nternational Centre for Research, Interfaith Relations and Reconciliation

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Interaction, the newsletter of the Henry Martyn Institute, is published twice yearly.

The Henry Martyn Institute (HMI) established in 1930, is a study and praxis oriented centre specialising in the study of Islam and working for reconciliation between people of all faiths. HMI's efforts are in response to the contemporary context of inter-religious misunderstanding and violence, and it promotes activities that remove prejudice, resolve conflict and increase trust and cooperation between individuals and groups.

Academic programmes at HMI include a ninemonth Post-Graduate Diploma in Islam and Interfaith Relations, one year Post-Graduate Diploma in Conflict Transformation, Peace-Building and Interfaith Relations, and a Master of Theology Degree Programme in Islam offered through the Senate of Serampore and Luther Seminary in USA. Each May, the Institute also organises a two-week intensive Summer Course on Islam and Interfaith Relations. HMI also offers daily language classes in Arabic, Urdu, and Persian, a ten-week Intensive Summer Language Programme and a two-week Peace Building Programme.

HMI's commitment to the work of reconciliation translates into ongoing Praxis programmes for building bridges of understanding between Muslims, Hindus and others at grass-root levels. This includes practical work in three community development centres in slum neighbourhoods of Hyderabad, an HIV-AIDS awareness programme, and short and long-term training programmes in conflict transformation and peace building.

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Editorial



"And so even though we face the difficulties of today and tomorrow, I still have a dream. It is a dream deeply rooted in the American dream.

I have a dream that one day this nation will rise up and live out the true meaning of its creed: "We hold these truths to be self-evident, that all men are created equal."

I have a dream that one day on the red hills of Georgia, the sons of former slaves and the sons of former slave owners will be able to sit down together at the table of brotherhood.

I have a dream that one day even the state of Mississippi, a state sweltering with the heat of injustice, sweltering with the heat of oppression, will be transformed into an oasis of freedom and justice.

I have a dream that my four little children will one day live in a nation where they will not be judged by the color of their skin but by the content of their character."

Martin Luther King Jr.

Yes, we need to be dreamers of a better future, then only we can bring about changes that we envisage although all our dreams may not reach that stage of fulfillment which we hope to achieve, for as long as we exist we are finite and bound to be making mistakes, and also our achievements will be imperfect. But still to go on striving for better and greater achievements should the urge that pushes us on. It was this attitude of striving with a surge to greater achievements that various departments at HMI worked, and in the following reports you will be able to have a glimpse of how our dreams were fulfilled whether partially or to a very great extent. We have to honestly confess that the optimum achievement we have not reached and many of our frailties are the cause for it. We are sorry for this but; indeed, we hope to bring about greater achievements. Yes, we dare to dream, that despite the many weaknesses which may accompany us we can strive to do better, and we promise to do better. As someone has said a 'revolutionary is closer to the truth than a reactionary.' The reason is nothing else that a revolutionary dares to dream and tries to bring about those dreams to reality, while a reactionary is a person of status quo. We do not want to be people of the status quo, but people ready to take risks and accept challenges. Hope you will enjoy perusing through these pages, and we will be happy to have your suggestions to improve upon our dreams and to bring them to fulfillment.

This will be my last editorial as director of HMI, and I take this occasion to thank all those who cooperated for making the Interaction an effective means of communication; and I do hope you, our readers, have enjoyed glancing through those pages. I request your prayers and support for my new mission, which will involve a lot of steps in the direction of interreligious dialogue, and new and challenging ministries. Thanks a lot for all that you have been to me. May God bless you all!

Fr. Varghese Manimala Chief Editor



Academic Activities

Study Programmes



Faculty and Student at Summer Course held in Kodaikanal

Annual Summer Course, 5th - 18th May 2013

Henry Martyn Institute's much awaited and most sought after summer course was conducted from 5th – 18th May 2013 at *CSI Retreat Centre*, Kodaikanal, facing the beautiful huge lake, a beautiful hill station located in the district of Madurai, Tamil Nadu, India. The resource persons of the course included faculty members of HMI; Dr. Varghese Manimala, Dr. M. M. Abraham, Abdul Kareem, Christy Femila, and two external resource persons: Dr. Surya Prakash (Bishop of Karimnagar) and Dr. Samuel Packiam. The gender balance was similar to last year; 24 male participants and 5 female participants. The 29 participants of the course represented seminaries belonging to different Catholic and Protestant denominations, secular and social work organizations. Interestingly this year we had a Muslim participant. The participants hailed from different parts of India and abroad: Andhra Pradesh, Assam, Bihar, Kerala, Tamil Nadu, West Bengal, Sri Lanka and Myanmar.

Mushaira, 26th January 2013

Henry Martyn Institute (HMI), Hyderabad and Interfaith Coalition for Peace (IPC), Delhi, jointly organized the Mushaira in the DST Auditorium, the University of Hyderabad (HoU), Hyderabad on 26th January 2013 as part of

the 64th Republic Day celebrations. The star studded Mushaira was overflowing with lovers of Mushaira both from the campus and the city and went on till 3:30 am of 27th Jan 2013. Students, staff and families from other educational institutions like MANUU, EFLU and Henry Martyn Institute came in large numbers to see their favorite stars performing on the stage. Renowned Urdu Poets like Prof. Waseem Barelve, Dr. Rahat Indori, Dr. Naseem Nikhat, Dr. Manzar Bhopali, Mr. Khursheed Akbar, Ms. Lata Haya, Mr. Iqbal ashhar and Mr. Hasan Kazmi from outside Hyderabad performed to thunderous



Welcome speach by Fr. Varghese Manimala, at Mushaira held in HCU Campus

applause from the audience. They were joined by some of our own city poets like Mr. Muztar Majaz, Dr. Mohsin Jalganvi, Mr. Rauf Khair, Mr. Agha Saroah and Dr. Farooq Shakeel. In all about, 26 poets performed through the night keeping the audience in splits. It was a memorable event for the lovers of Mushaira which was being organized for the first time by UoH in its campus on such a large scale. More than 1000 persons stayed throughout the night encouraging the noted poets.

