第三届全球伦理国际学术研讨会开幕辞

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伴随着第三届全球伦理国际学术研讨会的召开,我们注意到全球化的飞快步伐正促使每个人将自己的目光置于自身之外。培育一种致力于推动多元中的统一的观念有助于人们克服玩阴谋、持成见及蓄仇恨这些最终会殃及无辜的负面弊病。那些未能立足于世界人民利益之中的消极态度以及暴行,中断了人们寻求和平解决全球问题的历史潮流。我们欣赏中华人民共和国胡锦涛主席的提法:"所有的决策应该建立在世界上多数人的基本利益的基础之上。"

当今社会承载着太多的冲突。比如,最新的联合国儿童基金会报告显示,世界上超过一半的儿童正遭受着贫困、战争和艾滋病病毒的过度侵害。这些状况实质上迫使孩子们舍弃了他们的童年,也制约了国家的发展。政府、非政府组织及个人的共同努力是缓解这种危机的一种有效手段。这种努力将优先考虑在孤儿和无儿女的夫妇(或虽有子女,但能负担得起扶养更多孩子责任的夫妇)之间建立起全球的联系,这将有助于减少无家可归的孩子以及容易走向犯罪道路的孩子的数量。联合国和许多非政府组织(比如太平洋地区发展与教育协会)正致力于在这件事情上提供帮助,但前面仍有很长的路要走!我们希望有一天人们可以看到基督家庭和犹太家庭领养穆斯林孤儿,而穆斯林家庭领养印度教的失去双亲的孩子。这样的话,人性的统一原则、普世的爱的原则、母性原则才会没有任何偏见的倾抚于每个孩子身上。

全球伦理教育的发展是一种从根本上消除社会不公正现象的途径之一,这也是太平洋地区发展与教育协会与中国社会科学院世界宗教研究所携手努力的目的所在。从学者们的学术研究和各行各业专家的经验的融汇的基础上生成的结论、知识和智慧是中小学社会教育课程的有价值的资源,我们希望这笔知识、经验和智慧财富能够作为致力于开垦年青一代心灵园地的政策及法规制定者们的参考。

第三届学术研讨会有以下三个目的:

- 1、在第二届美国加利福尼亚大学洛杉矶分校全球伦理学术研讨会的成功经验的基础上,使中国的学者、青年和国际的学者、教育工作者、各行各业的专家以及青年会面,并在这次2005年学术研讨会上结合青年和平使者峰会来讨论全球伦理问题。
- 2、为了让历史价值产生实际的效果,安排中国和国际学者探讨全球伦理问题。
- 3、提供一个学术平台,来探讨、比较、交换各自关于伦理的、道德的价值在影响当今社会 及其未来发展的积极作用的论点。

今天正在威胁着我们的恐怖主义已经使世界上最高的大楼沦为一具扭曲的巨轮的黑黝 黝的残骸。而且,在世界的一些地方,活人仍旧被当作杀人的工具和人体炸弹,却不知道自 己正蹂躏着自己的家庭、自己的生命和将来。因为每一个生命都具有无限的意义,攫取一个 人的生命就等于是抹杀了所有的人性。2000 年前,一位中国诗人曹植写就了以下诗篇:

煮豆燃豆其,

豆在釜中泣。

本是同根生,

相煎何太急。

我们从教育、健康、政治、财富、贫穷、宗教、商业及其他一些重要领域出发探讨了全球伦理问题。为了帮助理解我们在当今世界局势中所处的地位,让我们做如下思考:

如果你从未体验过战争的威胁、监禁的孤独,拷打的痛苦以及饥饿的苦楚,你已经优于世界上其他 2000 万人了:如果你有一台用来阅读电子邮件的计算机,你已经置身于世界人口的前 10%之内了。那么,从一个处于 10%中的人到另一个处于其中的人——你是否正感受到 恩宠、感恩,你是否要为他人做些什么?

