# 8<sup>th</sup> INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE ON PEACE AND NONVIOLENT ACTION (8TH ICPNA)

# Theme:

# Towards a Nonviolent Future : Seeking Realistic Models of Peaceful Co-existence and Sustainability



**January 5 - 8, 2014** 

# **VENUES**

( **January 5 - 7, 2014** ) Jaipur (Rajasthan) ( **January 8, 2014** ) Bhinasar - Bikaner (Rajasthan)

organized by



# ANUVRAT GLOBAL ORGANIZATION (ANUVIBHA)

a transnational centre for peace and nonviolent action associated with UN-DPI

in association with ANUVIBHA JAIPUR KENDRA, JAIPUR

# **Our Spiritual Patron**



Anuvrat Anushasta His Holiness Acharya Mahashraman The epitome of ascetic refulgence

The essence of knowledge is one's conduct or way of living. In other words the essence of knowledge constitutes ahimsa and equanimity. Both these tendencies are innate in an individual. If a person has an innate tendency for forgiveness, he also has a tendency to flare up or be angry. If he has a tendency to indulge in violence and resort to abusive words, he is also endowed with feelings of ahimsa and calmness. He who is imbued with forgiveness, contentment and patience becomes nonviolent in his behaviour. Ahimsa is a prime trait of human character. It is beneficial for us in the present life as well as in the hereafter. What is expected is that it becomes an integral part of person's lifestyle.

- Acharya Mahashraman

# 8TH INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE ON PEACE AND NONVIOLENT ACTION (8TH ICPNA)

#### ANINVITATION

Dear Friend/Friends,

We cordially invite you to attend the 8th International Conference on Peace and Nonviolent Action which has been rescheduled to take place from Jan 5 to 8, 2014 at Jaipur and Bhinasar - Bikaner (Raj.). The inaugural session and all other plenary sessions as planned earlier will be held at Jaipur itself from January 5 to 7, 2014. The valedictory session will be held on 8th January, 2014 at Bhinasar - Bikaner (Raj.) under the auspices of His Holiness Acharya Mahashraman, a young, dynamic and refulgent Jain Acharya who is also the spiritual patron of the 8th ICPNA and Head of Anuvrat Movement. Bikaner is an important city of Rajasthan. The conference is being organized by Anuvrat Global Organization (ANUVIBHA), a transnational centre for peace and nonviolent action associated with UN-DPI (www.anuvibha.in).

We see that forces of violence are organized and are creating havoc. Killing of innocent people in the name of religion, caste, color, nationality goes on unabated in all parts of the world. In addition, the problems of climate change, demise of bio-diversity, global warming, environmental and ecological degradation and rapid depletion of the resources of the earth are staring us in the face. We constantly fight to keep the world in some type of balance against a continuous background of either self-annihilation or diverting the planet into a garbage bin. Greed and selfishness are still main partners playing in human psychology and that is not something that can change overnight, nor can the fact of it be ignored. We have to search and work at the root of the problem. We believe that ahimsa (nonviolence) is a panacea for all the ills that grip our society today.

The detailed information about the theme, plenary sessions, travels, visa, registration is given in the foregoing pages of this brochure. Just come, share your vision or listen to a galaxy of nonviolence exponents, spiritual leaders, inspiring stories of self-transformation and learn about the yogic postures and meditative exercises that may completely transform you. It is a rare opportunity for nonviolence researchers. Kindly register soon if you want to ensure your participation.

#### THE MAIN AIM OF THE 8TH ICPNA

The main aim of the conference is to create nonviolence awareness among the people at global level and evolve realistic models of peaceful co-existence and sustainability embedded in a culture of ahimsa.

#### **ABOUT THE THEME**

The theme of the 8th ICPNA is 'Towards a Nonviolent Future: Seeking Realistic Models for Peaceful Co-existence and Sustainability'. As we prepare ourselves to step into the third decade of the twenty first century after a few years and look back on the years that have gone by, nothing but the ghastly scenes of genocides, nuclear holocausts, communal blood baths, terrorism, religious intolerance and hatred appear on the screen of our mind. The more we think of them, the more we feel sad and depressed. In such a dismal scenario we inevitably think of the future and wonder whether a nonviolent future is possible.

Man has made tremendous progress in all the fields. The advent of science has changed the face of the world but the human progress is not commensurate with his moral and spiritual development. As man revels in comforts bestowed on him by science, he forgets that he has no right to grab, loot and exploit the resources of the mother earth so wantonly. Science only describes things as they are but remains silent on ethical issues. Its findings on the impact of the emissions of greenhouse gases, of the vanishing species and destruction of biodiversity on humankind are an eye opener for all of us but our greed and selfishness have blinded us to the stark realities. We are unable to foresee the catastrophe that may overtake us in our lifetime itself.

