

Conscience

Our Journey to India



Agenda



- Inspiring Conscience in Chief Justice Conference
 - Safeguarding Peace and Human Rights with Love
 - Inter-Generational Dialogue of Heart-to-Heart Communications
 - Key to Change the World
 - Youth Generation Speaking up for Conscience
 - Angel of Conscience Spreading Love in India
 - What We Learn from this Trip
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Inspiring Conscience in the 16th International Conference of Chief Justice of the World



The group photo of all the honor guests of the 16th International Conference of Chief Justices of world together with Dr. Jadish Gandhi, Mrs., Gandhi, and his grandson.

The International Conference of Chief Justices of the World is one of the most significant international conferences of the year. The 16th Conference was held in Lucknow, India from 9 to 12 October 2015. This year's conference see the participation of dignitaries from across the world, including 5 former and current heads of state and 175 chief justices, judges, lawyers and legal representatives from around the world with total up to 300 participants. The theme of this year's conference is a united world. Founder of the City Montessori School (CMS) of Lucknow, India – Dr. Jagdish Gandhi states that “What is needed is a global government. This will be effective in solving mankind's existing problems, because there is an urgent need to change global governance.”

President of the Federation of World Peace and Love (FOWPAL), Dr. Hong Tao-Tze, is invited for the sixth time to the conference. Each time, Dr. Hong brings important message to the world, from the ringing of the Bell of Peace Love of the World to advancing the protection of taxpayer's human rights, as well as encouraging global solidarity through the movement of “An Era of Conscience”. This year, 24 FOWPAL members, also international volunteers of the movement of “An Era of Conscience”, attend this significant conference. At this conference, the volunteers share the accomplishments and experiences of promoting the movement of “An Era of Conscience” to key leaders and chief justices of the world. At the opening ceremony, Dr. Hong's speech has deeply touched many participating guests, and once again spread the idea of love and peace to all countries of the world..

Since January 1st, 2014, the international volunteers have been holding several signing ceremonies to unite the positive energies from people of the world. During the six-day conference, 1,400 more people have responded to the movement, bringing the total number of participating nations to 195. Moreover, 114 honor guests from 36 nations have endorsed the Declaration of the Movement of “An Era of Conscience”. In addition to the 5 former presidents of Romania, Albania, Croatia, South Africa, and Central African Republic from last year, 5 heads of state and government officials have also responded to the movement this year, including H.E. Iakoba T. Italeli, incumbent Governor-General of Tuvalu, H.E. Rodney Errey Lawrence Williams, incumbent Governor-General of Antigua and Barbuda, H.E. Chandrika Kumaratunga, former president of Sri Lanka (1994-2005), the Interior Minister of India, Mr. Shri Rajnath Singh, Hon'ble Minister of State for External Affairs, Gen (Dr) V.K. Singh, and Uttar Pradesh Health and Family Welfare Minister of India Ahmad Hasan. They spoke highly of the movement of “An Era of Conscience” bringing kindness and peace to the world.

The promotion of the movement of “An Era of Conscience” has created the butterfly effects, forming a huge wave of energies to wish everyone becoming the leader of conscience, and starting from himself. When everyone finds his own conscience, the relationship within family, society, nation, and even among nations will become more harmonious to bring the hope of word peace.

Safeguarding Peace and Human Rights with Love

Dr. Hong, Tao-Tze
President of Federation of World Peace and Love
Vice-President and member of Advisory Board of AWC,
NGO in Consultative Status with ECOSOC and
Associated with the UN DPI
Zhang-men-ren of Tai Ji Men
October 11, 2015

World Mental Health Day is observed on October tenth every year, with the overall objective of raising awareness of mental health issues around the world and mobilizing efforts in support of mental health. Ban Ki-Moon, UN Secretary General, in his messages for 2014 World Mental Health Day, said “World Mental Health Day is an opportunity for us all to reflect on the challenges faced by people with severe mental health problems and what can be done to make their lives better.”

According to statistics from the World Health Organization (WHO), around 450 million people suffer from mental illness and many more have mental problems of some sort. Domestic conflicts, wars, diseases, poverties and outdated concepts have become the cause and effect of unhappiness and poor health for modern people. The vicious cycle of human activities and the degradation of the natural environment have threatened the right to life for the children and youth. Protection of collective health and human rights is a long way off.

