



A H I M S A C E N T E R
NONVIOLENCE IN THOUGHT AND ACTION

Meera and Jasvant Modi International Conference on Nonviolence

Ahimsa and the Quality of Life

California State Polytechnic University, Pomona

Bronco Student Center, Ursa Major

April 28-30 (Friday-Sunday), 2006

www.csupomona.edu/ahimsacenter

Ahimsa is nonviolence rooted in courage and compassion, fearlessness and forgiveness. It connotes reverence for all life, promotes trust and civility, and is the key to lasting peace and happiness.

Themes and Questions

The second international conference of the Ahimsa Center at Cal Poly Pomona will explore how ahimsa enriches life at personal, interpersonal and social levels. The conference will bring together broad range of scholarships and experiences to provide compelling insights from multiple perspectives into the relationships between ahimsa (nonviolence) and quality of life. Presentations, discussions and workshops at this path-breaking conference will address issues and questions such as the following.

- How ahimsa promotes human wellbeing in both material and spiritual spheres, and contributes to enduring happiness and joy in life.
- How violence diminishes the quality of life and contributes to unhappiness.
- What is the connection between ahimsa and mindfulness?
- What role can compassion play in expanding the human potential?
- How can compassionate behavior positively transform interpersonal relationships?
- How gratitude and forgiveness contribute to human empowerment.?
- In what ways is trust central to one's own sense of security, and reduce tensions and conflict in social settings?
- How reverence for life helps individuals relate to other individuals as human beings transcending religious, and racial boundaries.
- In what ways reverence for the environment can have positive impact on the quality of life?

Schedule

Conference: Friday-Saturday, April 28-29, 2006, 9:00 a.m. to 9:00 p.m. (includes lunches, refreshment breaks and dinners).

Workshops: Sunday, April 30, 2006, 10:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m. (includes lunch and refreshments).

Conference Speakers

The conference will feature a roster of highly distinguished speakers, and several panels of carefully selected scholars, educators and practitioners. Collectively, they will communicate inspiring visions and innovative ideas about how to enrich the quality of life by embracing the values of peace and nonviolence. The list of our invited speakers includes:

Mihaly Csikszentmihalyi. C.S. and D.J. Davidson Professor at the Drucker and Ito School of Management and Director of the Quality of Life Research Center at Claremont Graduate University, CA. Previously, he was Chairman of Psychology Department at University of Chicago. His books include *Flow, The Evolving Self, Creativity, Finding Flow, Good Work: When Excellence and Ethics Meet* (co-authored with Howard Gardener and William Damon), and *Good Business: Flow, Leadership and the Making of Meaning*.

William Drayton. Chairman & CEO of Ashoka: Innovators for the Public—a global association of over 1600 leading 'social entrepreneurs.' He is also chair of Youth Venture, Community Greens, and Get America Working! In the 1960s he helped organize the Civil Rights Sit-Ins. Mr. Drayton is a recipient of numerous awards and honors including the MacArthur Fellowship. He has also been named a Preiskel-Silverman Fellow at Yale Law School, and is a member of the American Academy of Arts and Sciences.

Vibha Gupta. Director of Center for Women and Technology (Wardha, India)—an NGO helping rural women develop and use simple affordable tools and technologies to improve their economic condition and also the overall quality of life. An economist by training, Dr. Gupta has served on the expert committee of Women, Science, and Technology Division of the Department of Science and Technology, for the Government of India; and has been involved in projects supported by institutions such as UNESCO, UNICEF and the World Bank. She was elected to the Ashoka Fellowship in 2002.

Padmanabh S. Jaini. Professor Emeritus of Buddhist Studies, University of California at Berkeley. He is one of the leading scholars in the fields of Prakrit, Sanskrit, Pali, Buddhism, and Jainism. He has authored, translated and edited more than twenty scholarly books and eighty scholarly articles and book chapters. His scholarship offers significant original insights on the role of knowledge and compassion in achieving enduring happiness according to Jain and Buddhist traditions.

Prasad Kaipa. Advisor to CEOs and coach for senior executives in Fortune 500 companies. Kaipa helps his clients by focusing on "igniting their natural genius." Kaipa is the author of *Discontinuous Learning: Reflections on Aligning Life and Work* (2005). Kaipa was formerly a senior manager in Apple, where he created an educational menu for Apple technical staff using innovative learning approaches. Later, as a research fellow in the Apple University, he was given the charter to help design 'a learning processor that augments human intelligence.'

Satish Kumar. Program Director at Schumacher College in Great Britain and Editor of *Resurgence* magazine—thoughtful journal of ecology, the environment, new economics, and spiritual values. He is the author of *Path Without Destination* (autobiography), and *You are Therefore I Am: A Declaration of Dependence*. He is a trusted voice on the cutting edge of the environmental movement. He was given the Jamnalal Bajaj Foundation International Award for Promoting Gandhian Values.