Post-Graduate Diploma Program in Islam and Interfaith Relations

Mr. Allen P. Joseph (Kerala) and Mr. A. Sathia Rabbin Das (Tamilnadu) have joined for the nine month's Post-Graduate Diploma Course in Islamic and Interreligious Studies from July 2012-end of March 2013. Ms. Hniang Cin Thluai (Myanmar) has joined the course on September 3rd to till the end of March 2013.

Language Course

Mr. K. Lalrinzuala (Mizoram), Mr. B. Jacob and Ms. Hniang Cin Thluai (Myanmar) had joined for Arabic Language Course for six months (September 2012 - March 2013).



PG Diploma Students at the closing ceremony

Internship Programme

On July 2012- Jan 2013, Ms J. Jesus Sola Gratia from

Tamilnadu had completed her internhiop in January 2013. Ms. Hniag Cin Thluai (Myanmar) is currently interning at HMI since March 2013.

Seminars/Workshops/Conferences/ Lectures and Talks

Building Peace through Learning and Understanding, 10th & 11th March 2013

A two-day seminar on "Building Peace through Learning and Understanding: A Dialogue between Buddhism and Christianity" was held on 10th & 11th March 2013. This was a Dialogue programme organized by the World Buddhist Centre, Delhi, in association with HMI. World Buddhist Culture Trust (WBCT) works as inter-religious



Inauguration of the seminar on a dialogue between Buddism and Christianity

and intra-Buddhist dialogue at different levels aiming to make a significant contribution towards Peace and Harmony in the world. Dr. Varghese Manimala our director was one of the resource persons, his paper was on *Buddhist Notion of Compassion*.

HMI - US Consulate Programme, 12th March 2013

HMI and US consulate of Hyderabad joined together to organize a talk by an American Lawyer Mr. Azim Rehman, President of the Muslim Bar Association of New York on March 12th, 2013 at HMI. He spoke on "Interfaith Dialogue and Tolerance: A Muslim – American Perspective."



Fr. Manimala welcoming Mr. Azim Rehman



Secularism and Spirituality in the Contemporary World, 19th & 20th March 2013

A two day conference on "Secularism and Spirituality in the Contemporary World" was conducted from 19-20 March 2013 at HMI. Hon. Justice Nisar Ahmed Kakru, Chairperson of A.P State Human Rights Commission, inaugurated the conference. Speakers at the conference included Prof. Satchidanandan, Poet, Writer and Critic, Dr. Michael Amaladoss, Prof. Mohan Ramanan, Central University, Hyderabad, and Dr. Scott Kugle, Sufi Scholar from the USA. Dr. Varghese Manimala. The evenings were exuberating with poetry recital by Prof. Satchidanandan and Carnatic Sangeeth by Prof. Mohan Ramanan. A very lively and thought-provoking panel discussion on "To be secular and spiritual – A Feminist in approach are highlights of the conference.



Group Visits to HMI/ Independent Study



A group from Germany

Rev. Stephen Astrid led a youth delegation of the Evangelical Church of Wiesbaden, Germany on a visit to HMI from 17th December 2012 to 24th January 2013. Their partner church C.S.I Krishna Godavari Diocese was visited as part of their "Visit India" programme. The purpose of their visit was to know more about how the Indian Christians live as a minority in India, and the way Indian Church functions in the very plural Indian cultural setting.

Rev. Barbara Nixon visited Henry Martyn Institute on 17th January, 2013. She is a Senior Pastor, Hill View United Methodist Church, Boise, Idaho, USA. She came on a cultural and spiritual tour of southern India. She is a Literature Graduate. She also has a Masters in Divinity and M.A in Ritual Studies. She had published some books, several papers and interested in interfaith dialogues. Academics department had arranged an interactive



A group from USA

session for students with Rev. Barbara Nixon. She also shared about her progressive church (in Indian context it means liberals) beliefs. Students were also very much open to hear her views and they shared about their beliefs. There were also discussions about the future of the church. Some students shared that church should be reformed. She appreciated their views. The whole program was interactive and the students learned a lot from her.

Center of Christian – Muslim Engagement for Peace and Justice ~7th – 24th January 2013

Center of Christian – Muslim Engagement for Peace and Justice and the Department of Muslim at Lutheran School of Theology, Chicago had led a delegation of students to understand "Indian Christianity in its Religiously – Plural Context." Thirteen participants along with two of LSTC professors participated in this travel seminar, in Hyderabad (HMI and ACTC organized their programme at Hyderabad and Guntur from 7th – 24th January, 2013.

Training in Mission Team 6th – 11th April 2013: HMI had visitors from Training in Mission Team (Joint-Programme by Tamilnadu Seminary, Madurai and Council for World Mission, London). The team had 10 members 5 girls and 5boys, arrived at HMI on 6th April 2013 and left on 11th April 2013. On 8th, they were given orientation and introduction to HMI's brief history by Madam Christy (Faculty), explanation about publications by Ms. Sribala (Staff), Muslim women in India by Ms. Asma (Faculty) and another session was continued about Religious Pluralism in India which is to understand Indian context by Dr. M.M Abraham(Associate director). On 9th, they had a visit to Prajwala (eternal flame) a NGO totally committed to work against Human Trafficking and accompanied by an intern. The lecture was given by Ms. Sunitha Krishnan about the project and work of Prajwala. On 10th, the team had a class on Peace through Community Development work by Mr. Majid (staff) and in the afternoon, the session was continued by Mr. Ramesh about understanding concepts of Peace, Conflict, and Conflict Transformation and so on through our work and experience in the regions. They also had the privilege to watch a scene on a documentary of Gujarat riot of 2002. On 11th, they visited city like Mecca Masjid, Charminar, shopping malls, Koti, etc. and were accompanied by an intern. In the evening, they departed from HMI to Chennai.

