

The 2011 Bi-Annual Conference of the
International Network of Engaged Buddhists (INEB)

The Future of Buddhism

From Personal Awakening to Global Transformation

Wat Pa-Buddhagaya

Bodhgaya, India

October 26-29, 2011

Many are confronting our rapidly globalizing and interconnecting world by retreating back into parochial nationalisms, ideologies of ethnic superiority, and religious fundamentalism. Many Buddhists have been part of such political campaigns that have killed thousands and forced millions into domestic and international exile. Yet, at the same time, an unprecedented number of people in the world are crossing national, ethnic, and religious barriers through internet and other technologies to interact, learn, and rejoice in our diversity.

What is Buddhism's role in this movement?

What is the future of Buddhism, or rather, is there a future for Buddhism?

Come join us at the bi-annual conference of the International Network of Engaged Buddhists (INEB) at the place of the Buddha's enlightenment to re-awaken and re-vitalize our Buddhist commitment to work for the welfare of all sentient beings!

The conference will include a variety of events:

spiritual : morning programs of meditation, chanting, and Dharma talks

intellectual : roundtable talks on pressing social issues

relational : generational sharing among socially engaged religious leaders

practical : workshops on social action skills

informational : an open fair of Buddhist activist groups and their activities

celebrational : film, art, and cultural performances. There are also a variety of specialized pre and post-conference programs for youth, artists, mediators, and pilgrims.



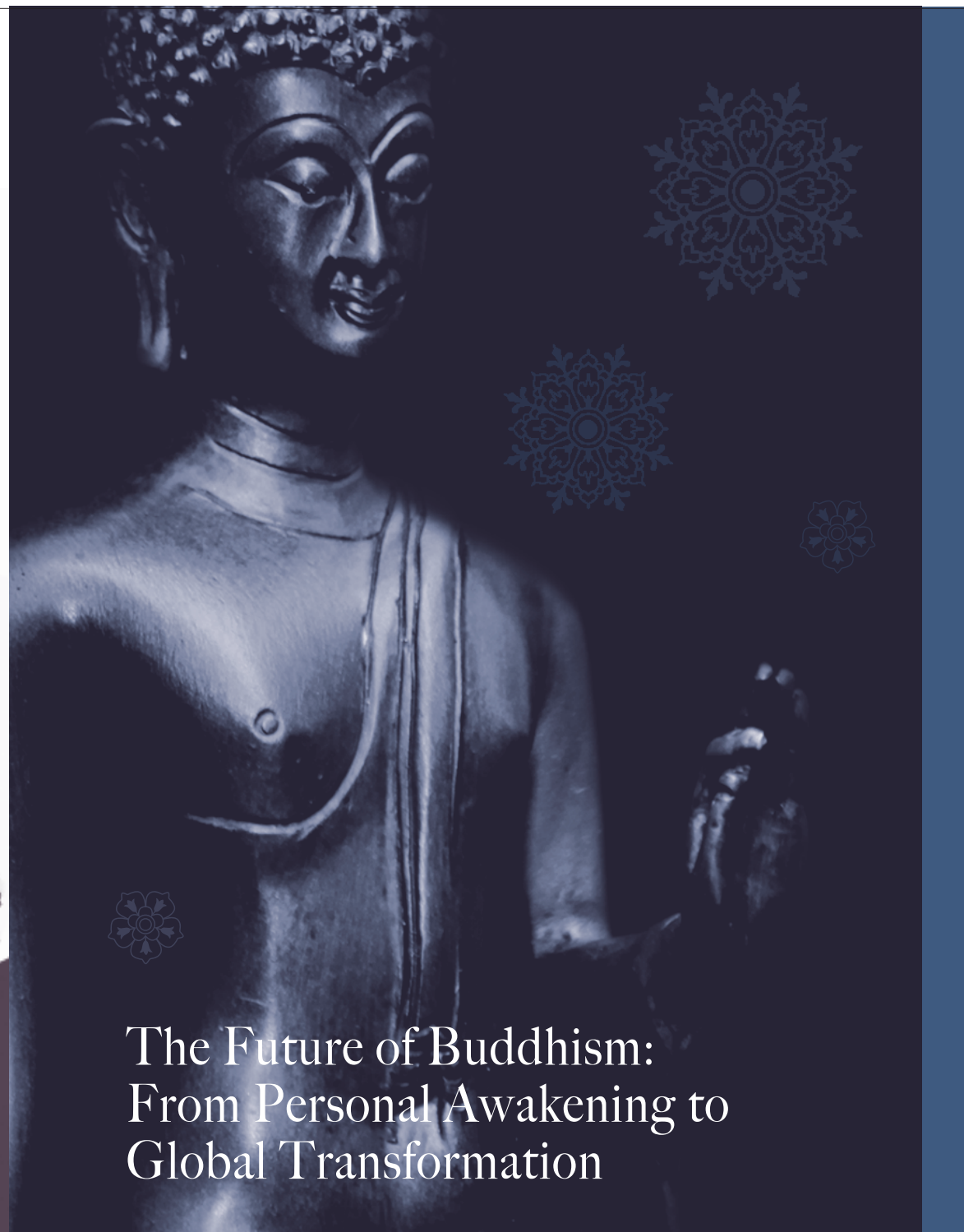
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The Future of Buddhism: From Personal Awakening to Global Transformation

