Ahimsa is nonviolence rooted in courage and compassion, fearlessness and forgiveness. It connotes reverence for all life, promotes trust and civility, and is the key to lasting peace and happiness.

Themes and Questions
The second international conference of the Ahimsa Center in College of Letters, Arts and Social Sciences at Cal Poly Pomona will explore how ahimsa enriches life at personal, interpersonal and social levels. The conference will bring together a broad range of scholarships and experiences to provide compelling insights from multiple perspectives into the relationships between ahimsa (nonviolence) and quality of life. Presentations, discussions and workshops at this path-breaking conference will address issues and questions such as the following.

- How ahimsa promotes human wellbeing and contributes to enduring happiness and joy in life.
- What role can compassion play in expanding the human potential? How can compassionate behavior positively transform interpersonal relationships?
- How service, gratitude and forgiveness contribute to human empowerment.
- In what ways is trust central to one’s own sense of security, and reduce tensions and conflict in social settings?
- How reverence for life helps individuals relate to other individuals as human beings transcending ethnic, linguistic, religious, and racial boundaries.
- How reverence for life can be extended to reverence for the environment to enrich the quality of life.

Special Sessions
- A panel of K-12 Educators from the Ahimsa Center’s 2005 Summer Institute on Nonviolence and Social Change. (Friday, 4/28)
- Creative World Music for Peace—Concert by Paul Livingstone and Salaam Suite. (Saturday, 4/29)
- Optional Workshop with Satish Kumar (Sunday, 4/30)

Conference Speakers
The conference will feature a roster of highly distinguished speakers, and several panels of carefully selected scholars, educators and practitioners. Collectively, they will communicate inspiring visions and innovative ideas about how to enrich the quality of life by embracing the values of peace and nonviolence. The list of speakers includes:

Mihaly Csikszentmihalyi. C.S. and D.J. Davidson Professor at the Drucker and Ito School of Management and Director of the Quality of Life Research Center at Claremont Graduate University, CA. Previously, he was Chairman of Psychology Department at University of Chicago. His books include Flow, The Evolving Self, Creativity, Finding Flow, Good Work: When Excellence and Ethics Meet (co-authored with Howard Gardener and William Damon), and Good Business: Flow, Leadership and the Making of Meaning.

Padmanabh S. Jaini. Professor Emeritus of Buddhist Studies, University of California at Berkeley. He is one of the leading scholars in the fields of Prakrit, Sanskrit, Pali, Buddhism, and Jainism. He has authored, translated and edited more than twenty scholarly books and eighty scholarly articles and book chapters. His scholarship offers significant original insights on the role of knowledge and compassion in achieving enduring happiness according to Jain and Buddhist traditions.

Prasad Kaipa. Advisor to CEOs and coach for senior executives in Fortune 500 companies, Dr. Kaipa helps his clients by focusing on “igniting their natural genius.” Kaipa is the author of Discontinuous Learning: Reflections on Aligning Life and Work (2005). Kaipa was formerly a senior manager in Apple, where he created an educational menu for Apple technical staff using innovative learning approaches. Later, as a research fellow in the Apple University, he was given the charter to help design ‘a learning processor that augments human intelligence.’

Satish Kumar. Program Director at Schumacher College in the U.K. and Editor of Resurgence magazine—a thoughtful journal of ecology, the environment, new economics, and spiritual values. He is the author of Path Without Destination (autobiography), and You are Therefore I Am: A Declaration of Dependence. He is a trusted voice on the cutting edge of the environmental movement. He was given the Jamnalal Bajaj Foundation International Award for Promoting Gandhian Values.

Nipun Mehta. Founder of CharityFocus.org, a fully volunteer-run organization that has delivered millions of dollars of web-related services to the nonprofit world for free. The recipient of the Jefferson Award for Public Service and the President’s Volunteer Service Award, his work creatively leverages web technologies for collaborative and transformational giving, lending him insight into service, leadership, organizational design, and spirituality. He serves on the boards of the Seva Foundation, Silicon Valley Volunteer Center, and Airline Ambassadors.

(continued)
Conference Speakers (continued)

James O'Toole. Research Professor, Center for Effective Organizations, University of Southern California, and Mortimer J. Adler Senior Fellow, the Aspen Institute. He is the author of 14 books, including Vanguard Management, named by Business Week as one of the best business and economics books of 1985. His most recent books are Leading Change (1995), Leadership A to Z (1999), and Creating the Good Life: Applying Aristotle's Wisdom to Find Meaning and Happiness (2005).

Neerja Raman. Director, Strategic Planning for Imaging and Printing at HP Labs till December 2005, she spearheaded the HP Arts and Science program which aims to promote cultural understanding. Raman is the author of The Practice and Philosophy of Decision Making: A Seven Step Spiritual Guide (2003). She was featured at the authors' expo, "Books that Empower Women" at the 2004 Women in Technology International (WITI) conference, and in 2005 she was inducted into the Hall of Fame for her visionary leadership and community service.

Lloyd Rudolph. Professor of Political Science Emeritus, University of Chicago. He is co-author with Susanne Hoeber Rudolph of Reversing the Gaze: Amar Singh's Diary, A Colonial Subject's Narrative of Imperial India, and a new book, Postmodern Gandhi and Other Essays: Gandhi in the World and at Home.

Susanne Rudolph. Professor of Political Science emerita, University of Chicago. She has served as president of the American Political Science Association and the Association of Asian Studies. Among the books she has co-authored with Lloyd I. Rudolph are: In Pursuit of Lakshmi: the Political Economy of the Indian State; The Modernity of Tradition; Gandhī: The Traditional Roots of Charisma.

Vandana Shiva. A physicist, ecologist, activist, author of many books, Dr. Shiva is the Director of Research Foundation for Science, Technology and Ecology in India. She is the recipient of numerous awards, including the prestigious Right Livelihood Award. Her most recent books are Biopiracy: The Plunder of Nature and Knowledge, Stolen Harvest: The Hijacking of the Global Food Supply and Earth Democracy: Justice, Sustainability, and Peace.

Michael Tobias. President of Dancing Star Foundation, a California nonprofit public benefit corporation devoted to animal welfare, international biodiversity conservation and environmental education. Author of 30 books, director and/producer of nearly 100 films, documentaries and T.V. series. His work has taken him to 60 countries. For his passionate commitment to animal rights, Dr. Tobias was honored with the international "Courage of Conscience Award."

A Panel of K-12 Educators. The panelists, drawn from Cal Poly Pomona Ahimsa Center's 2005 Institute on Nonviolence and Social Change, will examine how education about nonviolence can make a positive impact on the quality of life issues in our schools, and showcase examples from the innovative lessons and teaching strategies developed by them in the Institute.

Creative World Music for Peace Concert by Paul Livinstone & Salaam Suite. Paul Livinstone is an international performing/recording artist, composer, ensemble leader and community activist. He has produced two CDs of creative world music 'Arohi' & 'Salaam Suite' from a collaborative peace and unity project of American artists with those of the Arab & Muslim world. He teaches at California Institute of the Arts and the Sangeet School in Los Angeles.

See full details about conference and workshop at http://www.csupomona.edu/~ahimsacenter/conference/conference_06.html

Conference and Workshop Registration Options

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