For more information, visit www.csupomona.edu/ahimsacenter or contact
Dr. Tara Sethia, Director, Ahimsa Center (909) 869-3868, tsethia@csupomona.edu

Conference Speakers (Contd.)

Nipun Mehta. Founder of CharityFocus.org, a fully volunteer-run organization that has delivered millions of dollars of web-related services to the nonprofit world for free. The recipient of the Jefferson Award for Public Service and the President's Volunteer Service Award, his work creatively leverages web technologies for collaborative and transformational giving, lending him insight into service, leadership, organizational design, and spirituality. He serves on the boards of the Seva Foundation, Silicon Valley Volunteer Center, and Airline Ambassadors.

James O'Toole. Research Professor, Center for Effective Organizations, University of Southern California, and Mortimer J. Adler Senior Fellow, the Aspen Institute. He is the author of 14 books, including *Vanguard Management*, named by *Business Week* as one of the best business and economics books of 1985. His most recent books are *Leading Change* (1995), *Leadership A to Z* (1999), and *Creating the Good Life: Applying Aristotle's Wisdom to Find Meaning and Happiness* (2005).

Neerja Raman. Director, Strategic Planning for Imaging and Printing at HP Labs till recently, she spearheaded the HP Arts and Science program which aims to promote cultural understanding. Raman is the author of *The Practice and Philosophy of Decision Making: A Seven Step Spiritual Guide* (2003). She was featured at the authors' expo, "Books that Empower Women" at the 2004 Women in Technology International (WITI) conference, and in 2005 inducted into the WITI Hall of Fame for her visionary leadership and community service.

Lloyd Rudolph. Professor of Political Science Emeritus, University of Chicago. He is co-author with Susanne Hoeber Rudolph of *Reversing the Gaze: Amar Singh's Diary, A Colonial Subject's Narrative of Imperial India* and most recently of *Postmodern Gandhi and Other Essays: Gandhi in the World and at Home*.

Susanne Rudolph. Professor of Political Science emerita, University of Chicago. She has served as president of the American Political Science Association and the Association of Asian Studies. Among the books she has co-authored with Lloyd I. Rudolph are: *In Pursuit of Lakshmi: the Political Economy of the Indian State; The Modernity of Tradition; Gandhi: The Traditional Roots of Charisma*.

Vandana Shiva. A physicist, ecologist, activist, author of many books, Dr. Shiva is the Director of Research Foundation for Science, Technology and Ecology in India. She is the recipient of numerous awards, including the prestigious Right Livelihood Award. Her most recent books are *Biopiracy: The Plunder of Nature and Knowledge, Stolen Harvest: The Hijacking of the Global Food Supply* and *Earth Democracy: Justice, Sustainability, and Peace*.

Michael Tobias. President of the Dancing Star Foundation, a California nonprofit public benefit corporation devoted to animal welfare, international biodiversity conservation and environmental education. Author of 30 books, director and/producer of nearly 100 films, documentaries and T.V. series. His work has taken him to 60 countries. For his passionate commitment to animal rights, Dr. Tobias was honored with the international "Courage of Conscience Award."

A special panel of K-12 Educators drawn from Cal Poly Pomona Ahimsa Center's 2005 Institute on Nonviolence and Social Change. The panelists will examine how education about nonviolence can make a positive impact on the quality of life issues in our schools, and showcase examples from the innovative lessons and teaching strategies developed by them in the Institute.

See full details about conference and workshops at http://www.csupomona.edu/~ahimsacenter/conference/conference_06.html

Registration: On-line with credit card, register at: http://www.csupomona.edu/~ahimsacenter/conference/conference_06_registration.html
By-mail and on-site registrations only with check payments. Credit cards will not be accepted for by-mail or on-site registrations.

Conference and Workshop Registration Options <i>Early registration recommended as space is limited.</i>	Date Payment Received			Amount Paid	Make check payable to: "Cal Poly Pomona Foundation – Ahimsa Center" and mail it to: Professor Tara Sethia History Department Cal Poly Pomona 3801 W. Temple Ave. Pomona, CA 91768
	By 3/27/06	By 4/24/06	After 4/24/06		
Conference Registration includes: Conference Materials. Two Lunches, Two dinners, Four Refreshment Breaks. April 28-29, 2006 <input type="checkbox"/> General <input type="checkbox"/> Educators <input type="checkbox"/> Students	\$105 85 75	\$125 105 85	\$145 125 100		
Workshop Registration. Includes lunch, refreshments and materials, Sunday April 30, 2006 (10:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m.). Circle your choice: 1. With Prasad Kaipa 2. With Satish Kumar <input type="checkbox"/> General <input type="checkbox"/> Educators <input type="checkbox"/> Students	\$35 30 25	\$45 35 30	\$50 45 40		Total Enclosed:\$ _____

Please complete the registration details below and mail with your payment.

Name _____

Number of persons registering: _____

Address _____

Names of all registrants to appear on name tags:

Phone _____

E-mail _____