



Monthly Newsletter of  
Heavenly Culture, World Peace, Restoration of Light

# HWPL NEWS

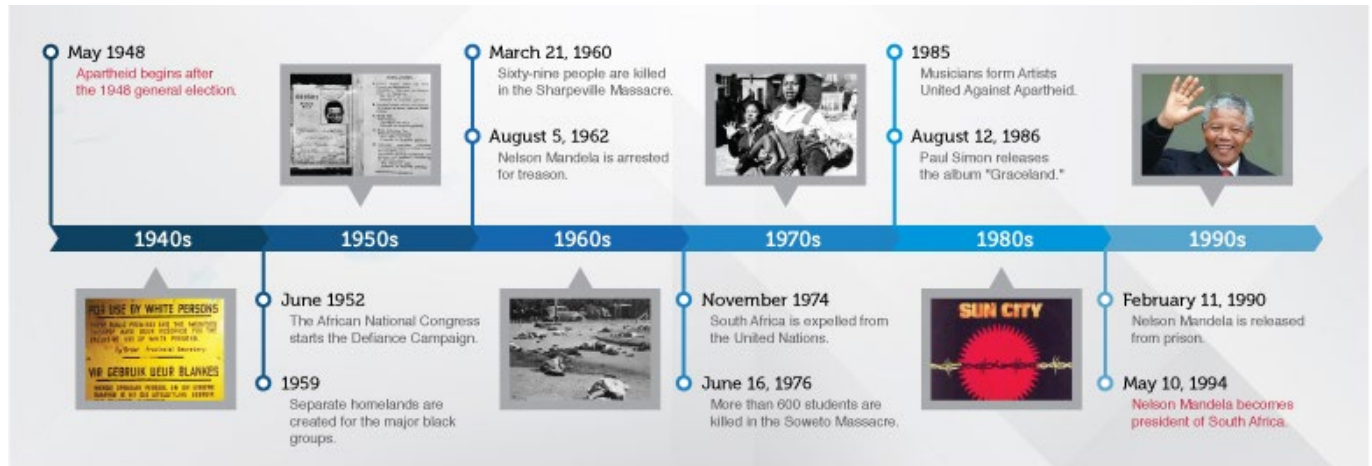


- 21 March is the International Day for the Elimination of Racial Discrimination Proclaimed by the UN
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# 21 March is the International Day for the Elimination of Racial Discrimination Proclaimed by the UN

Article 1 of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights states that “All human beings are born free and equal in dignity and rights.” On the basis of such principles, the International Day for the Elimination of Racial Discrimination was established. Although much time has passed since this Day was proclaimed, confrontations and struggles for equality and human rights still remain.



## International Day for the Elimination of Racial Discrimination

On the 21st of March, 1960, 69 people at a peaceful demonstration against apartheid, a policy of racial segregation, were killed by the police in Sharpeville, South Africa. To remember their efforts in eliminating racial discrimination and to raise its awareness, the UN General Assembly proclaimed this day as the International Day for the Elimination of Racial Discrimination. This day calls on the global community to promote and protect the idea that all individuals regardless of race have the right to equality.

## Apartheid

Apartheid, a term originated from the Afrikaans words “apart (apart)” and “heid (hood)” meaning apartness, refers to a repressive political system of racial segregation enforced by the all-white government in South Africa. In 1948 after World War II, the National Party government strived to make South Africa a country where the white minority dominated the non-white majority. Hence, they implemented policies of racial segregation in every field such as politics, economy, society, culture and so on. At that time, the white-dominated government prohibited marriages of whites with non-whites and even the shared use of public facilities between whites and people of other races. Also, they limited the activity of non-white labor unions and required them to carry identity documents which classified people according to their skin colors. People of other races were not allowed to live in or own land in white areas, and they even had to go through different entrances when using the public bathroom.



However, there was an uprising in Soweto, a black township, and many other places resisted all forms of racial discrimination. As South Africa faced mounting pressure from the international community as well as the UN, President F. W. de Klerk released Nelson Mandela, a human rights activist imprisoned for 27 years, and abolished most of the legislation that supported apartheid. After Nelson Mandela was released, he made an effort to construct a “multi-racial South Africa.” He received a Nobel Peace Prize in 1993, and became the first black president in South Africa in 1994, marking the end of the apartheid system.

