Healing the Earth, Healing Society, Healing Self

Bangkok, 21 July – 4 August 2018

With Nnimmo Bassey, Nigeria, Right Livelihood Award laureate 2010; poet, architect, activist
Health of Mother Earth Foundation (HOMEF)
The Chulalongkorn University Right Livelihood Summerschool (CURLS) is an opportunity for young researchers, activists and practitioners to interact with recipients of the Right Livelihood Award (often referred to as the “alternative Nobel Prize”). CURLS is a joint activity of four partners: Chulalongkorn University (CU), Bangkok, Thailand; the Royal University of Bhutan (RUB), Thimphu, Bhutan; the Right Livelihood College (RLC) with its headquarters in Bonn, Germany; and the Sathirakoses Nagapradipa Foundation (SNF) established in Bangkok by Sulak Sivaraksa in 1969. They together founded the Wellbeing Studies Programme, an academia – civil society platform for action-research and transformative learning.

Partners of CURLS include:

Chula Global Network (CGN); CUSRI; Focus on the Global South; School for Wellbeing Studies and Research; Centre for Bhutan Studies & GNH; Towards Organic Asia agroecology and Mindful Markets network (TOA) with 24 partners in the Mekong region; Sombath Initiative (SI); International Network of Engaged Buddhists (INEB); Spirit in Education Movement (SEM); Suan Nguyen Mee Ma social enterprise; Innovation Network International (INI); Earth Trusteeship Platform (Asia – Pacific); New Spirit; Wongsanit Ashram and many others.
Healing the Earth, Healing Society, Healing Self

Health and Wellbeing are central in Sustainable Development Goal 3 (“SDG 3”). But do we know what the art of healing is; are we aware of the four dimensions of health: physical, mental, social and spiritual health? And do you know the mystery of genuine happiness beyond ‘wellbeing’? Mother Earth needs to be healed, society requires radical transformation but we can only make change happen when we start with our own simple selves and the mindsets that cause the challenges of the 21st century. Ultimately we can join hands to address SDG 17: Partnerships for the Goals. Right Livelihood public lecture and workshop with Nnimmo Bassey, Nigeria, Right Livelihood Award laureate 2010.

CURLS 2018

21 July – 4 August with public lectures Saturday 21 July and Thursday 2 August.

The Chulalongkorn University Right Livelihood Summerschool is hosted by Sulak Sivaraksa, Right Livelihood Award laureate 1995; with public lecture and workshop by: Nnimmo Bassey, Nigeria, Africa, Right Livelihood Award lecture; introduction by Anwar Fazal, Malaysia; Daw Seng Raw Lahpai, Myanmar, Magsaysay Award laureate Sombath Somphone lecture with introduction by Shui-Meng Ng; Dasho Karma Ura and Dorji Wangchuk, Bhutan; and from Thailand: Prapart Pintobtang and Surat Horachaikul, Chulalongkorn University; Shalmali Guttal, Focus on the Global South; Anupan Pluckpankhajee, Seven Arts Inner Place and Makhampom theatre group.

A learning journey from Chulalongkorn University, Bangkok, to Chiang Dao in Chiang Mai province; Wongsanit Ashram (40 km from Bangkok) and back to “Chula”.
Nnimmo Bassey (born 1958) is a Nigerian architect, environmental activist, author and poet. He chaired Friends of the Earth International from 2008 through 2012 and was Executive Director of Environmental Rights Action for two decades. He was one of Time magazine’s Heroes of the Environment in 2009. Nnimmo Bassey was named co-winner of the Right Livelihood Award in 2010. He is the Director of the Health of Mother Earth Foundation (HOMEF), an environmental think tank and advocacy organization. He is an Advisor of the Earth Trusteeship campaign during 70 Years Universal Declaration of Human Rights, 10 December 2018, advocating inclusion of Earth Rights.

Nnimmo Bassey’s public lecture will be introduced by Prof. Anwar Fazal, Malaysia, Founder of the Right Livelihood College. Nnimmo will conduct a workshop exclusively for CURLS participants.

Sombath Somphone Public Lecture
Thursday 2 August 2018
Chulalongkorn University

To keep alive the legacy of Sombath Somphone, PDR Laos, who disappeared in Vientiane, 2012.

Daw Lahpai Seng Raw is the founder of Metta Development Foundation, Myanmar’s largest NGO which runs healthcare, agriculture and peace projects. A member of the Kachin ethnic minority, Daw Seng Raw is at the forefront in facing challenges in Myanmar that include decades of ethnic strife and military dictatorship. In 1987, she started to work with the internally displaced people at the Myanmar-China border. Moving to Bangkok in 1990 she joined the Kachin Independence Organization’s humanitarian wing (ROKA). She started the Metta Development Foundation in 1997. In 2013, she was awarded the Ramon Magsaysay Award the highest distinction for social activists in Asia.
Dialogue on *Gross National Happiness* with Dasho Karma Ura.

Is happiness an individual issue or are social and environmental conditions making impact on how we feel and how we act? Can we speak of “public happiness” and can we measure it? Does the GNH Index provide a guideline for policy decisions of government, the business sector and civil society? And is article 5 of the Constitution of Bhutan (2008) “Every Bhutanese is a trustee of the Kingdom’s natural resources and environment (…)” a pointer to the possibility of the commons as the most fundamental principle of Earth governance? **Dasho Karma Ura** is an Oxford educated economist, artist of famous mural paintings and designer of the annual Dochula Festival.