The equal rights to live and the rights to life, freedom, happiness, and property are people’s natural rights. Nevertheless, in our world, human actions frequently deprive the natural rights of others. Restoration of these rights often requires education, awakening, and struggle. That is the reason why we gather here today. Through the event organizer’s continuous efforts and contributions over the years, we are here to consolidate the consensus from chief justices, judges, and other visionary leaders from across the globe; to exchange ideas, and to work together for the rights of our future generations.

Law is the last line of defense for the protection of human rights. The purpose of legislation is to uphold fairness, equality, and justice in society through commonly agreed-upon rules. Beyond equipping themselves with professionalism and legal knowledge, law enforcement officers need to have the heart and capacity to tell right from wrong and be kind to all people and creatures. ◦

All of you here are the elites of the legal profession and have rich practical experiences; your understanding of the law is far better than the general public. The law has to conform to reason when being implemented. If each law enforcement officer can remember that every decision they make will deeply impact other individuals and families or even the entire society and therefore should comply with the principle of human rights protection, then they will be more cautious. How can they remain unbiased and fair? That requires excellent wisdom, great courage, and conscience-driven actions.

Education is a long-term process to cultivate people. It is also an endeavor of conscience. Malala Yousafzai, the youngest ever Nobel Prize laureate, said, “One book, one pen, one child, and one teacher can change the world.” Where does change come from? Change start from the heart. Children’s pure hearts, with their direct reactions, boundless creativity, and powerful imagination are their greatest assets. Through proper guidance, their potential from within can be unlocked, which is the highest ideal of education. More importantly, we should teach children to listen to the calling of the conscience from within. The power of knowledge can be used for evil or good purposes. Only with unselfish kindness can one’s potential be fully utilized.

The speed of the changes in today’s world was unimaginable in the past. Each nation of the world is closely connected with others, and no one can escape the impacts that span the entire Earth. In this global village, people share a collective destiny; conducting oneself virtuously cannot guarantee one a peaceful and secure life. Only through cooperation with and coordination from various fields, exchange of experiences, and sharing of resources can we truly safeguard peace for all humanity. The understanding and practice of the concept that all human beings share a common destiny reflects “The Age of Great Harmony” depicted by Confucius: “While hating to see wealth lying about on the ground, people do not necessarily keep it for their own use. While hating not to exert their own effort, people do not necessarily devote it for their own ends.”

Cooperation and exchanges between generations have become even more crucial than before. People from the older generation are encouraged to generously share their wisdom and experiences with the younger generation. People from the younger generation are urged to share their vitality, enthusiasm, and creativity with the older generation. Showing mutual respect and learning from each other not only embodies the true meaning of passing on the torch but also generates more powerful positive energies than working alone and create more happiness for each other. I believe this is also the common goal and wish of each of us.

For global sustainability, for a world of love and peace, and for the rights of future generations to health; every step taken leaves an imprint in history. We cannot afford any delays or halt. In the face of the current environment and challenges, peace is no longer our common aspiration but our shared responsibility. Every individual who wishes to do something good for the world is an angel of conscience safeguarding peace. The love and kindness in the heart gives us the most powerful wings. Courage and action are the most potent tools. When the forces of goodness are connected and the kindhearted people are united, the magical power of love can turn the world around for the better and bring genuine lasting peace.

* Presented in the 16th International Conference of Chief Justices of the World Lucknow, India

Inter-Generational Dialogue of Heart-to-Heart Communication



Volunteers of An Era of Conscience and judges together visiting Taj Mahal, one of the 7 wonders of the world

In the 16th International Conference of Chief Justices of the World, international youth volunteers from Federation of World Peace and Love, Association of World Citizens, and Tai Ji Men Qigong Academy spread never-ending energy around and during the conference. They use their energy to bring laughter and happiness to everyone in everywhere they go. They not only learn from those judges of 60 different countries, but also use love to interact, share and discuss the idea of love and peace with each other. Every smile and hug connect their hearts more closely. They cross the language barrier to build up cross-generation friendships.



International volunteers of An Era of Conscience touch the heart of the former chief justice of Panama with their joyful singing on the bus.



