДУХОВНЫЙ ФОРУМ СТОРОННИКОВ МИРА ВО ВСЕМ МИРЕ ПРИ ОРГАНИЗАЦИИ ОБЪЕДИНЕННЫХ НАЦИЙ

Предложение Т.Y.S. ламы Gangchen (Ганджчен)

**Мир и согласие в душе каждого человека - самая надежная основа мира и
согласия во всем мире.**

Все религии и религиозные движения всемерно способствуют духовному развитию своих членов и различными путями стремятся к водворению мира и благополучия в их душах.

Подчас религиозные воззрения становились причиной кровопролитий или служили орудием в руках политиков для оправдания войн, насилия и угнетения в самых разнообразных формах и проявлениях. Между тем, религии и религиозные движения внесли весомый вклад в распространение и усвоение принципов миролюбия и способствовали установлению мира на земле, отстаивая общечеловеческие ценности, в числе которых взаимное уважение, солидарность, сострадание и социальная справедливость.

Организация Объединенных Наций, основными функциями которой являются установление и поддержание мира, является ведущей политической трибуной борцов за мир во всем мире. Остается лишь с сожалением заметить, что на столь видном политическом форуме представителям различных религиозных течений и направлений не отводится подобающее им место и роль, что, в свою очередь, не позволяет религиозным деятелям развернуть более активную работу на поприще борьбы за мир во всем мире.

Для религии не существует национальных границ, несмотря на то, что во многих странах выбрана и принята одна в качестве официальной. Самые различные вероисповедания сосуществуют наряду с официальными религиями как в государственных масштабах, так и в масштабах отдельных регионов. "Религия должна быть свободна от влияния политических, экономических и социальных институтов, чтобы целиком посвятить себя делу мира и справедливости" Правительства стран-участников Организации Объединенных Наций не могут выступать в качестве представителей религиозных течений и направлений. Настало время, когда Организации Объединенных наций следовало бы официально признать роль и место религии и создать в рамках самой Организации соответствующую структуру, прислушаться к голосам ее представителей и подключить ее к выполнению высокой цели достижения мира на земле.

ОСНОВНЫЕ ПОЛОЖЕНИЯ. ЗАДАЧИ И ЦЕЛИ.

Для реализации указанной деятельности мы предлагаем создать **ДУХОВНЫЙ ФОРУМ СТОРОННИКОВ МИРА ВО ВСЕМ МИРЕ ПРИ ОРГАНИЗАЦИИ ОБЪЕДИНЕННЫХ НАЦИЙ** и в пределах юрисдикции Организации Объединенных Наций. Духовный Форум задумывается как постоянная структура, которая будет объединять лидеров и представителей мировых и менее распространенных религий, а так же представителей религиозных движений с целью установления между ними плодотворного диалога и сотрудничества. Данный религиозный форум будет служить отправной точкой для связи с политическими структурами Организации Объединенных Наций..

Признавая существование различий и сходства между учениями различных религий и религиозных течений, Духовный Форум не ставит своей задачей разработку новой общей для различных религий доктрины или сглаживание существующих религиозных и культурных различий. Поскольку Форум зиждется на уважении религиозных традиций и воззрений, основное внимание будет уделяться налаживанию диалога, выявлению общих ценностей, задач и перспектив с тем, чтобы на этой основе развить сотрудничество в плане поиска путей "водворения благоволения в человеке" и установления мира на земле. Достижение указанной цели будет осуществляться при строгом соблюдении права любой религиозной общины на проповедь своих мировоззрений и исполнение религиозных обрядов.

Руководствуясь указанными положениями, Форум будет способствовать созданию условий для более глубокого понимания духовных и этических ценностей, структуры и религиозных обрядов каждой общины, что в свою очередь является краеугольным камнем для построения взаимоотношений на основе взаимного уважения. Форум также предоставит возможность для обмена мнениями, уточнения специфики сотрудничества и мер по поддержанию мира, а так же выявления точек соприкосновения во взглядах по ключевым проблемам современности и стоящим перед человечеством задачам, включая искоренение бедности и нищеты, улучшение демографической ситуации и защиту окружающей среды.

Духовный Форум станет международной трибуной религиозных лидеров, которые наряду с видными политическими деятелями, получат возможность выступать по вопросам борьбы за мир во всем мире. Форум позволит наладить контакты с финансовыми институтами и специализированными агенствами, которые занимаются вопросами социального и экономического развития, а так же охраны окружающей среды в рамках Организации Объединенных Наций.

Международная деятельность Духовного Форума предполагает создание целой сети национальных и региональных отделений, которые на местах будут решать задачи установления диалога между различными религиозными общинами и обеспечивать поддержание благоприятного социального и духовного баланса на региональном и национальном уровне. Духовный Форум, не имеющий развитой сети национальных и региональных отделений и не опирающийся на их поддержку, подобен надстройке, лишенной фундамента и бесполезной в функциональном отношении.

ДОПОЛНИТЕЛЬНЫЙ ЭФФЕКТ

Эффективная деятельность Духовного Форума на всех уровнях будет иметь следующий дополнительный эффект:

- Вызовет эмоциональный подъем во всех религиях и религиозных течениях на много лет вперед, что позволит служителям культа с новой энергией и воодушевлением продолжать выполнение своей миссии для миллионов людей на всей планете
- Приведет к появлению новых воззрений и переосмыслению уже существующих подходов к проповеди мира и согласия
- Внесет вклад в мирное урегулирование конфликтов, возникающих на религиозной почве, которые в настоящее время сотрясают нашу планету и препятствуют установлению мира на земле.

МИР И СОГЛАСИЕ В ДУШЕ, МИР И СОГЛАСИЕ НА ВСЕЙ ЗЕМЛЕ ОТНЫНЕ И ВОВЕКИ ВЕКОВ С БЛАГОСЛОВЕНИЯ ВСЕХ СВЯТЫХ

Из декларации конференции ЮНЕСКО на тему: Вклад религий в установление мира во всем мире. Барселона. Испания. 12-18 декабря 1994г.

Являясь автором предложения о создании Постоянного Духовного Форума при Организации Объединенных Наций или любой другой структуры, объединяющей лидеров всех религий и религиозных течений с целью разработки проекта по обучению культуре мирного общежития всех народов нашей планеты, я не претендую на членство в исполнительном комитете. Я желаю лишь одного - в меру моих сил служить благим целям такого Форума и уступаю руководство тем, кто более меня подходит для этих целей. Позвольте еще раз перечислить основные пункты предложения:

Принципиально важно создание не только международного центра Духовного Форума сторонников мира во всем мире, но и целой сети отделений на национальном и региональном уровне

Участники Духовного Форума обязаны уважать право любой религиозной общины на проповедование своих мировоззрений и исполнение религиозных обрядов.

Участники Духовного Форума обязаны признавать другие религии и их нравственные нормы с целью установления обмена мнениями по вопросам разрешения глобальных проблем, включая войны, нищету, и защиту окружающей среды.

Участники Духовного Форума обязаны добиваться гармонии в работе и установления совместными усилиями мира и согласия в душе каждого человека и во всем мире.

Духовный Форум не предусматривает создание новой религии или разработку новой религиозной доктрины, а так же не ставит своей задачей устранение культурных различий между религиями. Напротив, в основу Форума будет положен принцип свободы проповеди и разъяснения методики и философии любой религии в процессе конструктивного сотрудничества с представителями различных религиозных направлений, конечной целью которого является раскрытие перед человечеством новых путей и перспектив развития. На пороге третьего тысячелетия перед различными религиями и религиозными течениями стоит важнейшая задача - все они должны признать друг друга и согласиться, что общей целью каждой из них является достижение мира и согласия, а следовательно, и мирное урегулирование всех вопросов в области экономики, воспитания и образования, а так же охраны окружающей среды.

Целью моего предложения является создание Постоянного Духовного Форума сторонников мира во всем мире, который бы развернул деятельность не только на международном, в рамках Организации Объединенных Наций, но и на национальном и региональном уровнях. Надеюсь, что вы поддержите мое предложение по созданию Духовного Форума и наша инициатива будет подхвачена ООН - ключевой международной организацией, занимающейся вопросами поддержания мира во всем мире.

T.Y.S.Лама Gangchen

Forum spirituale delle nazioni unite per la pace nel mondo

Una proposta di T. Y. S. Lama Gangchen

La pace interiore è il più solido fondamento per la pace mondiale.

Tutte le religioni e i movimenti spirituali promuovono lo sviluppo spirituale dei loro membri e cercano, in un modo o nell'altro, di costruire la pace interiore.

A volte le religioni hanno causato la guerra o sono state usate dai leader politici e sociali per giustificare le guerre e le diverse forme di violenza e di oppressione. Tuttavia, allo stesso tempo, le religioni e i movimenti spirituali hanno contribuito in modo significativo allo sviluppo di una cultura di pace e hanno favorito la pace nel mondo, promuovendo valori come il mutuo rispetto, la solidarietà, la compassione e la giustizia sociale.

Le Nazioni Unite sono il principale foro politico per la pace mondiale. Creare e mantenere la pace sono le sue funzioni principali. Tuttavia in questo foro non c'è uno spazio appropriato che rappresenti le religioni, i movimenti spirituali e li renda attivamente coinvolti nella costruzione della pace nel mondo.

Sebbene alcuni Paesi abbiano una religione ufficiale, in genere le religioni ignorano i confini nazionali e convivono nei Paesi e nelle comunità locali. *“Le religioni non devono identificarsi con la politica, i poteri economici e sociali, in modo da rimanere libere per lavorare a favore della giustizia e della pace”** I governi degli Stati membri delle Nazioni Unite non possono rappresentare le religioni. E' il momento di dare riconoscimento ufficiale all'interno delle Nazioni Unite ai movimenti spirituali e di creare un foro appropriato nell'ambiente dell' Onu per ascoltare le loro voci e associarle nel nobile scopo della costruzione della pace nel mondo.

Concetto e Obiettivi

Per realizzare questa necessità proponiamo la creazione di un FORUM SPIRITUALE DELLE NAZIONI UNITE PER LA PACE NEL MONDO, sotto la giurisdizione delle Nazioni Unite. Il forum spirituale sarà uno spazio permanente che permetterà ai leader e ai rappresentanti delle religioni maggiori e minori e dei movimenti spirituali di dialogare e cooperare; sarà un ponte con il foro politico.

* Dalla Dichiarazione della Conferenza dell'Unesco su: “The Contribution by Religions to the Culture of Peace, Barcelona, Spain, 12-18 Dec. 1994”.

Il Forum Spirituale ammette le differenze e le comunanze tra le religioni e i movimenti spirituali. Il Forum non implica la creazione di una nuova dottrina filosofica multi-religiosa o l'appianamento delle diversità religiose e culturali, ma è basato sui fondamenti di ciascuna tradizione e identità religiosa cercando, con il dialogo, i valori, le prospettive e gli scopi comuni, la cooperazione nella ricerca della pace interiore e nel mondo, con pieno rispetto per i diritti di ciascun gruppo di coltivare, praticare e insegnare la propria dottrina.