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The International Network
of Engaged Buddhist's
Biannual Conference

organisers

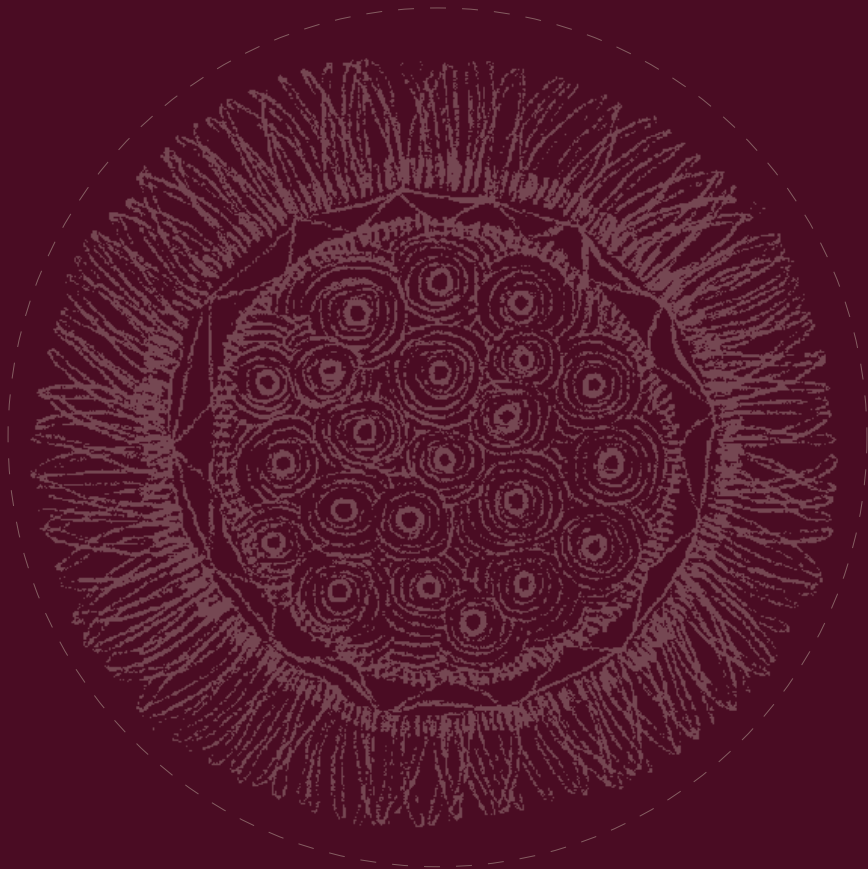


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welcome letter	<div>welcome letter</div> <div></div> <div><div>Welcome Message</div><div>from the INEB Executive Committee Chairperson</div><div>Harsha Kumara Navaratne</div></div> <div><p>A few decades ago when I was a student in my village temple school, the head monk taught us that historically our country was called <i>Dammadeepa</i> and <i>Danyagara</i>. <i>Dammadeepa</i> means an island of dhamma practice. <i>Danyagara</i> means stores of grain. The head monk taught us that the foundations of our society were right living and a self-sufficient economy. He taught that we needed to build a society that balanced material prosperity with ethics and moral principles.</p><p>At that time, when I was a young student, his teaching matched my experience. Our village life was peaceful. Our community felt like one family. People looked after each other, resources were shared, and extra support was given to the weakest and most vulnerable. The temple was the place where we got together to discuss issues or settle any kind of disagreement. Our small island had a lot of diversity, but the communities were connected and woven together. We shared stories, music, art, and healing traditions. Local rules and customs ensured that land, water, forests, animals and plants were protected, and resources were used sustainably.</p><p>When I compare that time with the present situation in my country, I feel lost. In the name of progress and development, we have compromised so much. Our society is in confusion. Traditional ways are gone, but it’s not clear what has replaced it. There is a crisis of identity and people are looking for something to cling to. In this situation, the label of one’s ethnicity or religious affiliation has taken on paramount importance. The identity and symbols of one’s religion have become more important than the practice of it. The word <i>Dammadeepa</i> has become associated with ethnic politics and nationalism.</p><p>My country has passed through more than three decades of violent conflict. Many people were killed or dislocated. Many lost everything. Our young generations have been raised in a culture of violence. When I participate in international discussions and forums, people often ask me how this is possible. They ask how a predominantly Buddhist country could be so violent. They ask how a country like this could introduce the suicide bomb to the world. They ask about killing fields.</p><p>Whenever I hear these questions, my sadness for my country deepens. I have spent so much time with friends and colleagues discussing these issues and searching for answers. We cannot change the past, but we can learn from mistakes. We can work today to change the conditions</p></div>	welcome letter	The Future of Buddhism : From Personal Awakening to Global Transformation	
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conference overview



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conference
overview

INEB’s 2011 conference brings together Buddhist-based organizations and individuals from around the world to share stories, resources and to support each other’s work. The organisers – Jambudvipa Trust, Youth Buddhist Society of India (YBS), the Deer Park Institute and INEB – have designed the 2011 conference as a platform for examining the future of Buddhism to re-awaken and re-vitalize our Buddhist commitment to work for the welfare of all sentient beings! This conference commemorates the 2,600 years since the Buddha attained enlightenment in Bodhgaya, India.

The Conference Objectives

- * Promote dialog and exchange on social issues of common concern among Buddhists from all traditions and regions, as well as socially concerned non-Buddhists
- * Develop programmes and activities among participants and existing INEB working groups for the next two year period
- * Communicate INEB’s work and regional network activities to the broader community
- * Engage active new members to expand and strengthen the network
- * Celebrate the spirit of kalyanamitra and the efforts of the previous two years

The conference includes a variety of events:

- * spiritual: morning programmes of meditation, chanting, and Dharma talks
- * intellectual: roundtable talks on pressing social issues
- * relational: generational sharing among socially engaged religious leaders
- * practical: workshops on social action skills
- * informational: an open fair of Buddhist activist groups and their activities
- * celebrational: film, art, and cultural performance

The daily schedule includes:

- * **Morning Programmes at Maha Bodhi**
meditation, chanting, prayers, and Dharma talks and spiritual practices from all traditions.
- * **Generational Sharing** during the morning plenary sessions on Days 1 and 3, provide an opportunity for senior leaders with a history of active social engagement to share their experience and challenges to inspire young leaders.
- * **Roundtable Discussions** will be convened on Days 2 and 4 to stimulate in-depth and critical dialog on social issues of common concern to all Buddhist traditions. The topics are: *Day 2 Dharma for the Future* and *Day 4 Sangha for the Future*. The sessions will use a “fishbowl” format where eight to twelve key resource people (lay and ordained men and women from different Buddhist contexts) will share their perspectives. The conference participants will be seated around them. The discussion is followed by a Q and A session.
- * **Afternoon workshops grouped under Learning for the Future** - These sessions will range from hands-on workshops and training programmes to experience-sharing sessions organized by key resource people.
- * **Evening Programmes** include a Buddhist Film Festival and Art Exhibition, Cultural Performances and Maha Bodhi Candlelight Procession and Dedication



Wat Pa-Buddhagaya

Affiliated Events (before, during and after the main conference)

- * International Youth Volunteer Workshop, October 20 - 24
- * International Buddhist Art Gathering, October 19 – 25
- * Think Sangha meeting, October 28
- * INEB Advisory Committee and Executive Committee Meeting, October 30
- * YBS workshop led by Ven. Bhikkhuni Dhammananda, November 2 - 4
- * Personal or group study tours and pilgrimages

Conference Participants & Dana

An estimated 250 – 300 people are expected to attend the conference. Special attention was given to ensure strong youth participation in all conference activities. INEB also focused on bringing participants from regions that are in crisis and who need support. Therefore, your donation (dana) will be gratefully received to help others attend which will enrich your entire conference experience!

Pre-Conference International Gatherings



International Youth Volunteer Workshop

International Youth Volunteer Workshop

The *Youth Volunteer Workshop* will take place before the conference (October 20 - 24) to which about 40 youth from many Asian countries are invited. The primary objective is that the youth's participation in the pre-conference workshop and the conference will provide them with new ideas, skills and energy for non-violent social change when they return to their communities.

This workshop will include opportunities for sharing experiences, visioning and designing action plans that links Buddhism to social work based on the Four Noble Truths as a framework for analysis. Participant's leadership skills will be put into practice by coordinating teams of volunteers and making the final arrangements for the Conference logistics. After the Conference, the participants will be able to join study visits to see service projects of local organizations.

Since these young people are actively engaged in social organizations and community work, they are ideally positioned to share and apply what they learned when they return home. This activity is a part of the *Young Bodhisattva Programme* which INEB has facilitated over the last 5 years. For more information on this program, please visit the INEB website or email to youth@inebnetwork.org



International
Buddhist Art
Gathering 2011

Pilgrimage to the Roots of Our Heritage
International Buddhist Art Gathering 2011

The primary purpose of the '*Buddhist Art Gathering 2011*' is to rediscover historic roots and relationships and to promote exchange between Buddhist artists from different countries. An organizing committee consisting of representatives from six Buddhist host organisations and art institutions around the world was formed to conceptualise and coordinate the event. This gathering is the beginning of INEB's ongoing support of Buddhist arts and the next one will take place in February 2013 in Thailand.

35 artists were invited to participate in the Gathering which will conclude by inaugurating an exhibition of all the artworks produced during the workshop (whether individually or collaboratively) to coincide with the INEB 2011 conference. In order to raise international awareness of Buddhist art, the original paintings will travel to the United States where Tibet House in New York City will host the exhibition, as well as a Gala and silent auction.



