

Peace and Conflict Transformation Studies (PCTS)
Education and Research Workshop
University of Madras, 22- 26 Nov. 2004

Purpose:

This lecture cum workshop has a threefold purpose:

1. *Education:* To introduce Peace and Conflict Transformation Studies (PCTS) to interested students and faculties and generate a dialogue to develop a comprehensive curriculum that might be useful in future teachings of PCTS.
2. *Research:* To introduce various theories and methodologies of Peace Research, identify relevant peace research topics in India/South Asia and develop the capacity to write peace research proposals.
3. *Resource Mobilization:* To discuss with faculties and administration about the utility of developing PCTS at Madras University and the possible future collaboration with Padrigu and other international institutions.

Participating Institutions:

Dept. of Peace and Development Research- Padrigu, Gothenburg University (Sweden) and Dept of Politics and Public Administration, University of Madras (India).

Academic Coordinators:

Senthil Ram (India) and Stellan Vinthagen (Sweden). See at the end for more info.

Participants:

We expect 20 to 25 people. Preference will be given to *post-graduate students* (around 20 in numbers) interested in peace studies and willing to take up peace research; and *faculty* interested in developing peace research proposals. Participants are strongly advised to attend all the sessions for a beneficial week.

Instructions:

1. English is the working language.
2. Reading materials (nearly 40 pages) on basic theoretical concepts on PCTS will be distributed to the participants; and we expect that participants read them before attending the lectures. On the first day there will be a discussion on the reading materials.
3. During and after reading the materials participants (with exceptions like faculty) should note or identify a conflict-issue (as a topic of interest) that comes in their mind. They will be asked to inform and share the topic (though not in detail) on the first day of the lecture. Such a conflict topic/area will have a history, a specific problem to investigate and its contemporary relevance. For example: If some one wants to study the Cauveri river water dispute between Tamil Nadu and Karnataka, he/she should know what is the problem, the history of the dispute and what we could learn about peace/conflicts from it.
4. During the workshop participants will explore this topic in detail and on which they will gradually develop a proposal with the help of instructors. Needless to state that learning the skills of writing proposals is very important in research education and might significantly improve the students' career prospects.
5. Participants are expected to hand-out their final proposal of minimum 2 pages at the last day (Friday, the 26th) even if it is not the final version. There is a possibility to send the final version by email to the instructors (at the latest 10th of December). This

will help the instructors to evaluate their teaching methodologies so as to improve the future similar PCTS educational and research programs in India.

Note: Please see the proposal development steps at the following schedule.

Schedule:

We will work from 10 am until 4.30 pm each day. Each session is for one hour duration with thirty minutes break/discussions. Lunch time is for 1 ½ hours. First two days (22& 23 Nov) the focus will be on *PCTS Education*, and Wednesday (24th) and Thursday (25th) the focus will be on *PCTS Research*. On Friday (26th) morning depending on the students' interest, they can book time with instructors for one-to-one meetings to discuss their specific concerns including the writing of the proposal.

Date	Theme	Time	Topic
22 Nov Monday	PCTS Education	10-11	1. Outline of the Programme: Goals and Limitations.
		11.30- 12.30	2. Introduction to Peace Studies: Theories, Approaches & Latest Trends. Jörgen Johansen
		2-3	3. Relevance of Peace Studies to India and discussions on PCTS (career option and relevance of research proposal) – Senthil Ram
		3.30- 4.30	4. Introduction to PCTS-research projects and discussion of pre-workshop reading materials. Stellan Vinthagen Proposal Step 1: Participants presenting the topics of research.
23 Nov Tuesday	PCTS Education	10-11	5. Conflict Transformation/Resolution Theories and Approaches- Senthil
		11.30- 12.30	6. Power of Nonviolent Action: Gandhi, Theories and Cases- Stellan
		2-3	7. History of Peace Thinking: Examples and Opportunities- Jörgen
		3.30- 4.30	8. Peace Research Proposals- Stellan Proposal Step 2: Student presentation of one page proposal with history, problem and relevance. Where/How does it fit within PCTS?
24 Nov Wednesday	Peace Research	10-11	1. Peace Research and methodologies- Jörgen
		11.30- 12.30	2. Case studies and examples, I: Tibetan Nonviolent Conflict- Senthil
		2-3	3. Case studies and examples, II: Sociology of Nonviolent Action- Stellan
		3.30- 4.30	4. Participants methodology discussion- Senthil Proposal Step 3: Participants identifying relevant methodologies for their proposed topic.
25 Nov Thursday	Peace Research	10-11	5. Transcend Approach to conflict Analysis- Jörgen
		11.30- 12.30	6. Culture. Power and Conflict Transformation- Björn Andersson

		2-3	7. Globalization, Social movements and what's happening out there?- Stellan
		3.30-4.30	8. Challenges to Peace Research in India: Concluding Remarks- Senthil
26 Nov Friday	Resource Mobilization	10-11	1. Meetings with interested participants.
		11.30-12.30	2. Meetings with interested participants
		2-3	3. Meeting with faculty and administration on future of PCTS.
		3.30-4.30	4. Further meetings.
		6.00	PARTY: final get-together

Lecturers:

Jürgen Johansen, teaches Peace, Conflict and Nonviolence at Tromsø University (Norway), Gothenburg University (Sweden), and Transcend University (located in many countries). He is also Nonviolence trainer with various social movements around the world for more than 20 years. He took part active role in peace building initiatives in Isreal-Palestine, Kosovo, Colombian and Asia-Pacific conflicts. He was also the international Secretary of War Resisters International (London) and now serves in the boards of Norwegian Peace Centre, Transcend and Transnational Foundation for Peace and Future Research (TFF). He has written seven books and numerous articles in journals and magazines. He can be contacted at: jorgen.johansen@ikkevold.no

Senthil Ram, coordinator from Indian side, completed his postgraduation from Madras University on Defence Studies and pursued M.Phil in Disarmament Studies and PhD in Peace Research at Jawaharlal Nehru University, New Delhi. Presently he is visiting post-doctoral researcher at the Dept of Peace and Development Research, Gothenburg University, Sweden. His current research interest is on nonviolent approaches to conflict resolution and Tibetan nonviolent conflict. He has taught in Sweden and gave lectures internationally on various topics in Peace Studies and Conflict Transformation/Resolution. He also published widely and presented papers at many international conferences. Senthil is also co-convener of Nonviolence Commission of International Peace Research Association and presently editing a book on *The Nonviolent Counter to Global Terrorism*. He can be emailed at senthil.ram@padrigu.gu.se

Stellan Vinthagen, coordinator from Swedish side, is a lecturer and researcher at the Department of Peace and Development Research (Padrigu), Gothenburg University, Sweden. His area of interest is nonviolent action, resistance strategies, globalization, social change, power theory, conflict transformation and social movements. He is currently completing his PhD about the sociology of nonviolent action. Over two decades he has been a movement activist and teacher in conflict transformation and civil disobedience. Stellan has written two books, published several articles and regularly presented papers at conferences. His latest peace activism of nonviolent direct disarmament was in England against the Trident nuclear submarines. He can be reached at stellan.vinthagen@padrigu.gu.se