Con questo spirito il Forum creerà lo spazio e i canali per favorire una migliore conoscenza e comprensione del credo, dei valori etici, dell'organizzazione e della pratica di ciascuna religione, condizione basilare per il mutuo rispetto; per scambiare idee e trovare visioni comuni da una prospettiva spirituale, sui problemi principali e le sfide affrontate dall'umanità, come l'eliminazione della povertà, la crescita della popolazione e la protezione dell'ambiente; e identificare aree specifiche per cooperare e promuovere la pace.

Il Forum Spirituale offrirà anche un canale ufficiale ai leader spirituali per parlare all'unisono ai leader politici riguardo la pace nel mondo e per stabilire rapporti con le agenzie specializzate e quelle finanziarie del sistema delle Nazioni Unite, responsabili della promozione dello sviluppo sociale, economico ed ambientale.

Allo scopo di adempiere alla sua missione il Forum Spirituale, a livello internazionale, deve essere completato da Forum Spirituali creati a livello nazionale e locale che promuoveranno il dialogo interreligioso e la cooperazione per la pace interiore e sociale delle comunità. Senza il coinvolgimento attivo delle comunità locali il Forum Spirituale rimarrebbe solo un'ulteriore sovrastruttura.

Risultati Complementari

L'effettivo funzionamento del Forum Spirituale, a tutti i livelli, darà come risultati:

1. Nuova energia a tutte le religioni e movimenti spirituali permettendo alle loro voci di continuare a essere rilevanti per i miliardi di cittadini di questo pianeta, ora e in futuro;
2. Nuove idee e riconfezionamento delle vecchie idee nel campo dell'Educazione alla Pace;
3. Contributi alla risoluzione dei conflitti religiosi che ora ostacolano lo sviluppo della pace mondiale.

Pace Interiore e Pace nel Mondo ora e sempre Con le benedizioni di tutti gli Esseri Santi

“Nonostante io sia l'iniziatore della proposta per l'istituzione alle Nazioni Unite di un Forum Spirituale Permanente, ovvero di un organismo che raggruppi i leader di tutti le religioni e i movimenti spirituali per elaborare un piano di educazione globale alla pace, non aspiro ad essere parte del comitato direttivo. Il mio desiderio è semplicemente quello di servire il Forum come meglio posso, lasciandone la direzione a qualcuno più qualificato di me.

Tengo a sottolineare alcuni punti salienti della proposta:

- *Il concetto di Forum Spirituale per la pace nel mondo non implica lo sviluppo solo di un organismo internazionale ma anche la nascita di tanti piccoli forum nazionali e locali.*
- *I partecipanti al Forum Spirituale devono rispettare i diritti di tutti i gruppi religiosi a coltivare, praticare e insegnare la loro dottrina.*
- *I partecipanti al Forum Spirituale devono comprendere le altre fedi e i loro codici morali per scambiare idee su come risolvere i problemi globali del mondo, come le guerre, la povertà, l'inquinamento ambientale.*
- *I partecipanti al Forum Spirituale devono lavorare in armonia, unendo le forze per promuovere la pace interiore e la pace nel mondo.*
- *Il Forum Spirituale non comporta la creazione di una nuova religione né l'elaborazione di una nuova dottrina spirituale né la cancellazione delle differenze culturali tra le varie religioni. Il Forum è basato proprio sul fatto che ogni tradizione religiosa sia libera di presentare i suoi metodi e la sua filosofia, nell'ottica di una collaborazione costruttiva con gli altri movimenti spirituali e con l'obiettivo di trovare nuove prospettive per l'umanità. E' importante, alle soglie del Terzo Millennio, che le religioni si accettino l'un l'altra, riconoscendo che lo scopo di ciascuna di essa è sempre e solo la pace interiore, e quindi trovino l'accordo sulle tematiche dell'economia, dell'educazione, dell'ambiente.*
- *L'obiettivo della proposta è creare un Forum Spirituale che lavori stabilmente per la pace nel mondo sia a livello internazionale all'interno delle Nazioni Unite sia a livello nazionale e locale. Spero che tutti voi sosteniate la proposta del Forum Spirituale affinché venga fatta propria dall'Onu, il principale organismo internazionale che si occupa della pace nel mondo."*

T.Y.S. Lama Gangchen

Spirituelles Forum der Vereinten Nationen für Weltfrieden

Ein Vorschlag von T.Y.S. Lama Gangchen

Innerer Frieden ist die stabilste Grundlage des Weltfriedens.

Malle Religionen und spirituelle Bewegungen unterstützen die spirituelle Entwicklung ihrer Mitglieder und suchen auf die eine oder andere Weise Inneren Frieden herzustellen.

Des öfteren haben Religionen Krieg verursacht, oder wurden zumindest von sozialen und politischen Führern dazu benutzt, Krieg und verschiedene Formen von Gewalt und Unterdrückung zu rechtfertigen. Dennoch, haben religiöse und spirituelle Bewegungen gleichzeitig bedeutend zur Entwicklung einer Kultur des Friedens beigetragen, und haben Weltfrieden gefördert indem sie Werte wie gegenseitigen Respekt, Solidarität, Mitgefühl und soziale Gerechtigkeit unterstützen. Die Vereinten Nationen sind das wichtigste politische Forum für den Weltfrieden. Es gehört zu seinen Hauptaufgaben, Frieden herzustellen und Frieden zu erhalten. Jedoch besteht bislang innerhalb dieses Forums noch kein geeigneter Raum, in dem die religiösen und spirituellen Bewegungen zu repräsentieren werden und so aktiv an der Konstruktion des Weltfrieden teilnehmen könnten.

Selbst wenn manche Länder eine offizielle Religion haben, ignorieren Religionen im allgemeinen nationale Grenzen. Sie koexistieren innerhalb von Ländern und Gemeinden. *“Religionen dürfen sich nicht mit politischen, ökonomischen oder sozialen Kräften identifizieren, um für die Arbeit für Gerechtigkeit und Frieden frei zu sein.”** Die Regierungen der Mitgliedsstaaten der UN können die religiösen und spirituellen Bewegungen nicht repräsentieren. Es ist an der Zeit ihnen offizielle Anerkennung innerhalb der UN zu gewähren und ein angemessenes Forum für sie ins Leben zu rufen, in dem ihre Stimmen gehört werden können. So können sie aktiv an der edlen Aufgabe, Weltfrieden herzustellen, mitwirken.

Vorstellungen und Ziele

Um diese Aufgabe zu erfüllen schlagen wir die Gründung eines SPIRITUELLES FORUMS DER VEREINTEN NATIONEN FÜR WELTFRIEDEN vor, innerhalb der Allgemeinen Versammlung der Vereinten Nationen. Das Spirituelle Forum könnte die dauerhafte Möglichkeit für die Versammlung der Führer und Repräsentanten aller größeren und kleineren religiösen und spirituellen Bewegungen und für ihren Austausch geben. Es könnte gleichzeitig eine Brücke zum politischen Forum sein.

Die Vorstellung von einem Spirituellen Forum setzt die Einbeziehung der Unterschiede zwischen den religiösen und spirituellen Bewegungen sowie die ihrer Gemeinsamkeiten voraus. Das Forum beinhaltet nicht die Gründung einer multi-religiösen philosophischen Doktrine oder

* Aus der UNESCO Deklaration: “Der Beitrag der Religionen zu der Kultur des Friedens”, Barcelona, Spanien, 12.-18. Dezember 1994.

das Ausbügeln von kulturell-religiöser Verschiedenheit. Es basiert vielmehr auf dem Dialogue zwischen Führern einer jeden religiösen Tradition und Identität: Gemeinsame Werte, Ansichten und Ziele sollten für gemeinsamen Handlungen auf der Suche nach Innerem Frieden und Weltfrieden gefunden werden. Dabei soll das Recht jeder Gruppe, ihre eigene Lehrmeinung zu pflegen, auszuüben und zu lehren voll respektiert werden.

In diesem Sinne, wird von dem Spirituellen Forum erwartet, daß es den Raum und die Kanäle bietet um besseres Wissen und Verständnis für die Glaubensrichtungen, Sittlichkeitsregeln, für die Organisation und die Praxis der anderen zu ermöglichen. So soll eine allgemeine Grundlage für gegenseitigen Respekt geschaffen werden. Das Austauschen von Ideen und das Erarbeiten von gemeinsamen Ansichten über die Hauptprobleme der Menschheit und die Herausforderungen an sie vom spirituellen Gesichtspunkt aus erfolgen: z.B. auf den Gebieten von Armut, Ausrottung, Bevölkerungswachstum und Umweltschutz. Für gemeinsame Handlungen zur Unterstützung des Friedens sollen bestimmte Gebiete herausgearbeiten werden. Das Spirituelle Forum wird weiterhin den spirituellen Führern einen offiziellen Verbindungskanal bieten, um mit vereinter Stimme zu den politischen Führern bezüglich des Weltfriedens zu sprechen und um sich mit spezialisierten Agenturen und solchen für die finanziellen Unterstützung des UN-systems in Verbindung zu setzen, die für die soziale, die wirtschaftliche und die Entwicklung der Umwelt zuständig sind.

Um seine Mission auf internationaler Ebene zu erfüllen, sollte das Spirituelle Forum von spirituellen Foren auf nationaler und lokaler Ebene ergänzt werden. Diese sollten den inter-religiösen Austausch und vereinte Handlung für inneren und soziale Frieden in den Gemeinden unterstützen. Ohne die aktive Mitarbeit der örtlichen Gemeinden wäre das Spirituelle Forum nur noch eine weitere Überstruktur.

Ergänzende Resultate

Von der erfolgreichen Ausübung des Spirituellen Forums kann erwartet werden:

1. Eine Reaktivierung aller religiösen und spirituellen Bewegungen, dadurch daß die Bedeutung ihrer Stimme für billionen von Bürgern dieses Planeten erhalten bleibt, jetzt und in der Zukunft
2. Das Anbieten neuer Ideen und die Neuverpackung alter Ideen auf dem Gebiet der Ausbildung für den Frieden
3. Ein Beitrag zur Lösung von religiösen Konflikten, die bislang die Entwicklung des Weltfriedens behindern.

Inneren Frieden und Weltfriede Jetzt und für Immer, Durch den Segen aller Heiligen Wesen

“Folgendes möchte ich gerne klarstellen: Zwar habe ich diesen Vorschlag initiiert habe, doch sollte er in die Tat umgesetzt und das Spirituelle Forum unter der Schirmherrschaft der Allgemeinen Versammlung der Vereinten Nationen gegründet werden - ist es nicht mein Wunsch, im Vordergrund zu stehen. Vielmehr möchte ich im Hintergrund bleiben, und dem Spirituellen Forum auf best mögliche Weise dienen. Die Führungsposition hingegen möchte ich qualifizierteren Kräften überlassen, damit sich die Spirituellen Vereinten Nationen zum Wohle der Menschheit zu ihrem höchsten Potential zu entwickeln können.”

T.Y.S. Lama Gangchen

Fórum Espiritual das Nações Unidas pela Paz Mundial

Uma proposta de T.Y.S. Lama Gangchen

A paz interna é a base mais sólida para a paz mundial.

Todas as religiões e movimentos espirituais promovem o desenvolvimento espiritual de seus membros e se preocupam, de alguma maneira com a construção da paz.