**Nelson Mandela “Peace is the greatest weapon for development that any person can have.”**

Barriers and inequalities continue to exist even twenty-three years after the abolition of apartheid in the Republic of South Africa. Due to educational separation policies, different educational standards exist, housing and employment opportunities are given unfairly, and economic differences are not being narrowed as a result. Although these problems of injustice and inequality from the apartheid regime continue to afflict the citizens of South Africa, the citizens are ceaselessly working towards achieving human rights and peaceful harmony. This could be because the mindsets of Nelson Mandela who dedicated his whole life for anti-racism activities, and of the people who struggled for peace, are deeply engraved in the hearts of these citizens. Like Mandela stated, “Peace is the greatest weapon,” so working with this greatest weapon for the harmony of freedom and peace, the future of South Africa, the Rainbow Nation, is being anticipated.

### Peace, Culture without Struggle

The anti-apartheid movement can be used to clear up the deeply rooted conflicts around the world and open up a new future for a better world. Humanity, which has waged two horrific wars in the last century, has been aiming for a world of peace where rights are respected and troubles are resolved. As seen earlier, a peaceful society is not something South Africa solely can achieve, but it requires one voice through cooperation of the global community. This voice is not of fighting a bloody battle with weapons, but is the gradual change resulting from the mindset of peace amidst this world that is controlled by struggles and conflict. HWPL has included one voice for peace in international law, and is appealing for the support and participation of citizens in order for this world to be governed by the principle (law) of peace. In addition, to address the challenges of human rights, women, and education as presented through the UN’s Sustainable Development Goals, HWPL is implementing peace education. Peace education includes the spirit of peaceful coexistence, leading various peace activities such as commemorative events, monuments, and walks for peace, and establishing the culture of peace in every part of the world.



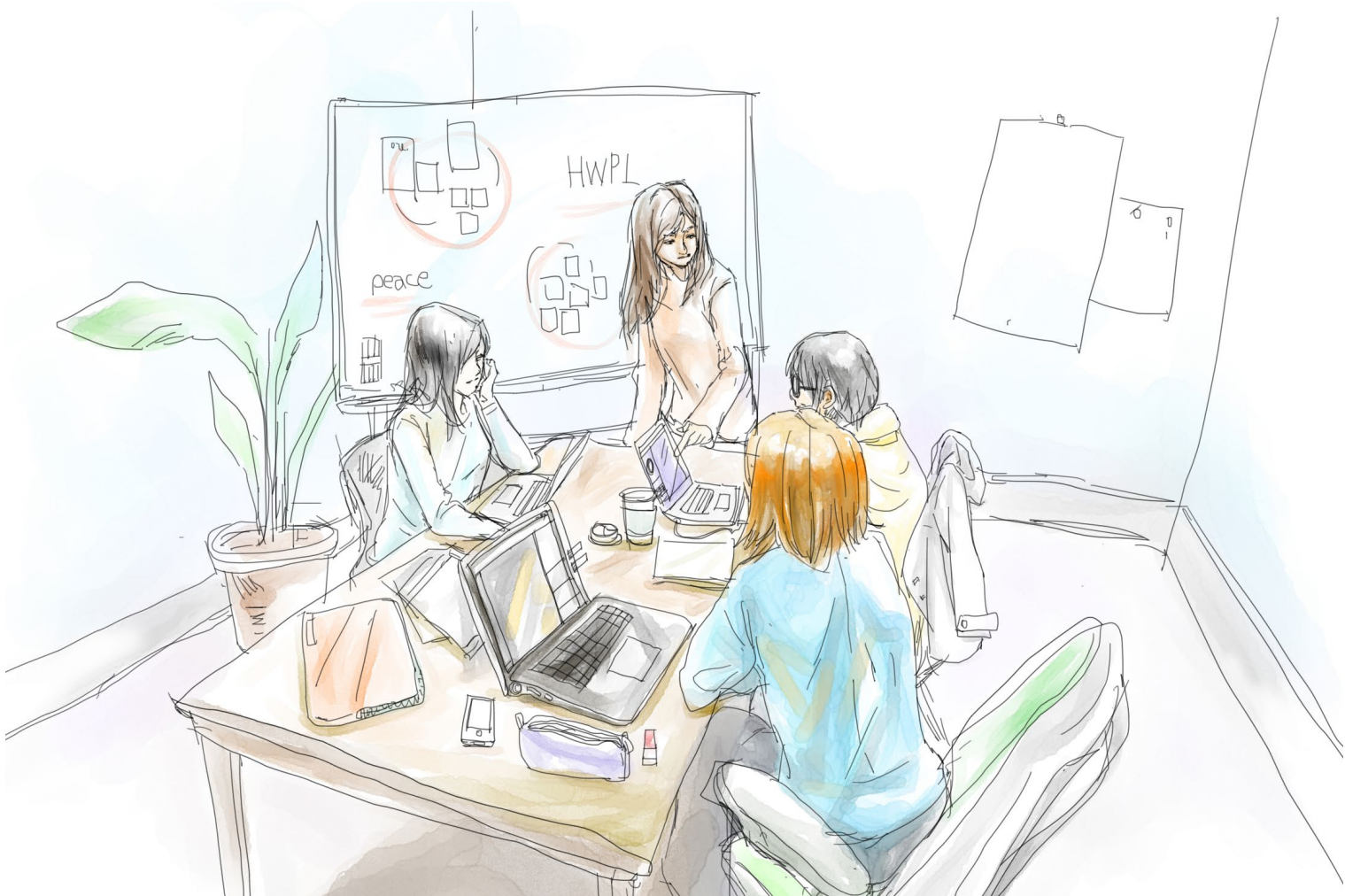
## ‘PEACE’: Design Invisibility to Reality

