

HYDERABAD DECLARATION OF INTERNATIONAL PHILOSOPHERS FOR PEACE AND THE PREVENTION OF NUCLEAR OMNICIDE (IPPNO) January, 2014

Meeting in India, under the aegis of the Grand Global Peace Meet, as International Philosophers for Peace from Europe, Russia and the Americas, we have determined to call our philosophical colleagues and the general public around the world to the witness of IPPNO to the possibility of peace through dialogue and rational research.

We urge our philosophical colleagues in all cultures, religions and geographical and national and linguistic contexts, to bear witness to the possibility of a peaceful human culture and civilisation based on reason and the love of wisdom, and to use education, research, arbitration, mediation and scholarship to resolve disputes rather than force and violence.

We are mindful of the current conflicts going on worldwide which involve loss of life, whether in civil conflicts, or ongoing terrorist incidents such as the recent shooting of satirical journalists in Paris, the murder of schoolchildren in Pakistan and Nigeria and beheadings and fighting in Syria and Iraq and all such like events. We ask that all responsible intellectuals worldwide show leadership in isolating and exposing the intellectual flaws in all ideologies that propose violence as an appropriate strategy for resolving ideological and religious differences. Each religious tradition on the planet ultimately recognises that the powers of reason, enlightenment and love have sovereignty over those of violent rhetoric, forceful persuasion and coercive intimidation. Instead of using terror to bully and frighten other believers, we urge that common dialogues take place involving evidence, logic, reason and the submission of ultimate truth claims to the test of philosophical analysis.

We urge our fellow human beings to choose to live in a world where study, research, learning, respect for wisdom, democratic laws, and love of truth replace the egocentric promotion of one's own cultural values and epistemic absolutisms.

We urge each culture, nation and region of earth to recognise, value and appreciate its own and others' philosophical systems and teachings. We urge that philosophical education be included in both secondary and tertiary educational curricula, as being conducive to creating future generation who value morality and philosophical wisdom as much as *techne* and know-how. We commend UNESCO's recommendations on philosophical education.

Cultures of philosophy have arisen in difficult times in man's past: the golden age of Greek philosophical enlightenment arose in the midst of wars; the Confucian and Taoist sages arose during the era of Warring States; Hindu, Buddhist and Jain enlightenment teachings have arisen against a backdrop of continual wars and conflicts. The great philosophical achievements of Jewish, Christian and Islamic thought have likewise carried on in spite of a backdrop of warfare and violence. The European enlightenment was born out of a continent sick of bloodshed, and the 30 years' war, in which thinkers and philosophers articulated the ideals of universal and perpetual peace as a prospect for man's historical progression from barbarism to a society based on the exercise of civic reason.

After the tragedies of World War One and World War Two, the globe is still bedevilled by international, intercultural and interreligious conflicts and violence. As officers of International Philosophers for Peace (IPPNO) we are issuing a call for our philosophical colleagues in Syria, Iraq, Israel, Palestine, Ukraine and Russia, Afghanistan, and Kashmir, to come together in a spirit of intense inquiry towards truth, and to submit the rival claims of political factions, religious perspectives, and social movements, to the court of reason. We believe it is possible that the disputes effecting these countries and territories can be analysed, rationally and historically, and that in all conflicts there needs to be a recommitment to moderation, the rule of just law, compromise and intellectual humility. By intensive education in the causes and consequences of such conflicts, by requiring religious and political leaders to themselves submit to educational processes, by conducting intensive training work in non-violent communication and dialogue, and by applying good will and imaginal intelligence we strongly believe these conflicts can be resolved harmoniously.

International Philosophers for Peace pledges to work with any and all philosophical colleagues, factions, traditions, lineages and instruments, in order to replace ongoing violence and conflict with philosophical dialogue, dialectic, respect for law, and intellectual discourse. Instead of firing bullets, let us fire off pamphlets, instead of dropping bombs, let us drop bombshells of reason, instead of sending torpedoes, let us issue wholesale barrages of enlightenment and love against all who say that violence is the answer, and that war and terror and unreason are

the new deities who should now be worshipped. Let us find new structural political solutions to the problems of the world, such as by strengthening the UN and by exploring alternatives such as the worldwide *Constitution for the Federation of Earth* (www.earth-constitution.org). Earth's problems are interconnected (human rights, environment, poverty, militarism, lawlessness, religious fanaticism, corruption, violence) therefore we need joined-up solutions that can address these problems holistically.