Algumas vezes as religiões provocaram guerras, ou foram usadas por líderes políticos e sociais para justificar guerras ou diferentes formas de violência ou opressão.

Ao mesmo tempo, as religiões e os movimentos espirituais contribuíram de forma significativa para o desenvolvimento de uma cultura de paz e promoveram a paz mundial, valorizando os conceitos de respeito mútuo, solidariedade, compaixão e justiça social. A Organização das Nações Unidas é o principal fórum político para a paz mundial. Construir e manter a paz são suas funções essenciais. Mesmo assim não existe, nesta organização, um espaço próprio para a representação e trabalho ativo das religiões e dos movimentos espirituais na construção da paz mundial.

De um modo geral as religiões ignoram as fronteiras nacionais e coexistem dentro dos países e comunidades. *“As religiões não devem se identificar com poderes políticos, sociais ou econômicos para se manterem livres em seu trabalho pela justiça e pela paz.”**

Os governos dos estados membros da ONU não podem representar movimentos espirituais ou religiosos. É chegado o momento de lhes oferecer reconhecimento oficial dentro das Nações Unidas, e de criar um fórum apropriado para ouvir suas vozes e associá-los ativamente na nobre tarefa de construir a paz mundial.

Conceitos e Objetivos

Para tanto, propomos a criação do Fórum Espiritual das Nações Unidas pela Paz Mundial sob a proteção da Assembléia Geral. O Fórum Espiritual será um espaço permanente para os líderes e representantes de todas as pequenas e grandes religiões e movimentos espirituais poderem dialogar, tornando-se assim uma ponte para o Fórum Político. O conceito do Fórum Espiritual não imporá a criação de uma nova doutrina multi-religiosa-filosófica. Não pretende extinguir a diversidade cultural religiosa, mas será baseado no conteúdo de cada tradição e identidade, descobrindo através do diálogo, os valores, conceitos e objetivos comuns para agirem de pleno acordo em busca da paz interna e mundial, mantendo o direito de cada grupo cultivar, praticar e ensinar a sua própria doutrina.

* Extrato da declaração da conferência da UNESCO sobre “A contribuição das Religiões para a Cultura de Paz” Barcelona, Espanha, 12-18 Dezembro 1994.

Dentro deste espírito, o Fórum Espiritual deverá: - Oferecer espaço e canais que propiciem um melhor conhecimento e compreensão das crenças, códigos éticos, organização e práticas de cada um, condições básicas para o respeito mútuo. - Trocar idéias e desenvolver planos conjuntos a partir de uma perspectiva espiritual, para os principais problemas e desafios da humanidade, tais como a erradicação da pobreza, o crescimento populacional, a proteção do meio-ambiente. - Identificar áreas para a ação comum, na promoção da paz.

Para cumprir esta missão internacionalmente, o fórum deverá ser complementado por fóruns nacionais e locais que promoverão diálogos inter-religiosos e ações comuns para a paz interna e social nas comunidades. Sem o envolvimento ativo das comunidades locais, o fórum permaneceria apenas como mais uma superestrutura

Efeitos Complementares

Espera-se que a operação efetiva do Fórum Espiritual possa em todos os níveis:

1. Re-energizar todas as religiões e movimentos espirituais ao lhes dar relevância diante de milhões de cidadãos deste planeta agora e no futuro.
2. Oferecer novas idéias e recondicionar as já existentes no campo da educação para a paz.
3. Contribuir para dissolver conflitos religiosos que no momento atrasam o desenvolvimento da paz mundial.

Pelo Poder da Verdade Paz Interna e Mundial agora e Sempre

“Quero deixar bem claro que, embora eu seja o criador desta proposta, caso ela se concretize e o Fórum Espiritual for criado sob os auspícios da Assembléia Geral da ONU, pessoalmente não pretendo estar à frente do projeto. Meu desejo é estar na retaguarda, servindo ao Fórum Espiritual da melhor forma que puder, deixando, porém, a liderança àqueles melhor qualificados para desenvolver o Fórum Espiritual das Nações Unidas em seu potencial máximo, pelo benefício de toda a humanidade.

Existem quatro pontos a serem considerados sobre o Fórum Espiritual:

- *O seu conceito implica trabalhar pelo desenvolvimento do Fórum Espiritual pela Paz Mundial nas nossas comunidades locais, em nossos países e a nível internacional.*
- *Os participantes do Fórum Espiritual precisam respeitar os direitos de cada grupo espiritual ou religião no cultivo, prática e ensino da sua própria doutrina.*
- *Nós, os participantes do Fórum Espiritual iremos respeitosamente entender e ter simpatia por outros credos, códigos éticos, organizações e práticas, com o objetivo de compartilhar e trocar idéias sobre como solucionar-se problemas globais tais como a guerra, pobreza e degradação ambiental.*
- *Iremos trabalhar juntos em harmonia para identificarmos áreas específicas para uma ação concentrada na promoção da Paz Interna e Mundial.*

- *O Fórum Espiritual não prega a criação de uma nova doutrina religiosa ou espiritual, ou a perda da diversidade cultural-religiosa. Estará baseado nos pilares de cada tradição religiosa, que dentro de um espírito aberto, ao apresentar o melhor do seu próprio sistema e filosofia, colabora com outras tradições no encontro de novas perspectivas e soluções comuns para muitos problemas urgentes que a humanidade está se deparando. É importante que no século XXI, para o desenvolvimento e sucesso da CEVila Global, e do meio ambiente, todas as religiões aceitem umas às outras e cheguem a algum acordo em assuntos importantes como estudos populacionais, economia, meio-ambiente, promoção da paz, e outros. As religiões precisam trabalhar juntas pois a harmonia do espírito humano coletivo é o coração, que está além de cada religião.*
- *A proposta visa criar Fóruns Espirituais que funcionem continuamente pela Paz Mundial tanto nos níveis internacional (Nações Unidas), nacional e local. Espero que vocês aceitem coletivamente a proposta como sendo sua, e a apresentem para a ONU, o órgão internacional principal para a criação da paz mundial. As tradições espirituais e religiosas podem fazer um importante contribuição para o desenvolvimento da paz no mundo, e assim devemos coletivamente pedir à ONU que permita este fórum ser realizado o mais rápido possível.”*

T.Y.S.Lama Gangchen

Spiritueel Forum voor Wereld Vrede

Een Voorstel van T.Y.S. Lama Gangchen

Innerlijke vrede is de meest solide basis voor wereld vrede.

Alle religies en spirituele bewegingen bevorderen de spirituele ontwikkeling van hun aanhangers en zijn op zoek naar manieren om innerlijke vrede te ontwikkelen. Religies hebben soms oorlogen veroorzaakt of zijn op zijn minst door sociale en politieke leiders gebruikt om oorlogen en verschillende vormen van geweld en onderdrukking te rechtvaardigen.

Tegelijkertijd hebben religies en spirituele bewegingen niettemin aanmerkelijk bijgedragen aan de ontwikkeling van een cultuur van vrede en hebben wereld vrede gekoesterd door het bevorderen van waarden zoals wederzijds respect, solidariteit, mededogen en sociale rechtvaardigheid.

De Verenigde Naties is het voornaamste politieke forum voor wereld vrede. Het stichten van vrede en het handhaven van vrede vormen de kernfuncties. Niettemin is er geen geëigend platform voor de religies en spirituele bewegingen om in dat forum vertegenwoordigd te zijn en actief betrokken te zijn bij het ontwikkelen van wereld vrede.

Hoewel sommige landen een officiële religie hebben, houden religies zich in het algemeen niet aan nationale grenzen en coëxisteren binnen landen en lokale gemeenschappen. *“Religies moeten zich niet identificeren met politieke, economische, of sociale krachten om zo vrij te blijven om te werken voor rechtvaardigheid en vrede.”*

De regeringen van de lidstaten van de Verenigde Naties kunnen geen religies en spirituele stromingen vertegenwoordigen. Het is tijd om religies en spirituele stromingen een officiële erkenning te geven binnen de Verenigde Naties en voor hen een eigen forum te creëren binnen de Verenigde Naties om zo hun stem te laten horen en hen gezamenlijk actief te betrekken bij de edele taak van het bevorderen van wereld vrede.

Concepten en doelstellingen

Om aan deze behoefte te voldoen, doen we het voorstel om een Verenigde Naties Spiritueel Forum voor Wereld Vrede te creëren binnen de Algemene Vergadering. Het Spiritueel Forum zal een permanente ruimte moeten zijn voor de leiders en vertegenwoordigers van alle grote en kleine religies en spirituele stromingen waar plaats is voor dialoog en samenwerking, alsmede een brug moeten vormen met het politieke forum. Het concept van het Spiritueel Forum veronderstelt zowel diversiteit als overeenkomsten tussen religies en spirituele stromingen. Het

forum zal niet leiden tot de vorming van een nieuwe multi-religieuze leer of het gladstrijken van de culturele filosofische diversiteit, maar zal er vanuit gaan dat de leiders van elke religieuze traditie en identiteit in dialoog gemeenschappelijke waarden, opvattingen en doelen ontdekken voor samenwerking bij het zoeken naar innerlijke en wereld vrede, met volledig respect voor het recht van elke groepering om de eigen leer te cultiveren, te beoefenen en te onderwijzen.

In deze geest wordt verwacht dat het Spiritueel Forum de ruimte en kanalen zal verschaffen voor een betere kennis en begrip van de overtuigingen, ethische codes, organisatie en beoefeningen van elkaar - een basisvoorwaarde voor wederzijds respect - om vanuit een spiritueel perspectief ideeën met elkaar uit te wisselen en gemeenschappelijke standpunten uit te werken over de grootste problemen en uitdagingen waarmee de mens geconfronteerd wordt, zoals het uitroeien van armoede, bevolkingsgroei en milieubescherming; en daarbij specifieke terreinen aan te wijzen die in aanmerking komen voor samenwerking bij het promoten van vrede.

Door zijn officiële status zal het Spiritueel Forum spirituele leiders in staat stellen om met betrekking tot wereld vrede eenstemmig tot de politieke leiders te spreken en contact te hebben met de gespecialiseerde vertegenwoordigingen en de fondsenverwervende vertegenwoordigingen van het VN systeem welke verantwoordelijk zijn voor het stimuleren van sociale, economische en milieu ontwikkeling. Om zijn missie uit te kunnen voeren moet het Spiritueel Forum op internationaal niveau aangevuld worden door Spirituele Forums op nationaal en lokaal niveau, die de interreligieuze dialoog en samenwerking voor innerlijke en sociale vrede in de samenleving zullen stimuleren. Zonder de actieve betrokkenheid van de plaatselijke gemeenschap zou het Spiritueel Forum niets anders zijn dan weer een superstructuur.

Aanvullende resultaten

De effectieve werking van het Spiritueel Forum op alle niveaus kan naar verwachting:

1. Een nieuwe stimulans geven aan alle religies en spirituele stromingen door de mogelijkheid te bieden hun stem blijvend te laten horen in het belang van de miljarden burgers van deze planeet nu en in de toekomst.
2. Nieuwe ideeën aanbieden en oude ideeën in nieuwe vormen gieten op het gebied van vredeseducatie; en als laatste maar niet het minste
3. Een bijdrage leveren aan het oplossen van religieuze conflicten die momenteel de ontwikkeling van wereld vrede belemmeren.