Library

HMI has a computerized well-stocked library of over 24000volumes plus a collection of 2,000 bound journals. Acquisition is to cater to the readers' requirements, which include faculty, students and research scholars as well as workshop participants, and this procurement consists of books, research material and journals which cover the topics on religion and Islamic Studies, Gender studies Conflict Transformation, peace building, Philosophy and Psychology. During the financial year the library added 239 are titles on these subjects and 57 books have been bound. HMI's library also receives periodicals 82 in exchange with HMI's journal, 24 Journals by subscription and 24 journals and newsletters gratis.

The construction of the new library is yet to take off due to the hurdles the bureaucracy places before us. If the permissions were got on time at least the basic structure would have been already completed.

Publications

- Journal of Henry Martyn Institute (JHMI): Vol 31, no. 1&2, 2012 published as combined issue in February 2013 Vol. 32, no. 1 will be published in July 2013.
- HMI's Newsletter Interaction vol. 33, no. 1 issue, July December 2012 was published in January 2013, January June 2013 will be published in July 2013.
- Our forth coming book on *The Sufi Movement East and West* by John Slomp is with the publisher and it will be released in July 2013.



Praxis Activities

Aman Shanti Community Development Programmes

The present report highlights the Community Development program which includes Aman Shanti Community Centres, Young Men's Initiative, HIV/AIDS Project and Partnering for Peace Project. Through these programmes we observe that interfaith dialogue and peace building processes are strengthened among the Hindu and Muslim communities.

Education

Interfaith Primary-level school offers education to 99 students from Hindu, Muslim and Dalit communities. Nine students completed the fourth standard from our school and have now joined the local schools for further higher education. From the previous batch of student one girl completed Intermediate, a girl and a boy completed Xth Class Regular studies, a girl completed Ninth standard and two boys completed sixth and fifth standard successfully. It is very encouraging for us to see that the children who are studying in our school are continuing their education and also encouraging others to study by motivating their families and others about the importance of education.

Fifteen members have written Xth Class and Intermediate education from Andhra Pradesh Open School Society (APOSS). From our women's unit two young women have attended Graduation final year examination, two young women attended graduation first year. Around thirty five young women are learning basic literacy skills in all the three centres. These women due to poverty and lack of parental permission to study in schools did not receive any education. Through our centres now they are able to learn, read and write their names.

During the Newspaper reading sessions students discuss about the local situation and community issues. These interactive sessions help the students both from Hindu and Muslim communities to build friendship with each other, gain self confidence, and understand about different cultures and latest happenings in the world.

Twenty eight Children attending the Coaching classes at Chandrayangutta centre have successfully completed their regular classes in the local schools.

Vocational Training

One hundred and twenty four young women attended the Tailoring, Hand Embroidery, Literacy, Mehndi and Typing courses during this period from the three projects.

Summer course for the community women was organized in all the three centres, School and College going benefitted a lot from this course. Mehndi Designing, Basic & Advance Tailoring Course and Hair Style have been organized for fifty young women in



School children at sultan shahi centre



Participants at hair styling course

Sultan Shahi, Shanker Nagar and Chandrayangutta. Women from Chandrayangutta centre conducted the Hair Style training programme in Sultan Shahi and Shanker Nagar.

On completion of summer course in Sultan Shahi centre we saw that the young women had developed good friendship with one another and as a result they all together visited Chowmahalla palace.

Monthly students meetings are organized in which issues related to education, health, hygiene, religious festival celebrations, etc, are discussed. These meetings helped the women to share their concerns and challenges they are facing since the incidence of violence on women has been on the increase and many cases are being reported.

Health

599 patients from both Hindu and Muslim communities benefited from the health services in the clinic. We see that some of the patients are now regularly following up the medical treatment course prescribed to them and are gaining better health on completion of the medical course.

In addition to the health centre, different initiatives through Government and charitable organizations have been taken up to promote better health services among the community members. Some of the activities are Polio Vaccinations, D.P.T and Tetanus injections/vaccinations through the local UHP are given to the children in all the three centres.

More than One fifty women attended the monthly health talks on Malaria, Tuberculosis, Leprosy, Breast Cancer and HIV/AIDS organized by local UHP and Lepra Society in all the three centres on different occasions.

World HIV/AIDS Day was observed on 1st December 2013, on this occasion health talk, picture painting about HIV/AIDS, and awareness meetings was organized for the community members in all the three centres.

In collaboration with Safa Baithulmal, a charitable health centre monthly free health checkups are organized at Chandrayangutta for the community members. 148 patients have been screened in two camps.

Community Building Activities

Information and assistance to more than 1200 members were given in the entire three centres about the different facilities and schemes of the government such as Aaadhar card, Voter Id Card, Old age Pensions, Widow Pensions, Gas Connection, Admission for School Dropout children, etc.

Thirty two members in Shanker Nagar are engaged in different income generation activities such as bags stitching, surf making, school uniform stitching, papad making. Twenty community members from Chandrayangutta have received a job order of stitching school uniforms. Women are gradually able to generate minimal income to meet their own basic needs through this activity.



Aman Shanti Communities' picnic



Interfaith Building Initiatives

The different programs organized at the three centres as part of building interfaith relations and encouraging dialogue among the members are as follows:

Women's unit members and School students from Hindu and Muslim communities have jointly celebrated New Year on 1st January 2013. They made various local food dishes at the centre and shared among themselves.

Outing is one of the most favourite activities of women's unit students. Each year they look forward to this day. On this day they go out of the community with their friends and have a lot of fun. This year Outing was jointly organized for the 230 tailoring students from all the three centers and school students to Dream Valley, an amusement park in Hyderabad on 28th February 2013. This initiative also helps the students from three centres to develop friendship with one another across the Hindu and Muslim faiths.

Women's Day was celebrated on 8th March 2013 in all the three centres; in Sultan Shahi, Shanker Nagar and Chandrayangutta. Women organized cultural performances and shared about the women power and also the challenges they are facing in today's world.

