

WHOLISTIC PEACE INSTITUTE
NOBEL PEACE LAUREATE FORUM
HONORS
PRESIDENT F. W. de KLERK

1993 NOBEL PEACE PRIZE (Co-Winner with Nelson Mandela)

A Dinner Reception Presented by the Wholistic Peace Institute and the Jubitz Family Foundation
Downtown Hilton Hotel
921 SW 6th Avenue, Portland, OR
7:15 PM Wednesday, February 29, 2012

“EARTH ETHICS: THE WAY TO UNIVERSAL PEACE”

Dinner Conclusion Remarks
By Claes Nobel
Founder & Chairman, United Earth
Co-founder & Chairman, National Society of High School Scholars
Chairman, World Peace One Global Leadership Council
Chairman, Earth Ethics Society
Honorary Co-Chairman, The Nobel Peace Laureate Park, Eugene, OR

Distinguished 1993 Nobel Peace Prize Laureate, The Most Honorable President F. W. de Klerk ... thank you very much for your informative and challenging speech. Thank you for coming to Portland, OR, for the purpose of inspiring this audience to work even harder in our voluntary mission to create “Peace on Earth.”

Also ... my most sincere Thank You to the Wholistic Peace Institute and the Jubitz Family Foundation for sponsoring this important dinner reception ... and for inviting two vintage Nobel persons ... to express the thoughts of their hearts.

Tonight I am meeting and befriending President F. W. de Klerk ... and that makes me very happy. I most sincerely hope we can work together on some of the World Betterment Projects I will outline tonight.

Over the years I have attended many Nobel Prize Award Ceremonies and I have had the good fortune to meet and work with several Nobel Peace Laureates.

Dr. Norman Borlaug, was one of them. He is the father of "The Green Revolution." I remember well when he said: "There can never be PEACE ... on an empty belly."

Dr. Linus Pauling, born and raised here in Portland, OR, received two Nobel Prizes. In Chemistry 1954 and Peace 1963. He was a fierce opponent to nuclear weapons ... and the author of "No More War." Dr. Pauling became not only a close friend of mine ... he was also for many years ... an esteemed Board Member of United Earth ... the tax-exempt, NGO, World Betterment Organization I founded some 40 years ago.

One of the projects of United Earth at that time, then named Earth Aid Society, was to raise funds for the Nobel Foundation. Wait now! Claes Nobel and his organization raising funds for the Nobel Foundation, what is that all about?

It all started on a beautiful summer day in June 1972, when The City of Stockholm, Sweden, hosted the United Nations Conference on the Human Environment. Thanks to this landmark conference, every nation on Earth has today an Environmental Protection Department and the United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP) was shortly thereafter established in Nairobi, Kenya.

I attended the Stockholm conference as an Official Observer from The Population Institute in Washington, DC. During the mid-day break ... our organization invited Conference Delegates to traditional Swedish Smörgåsbord at the Grand Hotel.

Every lunch featured a renowned keynote speaker. The first one was Dr. Thor Heyerdahl ... an oceanographer from Norway. He had crossed the Atlantic and Pacific Oceans on rafts ... built by balsa logs held together by hemp rope. He wrote the book *Kon-Tiki*.

This is what Dr. Heyerdahl said ... as he took out a fountain pen from his jacket ... pointing it up towards the ceiling. “Ladies and Gentlemen: There is no chimney tall enough to get rid of our common air pollutants ... and no sewer pipe long enough to get rid of our common effluence ... it all winds up in the oceans ... and our oceans are now ... in the process of dying.”

With those words echoing in my head something remarkable happened. ... God tapped me on my shoulder. Suddenly I heard a booming inner voice saying: “Claes, ... you must do something!”

Instantaneously the idea of A New Nobel Prize for Environment & Ecology came to mind. The next day, based on name recognition, I got an appointment with Ambassador Nils Sthåle, the president of the Nobel Foundation.

He listened politely to my proposal ... and said slowly with a diplomatic smile: “Young Nobel, don’t listen to The UN Doomsday Sayers, who are in town. ... Instead, go out and enjoy the fine sunshine ... and look at ... all the pretty Swedish girls.” A flat no ... a slap on my hand.

At the meeting there was also in attendance a man my age ... and when I left ... he said: “Mr. Nobel ... I think, I will hear more about your concept.” I didn’t have the foggiest idea, who he was. ... Two years later I knew ... he was Baron Stig Ramel ... the new president of the Nobel Foundation. And, I wanted urgently to meet the man.

I returned to the foundation ... to once more pitch my proposal. At this time I had massive US support for The Nobel Environmental Prize Concept.

Among hundreds of endorsements from well-known US leaders, I also had an Official United States Senate Letter written by Senator Gaylord Nelson, from Wisconsin ... and cosigned by not less than 52 Senators and 61 Members of Congress. The Nobel Foundation called a special Board of Directors Meeting. My proposal was presented, considered ... and once more rejected.

However, due to the massive, solid support the concept had gained, the foundation agreed to ... in lieu of a new Nobel Prize ... to conduct Nobel Environment Symposia. They also stated firmly ... they had no funds available for such symposia ... and if I wished them to take place ... then I had to raise the funds myself.