The Declaration of Peace and Cessation of War was proclaimed on 14 March, 2016. So, we would like to take this opportunity to highlight the strengths of the Declaration, and show how it has affected various corners of the world in a positive manner.

Since this proclamation, the Legislate Peace Campaign, a global advocacy movement in support of the DPCW, has been actively continued worldwide, and currently 708,877 supporting signatures from people in 173 countries have been collected. The number of seminars, advocacy events, press conferences, peace walks, and peace education forums held to introduce and explain the values of the document is growing.

This has become a noteworthy example of a comprehensive bottom-up approach to the legislation of a legal framework, which began from the raising of awareness through spreading a culture of peace. The comprehensive efforts of promoting the campaign are being recognized as a sustainable development goal for global citizens.

Along with the Legislate Peace Campaign, the DPCW poster is the result of passionate efforts to enlighten the spirit and orientation embedded within the document: the value of ‘people first.’ In commemorating the 1st anniversary of the presentation, let us investigate how the poster was created through a few interviews with the HWPL Design team.



Every work starts from this thought:  
how can we make peace be truly felt and achieved in reality?

**Q** Briefly introduce about the HWPL Design team.



**Hyemi Kim (team leader):** Hello. The HWPL Design team is always considering what we can do to bring together peoples' interest and reach an agreement towards the peace projects of HWPL. We design the HWPL Newsletters, compilations, banners, posters etc. to express visually understandable and friendly contents.



**Q** How did the team create the DPCW poster?



**Rei.K (Designer):** One important thing that I always have in mind is to express the invisible value of peace in a visible image. We first studied the technical legal terms to fully understand the principles and messages of the document, then we concentrated on concisely expressing each article through icons and key phrases.

