

August 2007

Dear friends of the Alliance,

"The Forum was a wonderful experience for me", says a participant at the 2005 Forum

The Alliance now has a stronghold in Colombia. The combined activities of the Alliance forums in Medellin and Bogotá plus Deepak's lectures in both cities brought together nearly 12,000 people to hear about the Alliance. The launching of the Alliance took place synchronistically during massive street marches pleading for peace, for an end to the decades long violence that has plagued this beautiful country.

The message "be the change, make a difference and share the passion" resounded in Spanish in the ears and hearts of thousands.

The Medellin launching of the Alliance was held at the amphitheater of CONFAMA with the participation of about 500 people. A panel constituted by Ramiro Valencia, Deepak, Adolfo Jarrin from Venezuela , Nestor Torres from Puerto Rico and Lina Barrantes from Costa Rica led the 3 hour participatory event which concluded with Nestor's flute concert. Next day Deepak addressed a crowd of 3,000 people after his lecture and announced the launching of the Alliance in Colombia.

The first activity of the new Colombian chapter was a Forum in Bogotá with high officials from the President's office in charge of seeking reconciliation as part of the peace process in Colombia with Ramiro (leader of the Alliance in Colombia) and Deepak.

Support the Alliance for a New Humanity

You can support the Alliance for a New Humanity when shopping on the Internet. With MyCause.com you can purchase all kinds of things at top Internet vendors. The best part is that your purchases support the Alliance without paying anything extra.

To support the Alliance for a New Humanity click: www.MyCause.com/ANH

Global Leaders' Retreat on New Emerging Consciousness

Global warming, social injustice, and economic disparity; just a few of the issues that representatives from more than 60 organizations addressed at a retreat at the Chopra Center and Spa at the Dream Hotel in New York City on June 26th. Co-hosted by Deepak Chopra of the Alliance for a New Humanity and Diane Williams of the Source of Synergy Foundation, the gathering tackled the question: "How Can We Collectively Define, Map and Create Momentum for a New Emerging Consciousness in Social Change so it Becomes a Greater Force for Transformation?"

The retreat recalled that "great forces of transformation have resulted in revolution – a great turn around – and/or renaissance – rebirthing of the way we do things." The trends and qualities in consciousness of these past shifts and how we might accelerate global transformation were discussed.

In an interview following the meeting, Deepak said: "If there is any hope for us, then it is to take advantage of the fact that we are the only species that is conscious of our consciousness. Being conscious of our consciousness allows us for the first time to literally consciously imagine and seek the next phase of our evolution. We could be the force and the elements of the universe that shape a reality not only for ourselves but for life on this planet."

"The Forum was a wonderful experience for me", says a participant at the 2005 Forum

Mark your Calendar, San Jose, Costa Rica 11-13 March 2008 The Alliance Human Forum; A Symphony of Transformation

Alliance Action

Let us tell your story. . .

This month's theme focuses on the creation of global networks. It's remarkable how many different groups around the world are working to achieve the same aims as the Alliance! Please keep your stories coming in!

Shalom and Salaam

When Lucy arrived on an Essaouirian beach in Morocco with some children and a bag of poi making materials, she had no idea that lives were about to be changed. She was initially disheartened by the large amount of broken glass and rubbish on the beach, so she, the children and a large group of young people on the beach cleared all the rubbish they could find. Then she showed them all how to make poi and how to spin them.

I write to you from Tamera Healing Biotope 1, in southern Portugal. My name is Lisa Waldbaum, and I am a South African born Israeli, participating in the Monte Cerro Peace Education project here in Tamera, with the vision of creating a Peace Research Village in Israel-Palestine.

I have been a student here in Tamera for the past 8 months, and will return to Israel in August, with the will to bring a new frequency of being. I am thankful for the privilege of life, and want to contribute towards building a culture of peace in Israel and Palestine. I am thankful for the support of fellow light workers.

Love and peace

Lisa Waldbaum

(Tamera is also building a village model called Solar Village and a global political network called Grace. Editor)

www.tamera.org

Unconditional Love

"Perhaps the greatest awareness we can focus upon in our life is the wisdom of unconditional love," wrote Harold Becker in an email earlier this month. "It is a simple choice each of us can make that leads to profound change and births a new reality within our present moment, the only moment we ever truly have. It is also a personal choice that affects our collective world in amazing ways by restoring the natural balance inherent in all things. Yet, what does it mean to love unconditionally?"

Harold W. Becker

President and Founder

The Love Foundation, Inc.

"Inspiring People to Love Unconditionally"

The Love Foundation

Firing the Grid

Reader Mark McManus wrote in to tell us about "Fire the Grid" which he said reminded him of Deepak Chopra's butterfly metaphor. The site has already inspired a mass meditation across the world, and there's more to come.
www.firethegrid.com

Disclaimer: The Alliance for a New Humanity is not responsible for the content of external internet sites. Letters are edited.