conference overview	<div>conference overview</div> <div>PROGRAMME SCHEDULE</div> <div><div>Future of Buddhism: From Personal Awakening to Global Transformation</div><div>Arrival and Registration: October 24-25, 2011</div><div><div>Day 1</div><div>October 26, 2011</div><div><div><div>06:00 – 07:00</div><div>Morning Program at Maha Bodhi</div></div><div><div>07:00 – 08:30</div><div>Breakfast</div></div><div><div>08:30 – 08:45</div><div>Welcome by organizers Naresh Sahai Mathur and Anchalee Kurutach</div></div><div><div>08:45 – 09:00</div><div>Traditional lamp lighting and opening of the International Buddhist Art Exhibition</div></div><div><div>09:00 – 09:30</div><div>Welcome by Thai Abbot of Wat Pa-Buddhagaya, Ven. Phra Kru Buddhaban & INEB Chairperson, Harsha Navaratne</div></div><div><div>09:30 – 10:15</div><div>Opening speech by Ajarn Sulak Sivaraksa</div></div><div><div>10:15 – 10:45</div><div>Tea Break</div></div><div><div>10:45 – 11:45</div><div>Keynote Address: The Future of Buddhism by Ven. Dzongsar Jamyang Khyentse Rinpoche</div></div><div><div>11:45 – 13:30</div><div>Lunch</div></div><div><div>13:30 – 16:30</div><div>Learning for the Future: Program A (11 sessions with tea break)<div><div>1. Challenges of the Sangha Ven. Dhammananda</div><div>2. Mediation, conflict transformation and peacebuilding Alan Senauke Jill Jameson Ven. Manjusri</div><div>3. New media Buddhist Channel TV -Brother Lim Kooi Fong</div><div>4. Visiting the sacred spaces of Bodhgaya Richard Dixey</div><div>5. Dharmic education for children Vidyananda Chong Wai Leng Naresh Mathur</div><div>6. Sustainable communities Narumon Paiboonsittikun Sunisa Jumviset</div><div>7. Waste management Deer Park Institute Matteo Pistono</div><div>8. Buddhist Right Livelihood Ven. Sumati Sasana Vidyananda Ken Low</div><div>9. Death and dying Rev. Joan Jiko Halifax Dr. Ven. Tsering Palmo Ven. Bhikkhuni Tsung Tsuen (Zongtun) Poolchawee Ruangwichatorn Moderated by Jonathan Watts</div><div>10. Emergency Response/Humanitarian Assistance Rev. Kobo Inoue Japan – Tsunami relief Lakshi Abeyasekara, Sri Lanka</div><div>11. World Day of Prayer and Action for Children (DPAC) Kul Chandra Gautam</div></div></div></div><div><div>16:30 – 17:00</div><div>Review of the Day - Group Sharing</div></div><div><div>17:30 – 19:00</div><div>Dinner</div></div><div><div>19:00 – 22:00</div><div>Cultural Performances and Exchange</div></div></div></div></div>	<div>conference overview</div> <div>The Future of Buddhism : From Personal Awakening to Global Transformation</div> <div><div>p.10</div><div>p.11</div></div>
	<div>Day 2</div> <div>October 27, 2011</div> <div><div>06:00 – 07:00</div><div>Morning Program at Maha Bodhi</div></div> <div><div>07:00 – 08:30</div><div>Breakfast</div></div> <div><div>08:30 – 11:30</div><div>Dharma for the Future Themes to be discussed include: the Dharma’s relevance in modern society; Dharmaduta and Buddhist education; the impact of new information and communication technology; Buddhism in popular culture; and opportunities and challenges in different cultures and countries. (This is a plenary session round table discussion using a “fishbowl” format with a tea break.)<div><div>Joan Halifax Roshi</div><div>USA</div><div>Dr. Park Gwang-seo</div><div>S. Korea</div><div>Mangesh Dahiwale</div><div>India</div><div>Ven. Kalupahana Piyaratana</div><div>Sri Lanka</div><div>Sarah Weintraub</div><div>USA</div><div>Melva Yolla</div><div>Indonesia</div><div>Jai Bhim Network</div><div>Hungary</div><div>Dharmacharya Shantum Seth</div><div>India</div><div>Moderator: Vidyananda (K.V. Soon)</div><div>Malaysia</div></div></div></div> <div><div>11:30 – 13:30</div><div>Lunch</div></div> <div><div>13:30 – 16:30</div><div>Learning for the Future: Program B (10 sessions with tea break)<div><div>1. Non-violent communication skills Jeyanthi Siva Christiaan Zandt</div><div>2. Photography, filmmaking Ankit Pogula</div><div>3. Nationality and identity Ramu Manivannan Thant Lwin Maung</div><div>4. Buddhist economics Hans van Willenswaarad Prof. Jun Nishikawa Ajarn Apichai Puntasen Prof. Hisashi Nakamura</div><div>5. Empowerment of marginalized groups Mangesh Dahiwale Monica Garry</div><div>6. Organic agriculture & Green Marketing Thilak Kariyawasam Wallapa van Willenswaarad</div><div>7. Working with rejected (addicts, prisoners, prostitutes, etc.) Phra Thanomsing Sukosalo Pongtorn Charlern</div><div>8. Youth awakening Melva Yolla Bobo Lwin Suresh Bauddha</div><div>9. Gender identity Ven. Tsering Palmo Sathis de Mel</div><div>10. Buddhism and Climate Change Nigel Crawhall John and Diane Stanley Ven. Kalupahana Piyaratana Rev. Hidechito Okochi</div></div></div></div> <div><div>16:30 – 17:00</div><div>Review of the Day – Group Sharing</div></div> <div><div>17:30 – 19:00</div><div>Dinner</div></div> <div><div>19:00 – 22:00</div><div>Buddhist Film Festival</div></div>	

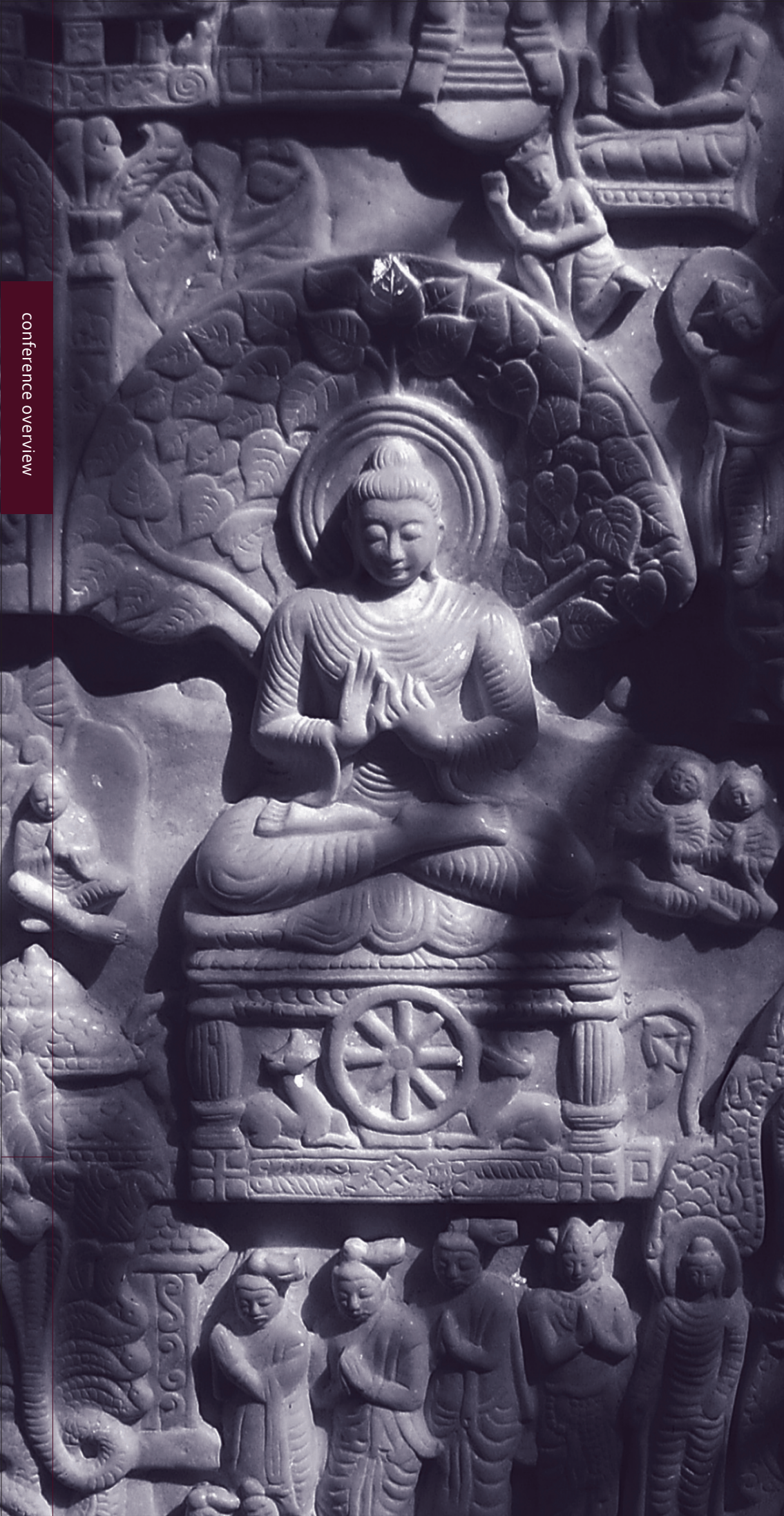
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Day 3	October 28, 2011
06:00 – 07:00	Morning Program at Maha Bodhi
07:00 – 08:30	Breakfast
08:30 – 11:30	Generational Sharing (plenary session) Ven. Bhikkhuni Dhammananda Dhammachari Lokamitra Rev. Alan Senauke Moderator: Naresh Sahai Mathur
11:30 – 13:30	Lunch
13:30 – 16:30	Learning for the Future: Program A (10 sessions with tea break) 1. Challenges of the Sangha 2. Mediation, conflict transformation and peacebuilding 3. New media 4. Visiting the sacred spaces of Bodhgaya 5. Dharmic education for children 6. Sustainable communities 7. Waste management 8. Buddhist Right Livelihood (social enterprises and sustainability) 9. Death and dying 10. Emergency Response/Humanitarian Assistance
16:30 – 17:00	Review of the Day – Group Sharing
17:30 – 19:00	Dinner
Free Evening	This evening is free for small groups to meet.



