

Report on WCPA Work in December 2013

Glen T. Martin

Due to obligations at Radford University where I had to finish grading finals and turn in semester grades, I arrived in Lucknow, India, only the evening before the Parliament was to begin. Dr. Gandhi and CMS had provided a nice room on the third floor of the World Unity Convention Center at which the 14th annual Conference of Chief Justices of the World was going on simultaneously with the 13th session of the Provisional World Parliament. Dr. Eugenia Almand (below, right, with International lawyer N. Saraswathy Devi) had been in India for several weeks making preparations. She and Dr. Preeti Shankar of CMS and WCPA had made very nice banners and other media for the Parliament.



Between sessions of the Parliament we participated in the World Judiciary Summit (Chief Justices Conference) which included two peace marches and many other events, such as wonderful pageants put on by CMS children, as pictured above. The World Judiciary Summit included more than 200 justices from over 60 countries around the world, all concerned with the development of a World Parliament and effective world law.

The 13th session of the Provisional World Parliament included delegates from a number of countries and continents who were well-informed and astute in examination and critical evaluation of the proposed legislative acts, which we worked on for three days. Some of the delegates are pictured below. The

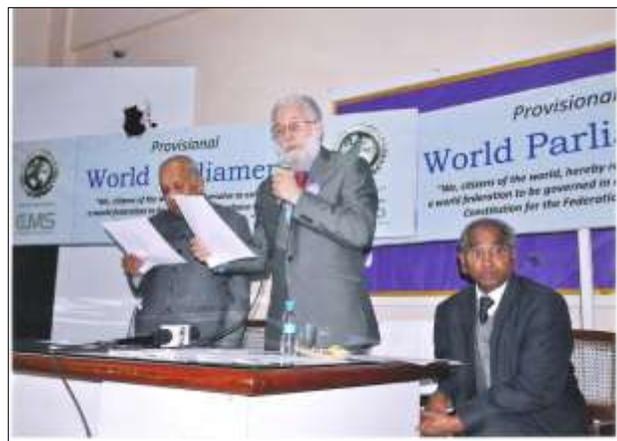
Parliament also gave two global citizenship awards to Professor R. Ananthanarayanan and Puan Sri Datin Seri N. Saraswathy Devi (photo below) and one Honorary Vice-Presidential status to Prof. Dr. Minira Garayeva.



From left: Dr. Santi Nath Chattopadhyay, Dr. Glen T. Martin, Puan Sri Serin N. Saraswathy Devi, Dr. Eugenia Almand and Reverent N. Mahlawe from South Africa, who graciously served as Chairperson for this session of Parliament.



Some of these world legislative acts were described in the Press Conference that we gave on December 18th, called in the Press Room of the World Unity Convention Center by Dr. Jagdish Gandhi (below). Dr Jagdish Gandhi, founder/manager of CMS and WCPA Vice-President (below right) spoke, I read the press release, and Dr. Dauji Gupta, former Mayor of Lucknow and the longest serving Vice-President of WCPA (left) spoke to a group of about 30 journalists. This session of Parliament received good press coverage in Uttar Pradesh and India.



After the Press Conference I was graciously hosted by WCPA Vice-President, Dr. Preeti Shankar and joined by WCPA member Dr. Patricia Murphy for a couple of days until my flights through Delhi to Dhaka. I flew to Dhaka and was greeted at the airport by Mr. Mabubul Islam, World Youth Coordinator for WCPA and President of the Bangladesh Chapter. He had prepared a wonderful itinerary for me and arranged for me to be hosted by Dr. Quassem, a member of the Bangladesh Peace Council, at his very comfortable home in Dhaka City. For the next five days I normally had three meetings or lectures per day, which helped maximize the exposure of the Earth Constitution to the peoples of Earth, which is fundamental to our goal. I was also hosted by Mr. A.H.M. Nouman (founder and Secretary General of DORP), who is also a recipient of the 2013 GUSI Peace Prize International for his splendid work with poverty alleviation in Bangladesh (photo below left).