All right thinking people of the world realize that the only way to salvation is a radical change in our attitude towards nature. We must learn to live in harmony with it if we want to survive into the third millennium. It means we must switch over to a nonviolent and ecological way of living. Now the question that arises is as to what we mean by ahimsa. It is, in reality, abstinence from violence in thought, word and deed. It enjoins us to minimize our needs, restrain our emotions, desist from evil tendencies, co-exist peacefully and live sustainably. The first anuvrat (basic vow) of ahimsa enjoins a person not to cause injury to any innocent creature – he may be a human or a non-human. This small vow alone, if adhered to by the people of the earth, can create a peaceful and nonviolent world and save our bio-diversity. Can we listen to the clarion call given by the modern ecologist, the late Arne Naes, who says that a nonviolent future is possible only if both humans and non-humans flourish together?

The January conference will discuss all these issues to develop realistic models of peaceful co-existence and pave the way to a nonviolent future.

# THE VALEDICTORY SESSION

To enable the participants to have audience with His Holiness Acharya Mahashraman, the Head of the Jain Terapanth Order and Anuvrat Movement, it has been decided to hold the Valedictory Session of the 8th ICPNA on January 8, 2014 under his auspices at Bhinasar - Bikaner where he will be camping then. The organizers will take all the delegates either by special Volvo buses or by train to Bikaner. It's five hours journey. The train or buses will leave after dinner on January 7, 2014 and will return to Jaipur by the evening of January 8, 2014. At Bikaner the delegates will also be able to visit Acharya Tulsi's samadhi (the place where his last remains were cremated and a memorial has been built).

#### CALL FOR PAPERS (Last Date : Oct 31, 2013)

We invite proposals to speak on the sub-themes given below. There will be nine Plenary Sessions in all. The duration of each Plenary Session will be one and a half hours. There will be four speakers and one chairperson for each session. Only fifteen minutes will be given to each speaker though the written paper he submits may be longer. Twenty minutes are reserved for discussions.

# Plenary Sessions and their Sub-themes

- 1. Nonviolence, Perception, Practice and Concept
- 2. Poverty, Environment and Eco-sustainability of the Future
- 3. Interfaith Insights, Interreligious Understanding and Cooperation for a Nonviolent Future
- 4. Is a Nonviolent Future Possible?
- 5. Models of Peaceful Co-existence and the Vision of a Healthy Society
- 6. Educating Children in a Culture of Ahimsa for Universal Peace : Balodaya Model
- 7. Anuvrat as an Instrument of Change for a Better World
- 8. The Role of Youths in Creating a World without Violence
- 9. Possibilities of a Weaponless World

For a presentation at any of the above Plenary Sessions please use the suggested format and fax it to +91-11-66173584 or email it to slgandhi@hotmail.com giving following details:

- Title of the paper or presentation
- Name of the plenary session for which it is meant
- Summary of your paper in 100 words

The programme committee will inform you of its decision in the first week of the November 2013.

## WORKSHOPS (Last Date : Oct 31, 2013)

In addition to the above Plenary Sessions there will be twelve workshops in all but organizing more workshops may be considered if the need arises. The organizers will have the liberty to club together three or four proposals for a workshop. We request you to specify the topic of your workshop clearly. Each workshop will be of one and a half hours duration. There will be three to four speakers at each workshop. Each speaker will get fifteen minutes only. Thirty minutes are reserved for interactive discussions.

To submit proposals for a workshop just write the title and a summary of what you would do in a hundred words. It should also be faxed to +91-11-66173584 or emailed to slgandhi@hotmail.com.

#### LAST DATE FOR REGISTRATION

Though the last date for registration is November 30, 2013, however, we advise you to register early since we expect a large number of delegates this time and accommodation is limited. The registration will be accepted on first come first basis.

# **REGISTRATION FEE (VOLUNTARY)**

The organizers have decided to make the registration fee of one hundred US dollars for overseas participants and two thousand rupees for Indian participants a voluntary contribution. But we request those of you who can afford to pay to come forward and pay this small amount towards the local hospitality and running of the secretariat which involve a huge amount. Your generous gesture may help us to give bursaries to some scholars. You can do so by directly transferring the amount to our account number given below or you can pay it on arrival.