Summer camp was organized during the summer holidays for the children in the School. Children enjoy a lot and in these camps they develop friendship, share the cultures and through play way method they learn about each other's religion, educational concepts, moral values which help them in strengthening their leadership capacities and also their psycho social development.

Staff Development

Ms. Babitha and Ms. Fatima attended 2 day state level meeting National Alliance Women's Organisation (NAWO) organized by Asmita Resource Center for Women on 8th & 9th May 2013.

Ms. Jahan Ara and Babitha attended a workshop on Diffusion – Social Entrepreneurs at Indian School of Business on 2nd & 3rd February 2013.

First Aid training for nine staff members from the three projects was organized from 11th to 12th March. The training helped the staff to gain an understanding about the immediate First Aid to be given in case of emergency health problem.



Staff taking first aid training

Ms. Fatima from Shankernagar attended five days government training programme from 15th to 19th February 2013 on Pre natal, antenatal care and new born Children care at Niloufer Hospital.

Ms. Fatima has attended the Booth Level officer training programme organized by Greater Hyderabad Municipal Corporation (GHMC).

Ms. Madhavi Latha, Ms. Shahnaz Fatima and Ms. Noorie Begum have successfully completed the six months Pre Primary Teachers Training Course at SETWIN, Charminar in June 2013.

New Staff

Dr. Ahmedi is the new Doctor at our Health Centre in Sultan Shahi. She began her work from 10th May 2013. We warmly welcome her to our team.

General

HMI & CD team members participated in event - "One Billion Rising" rally organized by ASMITA Resource Centre for Women, local NGO in Hyderabad. This event was to create awareness about the women's rights, issues and their development.

Visitors

Discussion meeting about the Community Development work and Interfaith Dialogue was held with Rev. Barbara who was visiting HMI on 17th January 2013.

Rev. Christoph Wildfang visited Sultan Shahi and Chandrayangutta centre on 31st January 2013 and

donated pens to the school children and to the women's unit members.

Some of the group members who visited Community Development as a part of exposure visit on Inter faith work at the community centre are

- o Rev. Piet Kruizinga with a group visited Sultan Shahi Centre on 4th February 2013
- o Group of members from LST visited on Sultan Shahi Centre 21st January 2013
- o Members from the Tata Institute for Social Sciences visited Sultan Shahi Centre on 25th February 2013.
- On 10th April 2013 TIM group members visited Sultan Shahi.

Partners Visit

Rev. Henrik Rosen, from Sweden had visited the community centre on 15th February 2013. He was very happy to visit the centre after a few years and shared that he can see lot of changes and progress at the centre.



Rev. Henrik Rosen visited the Sultan Shahi Center

Young Men's Initiative Project

One of the most susceptible groups to communal riots is young men, hence HMI believes that for sustainable peace building it's very essential to attend to their needs and channelize their energies in a constructive way. The following are the activities organized for them in the past six months:

Job oriented technical training for youth

'Computer Hardware/Networking' and 'Air-condition & Refrigeration' courses are continued to be offered for the young men. Closing ceremony of 'Computer Hardware and Networking' and 'A/C and Refrigeration' courses was organized on 29th May 2013. Twenty five young Hindu and Muslim men passed out the A/C & Refrigeration course, and fifteen of them successfully completed Computer Hardware course. Typing course was conducted and daily regular classes were organized for twenty five young Hindu and Muslim men.



Certificate distribution ceremony of Computer & AC courses

Interfaith festival Celebrations

'Sankranti' was celebrated in January 2013 by bringing twenty five young Hindu and Muslim men together. The Hindu young men shared about the religious background of Sankranti. They also shared about flying Kites, one of the unique features of this festival.

'Republic Day' was celebrated on 26th January 2013 by involving twenty young men. On this occasion the national flag was hoisted and sweets distributed to promote patriotism among the Hindu and Muslim young men.

Picnic

A Picnic / outing trip for Sixty Eight young Hindu and Muslim men was organized to a local popular water resort 'Jala Vihaar' at Hyderabad, in April 2013. Picnic is a fun filled event that witnesses Hindu and Muslim young men rejuvenating / having fun together and developing friendship. This year too, the young men enjoyed the trip and bonded with young men from other faiths.

Mini Library / Reading room

Mini Library / Reading Room is continued to be offered for the community young men. Newspapers in English and local languages (Urdu & Telugu), employment oriented magazines, sports magazines, etc, were provided for the young men. This helps them to increase



their knowledge and get information on the existing national and international scenarios. Fifty Hindu and Muslim young men have participated and benefited from this service.

Capacity building training for young men

A training programme on 'Conflict Transformation & Peace Building Skills' was organized for Forty Eight Hindu and Muslim young men on 9th May 2013. Participatory methodology was used in discussing the concepts of Conflict and Peace. The young men participated actively in all the sessions and it helped them to get clarity on these crucial issues.



Young men participating in training on Peacebuilding

Partnering for Peace Project

HMI is continuing to support three organizations-MSS, SPANDANA and PADMAPANI. While MSS and SPANDANA are based and working in the old city of Hyderabad, PADMAPANI is in Kama Reddy town, a communally sensitive area, in Nizamabad district of Andhra Pradesh.

Mahila Sahyog Society (MSS)

MSS continues to organize literacy classes in local Urdu and Telugu languages for Hindu and Muslim needy women and school drop-outs. The health needs of the community were met through health camps and monthly health checkups in coordination with the local Government hospitals. MSS continues to provide training for Hindu and Muslim women in various arts and crafts like tailoring, hand embroidery, sea shell craft training, Crocia Zari work, perfume making, etc. 'Sankranti' was celebrated by involving Hindu and Muslim women, men and children. Awareness programmes on HIV/AIDS, TB, child marriage, etc, were conducted through audio visual presentations. MSS organized monthly programmes on peace and communal harmony for the

Hindu and Muslim community women where discussions on communal harmony, interfaith relations and the importance of building peace in the communities were held.