Er zijn vier kernpunten ter overweging betreffende het Spiritueel Forum:

- *Het concept Spiritueel Forum impliceert het werken aan de ontwikkeling van Spirituele Forums voor Wereld Vrede in onze lokale gemeenschappen, in onze landen en op internationaal niveau.*
- *Deelnemers aan het Spiritueel Forum moeten het recht van elke andere spirituele stroming of religie respecteren om de eigen leer te cultiveren, te beoefenen en te onderwijzen.*

- *Dat wij, de deelnemers aan het Spiritueel Forum, proberen om respect, begrip en sympathie te hebben voor andere geloven, overtuigingen, ethische principes, organisaties en beoefeningen met als doel het delen en uitwisselen van ideeën over het oplossen van de wereldproblemen zoals oorlog, armoede, en vervuiling van de omgeving.*
- *Dat we in harmonie zullen samenwerken om specifieke gebieden vast te stellen voor een gezamenlijke actie om innerlijke en wereld vrede te bevorderen.*
- *Het Spiritueel Forum zal niet leiden tot de vorming van een nieuwe religieuze of spirituele leer of het verlies van de cultureel-religieuze diversiteit. Het zal zich richten tot de leiders van elke religieuze traditie die het beste uit hun systeem of filosofie inbrengen, om met een open geest en in samenwerking met andere tradities nieuwe perspectieven en oplossingen te vinden voor de vele urgente problemen waar de mensheid nu mee wordt geconfronteerd. Het is in de 21ste eeuw belangrijk dat de religies elkaar accepteren en tot een zekere overeenstemming komen ten aanzien van belangrijke onderwerpen als bevolkingsvraagstukken, economie, milieu, stichten van vrede, enz., zowel voor de ontwikkeling als het welzijn van deze wereld en het milieu. Religies moeten samenwerken omdat de eensgezindheid van de collectieve menselijke geest het hart vormt van alle religies, en boven welke religie dan ook uitstijgt.*
- *Het voorstel heeft als doel het verkrijgen van een continu functionerend Spiritueel Forum voor Wereld Vrede op VN, internationaal, nationaal en lokaal niveau. Ik hoop dat jullie dit voorstel nu zullen accepteren, als was het jullie eigen voorstel, en het zullen aanbieden aan de Verenigde Naties, het belangrijkste internationale orgaan voor het creëren van wereld vrede. Religieuze en spirituele tradities kunnen een belangrijke bijdrage leveren aan de ontwikkeling van wereld vrede. Daarom moeten we gezamenlijk de Verenigde Naties verzoeken toe te staan dat dit forum zo spoedig mogelijk wordt gerealiseerd.*

T.Y.S. Lama Gangchen

**A Chronological List of National and International Presentations of a
United Nations Spiritual Forum for World Peace**

1. **Santiago, Chile, 8th of June 1995 at ECLAC, (the Latin American Headquarters of the United Nations Economic Commission).**
T.Y.S. Lama Gangchen presented his proposal for a United Nations Spiritual Forum for World Peace to an audience of 150 United Nations officials and special guests.
2. **Dorset England, June 15th to 19th 1995.**
First Solstice World Peace Prayers in Stonehenge's Inner Circle Temple and Festival of Healing with Lama Gangchen at Gaunts House. Historical event at Stonehenge, which marked the re-opening of this sacred site to the ancient pagan traditions.
3. **Ulan Baator, Mongolia on the 7th of August 1995 at the Peace Committee.**
Organized by J. Choinkhor, Deputy Foreign Minister and President of the Mongolian National Commission for UNESCO and attended by: Dr. G. Lubsantsern, Secretary General of the Asian Buddhist Conference for Peace; B. Wangchindorj, former Foreign Minister of Mongolia; Sheringdeva, former Deputy Prime Minister; and several important representatives of monasteries and peace organisations.
4. **Kathmandu, Nepal on the 1st of September 1995 at the Russian Cultural Centre.**
Attended by: Chief Guest, the Rt. Hon. Beni Bahadur Karki, Chairman, National Council; HMG of Nepal. Guests: four members of Raj Sabha Standing Committee; three former Ministers; six representatives of associations and organisations, and seven representatives of societies.
5. **Munich, Germany, at Haus International, 15th to the 17th of September 1995.**
6. **Montignac - Dordogne, France at the Salle des Fêtes, 14th of October 1995.**
The annual Forum was attended by over 1.500 people among whom Anne and Daniel Meurois-Givaudan; Emile Moatti, vice-president of the "Fraternité d'Abraham" and member of the administration of the "World Conference on Religion and Peace" for France; as well as various religious representatives and scientists. Lama Gangchen presented the Proposal and gave a lecture on the importance of Inner Peace Education. A portrait gallery was dedicated to great spiritual personalities of various religion, such as Christianity, Buddhism, Islam, Judaism and Bahai. Each participant received a copy of the Proposal by Lama Gangchen personally.
7. **Perugia, Italy, 20th to the 24th of September 1995.**
Commemoration Celebration of the 50th Anniversary Celebrations of the United Nations, and Peace Walk from Perugia to Assisi. Lama Gangchen presented the Proposal to the Assembly of the UN representatives and participated in the Peace Walk, attended by representatives of over 175 different countries, including important personalities, such as Betty William, Nobel Peace Laureate in 1975 (Ireland); Maria Pia Fanfani (Together for Peace Foundation); Nadia Younes, Director of UNIC Rome, Italy.

8. New York, USA, on the occasion of the 50th Anniversary Celebrations of the United Nations, 17th to the 23rd of October 1995.

Lama Gangchen attended an NGO briefing held at the Dag Hammerskjold Auditorium on the 19th of October, followed by a prayer which he held outside the United Nations Meditation Hall with a small delegation. On this occasion Lama Gangchen talked to and personally handed out the Proposal to all present. On the 21st and 22nd, he took part in the "Visions for the 21st Century" symposium organized by the Temple of Understanding and the Council of Religious and Interfaith Organizations.

Saturday the 21st of October, at the Cathedral of St John the Divine, attended by: Rev. James Parks Morton, Dean, Cathedral of St John the Divine and President: Temple of Understanding; Dr Karan Singh, Chair: Temple of Understanding; Ambassador Douglas Roche, Chair: UN 50th Anniversary Committee, Canada, and Advisor to the Holy See Mission to the UN; President Oscar Arias, Nobel Peace Prize; and many spiritual leaders and representatives of the various religious denominations. Lama Gangchen talked to and personally handed out the Proposal to everyone present at the symposium.

He took part in the Inter religious Procession in the Cathedral as the representative for Tibetan Buddhism. On this occasion Lama Gangchen twice offered a dedication to World Peace with a prayer and a song. Sunday the 22nd of October, at the St Vartan Armenian Cathedral Auditorium, attended by Rev. Khajag Barsamian Primate, Diocese of the Armenian Church in North America; Rev. Kyotaro Deguchi, leader Oomoto (Japan) delegation; Sir Sigmund Sternberg, Chair: International Council of Christians and Jews, London UK; Preminder N. Jain (Bawa), Vice Chair of NGOs at the United Nations & UN Representative International Mahavir Jain Mission; Rev. Dr Joan Campbel, Gen. Sec., National Council of churches; Dr Alwi Shilab, Religious Affairs, Agama Dept, Indonesia; Dr Arthur Herzberg, Rabbi Emeritus, Professor of the Humanities, New York University; as well as spiritual leaders and representatives from the various religious denominations. Lama Gangchen presented his Proposal and gave a speech on the need for Inner Peace Education.

9. London, England: Westminster Abbey, on the 24th of October 1995. On the occasion of the United Nations 50th Anniversary celebrations.

The service, led by the Very Rev. Michael Mayne, Dean of Westminster, was attended by participating representatives of various faiths communities such as the Rev. Rabbi Edward Jackson; Bruce Ginsberg; Hugh Adamson; the Most Rev. Archbishop Desmond Tutu, and other worldwide visiting spiritual and political representatives and personalities; Alexander Borg Oliver, director, UN office in London. Lama Gangchen personally handed out the Proposal on this occasion and attended a reception where he met with Archbishop Desmond Tutu and several other worldwide spiritual representatives and personalities.

10. Chicago, USA 19th & 20th of November 1995: The Council for a Parliament of the World's Religions and the Millennium Institute at North Shore Congregation Israel.

Lama Gangchen presented the Proposal and took part in the Millennium Moment Roundtable, making a gift of the "United Nations Spiritual Forum for World Peace" proposal to the Projects 2000 for the Third Millennium. The two day meeting was hosted by Rabbi Herbert Bronstein and chaired by Rabbi Herman Schaalman, Rabbi Emeritus, Congregation Emanuel, Chicago, and

by P.N. Bawa Jain, vice-Chair, NGO Committee, United Nations. The roundtable was attended by about one hundred persons, including Dr Daniel Gomez-Ibanez, Executive Director, 1993 Parliament of the World's Religions, Director, International Committee for the Peace Council; Dr Howard Sulkin, President, Spertus Institute of Judaica, Chicago, Chair, Board of Trustees, CPWR; Dr Hamid Hai, Chair, International Inter-religious Committee, CPWR; Dr Gerald O. Barney, President, Millennium Institute; Dr Shahid Ahter, M.D., Chair, Indianapolis Interfaith Council; Sr Jayanti, Director, International Centre, Brahma Kumaris World Spiritual University.

11. **New York, USA: Interfaith Affairs Department, United Nations.**
Meeting with Rabbi Leon Klenicki, Director, Interfaith Affairs Department, United Nations, the Anti-Defamation League.
12. **Delhi, India 10 to 13th of January 1996: 4th International World Environment Congress - Eco-Philosophy Summit held at the India International Centre.**
Lama Gangchen presented the Proposal to a large and extremely receptive audience of ministers, governors, spiritual masters and special guests, such as Sri K.L. Sharma, Vice Pres. BJP; Swami Om Pooran; Dr Prabhash Singh; Alan Kay, Commissioner, Global Commission to Fund the United Nations; Dr Karan Singh, Chair, Temple of Understanding; Dr Ramjee Singh, Director, Gandhian Institute of Studies; Dr Wilfred Menezes Mesquita, Minister for Environment, Goa.
13. **Gobind Sadan, Godaipur, Delhi, India.**
Lama Gangchen presented the Proposal to Dr. Paulos Mar Gregorios, President, Inter Religious Federation for World Peace and to Baba Virsa Singh, founder of Gobind Sadan during an afternoon tea gathering between the three spiritual masters and some close disciples; to Rajyogini Dadi Prakshmani, Brahma Kumaris.
14. **Delhi, India: United Nations Information Centre, on the 16th of January 1996.**
A meeting with Feodor Starcevic, Director, during which Lama Gangchen presented the Proposal and the project was discussed with a very positive response.
15. **Delhi, India: Italian Embassy, on the 16th of January 1996.**
Short reception and presentation of the Proposal.
16. **New York, USA: United Nations, on the 21st of March 1996.**
Lama Gangchen guided the Spring Equinox meditation for World Peace and presented the Proposal.
17. **Amsterdam, Holland, May 1996.**
Proposal presented on the occasion of the founding of Lama Gangchen's Dutch association.
18. **Madrid, Spain, May 1996.**
On the occasion of the Lama Gangchen World Peace Foundation's 5th International Congress. A local forum was established, under the direction of Prof. Asdrubal Salsamendi, United Nation.