Left: meeting with journalists at the building owned by DORP. Seated (from right): Mahbubul Islam, A.H.M. Nouman, myself, and other journalists as a meeting called by Mr. Nouman in honor of my visit to Bangladesh.

Right: one of the hundreds of thousands of people who eke out a meager living on the streets of Dhaka city. This girl happened to be every day on the corner near the home where I was accommodated during my stay.





Above, are photos of some of the groups I met with in Dhaka. Immediately above right is a WCPA meeting at the home of Bulbul Rahman (front left), widow of Dr. Mujibur Rahman. Before his tragic premature death last year, Mujibur for many years was a good friend and leader of the movement to recognize the Earth Constitution in Bangladesh. Immediate above left are a group of lawyers at the bar in Dhaka who responded very positively to my presentation about the Earth Constitution.

From Dhaka I flew back to Delhi and was hosted twice by Mr. Amit Paul, President of the Delhi Chapter of WCPA. Amit Paul has kindly offered his home in Delhi as a place for WCPA members to stay when travelling through Delhi, and I stayed there one night before going on to Rajasthan and again for two nights upon returning through Delhi back to the United States. With his kind help and guidance, I took the opportunity to walk several miles around Delhi, through slums and other neighborhoods, learning about the ways people live and work.



Amit Paul (on the right in the above left photo) and leading me into a slum in Delhi where we spend an afternoon with me learning about how millions of ordinary people live in Delhi and India's huge cities.

On our trip through the slum we met, for the second time, women breaking up bricks into gravel and brick dust as one can see the four women doing in the photo below on the left. They told us that they work 6 hours each day at this tedious task for a total of 500 rupees, or about eleven U.S. dollars that they divide among themselves.

Rajasthan, the city of Sardarshar, and IASE University are just over four hours due West from Delhi by train. I was met on the train by Himanshu Dugar, son of the Chancellor of IASE University and one of its Vice-Presidents. We had a great conversation for several hours about issues of human values in relation to the world's future. We were picked up at the station by a university car and driven many kilometers through the desert to the university.



Many carts in the city of Sardarshar are pulled by camels (right photo above). My university hosts put me up in the very comfortable guest house of the university and Chancellor Kanak Mal Dugar, Himanshu, and his gracious wife had to their home for breakfast and dinner the following day. The university and nearby city of Sardarshar are located in the Rajasthan desert, with sand and camels everywhere except where things are watered and tended. Each morning of the three days I would rise at 5 am and go jogging into the city of Sardarshar, learning about the waking of people and their beginning to go about their business of living. Each morning there were women sweeping the streets (below left), a scene repeated everywhere I have been in India and Bangladesh.



My first day I was given a tour of IASE University by Dr. Surendra Pathak, Director of the Department of Value Education. The university has some 5000 acres in the area, with many colleges that I toured, including the College of Education, the College of Ayurvedic Medicine, and the College of Applied Agriculture. In the evening I was also given a tour of Sardarshar, with many wonderful and marvelous things to learn about by Dr. Pathik and his two gracious daughters, Sunita and Suramya. I was also served a wonderful dinner at his home by his wonderful wife, who is also a teacher of values education at IASE University.



Left: Dr Pathek and his daughters pose in front of the glamorous Hindu Temple we visited. Right: the building being renovated that will be the home of the Institute on Global Harmony.

The purpose of my visit was to get to know the administration and some of the faculty at the university and to see the progress of the Institute on Global Harmony, currently being developed by Dr. Laj Utreja in cooperation with IASE University. While there, they asked me to speak about the Earth Constitution to the trustees and faculty of the University. I also spoke with Chancellor Dugar about it at some length.



Left: meeting with trustees and faculty about the Constitution. Right, pointing out specifics in the Constitution to Chancellor Dugar (seated). I met many interesting and visionary people, learned a great deal, and everywhere spoke about the redeemed future for humanity brought about by the Earth Constitution. I returned to Delhi and then to the US in early January.