Spandana

SPANDANA organized an Elocution competition for teachers of 'New Model High School' at Doodh Bowli on 9th March 2013. Sixteen teachers from different faith backgrounds participated in the event. The topic for the competition was 'Global Peace'. All the teachers participated enthusiastically. The winners were awarded with prizes. A Painting competition was held for students of classes 8th and 9th of 'New Model High school' on 16th March 2013. The topics for the competition were: 'Peace and me', 'My friendly Neighbours', 'Religion: what it means to me' and 'How I wish my city to be'. 247 students from different faith backgrounds participated in the above competition. They were provided with charts/ papers and other painting material to facilitate their paintings. Many of the students had come up with some good imaginary paintings on the topics given, however there were many stereotyped paintings too in the collection. The prizes were distributed in April 2013 during the school's Annual Day function. SPANDANA continued to organize skill development programmes like 'Dress making training courses' in its project area at Moosaram Bagh.

Padmapani

PADMAPANI continues to organize skill development programmes at Kamareddy. 'Tailoring and Embroidery' courses were organized at Gollavada Colony, Indira Nagar Colony and Snehapuri Colony by involving more than 100 Hindu and Muslim women. Most of the passed out women are planning to work in some tailoring shops and a few are planning to start their own tailoring units.

HIV/AIDS Project

HIV/AIDS project is continuing with its objective of creating awareness and spreading the message on HIV/AIDS at Sultan Shahi, Shanker Nagar and Chandrayangutta neighborhoods in Old City of Hyderabad. The project is also working for identifying and referring STI/HIV suspect cases to the Government hospitals for the tests and consequent treatment.

· Eighteen awareness sessions were conducted altogether at Sultan Shahi, Shanker Nagar and

Chandrayangutta project centres in the Old City of Hyderabad. Through these sessions adolescent girls and women from the communities got an opportunity to know about HIV/AIDS and its related concepts.

- The monthly awareness program provided space / opportunity for Hindus and Muslims to interact, during the HIV and AIDS awareness sessions. The Hindu and Muslim women came together and attended the programs through which they increased their knowledge on HIV/AIDS as well as it helped them in spending time together, knowing each other deeply and strengthening their friendship.
- The peer educators are successfully going door to door in their neighborhoods and educating women on STI/HIV/AIDS; condom usage, etc. 192 STI cases were identified and referred for treatment. Nine HIV positive cases were identified in the communities.
- Regular Weekly and Monthly review meetings were organized for peer educators. This helped them in gaining confidence and improving their skills in reporting their activities, writing case studies, etc.



Peer educators monthly review meeting

• Eight people living with HIV/AIDS (PLWHA) were assisted to visit Government hospitals every month to avail ART medicines. A travel allowance of Rs 600/per month was provided to them in order to make their visits possible. Regular counseling sessions were taken for them. They take part in the monthly HIV/AIDS awareness programmes organized by the peer educators. The peer educators are also motivating them to engage in the mainstream activities of the centre.

Conflict Transformation Programme

One of the main achievements during this period was the People to People Dialogue III between civil society leaders of Tamil Nadu and Nagaland. Three civil society delegates from Tamil Nadu visited Nagaland for a week and interacted with leaders of Naga Peoples' Movement for Human Rights (NPMHR), Naga Ho-Ho, Naga Students' Federation (NSF), Indigenous Women's Forum of Northeast India (IWFNEI), Zelinagrong Union-Manipur, Nagaland & Assam and Village elders & Church leaders of two Rengma villages.

In the second phase of the P2P Dialogue four civil society delegates from Nagaland visited Tamil Nadu for a week and interacted with various civil society organizations such as SIGA Community Service Guild, Chennai, Dalit Murasu, Chennai, Naga Student's Union, Chennai, Working Peasants Movement, Madurai, Palmyrah Workers Movement, Madurai, Quarry Workers Development Society, Dindigul, Dindigul District Farmer's Association, Muslim Women's Organization, Dindigul, Serene Secular Social Service Society, Dindigul, Tamil Art & Literature Forum, Dindigul, , as well as Individuals activists from the fields of electronic and print media, urban poverty alleviation and development, policy

researchers, health, education & environment activism, Church leaders, fisher folks, people against nuclear energy, Palmyrah workers, Dalit Liberation movements, agricultural workers movement, Human rights activists, Dalit villagers, Women's rights movement, NGOs, CBOs, Child rights activists, Cartoonists, writers, poets, researchers & publishers, some Catholic nuns and protestant priests.

Two workshops one each in Manipur and Nagaland were supported which was organized by the Tangkhul Catechist Forum and Terogvunyu Chupwe Youth Organization respectively. The workshop was aimed at helping the different stakeholder groups to strengthen organizational and individual capacities for effecting changes in terms of mediation, bringing attitudinal changes, process skills that help in identifying issues/problems and help build relationship for collaborative action to deal with conflict.

During the period altogether 142 (123 male & 19 female) people took part in various activities/programs organized and initiated by the CT team.



Workshops

Workshop on Mediation Skills, Ukhrul, 19th to 21st March 2013

The main objective of the workshop was to bring together people Tangkhul Catechist Forum and HMI had trained in Ukhrul district of Manipur over the years for mediation skills, and to analyze various conflict situations and come to a collective decision to address a particular issue. The workshop was attended by 41 Catechists and facilitated by two local facilitators namely Angelus Ronhung and Sami Ignatius.

Workshop on Conflict Transformation and Peace Building, Terogyunyu, 4th to 6th May 2013

The workshop was organized by the Terogvunyu Chupwe Youth Organization comprising youth from 4 Rengma Naga villages. One of the key leaders who was a former student of HMI's Peace Studies took the initiative to organize the workshop. Altogether 31 (4 female and 27 male) youth, village leaders and Church leaders participated. During the workshop several conflicts such as conflict between village leaders, youth and Church were discussed.