We denounce the idolatry of violence, even if masked by a veil of pseudo-piety. We denounce all who invoke the name of the Sublime as a justification for acts of grotesque cruelty and barbarism, and we insist instead that mankind learn to worship again with an actually justifiable piety in a way in which both reason and faith can be reconciled, and in which our humanity, our doubts, our hesitations, are not seen as evidence of spiritual weakness, but rather, in the Socratic sense, as evidence of spiritual strength.

Concretely, we call on the educational authorities in all regions to include deeper philosophical and ethical content in their curriculums. Let children and young minds be adorned and beautified by their initiation into the great philosophical heritage of mankind, across all cultural, linguistic and spiritual traditions. The 9 petalled flower of peace can only arise once such seeds of wisdom are implanted early in the mind of today's youth, so that tomorrow's elders shall not weep in sorrow as they patrol the graves of the as yet unborn.

We recognise that philosophy, as the love of wisdom, manifests in many spheres of knowledge and action, including political philosophy, social philosophy, economic, environmental, legal, aesthetic, psychological, historical, religious and scientific philosophy. We encourage all who work in these diverse branches of philosophy to consider how their work can best contribute to the advancement of a world of peace. Philosophy itself has many sub-divisions, such as metaphysics, ontology, epistemology, logic, ethics, phenomenology, etc. and we encourage all who work in these interconnected fields of philosophical knowledge to consider how their work can best advance the case of peace.

Likewise, to the many social scientists, experts and researchers working in branches of peace studies and conflict research, investigating fields such as conflict resolution, conflict analysis, non-violence, peace research etc. we urge that they also include the philosophical dimensions and implications of their research, and make the fruits and findings of their pioneering research available to the general educated public in ways they can make use of.

For philosophy is too important to be left simply to the philosophers: artists, musicians, poets, writers, teachers, cultural figures, politicians, photographers, film-makers, novelists, scientists, web-designers, technological innovators, inventors, home-makers, parents, students, psychotherapists, medical doctors, economists, business leaders, law-makers, educators, social scientists, teachers, engineers, dancers, satirists, comedians, celebrities... all have a role to play in co-creating a world in which the love of wisdom is valued, and philosophical reason, enlightenment, subtlety of mind and intellectual power, and beauty of spiritual attainments, are esteemed and appreciated more than sheer strength or power, might, violence and killing force. As representatives of International Philosophers for Peace therefore we pledge to collaborate with all groups, NGO's, and agencies that will cooperate with us in advancing the application of philosophical and dialectical intelligence to the civic and social violence currently affecting the planet in numerous regions.

We also remind colleagues that IPPNO was founded in 1983 at a time in recent history when a third world nuclear war seemed a not impossible prospect to many minds, and IPPNO played an important role in defusing tensions by arranging pioneering East-West philosophical intellectual diplomacy that helped end the cold war in Europe in 1990. But we remind colleagues that nuclear weapons remain a scourge on the planet, and are proliferating, and remain a threat to the long term security of humanity through accidental, environmental and medical negative impacts as long as they remain in military arsenals around the world as a weapon of last resort. We also remind our colleagues that the IPPNO Document on World Peace, produced by the International Advisory Board in 2001, remains a profoundly valid declaration of the fundamental lineaments of world peace (www.philosophersforpeace.org) . We commend the current work of international legal bodies to strengthen the existing findings of the International Court of Justice that nuclear weapons are essentially illegal under international law, and we urge all nations worldwide without exception to significantly reduce their nuclear arsenals simultaneously by a general and universal commitment to nuclear disarmament involving all possessor nations without exception. This will free up financial resources for peacemaking.

Finally, we also urge all philosophers, at whatever level of their professional development, whether serving in education, academia or research contexts, to affiliate their work with that of International Philosophers for Peace and to join our organisation in its efforts to concentrate minds on the serious task of articulating and devising a comprehensive philosophical approach to conflict resolution, mediation, reconciliation and peace worldwide.