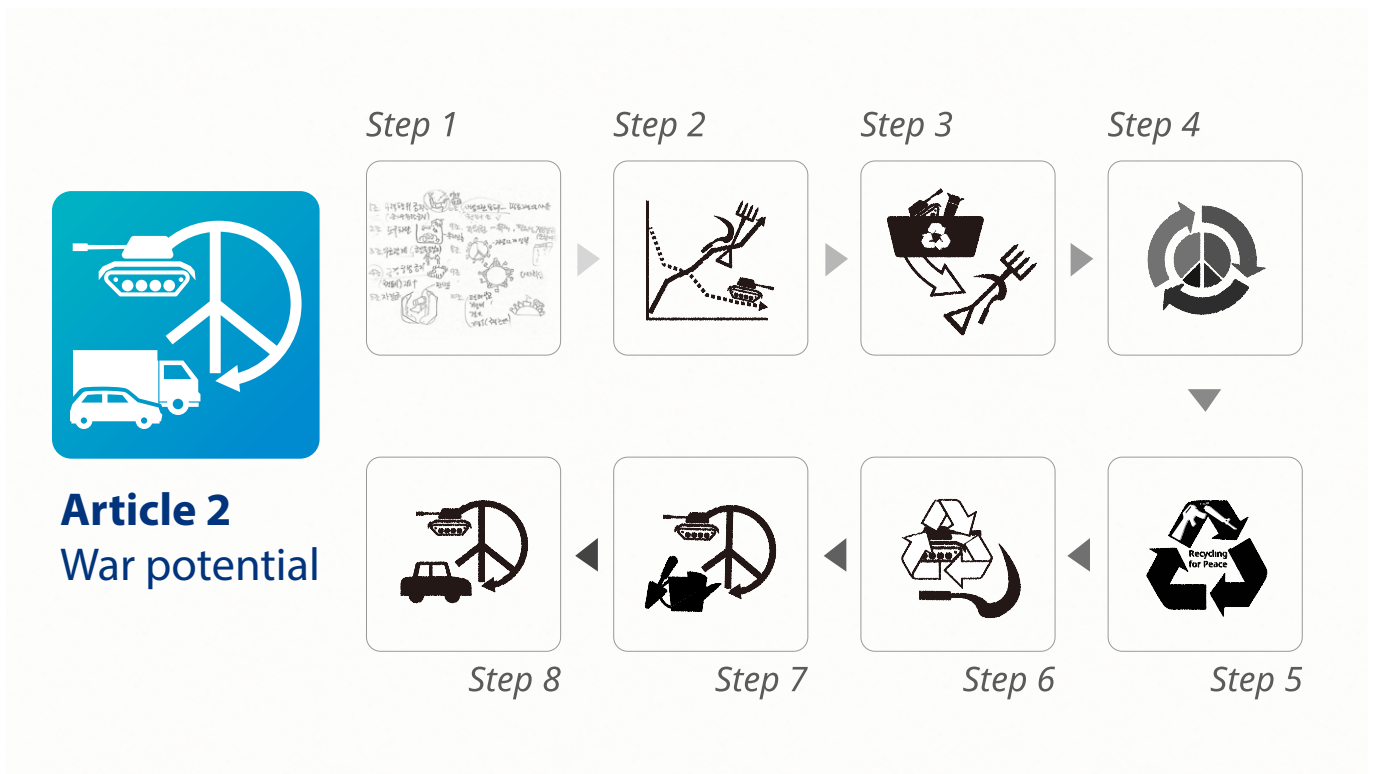
Q How did the team create the DPCW poster?



**Hyemi Kim:** We try to simplify the core values of the DPCW for citizens without knowledge in the relevant field so that they can easily recognize them. Although the DPCW was proclaimed for the cessation of war and peace, which it actively pursues, even one person's interest is keenly needed. That's why we devoted our time and effort to come up with a way of creating such work that would be widely understood by all global citizens, ranging from children to adults.



**Jess (Designer):** I believe the work of peace can be achieved through us. The minds and souls of many who yearn for peace have touched my heart. The design that we pursue has its focus on delivering the motto of HWPL, "When we do it, it will be done."



Q Can you share what you feel is most rewarding as a peace designer?



**Anna Ark:** I feel that it is most rewarding when I accomplish something challenging that no one has ever tried, especially when the work is delivering the core message that clearly demonstrates the cause. I think this is the joy of all the designers. The purpose and hope that I have is to achieve the world of peace that HWPL pursues.



**Hyemi Kim:** Peacebuilding activities are not an extraordinary work. I think our voice for peace can be raised and heard by many only when we make combined efforts by participating in what we can do from the places where we are. I wish to draw a world of peace through working with designers all around the world.



## For the Establishment of an International Law Compatible with the DPCW

The Draft Resolution “Peace and Cessation of War”, based on the principles of the DPCW, is currently being elaborated with the intent of being introduced to the UN. Representatives from the UN Permanent Missions of many countries are now actively having meetings on a consistent basis to discuss how to capture the values of the DPCW transparently into draft resolution and how it will be further developed. Various from citizens and press coverage of countless media outlets are now being delivered to and acknowledged by those who are in leadership positions in the UN, governments, civil societies, IGOs, and NGOs. This enables sincere participation of civil societies and a deeper dialogue of the Group of Friends and decision-makers all coming together from the pure hearts of those yearning for peace.