Volunteers taking a group photo with the Vice President of Cassation Act from Turkey.



Group photo with the judges from Argentina in Taj Mahal



International volunteers put together a flash mob outside of Mahatma Gandhi's mausoleum. They sing the Love and Peace Song to break down language barriers. Attracted by their songs and hearts, judges from Paraguay who don't speak English even step out to join the volunteers.

Sincere smiles attract people's attentions. In the hotel lobby, international volunteers take their chances to interact with judges from all over the world, sharing the movement An Era of Conscience. They brought fresh energy to the judges that usually look serious, bringing smiles on everyone's face.



Judges from Argentina



Judges from Paraguay and Argentina



Judge from Sudan



Judges from Thailand, Bhutan, and Philippines



Judge from Zambia

Key to Change the World – Acts of Conscience

Since its inception, the movement of “An Era of Conscience” has received the endorsements from 228,000 people with more than 2,640,000 visits on the website. The movement encourages everyone to be the leader of conscience, despite race or national boundaries. The will to act and contribute is the key to change the world. Through endorsing the Declaration, judges from all over the world are willing to bring the spirit of this movement back to their countries, and let the seed of conscience flourish around the world.



Governor-General, Antigua and Barbuda
H.E. Sir Rodney Errey Lawrence Williams GCMG

I would say conscience is important to any people, as I said, it has to do with understanding of what conscience really is, and it helps prevent man's inhumanity to man. If you look at other persons and respect them as human beings, and appreciate them of who they are, in spite of their religion, or whatever maybe ◦



Governor General of Tuvalu
H.E. Sir Iakoba T. Italeli, GCMG

We have to control our conscience, embedded with love. Love is the greatest power we can have as a human being. If we know those things are bad, we don't do that to others. We have to work back and spread the message. Without justice, we cannot have peace.



Former President of South Africa
H.E. Kgalema Motlanthe

Conscience can help not only South Africa but all countries because conscience really means that all of us are able to draw the connection between what we say, what we do, and the possible consequences because many times we hit the wars with our wits, many times we hit with our actions. So conscience is important from that point of view, and I think all of humanity should embrace it.



The volunteers of “An Era of Conscience” share the movement with the former president of Sri Lanka, H.E. Chandrika Kumaratunga, and present Her Excellency the scarf of conscience.

Declaration for the Movement of An Era of Conscience

Endorsed by People from 141 Countries.



Uttar Pradesh health and family welfare minister of India, Ahmad Hasan, responds to the movement of “An Era of Conscience”, stating that inspired by Dr. Hong’s message of “In the face of today’s environment and challenge, peace is no longer our common aspiration, but our shared responsibility”, he will always keep this in his heart.



An attorney from Philippines, Ismal G. Khan agrees with the movement An Era of Conscience, willing to act for the movement by endorsing the declaration.



Volunteers for conscience share with a guest from Cambodia the Declaration of An Era of Conscience, at the same time inviting her to endorse and join the movement.



Minister of Internal Affairs of India, Shri Rajnath Singh, responds to “An era of Conscience” in the opening night while the international volunteers touched the whole audiences by sing “Love and Peace Song” on stage



After hearing the sharing from the volunteers, Judge of the Court of Cassation from Lebanon, Nabil Sari, signs the Declaration of An Era of Conscience immediately.



Vice President of the High Court of Côte d'Ivoire, Camara Chantal Nanaba, endorsed the Declaration of An Era of Conscience.



More than 36 Judges from Afghanistan, Argentina, Brazil, Belin, Cameroon, Malawi, Paraguay, Peru, Poland, Sudan, Suriname, East Timor, and Zanzibar respond to “An Era of Conscience” to spread the seeds of consciences around.



Youth Generation Speaking up for Conscience

Youth volunteers from Federation of World Peace and Love, Association of World Citizens and Tai Ji Men Qigong Academy participated in discussion forums on preservation of culture, protection of human rights, sustainable developments, law and order, and other related issues during the 16th International Chief Justice of Conferences of the World. They interacted closely with judges, bring up questions or suggestions, as well as hold the Youth Seminar to share the importance of “An Era of Conscience” with chief judges and students of City Montessori School. For a brighter future of the world, young generations must stand up with courage to unite the positive energies and create a greater butterfly effect.