Co-Signed: *Dr Thomas Clough Daffern (International Coordinator, International Philosophers for Peace, UK)*
Prof Alexander Chumakov (Russian Coordinator, International Philosophers for Peace, Moscow, Russia)
Prof Glen T Martin (International President, International Philosophers for Peace, USA)

FOOTNOTES AND NEWS UPDATES:

1. Alexander Chumakov is Vice Chair of the Russian Philosophical Association, Professor of Philosophy at Moscow State University, Research Fellow at Moscow's Institute of Philosophy, Professor of the Faculty of Global Studies of the Moscow State University, Editor of the journal *Vek Globalizatsii*, and helps coordinate the periodical Russian Philosophical Society Congresses The 5th Russian Philosophical Society Congresses is meeting in Urfa, on the theme of PHILOSOPHY. TOLERANCE. GLOBALIZATION: Dialogue of Cultures of East and West, from 6-10 October, 2015, where it is hoped that IPPNO will have a scheduled meeting and symposia. All details can be found here: <http://rfk2015.bashedu.ru/english> See also http://www.dialog21.ru/Globalistika/p_av_30.htm Prof. Chumakov has also recently published his long awaited Dictionary of Global Studies, published by Rodopi Press, which included a large number of entries on all aspect of peace and global philosophical studies. It is available in both Russia and English editions. Several IPPNO colleagues have contributed articles to the work. It covers all aspects of globalisation from a cultural and scientific and political point of view. Prof. Chumakov is the author of numerous professional publications on all aspects of philosophy and the processes of globalisation, and works extensively with a network of professional colleagues throughout the Russian federation, Ukraine, China and Europe interested in these questions. He is keen to see the work of IPPNO revived as an effective vehicle for international philosophical work for peace, combining both theoretical and practical outreach work.
2. Dr Glen T Martin, who has served as International President of IPPNO since 1998, is also President of the World Constitution and Parliament Association which is helping to organise the an IPPNO International Conference on December 27-31, 2015, in Calcutta, India, as part of the World Thinkers and Writers Peace Meet, in parallel to the 14th Session of the Provisional World Parliament. All details can be found here: <http://www.philosophersforpeace.org/Default.aspx>. The work of the World Constitution and Parliament Association can be found here: <http://worldparliament-gov.org/wcpa> Prof. Martin is also a recipient of the important Gusi Peace Prize awarded annually in the Philippines, which has been called the Asian Nobel Peace prize.
3. Dr Thomas Daffern, who has drafted this current declaration, was elected International Coordinator of IPPNO in 1990 at a meeting of International Philosophers for Peace in Moscow, and has been serving as Director of the *International Institute of Peace Studies and Global Philosophy*, based in the UK, since it was founded in 1991 at the University of London. This unique academic organisation brings together peace studies and conflict resolution experts with a detailed study of comparative global philosophical and religious ideas, and is currently based at the Castle of the Muses in Scotland. Details of our programme can be found here: www.educationaid.net Dr Daffern founded *Philosophers and Historians for Peace* in London with John-Francis Phipps in 1984 which continues as the UK based affiliate of IPPNO. His PhD at the University of London (2008) explored the search for peace from 1945-2001 and proposed the field of "Transpersonal historiography" as a genre of history to help facilitate inter-faith and inter-ideological conflict resolution. He has also devised the *Periodic Table of the World's Religious and Philosophical Traditions*, which provides a comprehensive cartography for inter-faith understanding as a groundwork for understanding philosophical commonalities and universalities as well as particularities and ethical co-enlistment. His publications are mainly available at www.lulu.com/iipsgp Many of his talks and interviews can be found at You Tube channel IIPSGP1. The Periodic

Table is found at www.educationaid.net He attended the World Congress of Philosophy in Brighton (1988), Moscow (1993) and Athens (2014) and has a long history of teaching comparative philosophy and peace.