Earth Aid Society, the organization I had founded a couple of years earlier did so. It was very easy to raise money for the Nobel Foundation. We got oversubscribed. We had to decline some very substantial funds. Imagine that! A year later the first Nobel Symposium on Environmental Sustainability with focus on Nitrogen took place.

United Earth did not abandon the idea of creating a new, major Environmental Prize. We persisted with the realization of our dream. So far United Earth has conducted two Earth Prize Award Ceremonies. One, in New York, at the United Nations, on World Environment Day, 1991. And, one at The John F. Kennedy Center for the Performing Arts, in Washington, DC, the following year. Both ceremonies were full house events ... with standing room only. CNN called them "The Green Nobel's."

The 20th anniversary of the UN Stockholm Conference on the Human Environment was celebrated in June 1992, in Rio de Janeiro, Brazil. It was the largest environmental meeting ever held. 178 nations were represented and some 10,000 NGO's were there.

During the three day Conference popularly called "The Earth Summit" the delegates reached agreement on "Agenda 21" ... an action plan for developing the planet sustainably through the twenty-first century. I was a keynote speaker at Flamengo Park, the NGO meeting grounds, where some 12 thousand people had gathered.

In less than four months from now, on June 20-22, 2012, "Rio+20" takes place. Rio+20 is an urgently needed UN Conference. To the world ... and to all environmental activists it is much more than yet another 20th anniversary celebration.

Unfortunately, many people live today in a Fool's Paradise. Falsely they view the world through rose-colored glasses. They refuse, or they are unable, to see clearly how ... great, ever deepening, Flaws and Meltdown Conditions for Earth and Humanity now appear worldwide and constantly.

On the other side of the coin we have People of Real Honesty, Real Truth and Real Concern, who have the Real Courage to say: "We can, shall and will create a future that is better, safer and saner than the one we are experiencing now."

This latter group they have ears that want to hear ... and they have eyes that dare to see. For to them it is clear as daylight, that the many warning signs presently, brazenly displayed, in society and environment are for real.

These warning signs from society and environment they all warn about severe, pending disaster for the dignified survival of mankind. We see these Catastrophic Warning Signs in: politics, economics, religion and in areas of food and energy supplies, as well as in the fields of environmental, social and humanitarian work.

All such problems and issues have the power to Push Humanity Back into The Dark Ages. My colleagues and I ... we call them "Earth Risks." Most deplorably and absolutely insane, we have today, in the year of 2012, dozens of highly critical and most frightening Earth Risks, which all are pushing the world of today, ever closer, to the brink of WW III ... and a possible Nuclear War.

Consequently: If "We The People of The World" are to have a future worth having ... then we must change immediately. And, immediately means ... Right Now!

So what can we do? ... Where do we begin The Urgently Needed World Transformation? ... How do we build ... A New World ... Where People Live in Harmony With Each Other ... and in Harmony with Nature? Is there anything we have not tried before? How, when, where and why have “We The Peoples of The World” failed to develop our full human potential for Peace and Harmony? Is there an answer? Is there an answer? Yes, yes ... yes there is:

An ancient proverb says: “Where there is no vision, the people perish.” Today, human civilization and modern society is perishing. Our world of today has no vision. It is collapsing in pain and needless suffering. The Agony of People, Animals and Nature alike ... are now on an all time high. Consequently: A New, Unifying World Vision Is Urgently Needed.

The general, individual practice and widespread educational implementation of ... “EARTH ETHICS” ... offers the realistic hope of solving most human conflicts and problems. Earth Ethics is a fundamental key factor in the prevention of war, conflict, hate and crime.

Earth Ethics ... exactly ... what is it? Earth Ethics is an apolitical, non-religious, all-inclusive, unifying World Philosophy/Vision created for the purpose of guiding and advancing the human race to its full benign potential.

By having it jointly created by leaders in education, religion, business, and by scores of individuals and organizations of original thoughts, open minds and compassionate hearts, coming from all over the world, it holds the hope of becoming: **The New, Third Millennium Catalyst for Global Transformation.**

Earth Ethics is “A Blueprint for Quality of Life” and also “An Educational Curriculum” solidly based upon, **Moral, Character, Virtue, Truth and Love. Earth Ethics basically teaches human conduct and behavior in four areas. They are:**

1. **Earth Ethics** addresses the way we humans, on an individual basis, rightly treat and manage our minds, our bodies, our attitudes, our beliefs, our feelings and our emotions. It teaches us how to become good communicators and good, active listeners.

2. **Earth Ethics** is about how we interact with ... and relate to: our family, friends and associates. It is about our respect, right behavior and right relationship to other cultures, religions, races, and nations. It is about tolerance, patience and dignity extended to minority groups and to people of other ethnic backgrounds.