The process helped them to understand each other's views, opinion and perspectives pertaining to the conflicts faced by them. Conflict mapping exercise was done in the larger group that helped particiants to see various initiatives taken by different groups and individuals for the betterment of the village, conflicts time-line, initiatives taken to address conflicts. Strategies that could help in bringing transformations at different levels were explored and consensus decision-making process and skills were also done and its value for relationship building and reconciliation acknowledged.

People to People Dialogue (P2P) III

The third P2P dialogue was organized for civil society leaders of Nagaland and Tamil Nadu who have an interest in knowing, listening, sharing experiences related to peace, justice, development and reconciliation works.

The first phase of the P2P Dialogue took place from 12th - 19th Mar. '13 wherein three civil society leaders from Tamil Nadu visited Nagaland. The second journey took place from 30th March - 5th April '13 wherein four civil society leaders from Nagaland visited Tamil Nadu. One delegate from Tamil Nadu could not participate in the journey to Nagaland due medical emergency.



People to People Dialogue workshop in Nagaland

Delegates of the People to People Dialogue expressed that the journey helped them to understand various social, economic, cultural and political issues of the state of Nagaland and Tamil Nadu which are very often not known to many people. They further expressed that many of the assumptions that they had about various issues in both the states were clarified.

At the end of the journey the delegates from both the states expressed that such People to People Dialogue needs to be organized more often so that it helps people from different parts of the country to understand one another better and further develop strong relationship and solidarity.

Initiatives: Peace Resource Centres, Peace Resource Centre, Ahmedabad, Gujarat

HMI's support for Peace Resource Centre initiated by SMET continued in this period. The resource centre in Ahmedabad, Gujarat functions as a space for youth to come in the evening for 2-3 hours and make use of the library materials related to peace building, conflict transformation and interfaith dialogue. People who visit also have access to education and documentary movies. Discussions on local issues are also held.

Youth also come to seek guidance related to work related problems, family problems, and career guidance. Most of the youth who come to the centre are Muslims and there are also a few Hindu, Christian and Dalit youth who come to the centre. This helps a small group of activists to learn good practices from other established NGOs and CBOs. It has led to discussions on faith, harmony, peace, respecting diversity, gender justice and creative non-violent action for bringing desired changes.

Starting March 2013 SMET has initiated "Time for Value Classes" in three slum areas of Ahmedabad. This initiative is basically taken to create awareness among youth about the importance of education and how communities could take responsibility in ensuring proper



Kandhamal groups' exposurevisit to Assam

functioning of their educational system. SMET runs 1-2 hours classes for the identified youth to learn skills to assist school going children with their studies.

Peace Resource Centre, imphal, Manipur

HMI's support for Peace Resource Centre initiated by PCTM continued in this period. The Peace Resource Center (PRC) in Imphal, Manipur is mostly used by members of PCTM to meet, discuss & plan dialogue initiatives as response to the tensions and conflicts affecting Manipur. PCTM members have begun a documentation project of sifting through two Manipur based and one Nagaland based newspapers for the period 2000-2010 looking for contents related to conflicts and peace.

It functions as a contact place for other CSOs who are interested in taking joint initiatives for dialogue. Resources related to negotiation, mediation, dialogue, biodiversity, culture and history are available for peace practioners. PCTM members have taken initiatives to identify books and other educational resources that they need in the center.

Support for Peace Initiatives

Exposure visit to Assam by OROSA, Odisha, 13th to 21st Feb. 2013

The exposure visit was organized for OROSA, Odisha, an NGO working in Kandamahal district for development and peace building. Ten members representing various CBOs of Kandamahal district traveled to Diphu, Karbi Anglong as part of the exposure. The exposure was organized to observe the Karbi Youth Festival 2013 and study its contribution towards peace and relationship building in the community. Ramesh and Robinson from

HMI facilitated the exposure. However, due to bandh/strike called by one of the armed group namely Karbi Peoples' Liberation Tigers (KPLT) the Karbi Youth Festival could not take place during the visiting period. The plan for exposure visit had to be changed.

The group had the opportunity to interact with few key Karbi leaders in Diphu, visit Jorhat Don Bosco college of Social work, Bosco Institute, Life Plus and Majuli Islands. During the visit, they interacted with more than 25 individuals of whom most were social activists, human rights activists, church leaders and social workers.

This interaction helped them to understand some of the key issues pertaining to the prevailing conflicts, socio-political-economic and cultural aspects of the regions and how different efforts taken up for peace, development, justice and reconciliation are bringing positive changes. The visit also inspired church leaders and community members to imagine how development, peace, justice and reconciliation work could be done that restores dignity, sense of equality, safeguards rights and creatively overcome injustices.

39th Karbi Youth Festival 26th February to 1st March 2013

Karbi Human Rights Watch (KHRW) and HMI collaborated to put up a stall at the Karbi Youth Festival. KHRW also organized lectures/talks related to Culture, Identity and Rights. The stall displayed information about the United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples (UNDRIP), United Nations Declaration on Human Rights and KHRW's activities. During the evenings, film shows related to Indigenous People were screened. 11 female and 41 male participated in the lectures.



The event helped create awareness and sense of selfpreservation among the youths to protect and promote their indigenous values, culture, tradition, language, arts and resource use. It also inspired youth to play a part in transmitting indigenous knowledge and wisdom to the next generation.

It also brought in platform for interaction between the IPs rights experts/ Peace Builders and the Karbi youths to know and share about their rights and issues. "The way we see the world, choose to live in and relate with the world needs to be respected," was one of the key understanding among the participants. It generated lots of interest and the participants requested the KHRW and HMI to organize more such programs at the grassroot level.

Internship

Mustaq from Gujarat who was interning with SMET, Ahmedabad for a period of 9 months completed his internship at the end of Dec. 2012. He expressed that the internship experience has helped him in various ways expecially in understanding the youth, sharing responsibilities, building relationship, inter-religious dialogue, etc.