4. A number of former scholars associated with the work of IPPNO over the years have sadly passed away, and we note their contributions to finding a non-violent alternatives to a world of militarism and violence here: Prof John Somerville (1905-1994) Prof Howard Friedman among others—may they rest in peace.
5. Several international IPPNO Members were at the 2014 World Congress of Philosophy in Athens, where among other things we visited the site of Plato's Academy and Aristotle's Lyceum. This was a powerful and rich conference experience attended by some 3000 philosophers from all over the world. The next World Congress of Philosophy will be taking place in Beijing in 2018, and we anticipate International Philosophers for Peace will organise a mini congress to bring together philosophers from all over the world to debate and discuss our urgent search for the ideological and ethical foundations of a world of peace, freedom and responsibility. See http://english.pku.edu.cn/News_Events/News/Global/11191.htm
6. Prof Robert Ginsberg, who has been a long term supporter of the work of IPPNO, has published a new book on *The Aesthetics of Ruins*. Ginsberg was born in Brooklyn, New York in 1937. From 1952 to 1960, he studied at the University of Chicago, chiefly in aesthetics (B.A., M.A.). Assisted by Fulbright grants, he lived in Paris from 1960 to 1963, continuing his explorations in aesthetics at the Sorbonne. He did additional studies in Sweden, the Netherlands Institute for Art History in The Hague, and the University of Vienna. He returned to America to complete a Ph.D. in philosophy in Philadelphia at the University of Pennsylvania (1966). Ginsberg has engaged in study missions to Italy (classics), Israel (peace studies), and China (Confucianism). He taught for Penn State for thirty-five years where he is now Professor Emeritus of Philosophy and Comparative Literature. Among Ginsberg's publications are a handbook for students, *Welcome to Philosophy!* (1977), and a monograph on sculpture, *Gustav Vigeland: A Case Study in Art and Culture* (1984). He edited *Criticism and Theory in the Arts* (1963), *A Casebook on the Declaration of Independence* (1967), *The Critique of War: Contemporary Philosophical Explorations* (1969), and *The Philosopher as Writer: The Eighteenth Century* (1987). Ginsberg edits the book series, *New Studies in Aesthetics*. Previously, he served as editor of the *Social Philosophy Research Institute Book Series (SPRIBS)*, the *Jones and Bartlett Philosophy Series*, *The Journal of Value Inquiry*, and the *Value Inquiry Book Series (VIBS)*. As an editor, he has supervised the publication of two hundred volumes. He currently directs the *International Center for the Arts, Humanities, and Value Inquiry*. Many old IPPNO colleagues still remember Prof Ginsberg's immortal contribution to the IPPNO Conference at the University of Sussex in 1988 entitled "Zen Thoughts on Peace". It consisted of a sustained 6 minute silence, similar to the famous John Cage musical performance of a similar genre.
7. Prof Mourad Wahba of Egypt has commented on the current situation in Egypt, that a true democratic society in an Egyptian context requires genuinely secular republicanism at its root. He has therefore issued support for the work of General Abdel Fattah Al-Sisi in his removal of the Muslim Brotherhood from office and subsequent election as President. He argues that Islamism as represented by the Muslim Brotherhood is fatally opposed to intellectual freedom and secular philosophical reason, even if it comes cloaked in the disguise of rationality to begin with. One of the most respect of modern day Egyptian philosophers, Mourad Wahba has long been a supporter and colleague of IPPNO since the 1980's onwards. Mourad Wahba is currently professor emeritus at Ein Shams University in Egypt. As well as secularism, democracy also requires, according to Wahba, Tolerance, Enlightenment and Liberalism. He founded the *Averroës and Enlightenment International Association*, which has organized professional conferences in Cairo and New York on the thought and impact of Averroës, and co-edited the proceedings of these conferences. The depth of his respect for Averroës is matched only by the intensity of his loathing for 13th-century theologian Ahmad Ibn Taymiyya and his Hanbali heritage. "Ibn Taymiyya lived in the 13th century, and was against using reason to interpret religious texts. He preferred the literal meaning over the inner meaning. Therefore, he called upon people to hear and obey," Wahba once told an Egyptian TV channel. Wahhabism in the 18th century and the Muslim Brotherhood in the

20th century based themselves on Ibn Taymiyya. "They all took us back to the context of the 13th century, and we have developed 'antibodies' against the 21st century. This is the real crisis of our society today," said Wahba. You can see his statements on these themes in full here: <http://www.copticsolidarity.org/media-news-events/opinion/2425-egyptian-philosopher-mourad-wahba-secularism-as-a-prerequisite-for-democracy> Prof. Wahba is also the founder and honorary president of the Afro-Asian Philosophy Association