Day 4	October 29, 2011
06:00 – 07:00	Morning Program at Maha Bodhi
07:00 – 08:30	Breakfast
08:30 – 11:30	Sangha for the Future Themes to be discussed will include: the meaning of Sangha; lay-monastic relations in modern society; vinaya in modern society; dana and materialism; and dana and Buddhist institutions. (This is a plenary round table discussion using a “fishbowl format” with a tea break.) Ven. Dzongsar Jamyang Khyentse Rinpoche Bhutan Ven. Tsering Palmo Ladakh/India Richard Dixey USA Harsha Navaratne Sri Lanka Ven. Manjusri Sri Lanka Maitriveer Nagarjuna India Moderator: Jonathan Watts USA/Japan
11:00 – 11:30	Launching the Right Livelihood Fund
11:30 – 13:00	Lunch
13:00 – 16:00	Learning for the Future: Program B (10 sessions with tea break) 1. Non-violent communication skills 2. Photography, filmmaking 3. Nationality and identity 4. Buddhist Economics 5. Empowerment of marginalized groups 6. Organic agriculture & Green Marketing 7. Working with the rejected (addicts, prisoners, prostitutes, etc.) 8. Youth awakening 9. Gender identity 10. Buddhism and Climate Change
16:00 – 17:00	Announcement of INEB’s 2013 Conference
	Review of the Day – Group Sharing
17:30 – 19:00	Dinner
19:00 – 22:00	Maha Bodhi Candlelight Procession and Dedication Presentation of INEB’s Honorary Award to Dr. Park Gwang-seo





conference overview

Speakers and Resource Persons



Alan Senauke
Is vice-abbot of the Berkeley Zen Center, where he lives with his family. Alan is founder of the Clear View Project, developing Buddhist-based resources for relief and social change. He is Senior Advisor to Buddhist Peace Fellowship. In another realm, Alan has been a student and performer of American traditional music for forty-six years.



Anchalee Kurutach
Has been involved with refugee and immigrant work and has worked as a multi-language advocate for survivors of domestic violence at a battered women’s shelter in San Francisco. She has served on the board of BPF since 2004, and is also on the Executive Committee of INEB.



Ankit Pogula
Is an independent film-maker. He has been engaging with youth groups on issues of Development, Identity, Environment, Self and Media, including extending these engagements into film-making processes. He seeks to draw linkages between our own lives and larger phenomena happening around the world.



Ajarn Apichai Puntasen
Is recognised as an expert on the issues of Buddhist economics and sufficiency economy philosophy. He is the director of the Rural and Social Management Institute (RASMI) and a coordinator of the Sufficiency Economy Movement Project of the Thailand Research Fund.



Ven. Balangoda Ananda Manjusri
Is a Sri Lankan Buddhist monk who has been working with the Sewalanka Foundation since 2006. At the Sewalanka Foundation, he facilitates inter-religious dialogue and is a trainer for conflict sensitivity for staff, young clergies and youth leaders.



Bobo Lwin
Is an alumni of INEB’s ‘Young Bodhisattva’ training. He has been working in the field of environmental sustainability and grassroots leadership in Myanmar, and is currently the founder and director of the Buddhist Youth Empowerment Programme, which is building youth awareness and action in community development and peace-building.



Christiaan Zandt
Was trained as a historian, later on as a ‘buddhologist’. He works as mediator and trainer, drawing inspiration mainly from Nonviolent Communication, wisdom from the Buddhist traditions and the art of Aikido. Christiaan is the author of ‘Uprooting sprouts of violence, cultivating seeds of peace: Buddhism and the transformation of personal conflict’.

conference overview

Speakers and Resource Persons



Ven. Bhikkhuni Dhammananda
Was an associate professor at the Department of Philosophy and Religions before becoming the first ordained Bhikkhuni in Thailand. She is currently Abbot of the Songdhammakalyani Temple, where she devotes her energy to training programmes for nuns, and works to establish the lineage of full ordination for women in Thailand.