Volunteers of An Era of Conscience, Dr. Jagdish Gandhi (front row center), and judges from all over the world hold the flag of conscience in the parade, strongly expressing their recognitions of the movement An Era of Conscience.



Melissa Wu, representing Association of World Citizens, use the psychological perspective with her own experience to share: when we have negative thoughts, we need to let our conscience and internal faith to guide our heart to the right path.



Erica Wu, aged 14 volunteer of the Federation of World Peace and Love, not only delivers a speech on the same stage with the judges, but also receives the enthusiastic responses from the high court judge of South Africa and the students.



Growing up in Tai Ji Men, an ancient menpai of martial arts and qigong, Steve Liu shares in the seminar the spirit of knight-errant in Chinese culture, at the same time encouraging everyone to become leader of his own conscience.



Sunny Ju, currently a college student, shares the then president H.E. Leonel Fernandez of Dominican Republic's wish when ringing the Bell of Peace, Love of the World. Motivated by the wish, His Excellency resolves the simmering war crisis between Columbia, Ecuador, and Venezuela which spared lives of those countries' citizens.



Mark Liu, a Tai Ji Men dizi, discusses with judges in the seminar on the importance of culture and how to use conscience to unite people with different cultural backgrounds.



Samantha Chang, volunteer of An Era of Conscience, and Graciela Dixon, former chief justice of Panama, had a good talk at the end of the seminar, sharing with each other of their experiences.

Angels of Conscience Spreading Love in India

Volunteers of Cultural Goodwill Group of Love and Peace demonstrate the confidence and passion of the new generation, and receive very high praises in both cultural performances and delivering speeches. They are even reported by the Indian media of India Time, and The Pioneer, and CNN iReport etc. They also share the movement An Era of Conscience in the largest school, City Montessori School (CMS) to inspire the students and teachers throughout the campus to set conscience as the foundation of education. They also received lots of praises from judges around the world and important governmental officials of India during the trip. These group of volunteers are referred to as angels from heaven, descending to touch people's hearts with love and peace. They plant the seed of love and peace within the judges and government officials, so they can bring this concept back to their countries and their positions. These actions and promotions of An Era of Conscience, love, and peace bring hope forward the sustainable developments around the world!



International volunteers for the movement of “An Era of Conscience” show confidence and enthusiasm of the youth in promoting An Era of Conscience. They share happily their life stories on the front page of India’s newspaper.



Female dizis of Tai Ji Men spread propitious blessings through their wings as phoenixes, blessing prosperity and harmony in earth.



A group of teenagers growing up practicing Tai Ji Men's martial arts demonstrates the spirit of protecting our conscience and justice as knight-errant of justice.



Teachers and students of City Montessori School in India all strongly respond to “An Era of Conscience”, expressing their gratitude to the volunteers for bringing this energy and idea of conscience to the school.



In City Montessori School, volunteers of “An Era of Conscience” spread positive energy and interact with the students.



Every student is focused on listening to the importance and influences of conscience shared by volunteers.



Volunteers spread their energy and happiness through their energetic performances to City Montessori School, creating enthusiastic atmospheres and interactions.



Group photo of Tai Ji Men Dizhis, Dr. Jagdish Gandhi (founder of CMS, middle of last row), Mrs. Ghandi (last row fourth from right), and Geeta Gandhi Kindgon (his daughter, chief executive of CMS, middle) after the dinner performances. Geeta Gandhi Kindgon sends a letter afterwards, stating that “Thanks very much indeed for coming to the CJ conference and for your enthusiastic participation. Your vivacity, joyfulness, and warmth was infectious and cheering. Your message of world peace and love was uplifting. Your cultural performances were beautiful and enthralling. Your presence was a joy altogether.”



Mr. Shishir Srivastava, (Organizing Secretary Head of the Department, Personality Development and Career Counselling, third from right), and his wife (fourth from right) express, “Volunteers of “An Era of Conscience” are angels on Earth, bringing love and joy to the conference. We’re excited you guys back here.”

What We Learn from this Trip

Tai Ji Men Qigong Academy, Federation of World Peace and Love, and Association of World Citizens, compose a Cultural Goodwill Group of 24 volunteers. They travel to India to interact and share experiences with people from all over the world with great achievements. Every volunteer has countless gratitude in their heart. Dr. Hong's speech in the conference not only influences all the participants. The actions of the volunteers also prove that everyone can start with themselves to act with love and peace in their daily life. "Peace is no longer our common aspiration but our shared responsibility."