19. **HABITAT II - City Summit, Istanbul, Turkey, 3rd to 14th June 1996.**
 Lama Gangchen World Peace Foundation - UN NGO accredited participant.
 Proposal offered to the UN Secretary General Boutros Boutros Ghali during their formal introduction on the 4th of June 1996.
 Presentation and workshop: NGO Conferences on the 5th, 6th and 8th of June.
 Proposal further presented to: Mayor of Jerusalem Teddy Kollek; Members of the Wisdom Keepers; Prince Alfred of Luxemburg; Dr Hans Peter Durr, advisor to UN Secretary General, to name but a few.

20. **Paris, France - 22-23 June 1996.**
 Inter-Religious Congress "Unité n'est pas l'uniformité". Lama Gangchen and the Foundation were represented by Geshe Ngawang Sherab.

21. **Westminster - London, England, the 26th of June 1996.**
 On the occasion of a private meeting and discussion with the Bishop of London, Richard Chartres.

22. **Rome, Italy, the 27th of June 1996.**
 On the occasion of a private reception with Rabbi Elio Toaff, President of the Italian Jewish Community.

23. **Sao Paulo, Brazil, 2nd Ecological Ecumenical Meeting at Hebraica Club on the 16th July 1996.**
 Attended by Rabbi Michel Leipziger of Lar Golda Meir; Fabio Feldman, Environmental Secretary for Sao Paulo; Roberto Smeraldi, Friends of the Earth International; José Mario Brasiliense Carneiro of the Congregation Emmanuel; Mr Pierre Weil of the Peace University; Luciana Ferraz of the Brahma Kumaris; Father Jose Bizon of the Casa da Reconciliação; Kaká Werá Jecupé, indigenous people's representative.

24. **Santiago Chile, 29th to the 30th July 1996. Creation and inauguration of a local Spiritual Forum for World Peace, on the 29th July 1996, convening monthly.**
 Coordinated by Geraldo Gonzales Cortes of the UN Population Agency, the forum is composed of:- Rabbi Esteban Vegahazzi and his wife, Anna; Mario Sañartu, Jesuit priest; Mr Figueroa, Jewish-Christian Fraternity; Luis Cárdenas, Catholic, human rights representative; Samuel Palma, Evangelist Church; Ivan Bravo, Focular movement; Raúl Rosales Lay Catholic; Geshe N Sherab of the Varanasi Sanskrit University, Gelugpa Himalayan Buddhism; Moira Lowe, Brahma Kumaris; Mauricio Arrieta, Vicara de la Esperanza jóvenes; Luis Puentes, Ecumenical Churches.
 On the 30th of July 1996. Universidad del Pacifico - Meetings of Great Religions for World Peace. The work was initiated by Julio Ortuzar Prado, rector; Lama Gangchen presented the Spiritual Forum for World Peace. Discussions ensued with Rabbi Esteban Verghazi; Professor Antonio Bentue, Vice Deacon of the Faculty of theology at the Catholic University of Chile; Pastor Esteban Schaller, Evangelist.

25. **Buenos Aires, Argentina, United Nations Information Centre, on the 9th of August 1996.**
 Presentation of the Proposal and creation of a local forum for World Peace as a result of an International-Interfaith Roundtable Meeting.

The presentation took place under the patronage of Angel Escudero de Paz, director of the United Nations Information Centre in Buenos Aires, under the auspices of the United Nations. Among those present were: Father Vittorino and Hermanna Bassa, Catholic Church; Rabbi Sergio Bergman, Judaism; Licenciado Abdala Desuque, Islamic Centre; Father Dolan, Catholic Temple; Dr Guruji, Hinduism; Pastor David Calvo, Lutheran; Dick Couch, Presbyterian; Pastor Juan Gatinoni, Methodist; Father Vladimir, Russian Orthodox; Horacio Gadea, Brahma Kumaris Spiritual University; Mozhdem Shoia, Bahai Community; Raul Mamani, Indigenous people's Representative; Pastor Hans Reitzel, Protestant; Geshe Ngawang Sherab, Buddhism.

A local forum was established, with the proposed aim to extend it both to national and international levels.

26. Caracas, Venezuela, on the 19th and 20th of August 1996.

On the 19th of August at SanaArte in the presence of Rabbi Pynchas Brenner; Father Mounir Aoun, Maronite Church; Rev. Igazio Castello, Jesuite; Jefe Librado Moraleda, Union of Warao Indigenous Community; Farid Matter, Free Planet Foundation; Dr Enoe Texier, UNESCO - Free Planet coordinator; Belkis Aquino, Pax Kristium Pax; Lama Gangchen illustrated the importance of a permanent Spiritual Forum.

On the 20th of August, at the Monument for Universal Peace, during an inter-religious prayer ceremony for world peace, with great mass media attention. Present were: Pastor Uriel Ramirez, Presbyterian Church of Venezuela; Father Mounir Aoun, Maronite Church; Jefe Librado Moraleda, Union of Warao Indigenous Community; Farid Matter, President - Free Planet Foundation; Dr Enoe Texier, UNESCO - Free Planet coordinator; Father Jose Vergara, Evangelic Church; Juan Sarmiento, Anandamarga Tantric School; Mohamed Dib Ali, Mosque of Caracas; Luiz Yarzabal, director UNESCO-CRESARLC office in Caracas. The Proposal received wide media, (newspapers, radio and television), interest on both local and national levels.

27. Miami, USA, on the 23rd of August 1996. Dade Community College, Inter-American Centre.

The Proposal was officially presented to the Mayor of Miami, Joe Carollo, during a public meeting when Lama Gangchen was presented with an official recognition certificate "for his important contribution to the community", from the Vice-Mayor Wilfred Gort.

28. New York, September 1996. DPI/NGO 49th Annual Conference, 10 to 12th of September 1996, United Nations.

Lama Gangchen participated and distributed the Spiritual Forum Proposal among the various NGO participants.

United Nations: Vernal Equinox celebration, 17th of September.

To coincide with the opening of the General Assembly, Lama Gangchen was requested to guide the Meditation for World Peace and distributed the proposal.

29. Rome, 10th International Meeting organized by the S. Egidio Community, "Peace is the name of God" on the 7th and 8th of October 1996.

Inauguration Ceremony, 7th of October. Among those present were: the President of the Italian Republic Oscar Luigi Scalfaro; Cardinal Camillo Ruini,

President, Italian Episcopal Conference; Jacques Santer, President of European Union Commission; Federico Mayor, Director General UNESCO; Jacques Diouf, Director General FAO; Cornelio Sommaruga, President, International Red Cross Committee; Pierre Sané, Secretary General Amnesty International; Elio Toaff, Head Rabbi of Rome.

Plenary Assembly, 8th of October. Among those present were: Francesco Cossiga, Senator and former President of the Italian Republic; Jean Daniel, Director "Nouvel Observateur" France; Lamberto Dini, Minister for Foreign Affairs, Italy; Mario Soares, Former President of Portugal Republic.

30. Lahore - Pakistan, 1st of December 1996.

The Proposal was distributed on the occasion of the 1st International Holistic Medical Congress, on World AIDS Day.

31. Colombo, Sri Lanka, 29th of December 1996.

The Proposal was read out and distributed on the occasion of the 34th International Congress for Alternative Medicine, on the International Day for Biological Diversity.

32. New Delhi, India, from the 21st to the 25th of January 1997.

The Proposal was presented on the occasion of the First World Polypathy Congress held in Delhi. The meeting dedicated to Global welfare, focused on both medical and social issues. Present at the function were the Honorable Chief Minister of Delhi, Sri Saheb Singh; Health Minister, Dr Harsh Vardhan; Sri M. Arunachlam, Union Minister of Labour and several members of Parliament. The prominent speakers included: Dr Carl Shapley, Chancellor New World Academy, London; Oswald Summerton, Director, Tacet Academy of Social Transformation; Dr Gregory Burglad, University of Provence, France; and many others.

33. Kathmandu, Nepal, on the 8th of February 1997.

The first International Congress on Alternative Medicine, Non-Violence and Peace Education and a proposal for a United Nations Spiritual Forum for World Peace. The meeting was inaugurated by the Rt Hon. Bhim Bahadur Tamang, Minister for Law and Justice (Chief Guest) and by the Rt Hon. Kirti Nidhi Bista, Former Prime Minister (Guest of Honour). Among the distinguished speakers: Dr Bill Piggot, Representative of the World Health Organisation-WHO; Professor P.R. Trivedi, Chairman Indian Institute of Ecology and Environment, Delhi, India; Prof Dr Sir Anton Jayasuriya, Chairman Open International University for Complementary Medicines, Colombo, Sri Lanka; Dr Maurizio Boaron, "Keyhole" surgeon from Bologna, Italy; Dr Pavel Petrov, Physician to the Russian Embassy; as well as representatives from various embassies, doctors and delegates from over 18 countries. There was a very colourful flag ceremony calling for peace in all the countries of the world, each symbolised by their own national flag, before the formal presentation of the Proposal. The meeting was covered by local newspapers as well as by a local CNN news agency.

34. Villa Carlotta, Lago Maggiore, Italy, on the 28th of February 1997.

The Proposal was presented and distributed on the occasion of the first experimental Congress towards the Third Millennium, organized by Alpha Dimensione Vita. Among the distinguished speakers, was Professor Bernardino

Del Boca, founder of the “Villaggio Verde”, with some inspiring “instructions for use” for the Third Millennium. The Proposal received great acclamation and support as the imminent London meeting was announced for the 1st of March 1997.

35. **The Friends Meeting House, London, England, on Saturday the 1st of March 1997.**
A special inter-religious meeting was held for Lama Gangchen to present the Proposal together with Bishop Swing’s United Religions Initiative-URI proposal. The gathering brought nearly 200 people together and Rev. A.C. Winter introduced the silent meditation dedicated to inner and world peace. There was a special display of all the United Nations Member States flags and each country was mentioned individually in a brief world peace ceremony held by Lama Gangchen before the proposals were read out.

36. **Milan, Italy, on the 13th of March 1997, at the F.A.C.S. – Federazione delle Associazioni Culturali e Scientifiche.**
The meeting was organized by the F.A.C.S. Federation to present Lama Gangchen’s Proposal. The presentation was followed by a very interesting dialogue towards a closer collaboration between the individual and such a proposal towards world peace.

37. **New York, USA, on the 20th of March 1997, at the United Nations Headquarters, on the occasion of the Spring Equinox meditation for world peace.**
The proposal was distributed to those present at the meditation, now traditionally held by the Lama Gangchen World Peace Foundation, and lead by Professor Ngawang Sherap, from the Foundation.