## Peace and Cessation of War

# Testimony of a World of Peace from History – Cyrus Cylinder

In January, I had a short business trip to San Diego. Located near Mexico, with a history of migration and mild weather intermingling with each other, the city has been established as one of the most attractive places to travel in the area. In the southern part of the city there is a wide-open space called Balboa Park. As soon as I got out of the parking lot, I instantly recognized something bizarre about this park because there were houses standing along the paths.

Soon I was attracted to a monument standing in front of one of the houses built in the park, which stated that the name of the building was the House of Iran and the monument was a replica of one of the greatest discoveries in history. The object was bronze in color with a peculiar shape and seemed to have hidden messages of the past that connect to today. Later I came to know that it was called the Cyrus Cylinder.



The title of the monument said, “First Declaration of Human Rights by Cyrus the Great”

Declaration of Human Rights? It was definitely not the one adopted by the UN in 1948, which is the one most tend to think of. Who was Cyrus the Great? Suddenly a flash of realization passed through my brain like lightning. In fact, I came to know Cyrus the Great because of the WARP Office Meetings of HWPL in South Korea when the religious scriptures were reviewed.

The monument’s inscription states the following:

“Cyrus the Great (585-529 BC), the Iranian emperor, defined the First Declaration of Human Rights on this cylinder. Cyrus is admired more as a liberator than a conqueror of his vast empire because of his respect for human rights and the humane treatment of those he ruled.”

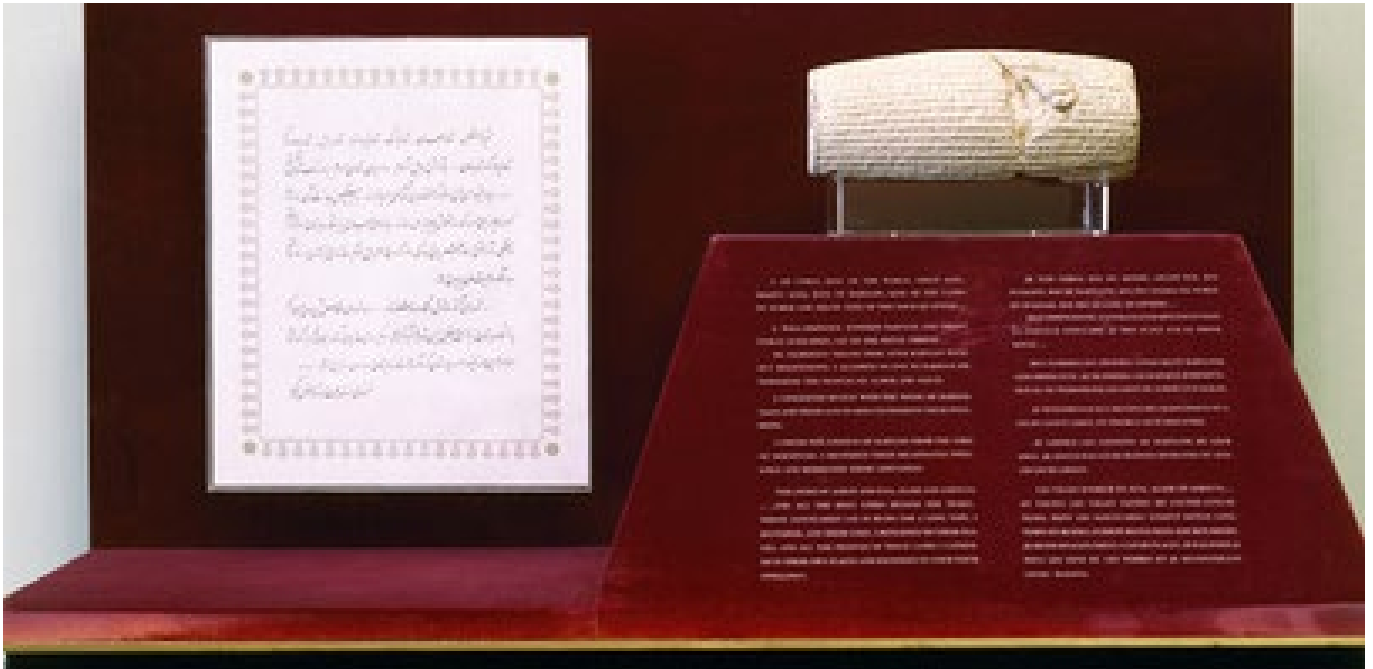


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# Testimony of a World of Peace from History