NICARAGUA: Down, Down with Adult Illiteracy

by José Adán Silva, IPS

An adult education programme beginning this month in Nicaragua is part of one of the Sandinista government's most ambitious social projects: to declare this country free from illiteracy in 2009.

According to the Nicaraguan Institute of Statistics and Censuses, 24 percent of the present Nicaraguan population of 5.1 million is illiterate. The goal is to teach 100 percent of Nicaraguans over 15 to read and write. The plan will be carried out using the Cuban literacy teaching method "Yes, I Can!", with the support of the governments of Venezuela and Cuba, which are contributing educational materials, specialised instructors and financial resources to mobilise more than 65,000 trained literacy teachers.

more...

GUATEMALA: Fair Trade Begins to Bear Fruit

by Inés Benítez, IPS

The living and working conditions of thousands of small farmers in Guatemala have seen much improvement since they joined the 'fair trade' system, which sets new rules for the game in an otherwise difficult global market.

"Before, we lived in great need. The association helped our town to export products, and with training," says Francisco Ijón, marketing assistant of the Chajulense Association, a group that has embraced the criteria of fair trade for its 1,800 coffee growers in the western regions of Quiché and Huehuetenango, where the vast majority of the population is indigenous and poor. Certified by the Fairtrade Labeling Organisations International (FLO), the Chajulense Association exports coffee to Europe and the United States, and began to diversify its production, adding honey and cardamom spice. In 2006 it exported 675,000 kg of organic coffee -- grown without using agrochemicals.

more...

The Point of Return

"Human happiness, true prosperity and joyful living can only emerge from a life of elegant simplicity."

In the latest issue of Resurgence, Satish Kumar urges us to take a step back, to return to a way of life that is free from damaging dependence on fossil fuel. Rather than simply accepting that we have reached the point of no return, let us look at positive ways we can change our lives to meet the challenge of global warming – by putting a cap on consumerism, freezing our use of fossil fuels, developing renewable energy and living more simple lives.

more...

Book Review: Planting Ideas

Robert Butler reviews *Unbowed* by Wangari Maathai and discovers more about a resolute campaigner, winner of the Nobel Peace Prize and inspirational grass roots activist.

The idea that transformed her life and the lives of so many others was based on a simple premise: "Anyone can dig a hole, put a tree in it, water it, and nurture it." This one gesture could combat soil erosion and desertification, retain rainwater, provide firewood and restore biodiversity. Maathai's dream was to plant 15 million indigenous trees: one for every Kenyan. She more than exceeded her own target. So far, 30 million trees have been planted in Kenya alone.

more...

Breathing In and Out

Artist Andy Goldworthy returns to the Yorkshire Sculpture Park twenty years after his first exhibition there, with a stunning and ambitious residency that encapsulates the spirit of his new work, which addresses the principal themes of holes and portals, walking and journeying, documentation, understanding Nature and time, agricultural structuring and layering of the landscape, and performance and the body.

more...

In brief:

Carbon Offsets

Don't write-off carbon offsets too quickly, says Martin Wright. The best schemes are changing lives for the better in Asia and Africa.

more ...

Sustainable energy genius

Selco in Bangalore has won the 2007 Ashden Award for outstanding achievement for its Solar-Home-Systems and other

solar services, which is making photovoltaics available to households and small-scale entrepreneurs via microfinance loans.

more ...

A new approach to world peace

All across India, thousands of children have been writing heartfelt letters to the students of Pakistan, and thousands of children from Pakistan have been replying. Friends Without Borders is now inviting every school in both countries to take part and join this historic heart-to-heart experiment.

The idea is simple: writing a letter will leave deep and lasting impressions that will help to humanize the other and be the seeds that promise to mature into a safer and friendlier world.more ...

more ...

Events

Concerts in Costa Rica

Lorin Hollander, the acclaimed concert pianist and music educator will perform at the National Theater in Costa Rica on 31st August to benefit the Institute of National Music Education of Costa Rica. The event is a collaboration of the Alliance for a New Humanity and the Ministry of Culture of Costa Rica.

In September, Nestor Torres, the Grammy award winning flute player and peace worker, will perform at the Melico Salazar Theater also in Costa Rica, with the same purpose. The events are part of a series of preparatory activities that would culminate with the March 11-13 2008 Human Forum in Costa Rica. These performances are born out of the generosity of these two acclaimed musicians, and the convergence of human hearts that is enabled by the Alliance.

ANH Human Forums

The annual Human Forum will take place in San Jose, Costa Rica on 11-13 March 2008.

The Human Forum for Europe takes place in Barcelona on 22-25 June 2008.

A thematic Forum on the Global Environment, Human consciousness and the media takes place in September 2008 in Oxford.

Send us your news!

Are you a change maker? We want to hear from you!

We'd like to share your stories of positive change in this newsletter. If you have a story to tell, email it to Rachel Marsh, editor of The Alliance e-newsletter, Resurgence: [mailto: rachel@thecupoftea.co.uk](mailto:rachel@thecupoftea.co.uk)