8. Dr Thomas Daffern attended the recent International Peace Research Association Conference in Istanbul, Turkey, in August, 2014, and participated in the *Peace Theories Commission*, now run by Michael Deckard. Some fascinating papers were presented and an interesting panel of Middle East philosophical dimensions of peace-making with a focus on the role of Hamas in Palestinian cultural identity based on a doctoral thesis of the same theme. The talk by Thomas Daffern is available on the You Tube channel created for the *IPRA Peace Theories Commission*. We anticipate future warm collaboration between this commission and the work of International Philosophers for Peace. The next IPRA conference is scheduled for Africa in 2016.
9. The Grand Global Peace meet taking place in India, in January 2015, featured three separate conferences in Chennai, Bangalore and Hyderabad, with papers and talks by many eminent thinkers and academics on all aspects of peace. The event has been hosted by Prof Chaturvedi, an expert on Vaisnava philosophy in the tradition of Sri Ramanuja (1017-1137), and like his mentor, Chaturvedi is also a Tamil from near Chennai and has written numerous works and given hundreds of discourses on all aspects of contemporary and traditional philosophy. Well versed in modern scientific discourse as well as traditional Hindu philosopher, Chaturvedi is planning to help coordinate the Indian section of International Philosophers for Peace. It is due to Prof Chaturvedi organising this Grand Global Peace Meet that Daffern, Chumakov and Martin were able to convene a special international committee of IPPNO. Prof. S.A. R. Prasana Venkatachariar Chaturvedi is the chairman of the Sri Ramanuja Memorial Trust, which is in turn a member of the International Peace Bureau based in Geneva. Chaturvedi has ambitious and comprehensive plans to develop international peace work in association with various interfaith and global philosophical peace initiatives over the coming period. Among other projects, the MSRT is working towards establishing a Global Parliament of Faiths and has already begun a search for suitable 100 acre site in India to perform this miracle. He will be presenting at the Parliament of the World's Religions in Salt Lake City in 2015 and is organising a Peace walk from India to Jerusalem and to other troubled parts of the world. The Grand Global Peace Meet) issued a declaration, at the end of a successful series of meetings which will be reproduced in full in a future newsletter from IPPNO.
10. Global ecological and environmental issues remain an important aspects of the work of the search for sustainable peace policy, in which all the needs of earth's citizens can be accommodated, without stretching the resources of spaceship earth to breaking point. The work of the Global Green University founded by Dr Thomas Daffern, has come into being as a network of higher education experts to facilitate research into all aspects of the philosophical dimensions of ecology and global thinking, and to research alternative and visionary solutions to the current energy problems which are generating resource wars on the planet. In The grand Global Peace meet several key thinkers came together interested in this aspect of eco-philosophical engagement, and we heard an update of the work of former President Gorbachev and his Green Cross organisation, which continues to inspire good work, as well as the role of environmental thinkers and practitioners in spearheading the search for sustainable developmental goals which the UN system is currently reviewing. One of our colleagues at the Grand Global Peace Meet in India, Dr Richard Clugston, is closely interlinked with these initiatives.
11. Dr Thomas Daffern has participated in several inter-philosophical conferences organised by the Jain organisation of Rajasthan, Anuvibha, which organised the 8th International Conference on Nonviolence and Peace actions in Jaipur, January 2014. Thomas wrote up the Jaipur Declaration which emerged from this conference, calling for the world to implement a practical and theoretical programme of peace initiatives in every realm of the social and personal spectrum, conceived in the form of a 9 petalled flower of peace. A book has been published detailing this Jaipur Declaration and its ongoing programme. Thomas was also invited to participate in a conference in Delhi in October 2014 at a memorial gathering in honour of the visionary Jain leader Acharya Tulsi, whose complex Jain metaphysics inspired thousands of people to undertake small vows

(anuvrat) towards making the world a safer, more peaceful and wiser place. Many leading scholars of peace studies, interfaith understanding, Jainism and ecology came together for a three day discussion. The Jaipur Declaration we issued reads as follows. Dr S.L Gandhi is overseeing the publication of the proceedings of the Japiur Conference and it will be ready shortly, having also been the main coordinator to make it possible.