Oliver Lee

Seeing so many important people touched by the speech of Dr. Hong, I realize how the right words can convey truth and morals as well as guide nations, because they carry philosophical wisdom and energy of kindness. Spreading the language of love and peace between people and proving the existence of love and peace by actions are not only the process of promoting the movement, but more importantly our responsibility as global citizens.



Jacky Liu

My greatest experience is that when you have a true heart of kindness, with the right and good starting point, and when you're ready, there will be people supporting you to accomplish impossible. A saying goes; a man of virtue can never be isolated. The bigger your heart is, the more you can accomplish.



Fabienne Cheng

Some judges tell me, "Why you are all so happy whenever I see you guys?" They really want to be as happy as we are! Shifu's grand love and wisdom are all expressed through his speech, video, and performances of energy boys and girls. If they listen and receive this message, as well as acting on it, I believe this will help their countries tremendously.



Ruchen Lin

In this trip to India, the positive energy of Tai Ji Men dazis influenced every guests of honor. It doesn't matter what position they hold. Everyone is touched by the power of heart. This kind of power is in each and every one of Tai Ji Men dazis, and we hope to see it in everyone else too!



Angelina Shen

I share with a judge from Pennsylvania, USA about “An Era of Conscience”. She agrees that everyone should act from the conscience in their position to do the right. As a judge, she has to determine right or wrong. I take another step further to share that our Shifu once said: “Everyone knows to do good and right, but most of the times, they lost their conscience because of external factors, causing difficulties in doing the good thing. It takes courage to do the right thing. After hearing it, she says, “You’re awesome! You’re right! It needs the courage!”



Charlotte Lee

When we greet judges enthusiastically in our booth during their endorsements of the movement, one judge walks over to tell me: “Do you know? I really like the smile of you guys!” I told her: “Of course! Because we are all doing the right thing, so we are happy and joyful.” I really appreciate Shifu leading us and giving us opportunities to fight for and do good deeds. And this is our goal and mission of life.



Amy Hsu

If not because of Tai Ji Men, I might not travel to India in my life; I might not see teenage brothers and sisters naturally showing their potentials, attend side by side with judges to share how to act with love and peace; I might not be able to see how judges all over the world get overwhelmed by the enthusiasm of our energy boys and girls. Thank you, Shifu Thank you, brothers and sisters.



Lucius Tseng

Every era has a leader, and “An Era of Conscience” is an initiative one. We are all angels of conscience. As long as we have the will in our heart, it can become the driving force behind our actions. Actions with courage can generate the greatest positive effects, inspiring more people!



Howard Shia

In the dinner party of the conference, our sisters bless the world as phoenixes of kindness. Our brothers share with the judges the importance of conscience through our innovative dual stick cultural performance along with dances and martial arts. We all grow up in Tai Ji Men practicing qigong and martial arts, from which I learn that one who practices martial arts prioritizes morality, and the highest form of morality is conscience. I hope those judges can use their conscience to fight for justice for the society on their positions like us, as well as using our conscience to protect our living environment.



Samantha Chang

When our energy boys and girls are performing “Happiness is Everywhere”, it seems like everyone’s happiness bottoms are switched on at that moment. So I realize, being happy and making others happy can be really easy. As long as we open our hearts, use our hearts to communicate, everything can be this natural and warm.



Daniel Liu

When we sing the song “Love”, the audience are all silent. As they all listen carefully to the song, I look into each and every pair of eyes in the audience, giving them love through our voices, telling them that only love can cross all barriers – reaching the state of peace among mankind. It is a really great feast, every guest is drawn in our voices. Some of them agree with us by nodding, others give us thumbs up. I think they all feel this energy from our heart.



Sunny Ju

When we talk to a judge from East Timor, he tells us profoundly that his country gains the independence for only 16 years, one of the youngest countries of the world. Peace for them is really important. The country's infrastructure is still in very primitive stage in need of lot of developments. I remember deeply the one sentence he tells us: "Without justice there is no peace, but without conscience, there is no justice." I can feel that he knows peace is hard to achieve, and that he will use his conscience in his position to help and change his country.