## – Cyrus Cylinder

My eyes widened with astonishment. I thought this must be the true inspiration given to all of us living in today's world. Even though Cyrus the Great was a Zoroastrian, he has been highly respected by not only the Iranians (many of whom are Muslims) but also by many, regardless of their religious background, as a great leader who displayed faith in the value of tolerance towards both human dignity and religious freedom.



A replica of the Cyrus cylinder is kept at the UN Headquarters

2,500 years ago, we already experienced a glimpse of the world we have dreamed of. The cylinder demonstrates that in the empire under Cyrus the Great, with its great territory and diverse peoples from different backgrounds, the principles of governance were based on a humanitarian approach. Equality was settled to not discriminate people based on ethnicity. Freedom of religion was endorsed to not oppress people due to religion. The efforts of humanity in making this world a better place to live in peace did exist.

Now the efforts for a world of peace have been in progress on a much greater, even unprecedented, scale. Recalling the spirit of peace designated in the two Declarations of Human Rights (538 BC and 1948), the Declaration of Peace and Cessation of War (DPCW) drafted by HWPL appeals to the global community.

Religious scripture (the Bible), this relic from the past, the UN Declaration from the last century and the DPCW altogether become the evidence of a world of peace. Numerous youth and women around the world raise campaigns for the advocacy of an international law for peace through international cooperation.

HWPL calls for the media to stand at the forefront to spread the message of peace, which I am also currently working for. To those who know about HWPL and have the heart of love for humanity, I cordially ask for the same thing that the Chairman of HWPL says all the time. “Let all of us become messengers of peace and leave the legacy of peace to our future generations.”

**Ian Seo** Manager, Media Team Public Relations Office, HWPL HQ (press\_hq@hwpl.kr)

## Companion of HWPL: WE CAN GROUP, Together We Can

A country known as the roof of the world –with the Himalayas, grasslands and jungles, and the birthplace of Buddha - Lumbini, with a higher percentage of Hindu population than India, the Federal Democratic Republic of Nepal has a rich and unique identity in religion, culture, and geography. However, social instability has had negative impacts which have pervaded politics and the economy.

In the efforts of overcoming political turbulence, including the Nepali Civil War and the massacre in the royal palace, Nepal reached a turning point that transformed its political system from a monarchy to a republican government as a result of the referendum in 2007. The great earthquake in 2015 plunged the country deeper into the abyss by destroying both essential infrastructure and numerous homes.

Despite the adverse circumstances, there is an active non-profit NGO pursuing social contribution for youth. The WE CAN GROUP, with its professional youth members, is conducting activities to support the local community. The projects of the organization are targeted towards underdeveloped regions in the areas of finance, education, welfare, conflict resolution, human rights, and rural development.

In 2015, the WE CAN GROUP supplied clothes and food to the earthquake-struck Gorkha region and built temporary houses to help the displaced people recover from the disaster. In July of the same year, the organization constructed a temporary bridge in a town washed away by floods so that students were able to cross the river and go to school.



## Companion of HWPL: WE CAN GROUP, Together We Can

Human rights are another important part of the projects for the WE CAN GROUP to relieve division and conflict in gender inequality, gender and social discrimination, and child labor. In October 2015, in commemoration of the 67th Human Rights Day, the WE CAN GROUP and other human rights organizations conducted a campaign to root out violence against women.

Through partnership with the International Peace Youth Group (IPYG) and its global youth network, the WE CAN GROUP has not only contributed to a peaceful environment for youth and women in Nepal but has also expanded its role in peace building to support peace initiatives raised by IPYG. By visiting local schools, the organization appealed to the school community in order to receive signatures of support for the Declaration of Peace and Cessation of War (DPCW).

