



(iLead from the Foundation for Leadership Initiatives)

Issue - 8 4th March 2013

Asian Leadership Conference in Seoul

The Asian Leadership Conference (ALC) is an annual international conference hosted in Seoul, South Korea, by the The Chosun ilbo to address the pressing issues facing Asia and to greater extent, the world. More than 150 distinguished speakers and over 1000 guests have participated in the event since the inaugural Asian Leadership Conference in March 2005. The next conference is scheduled for 26 to 27 March 2013 with the theme of *Asia's Next Challenge: Good Growth & Smart Welfare* at Sheraton Grande Walkerhill Hotel, Seoul, South Korea. The most recent Asian Leadership Conference was held from 6 to 7 March 2012 under the theme *Capitalism: Searching for Post-Crisis Solutions*.

The Agenda of the conference which will be attended by former Presidents and Prime Minister and CEO of Global Corporations includes “*Asia as the Next Solution*”, “*In Search of a New Growth Model for Asia: The Case of the Republic of Korea*”, “*Path To Good Growth*”, “*Preparing for the Asian Century*.”
--Source: www.wikipedia.org

Political Leaders Questions Donor Neutrality to Nepal

KATHMANDU, 26 February 2013 (IRIN) - Dissent in Nepal over the role of ethnicity in a post-conflict state has put donor agencies under increased scrutiny, with politicians and analysts accusing them of meddling, taking sides and circumventing the government to push an agenda of “social cohesion”. “We got a lot of criticism from all sides. We took the brunt [from all sections of society including marginalized groups, citizens, media and political parties] saying we interfered or didn’t do enough,” said the director of the UK government’s aid arm, Department for International Development (DFID), in Nepal, Dominic O’Neill. DFID is Nepal’s largest bilateral donor, recently increasing its annual spending by US\$60 million to some \$150 million in 2013. Changes are drastically needed in this country, but didn’t happen at the pace they were supposed to. Aid agencies got too involved in the peace process, political transition and democratization issues rather than development,” political analyst and professor Krishna Khanal told IRIN.

Aid agencies should have been focusing, instead, on building up national institutions rather than duplicating efforts and competing among themselves, Khanal added. --Source: www.irinnews.org

Leadership Makes a Difference in Family Planning

Filipinos in the past years have witnessed to some of the most dramatic national events. Thanks to the leadership of President Benigno “Ninoy” Aquino.

The Responsible Parenthood and Reproductive Health Act of 2012 (RA 10354) is controversial to say the least, having passed through several amendments, sparking heated debates and prayer rallies, and creating a great divide between those who believe that such a law is instrumental to a progressive nation

and those who argue that certain provisions go against traditional family values and religious conscience.

The newly approved measures stipulate that “all effective and natural modern methods of family planning that are medically safe and legal” will be promoted “without bias”. Under the law, abortion is recognized as illegal but women are given a right to receive care for post-abortion complications and counseling in a “humane, non-judgmental and compassionate manner”.

The population has grown approximately 45 per cent between 1990 and 2008. As of 2012, the Philippines is the world’s 12th most populous country in the world. The Philippines recorded a fertility rate of 3.15 in 2011. The figure is higher than many of its Asian neighbors.

The Philippines is now ranked the 43rd-largest economy in the world by the International Monetary Fund, and Goldman Sachs predicts that it will be the 14th-largest by 2050. Last December, a World Bank official stated that the country is once again a “rising tiger” and no longer the “sick man” of Asia. Despite the figures, poverty remains one of the biggest problems of the Southeast Asian nation. --Source: www.gulfnews.com

New Leadership Training Center in India

On the 150th birth anniversary year of Swami Vivekananda, the Vivekananda Institute for Leadership Development, India (V-lead) has re-iterated its commitment to molding the future leaders of the nation.

The founder of Swami Vivekananda Youth Movement, told press persons that the institute plans to inaugurate its new facility, Sadhana, a 11,000 sq. ft. building for leadership training on March 9 to cater increase demand for leadership training, research and community based projects. It also offers 2 years Masters in development management.

Indian Youth Rising Interest in Mythology: An Indicator for Leaders

What we are witnessing was undoubtedly a phenomenon in Indian publishing. Sales of the first two books of Amish’s Shiva trilogy have already crossed the one million mark. That’s ten lakh copies! Time was when an Indian bestseller was 30,000 copies. Amish has taken that to multiple Lakhs. In fact, it was announced at the launch that the first print-run of the Oath of the Vayuputras (the concluding book of trilogy) is a staggering 5 hundred thousand, of which 350,000 were pre-sold! We are now witnessing a publishing phenomenon in India.

What accounts for this unprecedented success? No one have an idea, only questions. Is Indian youth and the books’ readership which is predominantly in the college-going segment is interested in our mythology? Is this crowd that will gather in numbers around film-actor Shah Rukh Khan or any of the other Khans? If yes, what explains their enthusiasm for Lord Shiva? If not, what were they doing till now and what were they reading?

--Source: *Financial Chronicle (1st March)*.

Global Fund New Grants Under New Model

After spending more than a year reviewing and reforming its grant process, the Global Fund to fight its AIDS, tuberculosis and Malaria is back in business. Announcing its first handful of countries slated to receive up to \$1.9 billion in next two years in Asia, Myanmar, Kazakhstan and Philippines as well as three regional programs will receive new funding.

The new model, part of many reforms, had introduced the system in which countries are groups in bands based on a calculation of financial need and disease burden. In addition, 50 countries will receive funding via renewals and the extensions of existing grants are grant re-program to free-up already committed funding.

Education Stakeholders Meet in Bangkok

The regional thematic consultation on education in the post-2015 development agenda, held on 28th February – 1st march 2013 in Bangkok co-organized by UNESCO and UNICEF Bangkok in cooperation with Civil Society. 120 Stakeholder (Leaders) from Asia Pacific met to develop a collective voice from the region regarding education priorities from post-2015 development agenda and to contribute to the debate of the Global Thematic Consultation on education taking place in Dakar, Sengal. It discussed equitable

and inclusive access to participation in learning. Quality of learning, Global Citizenship, Skills and Competencies for life and work. Governance Financing and Partnership/Cooperation and recommended population scenarios and options on how to best articulate and position education in post-2015 development agenda.--More from Richard Lee r.lee@unesco.org

Leadership Nuggets from Brian Tracy

"Become the kind of leader that people would follow voluntarily; even if you had no title or position."

About FLI & iLead

Several interested individuals and small scale enterprises under corporate responsibility have launched "Foundation for Leadership Initiatives" (Registered) to support developmental leadership. The iLead is an effort to provide information on who leads. Contact: Shiv Khare at foundationforleadership@gmail.com, offices in Bangkok & New Delhi