38. **Catholic University Nijmegen, Netherlands, on the 29th of April 1997.**
The Proposal was presented by Lama Gangchen during a conference on self-healing and non-formal education, held before a university audience of 400 students, professors and members of the general public. A solid basis for interfaith dialogue with the university was established between Lama Gangchen and Prof. Hol Hogema for the Catholic University.

39. **European Parliament, Bruxelles, Belgium, on the 29th of May 1997.**
During an official invitation to the European Parliament Lama Gangchen presented the Proposal to several EEC representatives.

40. **Villa Ada, Global Village - Bagni di Lucca, Italy, on the 6th of June 1997.**
On the occasion of a peace celebration with the World Peace Prayer Society Flag ceremony and the placing of a Peace Pole at Villa Ada – official inauguration of the “Global Village”- the Proposal was presented to the Mayor of Bagni di Lucca.

41. **Dorset, England, from the 12th to the 17th 1997.**
On occasion of the second Solstice World Peace Prayer Celebration at Stonehenge and Summer Festival at Gaunts House.

42. **San Francisco, Stanford University, USA, from the 22nd to the 27th of June 1997.**
Participation of L.G.W.P.F. at United Religions Initiative-URI.

43. **Ulaan Baator, Mongolia, from the 27th to the 29th of August 1997.**
First International Congress for a United Nations Spiritual Forum for World Peace, Alternative Medicines and Non-Formal Education. Presented to His Excellency the President of Mongolia, and later, to a large audience at the newly rebuilt 27m high Open Eye Chenrezig statue at Ganden Teckchenling Monastery.
44. **United Nations Headquarters, New York, USA, on the 16th of September 1997.**
Presented on the occasion of the International Peace Day celebrations and the Equinox peace meditation held at the Dag Hammarskjöld Meditation hall.
45. **ISER, Rio de Janeiro, Brazil, on the 24th of September 1997.**
Presented at ISER (Instituto de Estudos da Religião - Institute for Religious Studies) during a lecture entitled "Religions United for World Peace".
46. **Sao Paulo, Brazil, Hebraica, on the 5th of October 1997.**
On the occasion of the Third International Ecological and Ecumenical Encounter for World Peace, the Round Table discussion for the United Nations Spiritual Forum for World Peace was attended by over 50 participants representing over 30 organizations, among which the Jewish Community, Brazilian Catholic Church, Jewish-Christian Fraternity, Muslim Benefit Society of Sao Paulo, Paz Gaia, Hare Krishna, A.C.I. Ananda Marga, Theosophic Society, Condomblé, Nossa Senhora do Sion, Projeto Saúde Alegria (Amazon), Mãe Beata De Iemanjá, Centro de Alquimia Interior, Nova Tribo Cultural (Indigenous representative), Brahma Kumaris, Himalayan Amazon Andes Healing Arts Association, Himalayan Healing Center (Nepal), Rosa Cruz Fraternity, Anthroposophic Society, Shamanism, Tibetan Buddhist Dharma Centre Shide Choe Tsog, Brazilian Association for Anthroposophic medicine, House of Reconciliation - Catholic, International Buddhist Progress Society, Gnose, Israelitan Paulistian Congregation, Catholic Franciscans, Unification of the Planet, Culto Afro-Brasileiro.
47. **Presidential Palace, Santiago, Chile, on the 10th of October 1997.**
Presented to Minister J.J. Brunner, Secretary General of the Chilean Government, during a private meeting, who subsequently brought the proposal to the attention of His Excellency the President of Chile.
48. **Local Forum, Santiago, Chile, on the 12th of October 1997.**
Twenty-seven representatives of religious/spiritual organisations were present. Several projects have been initiated by the local forum, such as: the proposal for a peace television for Chile; the introduction of non-formal education into the existing educational system; and bringing the importance of the local spiritual forum to the attention of the Chilean Government.
49. **UNIC, Buenos Aires, Argentina, on the 14th of October 1997.**
The second reunion for the United Nations Spiritual Forum for World Peace Proposal organized by the L.G.W.P.F. was chaired by Mr Angel Escudero de Paz, Director of UNIC-Argentina and Uruguay, in the presence of Lama Gangchen and representatives of Brahma Kumari; Orden Sufi Nagshlandi; Temple Chong Kuan (Buddhist); Jewish Community; Community of studies of the first Nations of America (Indigenous People); "Grupo de Contactos Alejandria" Humanistic Movement; Centro Sri Sathya, NGO Sanitaria (Spain).

50. **Caracas, Venezuela, on the 29th of October 1997**
 Lama Gangchen was invited by the Catedra UNESCO for a Peace Culture' to present the Proposal during an inter-religious meeting at the Peace Monument to inaugurate the activities in preparation of the inter-religious and inter-cultural conference which is to be held in Caracas in April 1998.

51. **Himalayan Healing Centre in Kathmandu, Nepal, from the 26th to the 28th of February 1998.**
 On the occasion of the second International Congress on Alternative Medicines and Non-Formal Education, organised by the L.G.W.P.F - in honour of Nepal's Year for Tourism O98 - with the high patronage of the Ministry for Tourism and Civil Aviation and the Baneshwor Lions Club, Nepal.

52. **Caracas, Venezuela, Regional Inter-religious and Inter-Cultural Conference, 19th to 23rd of April 1998.**
 Organized by UNESCO Chair - Planeta Libre for United Religions Initiative (URI), with the participation of 65 representatives from 17 different faiths and religious organizations

53. **Gaunts House, England, Interfaith Conversations, 18th to the 23rd of June 1998.**
 The five day event centered around panel discussions as well as prayers and meditations for World Peace. A Flag and peace pole ceremony with the World Peace Prayer Society (WPPS) was held with the participation of Sister Jayanti (Brahma Kumaris), Mrs Rabia Joyce Purcell (Commonwealth Parliament Ass.), Rabbi Cliff Cohen, Swami Saradananda, Rt Rev Christopher Budd (Bishop of Plymouth), Tii Antonio Chiriap (Shaman from the indigenous Shuar community of Pikiur in the Ecuadorian Amazon), Indarajit Singh (Hon Director of the Sikh organisations in UK and rep. at UN Assoc. Religious Advisory Council), Jehangir Sarosh (Zoroastrian co-chairman of the World Conference of Religions for Peace), Rev. Mother Catarina Boyer OSB (Catholic). A special world peace and prayer ceremony was held at Stonehenge to celebrate the summer solstice.

54. **House of Lords, London, England, on the 17th of June 1998.**
 Lama Gangchen was invited to speak about and present the work of the Spiritual Forum for World Peace to the seminar on "Policy, Ethics and Values" organised by the International Institute of Peace Studies and Global Philosophy, hosted by Lord McNair.

55. **Belem, Brazil, Municipal Town Hall, on July 22nd 1998.**
 Lama Gangchen was personally received by the Mayor of the City, Mr Edmilson Brito Rodrigues, who is very much interested in the project and in a collaboration of the city of Belem with the L.G.W.P.F. for a project on religious tolerance, peace and environmental awareness to be launched by the end of this year. The first public meeting in Belem was attended by approx. 200 participants from various faiths, peace organizations, environmentalist groups, indigenous people's representatives and religious institutions.

56. **Rio de Janeiro, Brazil, SESCE conference hall, July 25th 1998.**
 The meeting was organised in collaboration with ISER and URI (United Religions Initiative). The opening speech was delivered by the United Nations Representative, Dr Aurilio Ruiz Minagorre, who was very appreciative and supportive of this

initiative. Representatives of various indigenous tribes from the Amazon, of more than 12 religious faiths and various peace initiatives actively participated.

57. Brasilia, Brazil, July 29th 1998.

In Brasilia Lama Gangchen had private meetings with the Secretary for Human Rights at the Ministry of Justice, Dr Jose Gregori, and with the Governor of the Federal District, Cristovam Buarque, who warmly welcomed all his peace projects and requested him to extend his activities to Brasilia.

58. Florianopolis, Brazil, at the State Bank of the State of St Catarina, July 31st 1998.

The third local forum meeting was held with the participation of 14 religious representatives, environmental associations and the non-violence movement; 150 people participated in the public meeting.

59. Sao Paulo, Brazil, at the Hebraica, August 2nd 1998.

The fourth annual meeting for the Spiritual Forum for World Peace was held at the Hebraica in Sao Paulo dedicated to the 50th anniversary of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights. The organizational meeting was attended by 60 members of 18 different faiths.

60. Sao Paulo, 9th World Congress of IAEWP, August 3rd to the 7th 1998.

The Proposal was warmly received as a contribution towards the development of international peace education for a culture of Peace.

61. Sao Paulo, Legion of Goodwill, Rio de Janeiro August 8th 1998.

Lama Gangchen was invited to the annual celebrations of LGW, attended by over 1500 people. The president of this international UN affiliated NGO, Jose Piava Netto, offered support and active collaboration in the Proposal.

62. Santiago, Chile, ECLAC, August 11th 1998.

Lama Gangchen had a private meeting with the Executive Secretary of ECLAC, Dr Jose Antonio Ocampo for discussing future potential for the realization of the proposal.

63. Santiago, Chile, August, 14th 1998.

Private meeting with the Bishop of Santiago, Francisco Javier Errazuriz, to discuss the Proposal.

64. Santiago, Chile, August 15th 1998.

Lama Gangchen attended the eighteenth meeting of the local spiritual forum in which specific projects for a Chilean Peace Television, peace education projects etc. were concluded.

65. Olinda, Brasil, Society of Artists and Workers, on the 17th and 18th of August 1998.

Meeting with the Abbot of the Benedictine Monastery of Olinda, and the Mayor of Olinda.

66. Paris, France, UNESCO, on the 23rd of September 1998.

Lama Gangchen met with UNESCO's Director General, Federico Mayor-Zaragoza and presented him with the Proposal.