我们继续强调在第一届北京研讨会上倡导的多元中的统一这个目标,它超越其他一切目的,这份渴求是其他所有渴求之首。我们衷心地感谢大家积极的支持和热情的参与。我们期望更好地了解我们中国的同事,更好地体验跨文化的爱的氛围,这种氛围为我们每个人(包括太平洋地区发展与教育协会的青年和平使者)的参与所带来的不平凡的成果奠定了基础。我们感谢所有支持这次有知名学者与青年峰会结合的道德学术研讨会的朋友,你们用爱心、耐心及奉献帮助我们化障碍为成长和发展的契机,支持我们在创造一个更加和平的世界的努力中坚守统一、和谐。

The Opening Speech at the Third International Symposium on Global Ethics

President of Pacific Rim Institute for Development and Education
Dr. Yu-an Rao

Moving ahead with the 3rd Global Ethics Symposium we observe that the ever-quickening pace of globalization is forcing everyone to continuously look beyond their own borders. Fostering a new point of view that promotes Unity in Diversity will greatly contribute to overcoming the contrary ills of conspiracies, prejudice and hatred, which ultimately hurt the innocent. Negative attitudes and violence, which are not in the best interests of the peoples of the world, disrupt the historical flow of finding peaceful solutions to global issues. We appreciate China's Chairman Hu's saying that, "All policies should be based on the fundamental interests of the majority of the world's peoples."

Our present society is burdened with many conflicts. For example, a new UNICEF report shows that more than half of the world's children are suffering extreme deprivations from poverty, war, and HIV/AIDS. These conditions virtually deny children a childhood and hinder the development of nations. An effective means of alleviating this crisis is through a collective effort by governments, NGOs and individuals, to make it a priority to create global connections between orphans and childless couples, or couples who have children, but can afford more. This would help to reduce the number of children who are without families, and are vulnerable to criminals and gangsters. The United Nations and many non-governmental organizations, like PRIDE are trying to help, but we have a long way to go! We hope that one day we will see Christian and Jewish families adopting Islamic orphans, and Islamic families adopting Hindu parentless children, so that the principles of the oneness of humanity, universal love and motherhood will apply to all children without any form of prejudice.

One of the root solutions to eliminating social injustices is the development of global ethics education, which is the goal of the joint efforts between PRIDE and the Institute of World Religions, Chinese Academy of Social Sciences. The conclusions, knowledge and wisdom from the combination of the academic research of scholars, and the experience of professional experts are valuable resources for junior and high school social education curriculums. We hope this wealth of knowledge, experience and wisdom will become a reference for policy- and law- makers who are helping to cultivate the hearts of our young generation.

This Third Symposium has three purposes:

Based on the successful experience from the second symposium at UCLA, to have scholars
and Chinese youth of the People's Republic meet with international scholars, educators,
professional experts and youth to discuss global ethics issues in the Youth Ambassador
Summit section of this 2005 Symposium.

- 2. To allow Chinese and international scholars to explore global ethics issues, in order to produce practical results of historical value.
- 3. To provide an academic platform to explore, compare and exchange views on the role of ethical and moral values in positively influencing today's society and its future development. Boiled by burning bean-stalks,

Beans weepin the sizzling pot;

The terrorism that threatens us today has become a blackened hulk of twisted wreckage from the world's tallest buildings. Still, in some parts of the world, people are being used as killing tools and living bombs, not understanding they are destroying their own families, and their own lives and futures. Because each life is infinitely meaningful, taking one human life is like killing all of humanity. This poem was written 2000 years ago by the Chinese poet, Cao Zhi:

Boiled by burning bean-stalks,

Beans weepin the sizzling pot;

we were both born of the same roots,

Why then boil me with such relentlessness?

We are exploring global ethics from the perspective of education, health, government, wealth, poverty, religion, business, and many other areas of importance. To help us understand our position in the present world situation, let's consider the following:

If you have never experienced the danger of battle, the loneliness of imprisonment, the agony of torture or the pangs of starvation, you are ahead of 20 million people around the world. If you have a computer to read e-mail, you are in the top 10% of world's population. So, from one top 10% person to another--if you are feeling blessed, repay the blessings and do something for others.

We continue to emphasize unity in diversity, stressed in the first symposium in Beijing. This goal excels every other goal, and this aspiration is the monarch of all aspirations. We profoundly thank you for all of your active support and enthusiastic involvement. We look forward to becoming better acquainted with our Chinese colleagues and experiencing the loving cross-cultural atmosphere, which sets the foundation for outstanding results from everyone's participation, including our PRIDE Youth Ambassadors. We appreciate all the friends who have supported this symposium highlighted by our youth summit, with love, patience and sacrifice, helping us to turn obstacles into opportunities for growth and development, teaching us to be unified and harmonious in all of our undertakings to create a more peaceful world.