3. **Earth Ethics** is about our interacting and right relationship with all Nature. That means how we rightly treat the environment, the flora, the fauna, the air, the soil and the water. **Are we humans: The Destroyers or The Preservers of Nature?**

4. **Earth Ethics is about Reverence For Life & Reverence For The Creative Power in The Universe.** It is about exploring, better understanding, and best efforts given ... to align ourselves with ... **The Eternal, Infinite and Benign Energy of Creativity in Cosmos.**

Earth Ethics is solidly founded upon the everlasting core values of Love, Wisdom, Compassion and Truth. Earth Ethics is like a kind of fertile soil where humanity can cultivate The Culture of Peace.

I feel strongly that Earth Ethics holds the hope of significantly advancing human knowledge about The Ultimate Power that is behind it all.

With utmost humility, I am speaking about GOD ... The Great Creative Energy ... The Originating Source, which with equal elegance creates vast galaxies, tiny mosquitos or a most beautiful, fragrant rose ... as well as A Blue Pearl in Space ... called Planet Earth.

From my long-standing studies of philosophy and comparative religion ... I know that this entity, this spiritual force ... by whatever name it goes like God, Allah ... and so on ... is the source behind all religion, all spirituality, all enlightenment, all creativity, all genius and all talent.

United Earth is now developing The Earth Ethics Curriculum. Earth Ethics ... as powerful as The Power of Love ... is Humanity's Best Way to Universal Peace.

UNIVERSAL PEACE means much more than the mere absence of war. As our kids say nowadays ... it means The Whole Enchilada. Of course, first of all, it means Peace ... like in: ... PEACE ... NO MORE WARS. But it also stands for PEACE in seven additional areas. That is why it is called UNIVERSAL PEACE. The areas are:

1. Peace of Mind
2. Peace with our Feelings, Emotions and Beliefs
3. Peace in People ... and Peace among People
4. Peace with the Environment
5. Peace with Nature and Animals
6. Peace with Life & Living
7. Peace with God

I believe in The Power of Youth. Youth represents 50% of the world population and youth represents 100% of our future. Unlike the minds of many narrow-minded people of power and position ... the minds of our youth are not cast in concrete. Youth are great communicators. Validate them, empower them, teach them Earth Ethics ... and they will Change the World. ... The world they soon will inherit.

Therefore, ten years ago my esteemed friend Jim Lewis from Atlanta, GA, and I founded The National Society of High School Scholars. We have today over 700,000 members in some 160 countries. These young men and women are among the brightest and best in the world. They have done outstanding Volunteer Service and score High Grade Point Average. NSHSS has close relationship with many national and international universities. We are the leading service organization in the world for high school students. We service our members with scholarships, guidance and college contacts.

Provided that project funding is secured ... United Earth will participate in the Rio+20 Conference with a delegation of 20 students selected from NSHSS and other youth organizations. In Rio the group will function as "Youth Ambassadors for Universal Peace." They will deliver "The Earth Ethics Message" to Conference Delegates and attending World News Media. Students interested to be part of this Youth Contingency for Peace will be selected upon the merits of a required, brief "Earth Ethics Essay."

"Business as usual does not work any longer. With all the passion I have lodged in my heart, I state: "It is time for the human race to peacefully break useless old molds ... It is time to free ourselves from fettering chains ... For the sake of Global Survival ... It is time to reach our full human, benign potential. This we must do in order for humanity to have a sustainable future ... and thus for all people to have a chance to live, love, work and laugh with some dignity and hope."

In order to advance the concept of Earth Ethics and Universal Peace, United Earth intends this spring to suggest to the Governments of the World the following five points of Peace Making. They are:

To Establish: "A Department of Peace."

To Appoint: "A Secretary of Peace."

To Appoint: "Peace Ambassadors."

To Teach: "Earth Ethics" in our schools and colleges.

To Assemble: "The Leaders of The World" ... And, Declare: "World Peace One."

Additionally, each and every individual working in: Government, Religion, Trade, Business and Professional Services should be offered Free Mandatory Courses ... in the new ... and all important field of Earth Ethics.

I will close my remarks with a quote by the British economist Dr. E. F. Schumacher the author of "Small Is Beautiful." In his book "Guide for The Perplexed" Dr. Schumacher said:

“Can we rely on it, that a turning around will be accomplished by enough people, quickly enough, to save the modern world? This question is often asked, but no matter the answer, it will mislead. The answer “Yes” would lead to complacency, the answer “No” to despair. It is therefore desirable to leave these perplexities behind us ... and get down to work.”

Thank You! Thank You very much!

.....

Copy of Speech available at:

www.unitedearth.us.

www.wholisticpeaceinstitute.com

Contact Information:

Claes Nobel, Founder & Chairman
United Earth

E-mail: claes.earth@gmail.com
www.unitedearth.us

Claes Nobel, Co-Founder & Chairman
The National Society of High School Scholars
1936 North Druid Hills Road
Atlanta, GA 30319
USA

Tel: 404-235-5500
Fax: 404-235-5510
E-mail: clanobel@nshss.org
www.nshss.org

Claes Nobel
c/o Gary Spanovich, Executive Director
Wholistic Peace Institute
2811 NE Holman Street
Portland, Oregon 97211
garyspanovich@wholisticpeaceinstitute.com
www.wholisticpeaceinstitute.com

Speeches: F. W. de Klerk
February 29, 2012
Words: 2858