The details of ANUVIBHA Bank account is as follows:

The Bank Name : State Bank of Bikaner and Jaipur

Gandhi Nagar, Jaipur 302 015 (Raj.)

**INDIA** 

Name of the beneficiary : Anuvrat Vishva Bharati

Swift Code : SBBJ IN BB017

IFSC Code : SBBJ0010383

Account No. : 51004850079

#### **DIGNITARIES**

In addition to learned delegates we are also inviting some men and women of eminence including HH the Dalai Lama who have crusaded against violence and atrocities as the keynote speakers.

# **CLIMATE**

It is the winter season. Naturally it is likely to be cold so delegates are advised to bring warm clothes with them.

#### **LANGUAGE**

The official language at all plenary sessions will be English but non-English speaking delegates may bring with them their own translators for simultaneous translation.

#### **VISAS**

The delegates are advised to seek tourist visas only. If delegates from African and Latin African countries face any difficulty we will help them but they should contact us well in advance.

# TRAVEL INFORMATION

Jaipur is well-connected by air, rail and road. The delegates can choose to come via Mumbai or Delhi. Those who come via Delhi can reach Jaipur by air or by bus or by train but those who come from Mumbai have to take a domestic flight from Mumbai to Jaipur. If we get the correct information about your itinerary we will pick you at Jaipur airport or railway station. For guidance and help or for domestic booking of air tickets or train tickets from Delhi to Jaipur and back kindly contact our travel agent:

Mr. Anshu Pathak, Pelican Tours & Travels e-mail: office@pelicantravels.net, pelicantour@gmail.com Ph: 91-11- 26012940, 26014249, 41612649 Hand Ph.: 9810235391 Fax: 91-11-26014249

#### ARRIVAL AND DEPARTURE

All delegates must arrive at Jaipur by the evening of January 4, 2014 and leave in the morning of January 9, 2014. We plan to have a briefing session at 8.30 PM at ANUVIBHA Jaipur Kendra on January 4, 2014.

## SALIENT FEATURES OF THE 8TH ICPNA

8th ICPNA is being organized by Anuvrat Global Organization (ANUVIBHA) which has been engaged in disseminating the message of anuvrats (small or basic vows) worldwide for the last 30 years by inspiring individuals to pledge themselves to observe anuvrat code of conduct, a global ethic for sustainable living.

- Registration fee has been made a voluntary contribution.
- Free local hospitality for those whose participation is confirmed by us.
- The presence of a galaxy of nonviolence thinkers, supporters and activists from all parts of the world
- The benign presence of specially invited spiritual leaders
- Accommodating a maximum number of presenters in nine plenary sessions and twelve workshops that have been planned.
- A special session for youths
- In addition to a Yoga and Preksha Meditation session everyday in the morning there will also be a special workshop demonstrating exercises by revered samanis (semi-nuns) or experienced Preksha Meditation teachers to activate the psychic centres in our body which can inculcate in the practitioner nonviolent attitudes and bring about his inner transformation.
- Those who want to stay in hotels at their own expenses can do so. The organizers will help them in booking.
- Updated information about 8th ICPNA including the list of confirmed participants will be posted regularly on our website www.anuvibha.in.
- Valedictory Session at Bhinasar Bikaner, an important desert city in the Western Part of Rajasthan on January 8, 2014 under the auspices of His Holiness Acharya Mahashraman the Head of Jain Terapanth Order and a refulgent ascetic. This trip is being organized by us at our cost. The delegates will have an opportunity to visit late His Holiness Acharya Tulsi's Samadhi.
- Post conference visit to Anuvibha's Children's Peace Palace at Rajsamand near Udaipur at our cost for those who wish to see it.

• The keynote speakers are internationally acclaimed nonviolence thinkers and scholars.

## **ACCOMMODATION**

All delegates will be accommodated at our guest house (Anuvibha Jaipur Kendra). It has modest facilities with Gandhian simplicity.

## ANUVRAT MOVEMENT

(An initiative for social excellence and eco-sustainability of the future)

His Holiness Acharya Tulsi - the ninth Acharya of the Jain Swetamber Terapanth Religions Order - launched Anuvrat Movement in 1949 to rid society of rampant corruption, communal violence and immorality it was steeped in. Let us first try to understand as to what we mean by ANUVRAT. The word 'ANUVRAT' is a combination of two words 'anu' and 'vrata'. 'anu' means an atom or something that is small or atomic and 'vrata' means a vow. Both these words form the word 'anuvrat' which means a small or atomic vow. Every religious order has a tradition of vratas (vows) but in the Jain tradition two types of vratas (vows) are practised - anuvratas (small or atomic vows) meant for householders and mahavratas (great vows) for ascetics. The word 'anuvrat' was coined by Lord Mahavira who laid down a code of twelve small vows for his shravaks (laymen) and shravikas (laywomen). Though the main aim of the twelve-fold anuvrat code was to promote ethical conduct in society he confined his campaign to his votaries only. The practice of observing these twelve anuvrats among the Jain laity continues even today.