67. **London, England, House of Lords, on the 28th of September 1998.**
Lama Gangchen was invited back to a special meeting of the forum on “Policy, Ethics and Values” which saw the launch of the All Party Parliamentary Group for Peace and Reconciliation and the launch in the United Kingdom of a local chapter of the Spiritual Forum for World Peace, working in association with the International Institute of Peace Studies and Global Philosophy and the Multifaith and Multicultural Mediation Service.
68. **Monastery of Saint Giovanni, Parma; and Monastery of Saint Anselmo, Rome, Italy, on the 3rd and 6th of October 1998.**
During a Hindu-Christian interfaith conference “People of Peace in a World of War”, Lama Gangchen presented the Proposal and took part in a panel discussion.
69. **Vatican, Rome, on the 7th of October 1998.**
Lama Gangchen personally presented the Proposal to H.H. Pope John Paul II.
70. **New York, USA; 4th of November 1998.**
An original copy of the Spiritual Forum Report 1995 to 1998 “A solution for the Third Millennium” in nine languages was presented to Mr Alfredo Sfeir-Younis, Special Representative of the World Bank to the United Nations.
71. **United Nations, New York, USA, November 5th 1998.**
A Solution for the Third Millennium - a “Golden Book” of the Proposal for the creation of a permanent spiritual forum for world peace at the United Nations translated into nine languages, with a full report of its activities from 1995 - 1998, was presented to the Assistant Secretary General of the United Nations, Mrs Sorensen, for the Secretary General Mr Kofi Annan.
72. **United Nations, New York November 18th 1998.**
(On the occasion of the Unveiling of a lifesize elephant sculpture gifted to the United Nations by three elephant countries, namely: Kenya, Namibia and Nepal, received by Secretary General,) a peace Sand mandala featuring traditional religious and spiritual symbols for global peace and harmony, as emphasised in the “United Nations Spiritual Forum for World Peace”. Was presented to the United Nations, and received by Mrs Sorensen for the Secretary General.
73. **National Council of Churches in Australia, Sidney, Australia, 25th of November 1998.**
This first meeting for the proposal of a United Nations Spiritual Forum for World Peace in Australia, was attended by some fifty religious leaders, representatives of peace organizations, as well as indigenous and environmental care organizations; namely: Bishops of the Armenian Church, Quakers, Bahai, Marthamine Church and United Churches of Australia; the Buddhist Council and the Buddhist Federation of Australia; Muslim Women’s Association; Director of the National Council of Churches of Australia; World Council of Churches, and so forth.
74. **World Buddhist Hindu Solidarity Foundation, Kathmandu, Nepal, 10th of March 1999.**
75. **Residence of H.E. The Right Honorable Prime Minister of Nepal, Kathmandu, Nepal, 11th of March 1999.**

During a meeting with His Excellency the Prime Minister of the Kingdom of Nepal, Mr G.P. Koirala and thirty Ministers and Members of Parliament, Lama Gangchen presented the Prime Minister with the Millennium Peace Award, and discussed the proposal.

76. **Rotary Club of Colli Briantei, Italy, on the 16th of March 1999.**
Inter-religious dialogue with representatives of Islamic, Catholic, Jewish, Buddhist traditions.
77. **United Nations Earth Day Celebrations, New York, USA; 20th of March 1999.**
On the occasion of the ringing of the Peace Bell by Lama Gangchen, the proposal was presented to the Canadian and Iranian Ambassadors to the United Nations.
78. **Lions Club, Asti, Italy; 15th of April 1999.**
"Cultures, Races and Minority Religions" panel discussion to encourage inter-religious dialogue and awareness among cultures, during which the proposal was presented and received unanimous support as a positive solution.
79. **Abbey of Chiaravalle, Italy; April 1999.**
Christian-Buddhist ecumenical dialogue organised by the Abbott of the ancient Cisterian Monastery of Chiaravalle and a group of Buddhist monks, representing Lama Gangchen, during which the proposal was presented.
80. **Unesco Headquarters, Paris, France; 22nd to 24th of April 1999.**
The proposal was presented as part of a symposium organised by the International Association of Educators for World Peace and the Council on Human Rights and Religious Freedom under the heading "Mutual Respect and Cultural Dialogue for Peace".
81. **Loano, Italy; 24th of April 1999.**
The proposal was presented to the Mayors of Francheville and Loano, Archbishop Monsignor Giuseppe Pittau, on the occasion of the twinning of the two cities. Lama Gangchen was the guest of honour and received Honorary Citizenship in gratitude for his dedicated efforts for peace and reconciliation worldwide.
82. **Crespi Japanese Bonsai, Parabiago, Italy; 25th of April 1999.**
"Meetings between East and West" conference, during which the prospects of the proposal were discussed by Lama Gangchen and Monsignor Francesco Fumagalli.
83. **Université Libre des Sciences de l'Homme, Paris, France; May 1999.**
Public presentation of the proposal to the university board in Madrid, Spain.
84. **The Hague, Holland; 11th to 15th of May 1999.**
Public presentation of the proposal during the "Hague Appeal for Peace" conference. The proposal was further personally presented to HRH Queen Noor of Jordan and Jose Ramos Horta, Nobel for Peace. A special Interfaith meeting of prayer and meditation was held at the historical synagogue of the Hague, organised by Rabbi Awraham Soendorp, President of the United Nations of Youth Foundation and P.N. Bawa Jain, Director of the Interfaith Centre of New York, USA, with participants from Buddhist, Catholic, Hindu, Jain, Jewish, Brahma Kumari and Sufi traditions.

85. **Crans Montana Forum, Switzerland; 24th to 27th of June 1999.**
10th international anniversary meeting, which included a special section dedicated to the "Holy Year 2000" during which the proposal was discussed, including the participation of Mr Shimon Shetreet, Hebrew University of Jerusalem; Rector dalil Boubakeur, Institute of the Mosque, Paris, France; Monsignor Richard Mathes, Charge of the Holy See in Jerusalem. The Spiritual Forum Report 1995 to 1998 "A solution for the Third Millennium" in nine languages was given to all participants to the Forum.

86. **NGO Conference on the "Role of NGOs in the 21st Century", Seoul, S. Korea, 10 to 14th of October, 1999.**
Presentation of a workshop on the creation of Spiritual Forum with the participation of Korean, Theravadan and Mahayana buddhism, Christian, Jewish, Hindu, Islam and Brahma Kumaris representatives as well as a group representing youth. Full support for the project was received by H.S. Shah Sufi M.N. Alam, President, World Spiritual Assembly.

87. **Tiberis, Israele, October 1999.**

88. **Rotary Club, Milan, Italy, October 1999.**
Interreligious Round Table discussion centred on the Spiritual Forum theme, chaired by Monsignor Fumagalli.

89. **United Nations Headquarters, New York, USA; 21st of October 1999.**
"The Spiritual work of the United Nations: Building a planetary consciousness" discussion on the evolution of the proposal's effective implementation. Keynote presentations were made by Alfredo Sfeir-Younis, World Bank Special Representative to the UN; Rev. Deborah Moldow, Executive Director, World Peace Prayer Society; Luciano Meira, Executive Director, Legion of Goodwill; Dr Nina Meyerhof, Children of the Earth.

90. **Comiso, Ragusa, Italy; November 1999; at the former Nato base transformed into a refugee camp for 10.000 Kosovans.**
On the occasion of the 10th International Peace Education Congress with the Lama Gangchen World Peace Foundation as a representative of spirituality in education.

91. **Millennium Celebrations at Borobudur Stupa, Indonesia; December 31 - Space Training 1999.**
Lighting of 100.000 peace candles and peace prayers dedicated to the success of a Spiritual Forum at the United Nations in the new millennium, with the participations of international organisations.

92. **Lions Club, Milan, Italy; on the 10th of January 2000.**
Round Table discussion on inter-religious dialogue, with the participation of Don A. Casolo Diagoni; Father Fantini, Russian Orthodox Church; Lama Gangchen, Western Tibetan Buddhism; Alu Schuetz, Islamic Union Community; Li Fiano, President, Hebraic Community of Milan. The proposal was well received and seen as a truly positive solution.

93. **Milan, Italy; 15th of January 2000.**
Discussion with the Representative of “Documentation for Religions” organization, Milan, as to the prospects of the proposal and possible collaboration in Italy.
94. **Graz City Hall, Austria; 30th of January 2000.**
Meeting with Alfred Stingl, Mayor of the City; a dedicated promoter of local interfaith dialogue, has built several temples of different religious traditions in the city.
95. **Kathmandu, Nepal, 12th to 13 February 2000.**
LGWPF Fourth International Congress on Alternative Medicines, Non-Formal Education and the proposal for the creation of a UNSFWP. Prospects for the development of the proposal were discussed by several representatives of different organizations, such as: Prof Charles Mercieca, President, International Association of Educators for World Peace, USA; Phakk Boosoong, Dhammakaya Foundation, Thailand; Dr Nina Meyerhof, Children of the Earth, USA; Cristina Arismendy, UNFPA, India; Prof. B.R. Thapa, Nepal Institute of United Nations and UNESCO, and others; as well as members of the Nepalese Government and the Royal Committee.
96. **Dhammakaya Foundation, Thailand; 21st of February 2000.**
Special meeting with the Venerable Abbot and Vice-Abbot of Dhammakaya Foundation with Ben Shalom, Jubillennium; to give active collaboration for the support of the proposal.
97. **United Nations, Vienna, Austria; 20th of March 2000**
The proposal was presented to participants and members of the press, on the occasion of the ringing of the Peace Bell, as well as to Austrian Airlines on the occasion of the presentation of the “Peace Messenger 2000” Award to the airline company by the Lama Gangchen World Peace Foundation.
98. **Dhammakaya Foundation, Thailand; 22nd and 23rd of April 2000.**
Earth Day Celebrations and Inauguration of the Dhammakaya Cetiya, with over 200.000 Buddhist participants. A special “International Buddhist Forum” meeting was held for the support of the UNSFWP, joined by Buddhist representatives of all main schools of Buddhism from over ten nations.
99. **Riccione, Italy 1st May 2000. Italian Yoga Federation, “Science and Spirituality towards the third millennium”.**
UNSPFWP panel discussion, Father Maximilian Mizzi, Intern. Franciscan Center for Inter-religious Dialogue, Assisi; Swami Veda Bharati, India, Geshe Phende Tibet, Dr Marco Margnelli, Italy.
100. **UNSPFWP Madrid, Spain, 4th May 2000.**
Mr Javier Solis, Ambassador of Costa Rica in Spain, accepts the position of Honorary President of the Spanish Forum in support of the proposal.
101. **9th Annual LGWPF Congress, Madrid, Spain, 6th May 2000.**
Public appeal for the proposal and the UNESCO program for a Culture of Peace.

- 102. Albagnano Healing Meditation Center, Italy, 9th May 2000.**
Prayer for the realization of such a forum for the benefit of World Peace by representatives from Thailand, Taiwan and Tibet/ China of the three major schools of Buddhism, Theravada, Mahayana, and Vajrayana.
- 103. Vesak Celebration, Florence, Italy, 27/28 May 2000.**
Organized by the Italian Buddhist Union (UBI), the proposal was presented to participants.
- 104. Albagnano Meditation Centre, Italy, 3rd June 2000.**
Prayer for the realization of such a forum for the benefit of World Peace by H.H. Trijang Rinpoche, H.E. Gonsar Rinpoche, Rabten Rinpoche, Mr Alfredo Sfeir-Younis, and over 200 participants.
- 105. Presentation to Hon. Marco Zacchera, Chamber of Deputies, Verbania, Italy, 12th June 2000.**
- 106. IAEWP World Congress, London, England, 14-18 June 2000.**
UNSPFWP was discussed as an important contribution to World Peace during the opening celebrations on June 14th.
- 107. State of the World Forum, 9th September 2000, New York, USA.**
Special section of the three day Forum is dedicated to the discussion on the realization of the proposal: "Making the World Spiritual Forum a Reality: a road map for Action".
- 108. Rotary Club, Beijing, China, meeting at Kempinski Hotel, 12th September 2000.**
The proposal was presented the Club members and diplomats.
- 109. "Religions for Peace in the Spirit of Assisi", Appeal for Peace to the City of Milan, 24th of October 2000.**
Organized by the Center for Documentation of Religions, Cardinal Martini, Rabbi Serat from Paris, Lama Denis from France and Shah S. Represented the panel discussion, all different religious representatives of Milan constituted the peace appeal, signed in public and handed over to the Mayor of Milan. The proposal was presented to representatives of different faiths.
- 110. World Conference for Religions and Peace, Milan, Italy, 25th October 2000.**
Held a meeting opening the possibility for creating an office in Milan. The proposal was presented to the representatives.
- 111. International Federation of Human Rights, National Congress, Caserta, 27/28 October 2000.**
The proposal received great interest from a large audience.
- 112. Chung Hua, Taiwan, 8th November 2000.**
Second meeting with the Mayor of the City, who expressed great interest in the proposal.