Mr. K. Thangpimang from Manipur a Post Graduate student belonging to Kuki community joined the CT team as an intern for 3 months in March 2013. He completed his internship end of May 2013. On completion of his internship he expressed that "Before I came here as intern I was still having a sentiment of hate within me because when we do something for the benefit of the Kukis in Manipur the Meiteis and Nagas are always ready to oppose. Sometimes I even thought of doing something very bad to them, but now I learnt that conflict cannot be solved with hatred and by use of violence. We need to understand the consequences of violence and work together for peaceful co-existence. I also realized that in a small way I can be an instrument of change for my society in Manipur by acting with love and compassion.

Publication and Dissemination

Videos

Two videos that capture and communicate voices, aspirations, challenges, hopes, testimonies of transformation and efforts taken to bring change, feedback to HMI on CT work were completed in this period. The videos help communicate various

stakeholders with whom we work, their identity, context, initiatives and help better understand the gradual changes and transformation that we see.

The videos also help communicate the engagements of women in the change processes and could be used to help other women groups to draw lessons and inspirations. This video must importantly helps breaking the myth that women's groups talk or need to talk about only women's groups talk or need to talk about obly women's issues and gives a wide variety of groups and forums are engaged in.

Photographs

We have a good collection of photographs taken during workshops, journeys, events and training processes which help tell stories of peoples, regions, situations, their expectations, content of workshop sessions, group processes, dialogues, discussions, lessons learned, action plans etc.

Digital Library

CT team has begun the work of consolidating and categorizing digital resource materials on various topics and issues related to peace, justice and reconciliation, these were collected during workshops, initiatives and research.

Much of the materials have been categorized. The team is working on putting together the materials available for easy reference by peace practitioners, scholars and activists. As a result of this work HMI has a good collection of digital books, manuals and articles to be shared with other peace builders. We have also shared some of the resource materials with interested people in the region.

Staff Training and Development

Mr. Abdul Hakim Ansari joined HMI as consultant. He has been actively participating in HMI-CT programs since 2008-2009. He participated in the Grass-root comic workshop facilitated by Mr. Sharad Sharma, World Comics, India in Ahmedabad, Gujarat from 10th to 13th June 2013.

He was able to learn skills related to comic art as a tool for communication. He was also able to identify 4-5 individuals who are willing to volunteer with SMETH in training others in comic art for peace building work.

Management

Administration

The human body is the most complex and effective administrative system we can possibly elaborate or even imagine. This self evolving power caters to each end every need of growth and maintenance in the human reality in a most admirable and silent manner.

HMI too is a living and life-giving Institute, it likewise possesses a silent and dynamic administrative system; it takes care of major concerns as well as the most insignificant ones.

Administration is like the heart in the human body; all the limbs and the whole nervous net-work takes its dynamism from this hidden generator" the Administration team".

Every six months, HMI turns an inquisitive eye and evaluates the health of this dynamism, it is a routine check up, but it exposes the vitality of the whole Institute.

Here we present to you the commitment towards our concerns and our need of growth. It speaks to you about our march in progress.

As we are having a rather big campus and needs regular maintenance as well. We update the things regularly for end users. There were lot of materials purchased during the period for hostel and office. In the hostel building good number of chairs for the dining were procured, few mattress as and pillows were also purchased as the number of user groups increased. To improve the kitchen facilities, we had bought a new heavy duty grinder, mixer and few utensils.

In the programme building, to provide more facilities for the user groups, we had purchased an "Epson" brand projector for the conference halls. The furniture for class rooms were also purchased and 15 tables purchased for conference halls for user groups. Planks were fixed in the programme halls to help the groups to hang the programme materials The painting works were carried out in the hostel building, programme building and Directors residence in order to have regular maintenance. To provide more facilities to the staff few LCD Monitors were bought to replace old CRT monitors and also installed online UPS for 10 computer users of

Academics/Praxis departments in order to help during the time of power-cuts. Few precious paintings have been framed and are displayed in the office and hostel building which have given a more artistic appearance to the institute.

Construction of New Library Building-Phase IV

To update on construction of our new library building, there was a field inspection done by the assistant town planning officer and consequently we got the token approval granting the sanction and requested to pay the building permission fee in the month of April 2013. We have remitted the building permission fee and expecting the final plan approval by end of the July 2013. Meanwhile HMI has invited a few contractors to submit the tender documents for the new building and documents were submitted to management review.

Hostel

The great ambition of HMI is to foster communitarian and universal harmonious relationship, to boost the unassuming waves of positive feelings through the contagious experience of those who come to re-charge their human batteries with knowledge, and choose to abide at the inspiring premises of HMI.

As you enter this campus, you can feel a silent invitation to attune yourselves with the generosity of nature and the joy of peace and harmony.

Those who come here in search of intellectual enrichment, receive the first impact through the well organized and well looked after garden that surrounds the welcoming building where accommodation and discerning facilities are offered to the many groups associated with the philosophy of HMI.

The vegetation, the cultivated fruit garden, the beautiful prayer hall, form an ecological set up which speaks of the ideology of HMI and experience the peace and the harmony that emanate and radiates as a halo of peace.

Aman Shanti Nilayam Hostel is the material expression of reconciliation, the welcoming abode, with its sober but elegant structure. Aman Shanti Nilayam is always open to those organizations specially dedicated to the





Flower garden

Gardeners with Bananas

uplifting of human dignity in different ways: "training for service, service for justice, justice for peace,,", this is the motivating force that is offered to the many groups that come in search of accommodation, the right space to undergo an appropriate training.

We speak of accommodation, but Aman Shanti Nilayam gives much more than simple shelter and food; it gives an elevated spirit and invisible force which make people feel their responsibility of undertaking a transformation towards harmony.

The Hostel has generated sufficient income during the period by letting out the facilities which substantially covered the general maintenance cost. During the period approximately 7500 persons forming 95 groups (15 groups per month) have profited. The participants in a sufficient range of socially motivated organizations, find comfort in the quiet, tranquil and premises of Henry Martin Institute.