Acharya Tulsi, who was only 34 years old then, was deeply concerned about the decadence of the Indian society. In the wake of the partition of India hundreds of thousands of people were massacred in the name of religion. Millions were rendered homeless. The problem was compounded by the rising trends of greed, selfishness, dishonesty and immorality in society. He was deeply moved by the deplorable plight of the people. He took his cue from Lord Mahavira's twelve anuvrats and after a series of consultations evolved a code of modern anuvrats which he thought was useful for all the segments of society, irrespective of caste, colour and creed and gave it the form of a mass movement. He was well aware that a person can break a law but would not violate a vow if he had taken it. Acharya Tulsi was guided by this human psyche when he embarked upon a unique mission of creating a self-transformation network.

He rose above narrow sectarian considerations and made anuvrat movement the sole mission of his life. He made it imperative for his monks and nuns too to spread the light of the movement. He traveled on foot all over the country and thousands joined his movement. Anuvrat Movement has already completed 64 years of its existence. It has now spread in all parts of the world. After Acharya Tulsi's death, his successor Acharya Mahapragya kept the flame alive. After his passing away in 2010 his young and dynamic successor Acharya Mahashraman heads the movement now and inspires people to pledge themselves to observe anuvrat code of conduct to eradicate violence, social disparity, poverty and preserve ecological and environmental harmony.

The anuvrat code of conduct consists of eleven small vows which enjoin a person to refrain from senseless and unnecessary violence, aggression, violent agitations, discrimination on grounds of caste, colour, sect and sectarian frenzy. This ethical code restrains his passions that harm society and destroy its eco-

sustainability. An anuvrati (one who pledges to abide by anuvrat code of conduct) will observe moral rectitude in business, set limits to the practice of continence and acquisition, abstain from immoral practices and will remain alert towards the problem of environment. He will not cut down trees and will not waste water.

These small vows, as a matter of fact, are a blueprint for an eco-friendly peaceful society. One who expresses a desire to join the movement can begin with the category of just a supporter and gradually prepare himself to observe all the small vows. In a world torn by strife, hatred, wars, abject poverty and hunger, Anuvrat Movement is a beacon of hope. It shows the way towards a nonviolent future and makes us realize that both knowledge and wealth increase when we share them with the others.

ANUVIBHA has been popularizing this movement worldwide for the last 30 years and it has now become its main mission. The 8th ICPNA will have a special session exclusively dedicated to this movement. Membership of the Anuvrat Movement is free. Anyone belonging to any religious sect or caste or nationality can become a member of the movement by pledging himself or herself to observe one particular small vow initially and then gradually increase the strength of his will to observe all the small vows. Come, join the self-transformation network.

We look forward to hearing from you,

## Dr. S.L. Gandhi

International Coordinator 8th ICPNA e-mail: slgandhi@hotmail.com anuvibha@anuvibha.in Fax: +91-11-66173584

## **Sanchay Jain**

Associate International Coordinator 8th ICPNA and Secretary General Anuvrat Global Organization (ANUVIBHA) e-mail: sanchay\_avb@yahoo.com

## **Naresh Mehta**

Chair, Reception Committee, 8th ICPNA and President, Mahapragya Seva Prakalp

# T.K. Jain

President,
Anuvrat Global Organization (ANUVIBHA)
New Delhi

## Panna Lal Baid

Chair, Host Committee, 8th ICPNA and President, Anuvibha Jaipur Kendra

# :: Conference Secretariat :: Dr. S.L. Gandhi

International Coordinator and International President ANUVRAT GLOBAL ORGANIZATION (ANUVIBHA) Anuvibha Jaipur Kendra Opp. Gaurav Tower, Malviya Nagar, Jaipur 302 017 (Raj.) INDIA

Telefax: +91-141-2722412 +91-11-66173584 e-mail: slgandhi@hotmail.com anuvibha@anuvibha.in web: www.anuvibha.in

#### :: P R O G R A M M E ::

# Saturday the 4th January, 2014

Delegated begin arriving at ANUVIBHA Jaipur Kendra, Opp. Gaurav Tower, Malviya Nagar, Jaipur