In December 2016, the Open Art Peace Competition was co-hosted by the WE CAN GROUP and IPYG to convey the value and spirit of peace to local students. The WE CAN GROUP says this was very “successful among the peace programs.”

The WE CAN GROUP participates in peace activities at a global level. From backgrounds that represent the culture and natural assets of Nepal, youth members left a message to global citizens, which asks for participation in this work, stepping forward to a world of peace. With the name “Peace Calendar 2017”, made by IPYG, the scenery of Nepal and the love of peace from its youth is being sent to the world.



Homepage  
<http://wecangroup.org.np>

1st place art work of the competition depicts harmony among religions, nature, and all living things

## Moving Forward Together: Blacktown Peace and Harmony Day Event

Originally named for the indigenous Australian settlement in the area, located in Western Sydney in New South Wales State, Blacktown City has a long history. Aborigines belonging to the Darug tribe inhabited the area long before European settlement and archaeological evidence of their settlement has been found. Now this city continues to be a home for the largest indigenous population in New South Wales.

In such a rich historical city, the advocacy event for supporting the DPCW was held at Black town Showground, which provided a harmonious platform for all citizens. Along with Moving Forward Together, a social initiative led by various community groups aimed at creating a better understanding amongst all sectors of the community, other organizations co-hosted the event.

Since the DPCW promotes peaceful coexistence among diverse societies and recognizes distinct ethnic identities, its core principles apply well to the Blacktown citizens. At the event the booths for hand printing and HWPL peace projects were set up, adding various colors and themes to the event. Ray Williams, NSW Minister of Multiculturalism, MP and Moningder Singh, Blacktown City Council / Councillor were also present to demonstrate their support.



## “I’m a Peace Keeper”

**TABLE 1.3** ASIA-PACIFIC RANKINGS

COUNTRY	OVERALL RANK	OVERALL SCORE	CHANGE IN SCORE	REGIONAL RANK
New Zealand	4	1.287	-0.019	1
Japan	9	1.395	0.031	2
Australia	15	1.465	0.025	3
Singapore	20	1.535	-0.007	4
Malaysia	30	1.648	0.025	5
Taiwan	41	1.787	0.020	6
Indonesia	42	1.799	-0.006	7
Mongolia	50	1.838	0.042	8
Laos	52	1.852	0.029	9
South Korea	53	1.858	0.026	10
Timor-Leste	56	1.879	-0.013	11
Vietnam	59	1.906	0.007	12
Papua New Guinea	99	2.143	0.031	13
Cambodia	104	2.161	-0.005	14
Myanmar	115	2.256	-0.035	15
China	120	2.288	-0.001	16
Thailand	125	2.312	-0.049	17
Philippines	139	2.511	-0.010	18
North Korea	150	2.944	-0.011	19
<b>REGIONAL AVERAGE</b>		<b>1.940</b>		

According to the Global Peace Index 2016, Australia had an overall ranking of No. 15 and was ranked No. 3 within the Asia-Pacific region, showing it to be considered as one of the most peaceful countries in the region, along with New Zealand (No. 1) and Japan (No. 2).

Considering the country’s peaceful environment and political and economic stability, students and children in Australia are rarely exposed to conflicts and news covering such issues. 26 students and 6 teachers who gathered at Newtown Athena School for the “I’m a Peace Keeper” event said they were able to learn about the atrocities of war and that peace is the necessary element in the world that must prevail.

After watching video clips that show the deterioration in every aspect of life due to wars and learning that these miseries are actually happening in many parts of the world, students handwrote letters to those who are experiencing such sufferings.

[http://economicsandpeace.org/wp-content/uploads/2016/06/GPI-2016-Report\\_2.pdf](http://economicsandpeace.org/wp-content/uploads/2016/06/GPI-2016-Report_2.pdf)

**Aya Jefford**, one of the participating students said, “Today, I came to know about regions in the world that still suffer from conflicts. What surprised me was that kids around my age are living and experiencing the horrors too. I can eat, sleep, and study whenever and wherever I want, but they simply cannot. How hard would it be for them?”