Diane Stanley
Is a co-founder of the Ecological Buddhism project and the Buddhist Climate Project with her husband John Stanley, which was established as an educational resource for the international Buddhist community to address issues surrounding global warming.



Dr. Park Gwang-seo
Is a Buddhist professor at Sogang University in Seoul and co-representative of the Korea Institute for Religious Freedom. He serves as co-representative of Buddhist Solidarity for Reform, co-representative of the Korea Institute for Religious Freedom and a mediator of the National Human Rights Commission of Korea.



Hans van Willenswaard
Is the Project Director of the Wellbeing Society Scenario Project at the School for Wellbeing Studies and Research, (under the Gross National Happiness movement), as well as the co-owner of the Garden of Fruition Publishing House, a pioneering social enterprise in Bangkok.



Harsha Navaratne
Is the current Chairperson of INEB, as well as the founding Chairperson of the Sewalanka Foundation, a leading Sri Lankan non-governmental development organization. Harsha is an award-winning film-maker, and a passionate peace builder and mediator.



Rev. Hidehito Okoshi
Is a future Japanese Buddhist priest who established a micro-credit ‘Future Bank’, is developing buildings/houses to last 100 years, and is now working for a nuclear free Japan. He is one of the leaders of Japan’s Inner-Faith Forum for the Review of the National Nuclear Policy.



Hironori (Koubou) Inoue
Is a monk of Pureland-Buddhism (Jodosyu) and belongs to the Japan Network of Engaged Buddhists (JNEB).



Prof. Hisashi Nakamura
Was an economics professor at Ryukoku University in Kyoto. He worked as a researcher specializing in Southeast Asia with a focus on Sri Lanka and South India for nearly 25 years. He co-chaired the Pacific Asia Resource Centre which is one of Japan’s leading advocacy NGOs.



Jeyanthi Siva
Is the founder and director of the Sandhi Institute, a centre for the study and practice of Nonviolent Communication as a tool for transformation. She trains change makers and their teams in interpersonal communication, conflict resolution and group decision-making process, and also offers coaching to various civil society groups to lead a more authentic and self directed life.



Jill Jameson
Is a Zen Buddhist practitioner, and student of Aitken Roshi. She has been working with local communities in Asia as a trainer in peacebuilding and leadership-training skills, drawing on Buddhist principles and practice. She is a member of the Buddhist Peace Fellowship, and was recently appointed to the International Advisory Council of BPF.



Roshi Joan Halifax
Is a Zen Buddhist teacher, anthropologist, author, and pioneer in end-of-life care. She is abbot and head teacher of Upaya Zen Center and Institute in Santa Fe, New Mexico; founder of the Project on Being with Dying, the Upaya Prison Project, and the Ojai Foundation; co-founder of the Zen Peacemaker Order; and author of nine books on Buddhism.



John Stanley
Is a biologist and former researcher at the UK Health Protection Agency and member of the New York Academy of Sciences. He is the co-founder of the Ecological Buddhism project and the Buddhist Climate Project, where he has co-edited with David Loy’ A Buddhist Response to the Climate Emergency.



Jonathan Watts
Has been working with INEB for the last twenty years. He also coordinates Think Sangha, a socially engaged Buddhist think tank. He is currently writing a book on socially engaged Buddhism in Japan with the International Buddhist Exchange Center and is also involved in spiritual preparation for death issues with the Jodo Shu Research Institute.



Prof. Jun Nishikawa
Is a Professor of Economics; Ph.D (Waseda University), Research Director, of the Graduate School of Asia-Pacific Studies and the Executive Director of the Institute of Taiwanese Studies, Waseda University.

conference overview

Speakers and Resource Persons



Ven. Kalupahana Piyaratana
Is a founder of the Interreligious Alliance for National Unity, the major organization in Sri Lanka’s fledgling peace movement.



Ken Low
Is working in the area of new business start-ups. He is involved in INEB’s Right Livelihood Fund, as he believes that in addition to profit, the people and the planet should also be factored into the bottom-line of business.



Kul Chandra Gautam
Is the Convening Chair of the World Day of Prayer and Action for Children, a global inter-faith initiative to promote partnership for the well-being of children. Previously, Mr. Gautam served as Assistant Secretary General of the UN and Deputy Executive Director of UNICEF.



Dzongsar Jamyang Khyentse Rinpoche
Is recognised as the main incarnation of Dzongsar Khyentse (1894-1959). He has been active in preserving the Buddhist teachings, establishing centres of learning and practice, publishing books, and teaching all over the world. He is also known as Khyentse Norbu, the Bhutanese lama, filmmaker, and writer.

Lakshi Abacyasekara
Is the Vice Chairperson Sewalanka Foundation based in Colombo, Sri Lanka. She is a lawyer by profession and joined Sewalanka Foundation at its inception because of her passion for community work.

Brother Lim Kooi Fong
Is the Founder and Managing Director of The Buddhist Channel, based in Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia.



Dhammachari Lokamitra
Is the Founder and president of the Jambudvipa Trust based in Pune, India. He ordained into the Western Buddhist Order (WBO) in 1974 by Sangharakshita. He has been living in India since 1977, and his life and mission is dedicated to movement of Babasaheb Ambedkar.



Maitriveer Nagarjuna



Mangesh Dahiwale
Works with Jambudvipa Trust, part of the FWBO/TBMSG family founded by Sangharakshita to promote the advancement of ex-Untouchable Buddhists in India. He is involved in publicity, and works closely with Dhammachari Lokamitra. He is also on the Executive Committee for INEB.



Matteo Pistono
Is a writer and photographer, and the founder of Nekorpa, an organization committed to the preservation of sacred pilgrimage sites and traditions. He is the author of ‘In the Shadow of the Buddha’, and is currently on the Board of Directors of Rigpa USA, and the Conservancy for Tibetan Art and Culture.