19.00PM - 20.00PM : Briefing Session at Mahapragya Sabhaghar,

ANUVIBHA Jaipur Kendra

20.00PM - 21.00PM : Dinner

Sunday the 5th January, 2014

06.00AM - 07.00AM : Yoga and Preksha Meditation Session

07.00 AM - 08.00 AM : Daily Chores

08.15AM - 09.15AM : Tea and Breakfast

10.30AM - 13.00PM : Inaugural Session

13.00PM - 14.30PM : Lunch & Rest

14.30PM - 16.00PM : First Plenary Session

16.00PM - 16.30PM : Tea Break

16.30PM - 18.00PM : Second Plenary Session

18.15PM - 19.45PM : Workshops (simultaneous in three rooms)

20.00PM - 21.00PM : Dinner

21.00PM - 22.00PM : Free meetings and dialogues

22.00PM : Yoga Nidra (Yoga Sleep)

Monday the 6th January, 2014

06.00AM - 07.00AM : Yoga and Preksha Meditation Session

07.00AM - 08.10AM : Daily Chores

08.15AM - 09.30AM : Tea and Breakfast

09.30AM - 11.00AM : Third Plenary Session

11.00AM - 11.30AM : Tea Break

11.30AM - 13.00PM : Fourth Plenary Session

13.00PM - 14.30PM : Lunch & Rest

14.30PM - 16.00PM : Fifth Plenary Session

16.00PM - 16.30PM : Tea Break

16.30PM - 18.00PM : Workshops (simultaneously in three rooms)

18.15PM - 19.45PM : Sixth Plenary Session

20.00PM - 21.00PM : Dinner

21.00PM - 22.00PM : Free meetings and dialogues

22.00PM : Yoga Nidra (Yoga Sleep)

Tuesday the 7th January, 2014

06.00AM - 07.00AM : Yoga and Preksha Meditation Session

07.00AM - 08.00AM : Daily Chores

08.15AM - 09.30AM : Tea and Breakfast

09.30AM - 11.00AM : Seventh Plenary Session

11.00AM - 11.30AM : Tea Break

11.30AM - 13.00PM : Eighth Plenary Session

13.00PM - 14.30PM : Lunch & Rest

14.30PM - 16.00PM : Ninth Plenary Session

16.00PM - 16.30PM : Tea Break

16.30PM - 18.00PM : Workshops (simultaneously in three rooms)

18.00PM - 19.30PM : Workshops (simultaneously in three rooms)

19.45PM - 21.00PM : Dinner

21.30PM : Departure for Bhinasar - Bikaner (Raj.) for Valedictory Session

Wednesday the 8th January, 2014

10.00AM - 12.30PM : Valedictory Session at Bhinasar under the auspices of His Hiliness

Acharya Mahashraman

# 8th International Conference on Peace And Nonviolent Action (8th ICPNA)

# INTERNATIONAL ADVISORY BOARD

- Prof. Glenn D. Paige, Professor Emiretus of Political Science, University of Hawaii and Founder the Centre for Global Nonkilling, USA.
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- Master Yuji Yahiro, Spiritual Guide OkiDo Yoga, Italy
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- Shri Vijay Mehta, Chair Uniting for Peace, Founding Trustee Fortune Forum Charity, UK
- Dr. S.N. Subba Rao, an eminent Gandhian and nonviolence thinker, India.
- Prof. Jiang Maorong, Asian World Centre, Creighton University, USA.

# **8th International Conference on** Peace And Nonviolent Action (8th ICPNA)

# Jan 5 to Jan 7, 2014 at

ANUVIBHA Jaipur Kendra, Behind World Trade Park, Malviya Nagar, Jaipur - 302 017 (Rajasthan) INDIA and

# Valedictory Session on Jan 8, 2014 at Bhinasar – Bikaner (Rajasthan)

# **REGISTRATION FORM**

1. Full Name of the P	articipant:			
		y Name	First Name	Middle Name
2. Title: Mr./Mrs./Ms	./Dr. etc.:			
3. Age (Years):	Male or Fen	nale:	4. Nationality	
5. Passport No. (If a f	oreigner):			
5. Postal Address:				
City/Postal Code:				
Phones (Res):		(	Office:	
Fax:		Email: _		
7. Institution/Affiliati	on:			
8. Accommodation:				
The delegates will be t is also the venue of t			est house which has Gan Jan 8, 2014.	dhian Simplicity and
9. Date and Time of	(i) Arrival:			
	(ii) Departure:		nention clearly)	
10. Additional informa	ation about you: _			
			Signature:	