Mark Liu

Even though we didn't have time or space to rehearse the performance, our Shifu teaches us to practice from our hearts. So when we synchronize our hearts and coordinate our breaths, our skills will show naturally. Before the performance, we brothers and sisters all think of the same thing: in the past few days, the guests saw the good of AWC and FOWPAL, and now we'll show them Tai Ji Men through our cultural performances. After our cultural performances, some guests come up to us saying that we are too amazing and too astounding. I am so proud of Tai Ji Men.



Andy Liu

When we talked to the judges, I realize that smile is really the best language in the whole world. It doesn't need much ornate vocabulary. Just through our eyes and smiles, we can touch their hearts; this is heart to heart communication. Same thing in our daily life, when others disagree, I would use smile to solve the conflict, along with good communication. With more smiles, there will be less conflicts.



Erica Wu

What I feel most strongly is how the South African judge admires Dr. Hong's speech, even telling me that it holds the answer to everything. She only reads the words of an essay and already appreciates it so much. This makes me to appreciate Tai Ji Men and Dr. Hong even more, as I am able to listen to his words and learn from his teachings. This warms my heart as I feel so fortunate of being able to be a part of Tai Ji Men and to be able to learn so much from it.



Amy Sun

In a dinner party, we spread kindness and warmth to the audience with our phoenix dance. After the performance, many judges come up to us, expressing how touched they are from our performance. One of the judges even said that a lot of people only talk about peace without taking actions, but with us, he sees us actually acting out peace.



Steve Liu

During the conference, we become friends with many judges, envoys, state governors, and chief justices. They all agree strongly with our ideas. One judge even came and sat with us on the bus because she likes us so much. Another judge who doesn't know how to speak English says that he will learn English so that he can talk to us next year. Touching people's heart doesn't need much word. When you open up your heart, every word and every action can inspire people.



Joan Huang

I used to be someone with an unyielding perseverance, lacking gentle temperament. For the cultural performance of the trip to India, I practice the phoenix dance. During the process, I learn to let go of my hindrances and learn the love, warmth, and kindness of the phoenix have for people of the world. With the heart to warm myself and others, and sharing this warmth in life when dealing with people, I get rid of my criticizing personality and make myself easier to get along with others.



Chang Yuan-Ti

My role this time is a photographer. We use heart communication to get along with the school's photographing crew. Even though we can't fully communicate with language, but through our eyes, we can see each other's trust. We get a lot of support from the school's crew. In one dinner party, a photographer of the conference lets me take photos with him on the same small platform. I later thank him for his help, and he says to me that I am his best friend. At that moment, I am so touched that the feeling is beyond description of words.



Melissa Wu

One of the Paraguay judges is so touched and inspired by us that even though she can only grasp pieces of the ideas that we are trying to convey, she feels our energy and happiness through our smiles and songs. In one of our spontaneous performances, she happily joins us to sing the "Love and Peace Song". Her reaction to our song and efforts show that language is not a barrier at all. Communication can happen in various ways, but the truest and deepest form of communication is through our hearts. When our hearts share the same idea of love for the world, we feel closer than any words can ever achieve.



Chen Teng-Huei

In this trip, we see a lot of former presidents, government-generals, chief justices, etc. who all agree to promote "An Era of Conscience" and endorse the declaration. In the process, I feel the hope of future from the judges. As long as people of the world are united, using love to solve conflicts and passion to inspire kids, I believe that the world will reach the state of peace.



Ayla Chang

When people are united to do good deeds, this positive energy can make you happy for a long time. One of the campus principal of CMS always remembers the energy boys and girls every time. After one of the seminars ends, she invites us to let their students feel this energy. When I stand on the stage, seeing every student smiles with energy because of us, I truly feel so fortunate to come to India. I hope these students will always remember this kind of happiness, and willing to help others to be happy too.



Liu Cheng-Tien

In this conference, I felt the effects of "An Era of Conscience" on the judges. Therefore, I believe that if those judges bring this movement back to their own country and promote it, and everyone can use their conscience to tell right from wrong, conflicts in the society will decrease. There will be no wars between countries, and the world can be filled with love and peace. Everyone can live a happy life.