- 113. Chiayi, Taiwan, 9th Nov 2000.**
Public Peace Culture event during which the Mayor of the City received the proposal and together with Lama Gangchen light a peace light for World Peace.
- 114. Taichung, Taiwan, 11th Nov 2000.**
Public Peace Culture event in the stadium, attended by all major government officials of the city, including the Mayor of the City. The proposal was read in public.
- 115. Taipei, Taiwan.**
Private meetings with Party spokesman and members, who showed great interest in the UNSPFWP and some of whom joined.
- 116. Kaushung, Taiwan.**
Private meeting and Public Peace Culture event, 16th Nov. 2000, on both occasions the Mayor of the city and City council members expressed great support for the proposal as contribution towards world peace.
- 117. Taoyuan, Taiwan, City Council Meeting, 17th November 2000.**
City Council Members warmly welcomed the initiative.
- 118. Paris, UNESCO, France.**
Conference on “Unity in Diversity”, celebrating the 25th anniversary of the European Buddhist Union, organized in collaboration with the United Religions Initiative, 18/19 November 2000.
- 119. Madrid, Spain, First International Conference for a Culture of Peace, 11-13 December 2000.**
- 120. Sao Paulo, Brazil, 11th January 2001.**
UNSPFWP meeting with over 40 representatives of different faiths, discussing further development of the project in Brazil.
- 121. United Nations, ECLAC, Santiago Chile, 23rd January 2001.**
Five year commemoration meeting held in the same hall where it was first launched on June 8th 1995. The meeting was chaired by Jose Antonio Ocampo, Executive Secretary of CEPAL, Heins Petrus, Alfredo Sfeir-Younis representative of the World Bank to the United Nations in Geneva; Gerardo Gonzales, Project Director, Lama Gangchen and representatives of different faiths.
- 122. Dhammakaya Foundation UN-NGO, Thailand, 9th February 2001.**
Lama Gangchen and Alfredo Sfeir-Younis meeting with Ven. Abbot and representatives of DKF for future collaboration on the proposal.
- 123. 5th International Congress “The Role of Spirituality in the New Millennium”, Kathmandu, Nepal, 25th February 2001.**
Presentation of the Proposal.
- 124. Lumbini Development Trust, Lumbini, Nepal, 28th February 2001.**
Presentation of the Proposal for collaboration.

- 125. International Interfaith Center, Oxford, UK, 16-18 March 2001.**
More than seventy people from about 50 organizations gathered mainly focusing on the issues of inter-ethnic and inter-religious conflicts, the proposal was presented and considered.
- 126. World Citizen Assembly 2001, Grand Hotel, Taipei, Taiwan, 30 March - 3 April, 2001.**
International meeting of United Nations NGO, Cultural Celebration and ringing and signing of the Peace Bell at the Taipei Stadium.
- 127. Presidential Palace in Taipei, Taiwan, 3rd April 2001.**
Given to Vice President of Taiwan.
- 128. Beijing, China, 24 August 2001.**
Read sutra with Lama Nyompa and Chaulin Monk.
- 129. Conference on Spirituality in Tourism, Assisi, Italy, 13-17 October 2001.**
In the footsteps of St. Francis.
- 130. World Peace Praying Association, Taipei, Taiwan, 17 November 2001.**
First Annual Conference towards the creation of a Spiritual Forum for World Peace at the United Nations, Charles Mercieca.
- 131 Villadossola, Italy, 24th January 2002.**
Inter-religious forum on "Different roads towards the path of Peace".
- 132. World Social Forum, Porto Alegre, Brazil, from 30th January to 5th February 2002.**
51,300 special guests from every corner of the world to attend the World Social Forum, LGWPF participated in Panel on Inter-religious dialogue presenting the Proposal.
- 133. Vishwa Shanti Vihar, World Peace Buddhist School, Kathmandu, Nepal, 28 February 2002.**
Acknowledges the resolution adopted by the General Assembly, 54/115 of 8 Feb. 2000, with regards to the recognition of the Day of Vesak at the United Nations Headquarters and other United Nations offices and expressed great interest in the proposal.
- 134. Human Rights Commission 58th Session, UN Geneva, 20th March 2002.**
Organized by IAEWP, LGWPF, Global Open University, Tribal Link Foundation with the participation of Nepal Ambassador to UN Shambhu R. Simkhada, Helen Sayers Brahma Kumaris, Alfredo Sfeir-Younis Special Rep. Of the World Bank to the UN and WTO in Geneva, Lama Gangchen.
- 135. International Peace Prayer Day, New Mexico, USA, 16 June 2002.**
- 136. International Association for Religious Freedom, Budapest, Hungary, 28 July - 2 August, 2002.**
31st World Congress bringing together some 700 participants from all over the world for inter-faith dialogue, during which the proposal was presented.

- 137. Albagnano, Italy 3 May & Tashi Delek Space, Milan, Italy, 4th May 2003.**
Exhibition of the Sacred Buddha Relics and Golden Stupa donated to the United Nations by Thailand, Sri Lanka and Myanmar in occasion of the International recognition of the Day of Vesak by the UN. Presentation of the proposal to a large gathering of different Buddhist representatives, Ambassadors, and other religious representatives.
- 138. Verbania-Pallanza, Italy 16-18 May 2003.**
13th World Congress of the International Association of Educators for World Peace.
- 139. SESC Pompei, Sao Paulo, Brazil, 19th June 2003.**
Interfaith Celebration and Exhibition of the Sacred Buddha Relics and Golden Stupa donated to the United Nations by Thailand, Sri Lanka and Myanmar in occasion of the International recognition of the Day of Vesak by the UN.
- 140. United Nations, ECLAC, Santiago, Chile, 26th June 2003.**
Interfaith Celebration and Exhibition of the Sacred Buddha Relics and Golden Stupa donated to the United Nations by Thailand, Sri Lanka and Myanmar in occasion of the International recognition of the Day of Vesak by the UN.
- 141. Presented to H.E. The Ambassador of Royal Kingdom of Thailand, Santiago, Chile 30th June 2003.**
- 142. Athens, Greece, 22nd July 2003.**
Event for Culture, Education and Environmental Protection in collaboration with the Hellenic Academy of Science and Research.
- 143. Brazil, Petropolis, Crystal Palace, 8th October, 2003.**
Rotary Club of Imperial City.
- 144. Milan, Italy, 13th November 2003.**
Associazione Etica e Comunicazione.
- 145. Chateau de Bossey, Geneva, Switzerland, 8 to 12th May 2004 Workshop .**
Volunteers for a new Partnership Committee, which will steer the project in its coming stages; they had links to 6 world religions and 6 international interfaith organizations, including the LGWPE. They are in the process of drafting a new collective proposal aimed towards the creation of a spiritual forum for world peace at the United Nations.
- 146. Villa Giulia-Pallanza, Verbania, Italy 28 to 30th of May 2004.**
On the occasion of the Second World Congress "Verbania 2004" on Integrated Traditional Medicines for Better Health.
- 147. Quito, Ecuador, 11 September 2004, City Museum.**
On the occasion of the exhibition of the sacred Buddha relics.
- 148. Caracas, Venezuela, Central University of Caracas, Botanic Garden, 18 September 2004.**
On the occasion of the exhibition of the sacred Buddha relics.

149. Caracas, Venezuela, University of Simon Bolivar, 21 September 2004.
On the occasion of the exhibition of the sacred Buddha relics.
150. Porto Seguro, Brazil, 6 October 2004.
151. Vientienne, Laos, 7 March 2005.
At the Wat Ongtu Mahavihar the proposal was presented to the Ven High Priest of Laos.
152. Hanoi, Vietnam, 10 March 2005 .
At the Buddhist Society of Vietnam the proposal was presented and discussed with the president Ven. Hoa Thien Pho Tue.
153. Chateau de Bossey, Geneva, Switzerland, 2 to 5th May 2005
Second Partnership Committee Meeting.
154. Milan, Italy, 6th of May 2005.
Inter-religious meeting held on the occasion of the Buddhist Festival of Vesak.
155. III World Congress "Verbania 2005": Peace Environment for Your Health, June 3rd -5th 2005, Police Academy, Ministry of Justice, Verbania-Pallanza, Lake Maggiore, Italy.
Speaking about Lama Gangchen's proposal during the Congress, H.E. Hernan Escudero Martinez, Ambassador of Ecuador to the United Nations in Geneva, Switzerland, Chairman of the Executive Committee of the programme of United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR), and Vice-president of the 61st session of the Committee of Human Rights on behalf of GRULAC (Latin America and Pacific Regional Group), has pledged his support to bring the proposal to the General Assembly for consideration together with other United Nations Member States.

Lama Gangchen hopes that the Proposal for a Permanent United Nations Spiritual Forum for World Peace can be a solution both for now and towards creating a culture of peace in the third millennium!



On the 8th of June 1995 at ECLAC (the Latin American Headquarters of the United Nations Economic Commission) in Santiago, Chile. T.Y.S. Lama Gangchen presented the proposal for a United Nations Spiritual Forum for World Peace for the first time to an audience of 150 United Nations officials and special guests.

Photographic Reportage



From left to right: Gerardo Gonzales UNSFWP project coordinator, Jose Antonio Ocampo Executive Secretary of CEPAL, Lama Gangchen, Jose Maria Acocena translator, Petrus Heins of CEPAL, Alfredo Sfeir-Younis Representative of the World Bank in Geneva.



First meeting of the Secretary General of the United Nations, Mr Kofi Annan and Lama Gangchen on the occasion of the Interfaith Service held in honour of the new Secretary General and Mrs Annan at St Bartholomews Church, on the 25th of April 1997, New York, USA, organized by the Interfaith Center of New York and the Temple of Understanding. On this occasion Lama Gangchen presented the proposal for a United Nations Spiritual Forum for World Peace to Mr Annan and all participants.



Interfaith Ceremony at St John the Divine, on the occasion of the 50th Anniversary Celebrations of the United Nations on October 21st 1995 in New York, USA. The proposal for a United Nations Spiritual Forum for World Peace was distributed to all participants.



In Istanbul, Turkey, during the HABITAT II United Nations World Summit held from June 3rd to 14th 1996, Lama Gangchen presented the proposal to Secretary General of the United Nations, Mr Boutros Boutros Ghali, together with his first book on "The Art of Non-Formal Education for Better Living - New Solutions to Heal the Culture of Violence in the Third Millennium".

Meeting the Director General of UNESCO, Federico Mayor Zaragoza, at UNESCO Headquarters, on the occasion of the Advisory Committee Meeting on Education for Peace, Human Rights, Democracy, International Understanding and Tolerance, held in Paris from the 21st to the 23rd of September 1998. During this occasion Lama Gangchen presented the proposal to the Director General as a contribution to the development of a Culture of Peace.