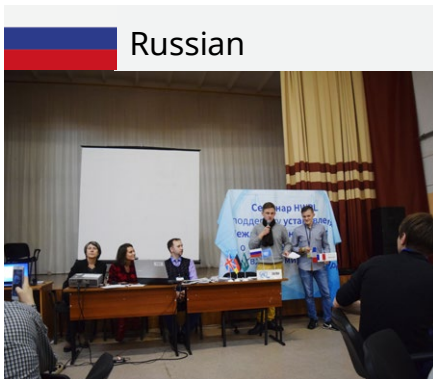
**Jefford continued**, “I really wanted to help them and thought about what I can do for them. This letter contains my heart. I am happy that it can give them at least a bit of hope.”

**Fiona Milne**, President of Athena School, stated, “Peace is a rarely found concept in the Australian education system. We teach and learn [about] the heroes who fought for peace through the history of war. The practical education focusing on why it is our duty to build peace at local and national levels is limited in reality.”

**Ms. Milne added**, “This was a valuable opportunity for our students to understand that every human has an equal right to enjoy and live in a peaceful environment. Education on efforts of peacebuilding in various parts of the world is very important for the future generation.”

The peace events held in Australia aimed at practicing Article 10 of the Declaration of Peace and Cessation of War: spreading a culture of peace. Regardless of age, color, origin, or culture, when all people agree that peace is not a distant hope and take small actions wherever they are, a safer future surely awaits us.

## We Stand for “Legislate Peace”



Russian

Professor Vasilii Nikulenkoy, Director of the union of youth media of Syberia, is educating students at peace seminar held in Salyut Pedagogical College.



Nigeria

Youth, women, and political leaders in Kano, Nigeria held discussions on peace-building activities at HWPL Peace Advocacy Committee meeting. Afterwards, twenty of the participants took this commemorative photo, holding “peace” banner.



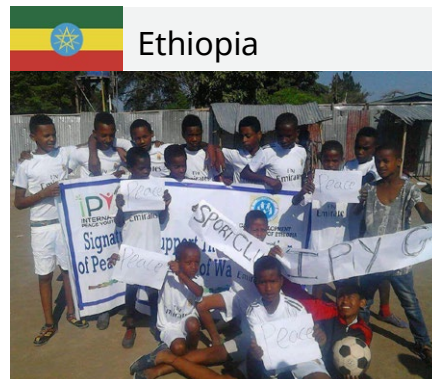
Morocco

Moroccan youths had their 1st gathering in Success Ways Association office in the city of Casablanca to discuss their action plans for peace-building activities in 2017.



Malaysia

Peace seminar at Sekolah Daman-sara Aliff School in Johor, Malaysia provided a platform for animated discussion on “How can we enjoy peaceful lives?”



Ethiopia

The Peace Sports Club was organized by local children and students at Awasa, Ethiopia. They received the education on the necessity and value of peace and enjoyed the after-school activities provided through the program.



Australia

With the support from the city of Blacktown, ‘Moving Forward Together’ and other local NGOs held the hand-printing event, “Blacktown Peace and Harmony Day” to receive the signatures of support for DPCW.

# We Stand for “Legislate Peace”



Australia



I'm a Peace Keeper - Sydney, Athena School

A student is giving a presentation on “What peace activities can I as a student engage with?” On that day, students received the police badges as peace-keepers and pledged to be forefront in promoting peace in their community.



Timor-leste



On 22~25 February 2017, 14th commemorative event on Arte Moris in Timor-leste engaged young students with awareness-raising activities on peace such as coloring peace art collage, art contest, musical performance, exhibitions, and signatures of support for DPCW.



South Africa



‘Piece of Peace’ was held in a municipal library in Cape Town, South Africa. Yared Tsegay, Senior Research and Monitoring Specialist of African Monitor, introduced the DPCW and called for greater roles of youth in working for community’s security and introducing DPCW.



South Sudan



A peace concert was held in South Sudan. Peace song, traditional folk dance, play, and poetry reading brought the crowd in fiesta mood for peace. 250 participants signed their signatures of support for DPCW.



Belgium



At the Belgium-Burundi DPCW Advocacy Forum, lawyers and civil society actors discussed how the principles of DPCW can be applied within communities in Burundi to promote a culture of peace.



Ukraine



Ukraine experts and leaders gathered at Kyiv National Taras Shevchenko University to educate the civil society with the necessity of HWPL’s bottom up approach to peace-building activities.



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