Melva Yolla
Received a scholarship through INEB’s Youth Exchange for Peace and Social Innovation. After the internship she began working with Dharmajala as a program officer.



Monica Garry
is the Executive Director of The Bridge Fund and one of its founders. She has been working exclusively on development programs in Tibetan areas of China for 8 years



Naresh Mathur
Is the General Secretary of Siddhartha’s Intent India (under the direction of Dzongsar Khentse Rinpoche), a Supreme Court lawyer, and a trustee of the Dalai Lama Trust. He has been a student of Lama Zopa Rinpoche of the Root Institute for more than 20 years, where he also teaches Buddhism to Indian students.



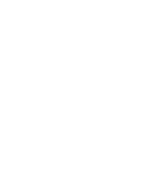
Narumon Piboonsittikun
Is a social activist involved in the Eco-village movement in Thailand. She lives and works at Wongsanit Ashram, an eco-community based on engaged spirituality. She is also the coordinator for the Global Ecovillage Network in Thailand, and the global Ecovillage Design Education programme (under Gaia Education).

conference overview

Speakers and Resource Persons



Nigel Crawhall
Is currently the Director of the Secretariat for the Indigenous Peoples of Africa Coordinating Committee based in South Africa. He is an occasional consultant to UNESCO’s Division for Cultural Policies and Intercultural Dialogue, and is the Director of the South African National Language Project.



Pongtorn Charlern
Is the founder and president of Mplus as well as president of the Rainbow Sky. His is working to reduce worldwide discrimination of “lesbian, gay, bisexual, and transgender” issues (LGBT).



Poolchawee Ruangwichatorn
Works with Spirit in Education Movement, where she facilitates workshops on peace, non-violence and spirituality. She has also been assisting Ven. Paisan Visalo in developing a network of religious and medical professionals working for more integrated spiritual and physical care for persons at the end of life.



Prashant Varma
Is the Honorary director of Deer Park Institute, a centre for the study of Buddhism and other profound classical Indian wisdom traditions. He is also the Secretary to the board of Siddhartha’s Intent India as well as a member of INEB’s Executive Committee.



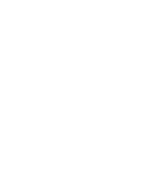
Ramu Manivannan
Is currently Associate Professor at the University of Madras, in the areas of Alternative Dispute Resolution, Peace Building, Education, Civil Society, and Democratization. He is also a founder of the Buddha Smiles (India), a program on education, peace and development of children in India and the Burmese refugee community living in India.



Richard Dixey
Founded Phytopharm plc, a drug discovery company specializing in developing pharmaceutical products based on traditional medical knowledge. He retired in 2006 after taking the company public on the London Stock Exchange. He is currently a director of the Light of Buddhадharma Foundation dedicated to rebuilding the Buddha Sasana in India.



Sarah Weintraub
Is the Executive Director of the Buddhist Peace Fellowship. She has worked for peace and human rights in Colombia, and trained at the Tassajara Zen monastery. She is currently working on a book about her time in Colombia, as well as a film project documenting youth for peace, and their journey in Colombia.



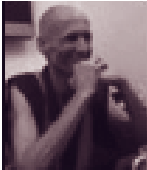
Sathis de Mel
Is the executive director of Arthacharya Foundation (AF) which is an NGO dedicated to poverty reduction in Sri Lanka. Before that he was with CILCA International, an INGO based in Mexico and USA, as well as the organizing secretary and programme director of Sri Lanka’s Sarvodaya Shramadana Movement.



Darmacharya Shantum Seth
Is an ordained Buddhist teacher in the Dhyana (Zen) lineage of the Ven. Thich Nhat Hanh, and is a foremost guide to the sites associated with the Buddha.



Ajarn Sulak Sivaraksa
A prominent and outspoken Thai intellectual and social critic and one of the founders of the International Network of Engaged Buddhists (INEB). He is a teacher, a scholar, a publisher, an activist, the founder of many organisations, and the author of more than a hundred books and monographs in both Thai and English.



Ven. Sumati Sasana
Helped to establish the Root Institute with Lama Yeshe and Lama Zopa Rinpoche, and also taught at many Buddhist Institutions in the region. He was also a teacher trainer with the Maitreya Project. He was fully ordained as a Tibetan monk with His Holiness the Dalai Lama in March 2003.



Sunisa Jumviset
Has worked and lived at the Wongsanit Ashram in Thailand for seven years. She has researched Thailand’s alternative communities as well as providing training in sustainable community living.



Suresh Chandra Bauddha
Is the President of the Youth Buddhist Society (YBS) in India. He is also a student of INEB’s Young Bodhisattva training, and a member of INEB’s executive Committee.



Phra Thanomsing Sukosalo
Is the President of the Dhammadrops Foundation, Abbot of the Doi Pha Som forest temple in Northern Thailand, and editor of MOOM Magazine, devoted to providing accessible dhammic teachings to youth and wider society.

conference overview



Dr. U Thant Lwin Maung

Is a leading alternative writer in Myanmar and works with civil society to promote peace. His back ground is as an orthopaedic surgeon and also publisher of literary magazine Chindwin, and editor of Style-thit monthly magazine.



Dr. Ven. Tsering Palmo

Is the first Ladakhi nun trained in traditional Tibetan medicine. Since 1994, she has been working to help the Ladakhi nuns, and founded the Ladakh Nuns Association (LNA). She has the support from the heads of three sects of Tibetan Buddhism, including the Dalai Lama.



Vidyananda (K.V. Soon)

Is Buddhist practitioner, teacher and entrepreneur. He co-founded Learning Beyond Schooling to encourage and explore alternatives in education. He is currently the Vice-president of the Buddhist Missionary Society Malaysia. He is passionate in the use of technology in community development, teaching and education, leading to spiritual & social change.