**CURLS participants** from all over the world dedicate their energy during two weeks, in the context of various locations, on their **personal life destination projects**. The summerschool offers opportunities for participants to interact with **Right Livelihood Award laureates** and various resource persons. In particular interaction with fellow participants has proven inspiring, forging friendships and partnerships for the future.

“The pedagogy of the course incorporated dialogue, lectures, group discussions, field work and also creative action through mind and body exercises.”

“It was an important learning for me to know about the social and political realities of Bhutan, Myanmar, Thailand, Philippines and Indonesia through interaction with the persons in the course.” – testimony of Charanya R., Food Sovereignty Alliance, India.

Prof. Anwar Fazal, Malaysia, one of the first Right Livelihood Award laureates and Founder of the Right Livelihood College (RLC), one of the four partners supporting CURLS said:

“The Right Livelihood College aims to be five things – a hub, a catalyst, an incubator, a multiplier and an accelerator of links between universities and the work of Right Livelihood Laureates, an interactive link between academics and activists.” – Prof. Anwar Fazal, Founder of the Right Livelihood College, Malaysia.
The Art of Healing

Anupan Pluckpankhajee, is founder and director of Seven Arts Inner Place at Chiang Dao, Chiang Mai province. He is a painter and one of the earliest recognized pioneers of art therapy in Thailand. Anupan became a colour specialist with his profound study and interest in light, darkness and colours in the spirit of Liane Collot d’Herbois. He started Seven Arts Inner Place, an art studio and ‘creative space’ in Chiang Dao together with his neighbours the Makhampom theatre group and community arts centre. CURLS 2018 participants will stay in Chiang Dao for 4 days to explore Healing the Earth, Healing Society, Healing Self.

What is CURLS?

The Chulalongkorn University Right Livelihood Summerschool (CURLS) is an initiative of the School for Wellbeing Studies and Research and four partners: 1. Chulalongkorn University (CU), with city-campus in Bangkok, the oldest university of Thailand; 2. Royal University of Bhutan (RUB) with colleges spread over the country and headquarters in Thimphu; 3. the Right Livelihood College (RLC) with ‘campuses’ worldwide and its headquarters in Bonn, Germany; and 4. Sathirakoses Nagapadipa Foundation (SNF), established by Sulak Sivaraksa in 1969, Bangkok.

Right Livelihood Award laureates who contributed to CURLS are: Sulak Sivaraksa (host), Vandana Shiva, Helena Norberg Hodge, Hans R. Herren, Anwar Fazal, Bill McKibben, Walden Bello, GRAIN (Kartini Samon) and Nicanor Perlas.

The Right Livelihood public lecture 2018 will be delivered by Nnimmo Bassey, Nigeria, Right Livelihood Award laureate 2010.
The Somath Somphone public lecture will be held annually to honour Sombath Somphone, founder of PADETC and Magsaysay Award laureate from Laos, who became a victim of forced disappearance in December 2012. The tradition to explore the continuation of his work will be initiated by Daw Seng Raw Lahpai, Myanmar, with an introduction by Shui-Meng Ng, PDR Laos, wife of Sombath Somphone.
CURLS 2018 will start in Bangkok at the green city-campus of Chulalongkorn University. The campus provides a platform for critical academic analysis and new impulses for civil society impact; followed by an excursion to a rural area of interest.

This year the excursion brings the group to the Chiang Dao region, 70 km north of Chiang Mai city, North of Thailand. It is a region of limestone mountains and protected forests – the original territory of indigenous people. Here Seven Arts Inner Place of art therapist Anupan Pluckpankhajee and the Makhampom art and theatre centre are situated offering challenging perspectives on self-education, social healing, reconnection with Mother Earth and advocacy for Earth Rights.

After this experiential learning journey CURLS 2018 participants return to the Bangkok area: first to Wongsanit Ashram – 40 km away from the city – for a short meditation and reflection retreat. And for preparation of their project presentations during the final session at the Chulalongkorn University campus also including the Sombath Somphone public lecture.

Chulalongkorn University Right Livelihood Summerschool (CURLS) 2018 team: Wallapa and Hans van Willenswaard ini.creativespace@gmail.com, Narumon Paibonsittikun towardsorganicasia@gmail.com, Kaem Kanyanat kaem.kanyanat@gmail.com.

Locations: Chulalongkorn University (CU), Bangkok; Chiang Dao, Chiang Mai province; Wongsanit Ashram, Nakorn Nayok; final project presentations at CU campus, Bangkok.

Fees: 700 US$ - 600 euro – 20,000 Baht including all local expenses for 15 days.
Please register before 6 May and visit
https://wellbeingsummer.wordpress.com/

Useful links:

http://www.rightlivelihoodaward.org/

http://www.homef.org/article/%E2%80%9Cwe-need-overturn-system%E2%80%9D-nimmo-bassey

https://www.sombath.org/en/

http://www.metta-myanmar.org/

http://www.grossnationalhappiness.com/

www.arttherapythai.com

https://www.facebook.com/Makhampom-International-Network-147651385246761/