A special thanks to all the government organizations who regularly use our premises for promoting the state government welfare schemes and trainings were, AMR-Andhra Pradesh Academy of Rural Development (APARD), Society of Elimination of Rural Poverty (SERP) - National Institute of Rural Development (NIRD) from Hyderabad., National Academy of Agricultural Research Management (NAARM), Hyderabad, Central Institute of Rural Electrification Corporation Limited, Hyderabad

The other organizations which are of to nature of NGO's and corporate who regularly availing our facilities are Andhra Pradesh Mahila Abivriddi Sangam(APMAS),

Prajwala group, Human and Institutional Development Forum(HIDF), Bangalore, UAE Exchange and Financial Services, Hyderabad, Brooke Hospital for Animals, Delhi, Chindu Group, World Buddist Cultural Trust, Delhi, Centre for World Solidarity, Hyderabad, Interfaith Coalition for peace, Delhi, CSI Wesly Cathedral Church, Karimnagar. Overseas groups like Lutheran School of Theology, Chicago, a Group of Pastors from Germany led by Astrid. J Stephen and other individual overseas guests. Besides, the groups from local and national churches, seminaries, students, research scholars are also availing the facilities.

The in-house workshops included a two-day Conference on Secularism and Spirituality in the Contemporary World was held in March 2013. One, two and three day eventswerre conducted for the Community Development related to Youngmen's and HIV/AIDS awareness programmes.

The gardeners who were given more commitment with our director's inspiration towards work has fruits today. There were lot of kitchen produce like, tomatoes, coriander & curry leaves and green chillies were produced. This season was celebrated with good amount of produce of fruits like Mangoes, Pomegranate, Guava, Bananas and Sapottas. Specially these fruits were served to the user groups during the lunch and dinner time and they enjoyed a lot and some were distributed to staff and friends.

This down-to-earth service is silent but helpful input towards building up human harmony and acquire deep consciousness of calmness at all levels. The participants of the above groups show great admiration for the quality of service rendered to them.

Many a participant used to comment: "when we enter this building we feel a very comforting inner peace, a sense of contentment and positive attitudes".

Yes, may all be Good, may the different communities be imbued by equanimity and brotherhood.

Personnel

Mrs. Jalaja Devi, Project Officer, who was working in Community Development programs has resigned from the services and management wishes all the best for her future career.

Rev. Sr.Beatrice who served the hostel as Warden for more than a year will be leaving us mainly due to health



HMI Staff outing

reasons as she underwent knee replacement for both the knees. We wish her all the best in her future ministry.

Its very sad to note a few of our staff members and board members had lost their dearest ones during this period. Our Vice-Chair person Mrs. Christine Lazarus had lost her husband in the month of May 2013 at the end of June our Director Dr.Varghese Manimala's mother expired at the age of 94. Our Assoicate Director Dr.MM Abraham's father expired at age of 95 due to illness. We offer our deepest condolences to them and their families.

Community Events

After two years gap HMI staff went for on outing on 5th April 2013 located at Shamirpet- a quiet club resort located 35 km north of Hyderabad. In the large sports field staff took different choices of games and played a game of tennis with rules quite unlike any in the known world of tennis and some staff choose caroms/chess etc. Some the staff chose to take a dip enjoying with rain dance before the extravagant lunch arranged by the club in its luxurious lounge. The day concluded a with high tea and the staff returned home greatly refreshed.

Staff Picnic to Kerala

The Hostel staff went for 5 day picnic programme to Kerala. A fourteen member staff consisting of gardeners, kitchen and domestic helpers travelled by train with heavy baggage and got into the train at Nampally Railway Station with a warm send off by a

few members of the staff on 31st May 2013. The team was lead by the Director and travelled to Trivandrum visiting tourist resorts like kovalam, ancient temples, churches, etc. A day was spent in Cochin having ride to important tourist centres and back waters. The team also spent a day having a good board ride at kottayam, and good lunch in the middle of the backwaters. After this exposure trip they departed from Kottayam on 5th June 2013 and reached Hyderabad safely the next day. thus a great desire of the staff to visit Kerala was fulfilled. they were extremely delighted about their visit to God's own country."

Board

The meeting of Finance and Property Committee took place on 21st February 2013 and discussed the Annual Budget for 2013-14. The Board of Management met on 14th March 2013 for approving the Annual Budget of 2013-14, and took several other decisions for the better functioning of the institute.

The Board of Management and Finance & Property Committee met on 27th June 2013 to approve the Audited Accounts for the year 2012-13.



Hostel staff picnic to Kerala

Winter Course

from 6 to 12 October 2013

This is year HMI is conducting a winter course in Islam and Interfaith Relations apart from our long-standing annual summer course. It is an intensive one week residential course. The course gives the participants an understanding of Islam, its practices, history, philosophy and theology. It also provides a time to examine and deepen the knowledge of one's own faith and the meaning of encounter/relationship between people of different faiths. A deeper analysis of Pluralism, Interfaith and Dialogue is envisaged. The Winter Course is a wonderful opportunity to get to know about various study programmes, activities and projects at HMI.

Who May Attend:

The course is open to approximately 30 participants. People of all faiths; Religious and secular college students; Religious and community leaders.

Course Work:

The participants will follow an intensive one-week programme consisting of:

- Lectures, presentations, Group discussions, role plays and practical dialogue sessions,
- Library work, videos, and visits to local religious places. Medium of instruction is English
- Upon successful completion of the course each participant will receive an certificate

Highlights:

- Spacious and eco-friendly campus. Interfaith Devotion Teaching by an experienced faculty
- Sharing of experiences by the participants . Exposure visits and cultural evenings

Venue:

Aman Shanti Nilayam Henry Martyn Institute, Hyderabad, India For more information contact:hmi_academics@yahoo.com

Henry Martyn Institute:

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