Chong Wai Leng

Together, Wai Leng & Vidyananda (KV Soon) founded Learning Beyond Schooling to encourage and explore alternatives in education and other approaches and help parents understand their children better and to help them maximize their potentials. They founded Family Place, Malaysia's first online parenting and family website in 1997. She have been actively helping students express and discover themselves through creativity.



Wallapa van Willenswaard

Is the co-founder of the Garden of Fruition Publishing House, a pioneering social enterprise involved in a range of social projects including Green Marketing, and the School for Wellbeing (under the GNH movement). She is a board member of the Green Market Network, which established the first Farmers Markets in Bangkok.

Ven. Bhikkhuni Zongtun (Tsung Tsuen)

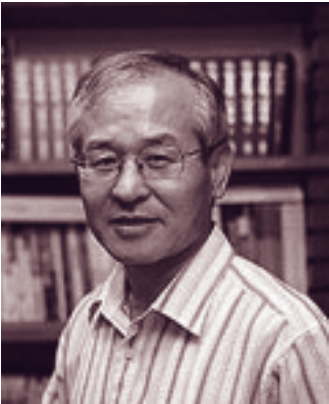
Is the Secretary General of the Association of Clinical Buddhist Studies in Taiwan. She has been a nun since 1987 and was the first monastic to be trained in this program which is hosted by the National Taiwan University Hospital and Palliative Care Unit and Hospice.





INEB’s Honorary Award

In 2009, as INEB celebrated its 20th anniversary and the 40th anniversary of the Sathirakoses-Nagapradipa Foundation, we gave the most recent Honorary Award to Professor Hisashi Nakamura of Japan for his contributions to society and to the Buddhist world. Professor Nakamura’s unorthodox approach as an economist brought a unique perspective to his commitment and work. This award recognizes the uniqueness combined with Buddhists persons’ commitment and contributions to peace and development at many levels of society and in many parts of the world.



Dr. Park Gwang-seo

This year INEB recognizes Dr. Park Gwang-seo, who is a Buddhist professor at the Jesuit-run Sogang University in Seoul and co-representative of the Korea Institute for Religious Freedom. Park serves as standing representative of Buddhist Solidarity for Reform, a representative of the Korea Institute for Religious Freedom and a mediator of the National Human Rights Commission of Korea, an independent government-established organization.

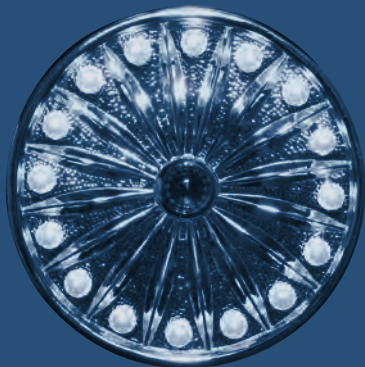
Throughout his career, Dr. Park has been deeply involved in three distinct areas of academics, social and religious activism. This has involved supporting human rights as a member of the Mediation Committee for the National Human Rights Commission of the Republic of Korea as well as, a member of the Mediation Committee to the Seoul Family Court. Dr. Park is a founding member of several organizations including: the Association of Korean Buddhist Professors, Life-Sharing Campaign-Corporation, and the Committee for Avoiding Construction of KTX (Korean Train Express) through the Old Capital City Kyeongju.

As we mark the 2,600 years since the Buddha attained enlightenment at Bodhgaya and the first time for INEB to convene its conference at the holy site, we celebrate Dr. Park Gwang-seo’s contribution to society and to the Buddhist world.

Since your decades of service provide an example and guiding light to the next generation of young Buddhist leaders, may you have the strength to continue serving humanity for many years to come.

Sulak Sivaraksa
Founder
International Network of Engaged Buddhists

Harsha Kumara Navaratne
Chairperson
International Network of Engaged Buddhists



The Niwano Peace Prize

The Niwano Peace Foundation established the Niwano Peace Prize to honor and encourage those persons who are devoting themselves to interreligious cooperation in the cause of peace, and to make their achievements known. It is the Foundation’s hope that this prize will further promote interreligious cooperation for peace and lead to the emergence of more people devoting themselves to this cause. The prize is awarded annually to a living individual or an organization that is making a significant contribution to world peace through promoting interreligious cooperation.



The 28th Niwano Peace Prize awarded to Ajarn Sulak Sivaraksa

Ajarn Sulak, as one of the founders of the International Network of Engaged Buddhists (INEB), has both provided its leadership for many decades, as well as inspiring and initiating action for constructive social change in Siam (Thailand), throughout the Asia region and internationally.

INEB members very much appreciate and congratulate him for receiving the Niwano Peace Prize awarded by the Niwano Peace Foundation this year. The timing is remarkable as it occurs simultaneously while celebrating 2,600 years of the Middle Path of the Enlightened One.

The Niwano Peace Prize has been awarded annually for 28 years, to a leader or organization whose work for peace draws on a religious or spiritual inspiration and a commitment to interfaith action. Established by the Niwano family which leads the lay Buddhist organization, Rishsho Kosei-Kai, the winner is selected by an international committee. This year Katherine Marshall, Chairperson of the Niwano Peace Prize Committee, nominated Ajarn Sulak for the prize. The Niwano laureates are an impressive group and the aspiration is that this prize be a spiritual equivalent to the Nobel Peace Prize.

Ajarn Sulak was selected as the 2011 winner because his life of dedication to peace and justice exemplifies the principles of the Niwano Peace Prize. In Marshall’s words,

“He is a remarkable and multifaceted Buddhist leader whose work for peace has been marked over many decades by the courage, determination, imagination, and the constant inspiration that are core principles of his Buddhist faith.”

He uses a wide range of tools – insights, personal example, and raw persistence, always speaking truth to power – to change the views of political leaders, scholars, and young people, in Thailand, Asia, and the world. Ajarn Sulak encourages a new understanding of peace, democracy, and development, challenging accepted approaches that fail to give priority to poor citizens, men and women alike. He gives new life to ancient Buddhist teachings about nonviolence.