



World Philosophy Day 2007 **15 November 2007**

Events organized in the world¹

1. Bangladesh

Department of Philosophy, Jahangirnagar University

A month-long programme of events and activities to mark World Philosophy Day 2007 is planned at Jahangirnagar University, including two round tables, discussions and debates, open essay contests for the general public on “What philosophy can do for you”, a symposium on “Philosophy for school children”, rallies at the University campus and in Dhaka City, as well as a philosophical concert and theatrical performance, and two mural creations on the walls of Arts and Humanities building of the University.

2. Benin

Benin Society of Philosophy

On the occasion of the 6th World Philosophy Day, the Benin Society of Philosophy will organise a range of activities, consisting in several conferences and debates, as well as the prize-awarding for laureates of a contest on environment. The general theme of the events is: “The issue of the environment as seen by philosophers”.

The events will be inaugurated by a Minister in charge of education. Three communications will then take place, each followed by a debate: on “The problem of the environment” by Professor Felix Nestor Ahoyo, on “Philosophy and environment” by Professor Vincent Ayena and on “Protection of the environment: games and issues” with a socio-linguistic approach by Professor Ganta Bokonon

The prizes will then be awarded to the laureates of the contest on the topic “Man does not die, but kills himself”.

3. Belgium

UNESCO Chair on Building Sustainable Peace, Faculty of Social Sciences, University of Leuven

The Faculty of Social Sciences plans to organize on 15 November a teleconference on “Philosophy of communication”, as part of the cycle “Bridging Cultures” in the context of the Monterrey Universal Forum of Cultures. This cycle of teleconferences, an interactive project of the UNESCO Chair on Building Sustainable Peace at the University of Leuven, is organized between Belgium, Mexico and Argentina, with the support of the UNESCO Flemish Commission and the Ministry of Flanders (www.onlineunesco.org).

4. Canada

Philosophy Department, CEGEP of Lévis-Lauzon

¹ According to information supplied by partners.



The celebration World of Philosophy Day by the CEGEP of Lévis Lauzon will be articulated around the main theme “Philosophy and artistic creation”. Artists and philosophers will discuss the links between art and philosophy. Debates, conferences, and artistic performances will be organized on this occasion.

UNESCO Chair in Studies of philosophic foundations of justice and democratic society, University of Québec in Montréal

On the occasion of World Philosophy Day, the Chair will organize a round table entitled “Ethic in the framework of globalization: The question of non-regular immigration”, with the participation of Michel Jébrak, Christine Straehle, Idil Attack, Henri Mbulu and Christian Nadeau. This round table will also be the occasion to launch a series of publications from the Verbatim and the Mercure du Nord collections at PUL.

College Ahuntsic

On the occasion of World Philosophy Day 2007, the College Ahuntsic of Montreal will organise several round tables and conferences on the themes of happiness, the construction of media events and the search for meaning. Other activities as well will mark the celebration of the Day at the College, including a lecture by the philosopher Jacques Dufresne, a theatre play (*Le process de Socrate revisité*) and the promotion of the book by Yves Vaillancourt, *Le principe responsabilité de Hans Jonas*.

5. Cameroon

Cameroon's Circle of Philosophy (Cercaphi)

In the framework of the 6th World Philosophy Day, Cameroon's Circle of Philosophy organises on 14-16 November, the first “International Philosophical Francophone Encounter of Yaoundé”, on the theme “Philosophy and the interpretations of globalization in Africa”. This symposium will be chaired by Professor Ebenezer Njoh-Mouellé, from Yaoundé I University, and by Jean-Louis Vieillard-Baron from the Poitiers University. The following themes will be addressed: “From uniformisation of economic to uniformisation of political systems”, “The solidarity principle - core of the global village theory”, “Information highways and the trend towards a homogenisation of the mores”.

6. Colombia

Institute of Philosophy, University of Antioquia

Activities will be organized to celebrate the Day.

7. Côte d'Ivoire

Centre d'Etudes et de Réflexion en Philosophie et Société (CERPHIS), Philosophy Department, Cocody University

The Centre will organize activities to celebrate the Day.

8. Cuba

Sociedad cubana de investigaciones filosoficas (SCIF)

Several activities will mark World Philosophy Day 2007 in Cuba:

- a recorded video will be diffused on the Day;
- two TV interviews will be recorded with the President of the Society, who will explain the importance of the Day;



- a conference will take place on 15 November at the University of Havana on the topic of the directions and perspectives for philosophy;
- finally, three sessions of the 10th international workshop on “New Political Science” (21-23 November) will be dedicated to philosophy, namely to philosophy of science, philosophy of language and to bioethics.

9. Croatia

Philosophy Department, Zadar University

This year, Zadar University celebrates, in Zadar, World Philosophy Day for the fifth time. The Philosophy Department will organize six lectures focusing on modern philosophical tendencies, that will take place at the Zadar City Library, as well as one philosophical workshop on the topic “Philosophy – view on the future”, that will be organized in the Zadar Private Grammar School.

10. Ethiopia

Addis Ababa University

The University will organise activities to celebrate the Day.

11. Finland

AIIPh Baltic Sea Net

The AIIPh Baltic Sea Net organizes, together with the Finnish UNESCO ASPnet, the Finnish Association for Teachers of Philosophy and Philosophy of Life and Societas Philosophica Fennica, a philosophical essay competition for secondary school students in countries around the Baltic Sea. In Finland, this event also functions as a selection for the Philosophy Olympiads in 2008.

12. France

Philosophy Circle of the Réunion

On the occasion of World Philosophy Day, the Philosophy Circle of the Réunion plans to organise a public conference which will take place on 22 November, as well as a philosophical dissertation contest, in association with the Réunion Academy.

Nouvelle Acropole

On 15 November, *Nouvelle Acropole* organizes a series of events, such as workshops, conference-debates, philosophical evenings, etc., taking place all over France, namely in Antony, Bayonne, Bordeaux, Dijon, Le Havre, Lyon, Marseille, Nantes, Paris, Rouen, Strasbourg and Toulouse.

13. Germany

Sciences Section of the German Commission for UNESCO

On the occasion of the World Philosophy Day, the Sciences Section of the German Commission for UNESCO will organize a symposium entitled “Philosophizing at school”. Teachers and pupils (aged 15 to 19), will for this purpose gather on 15 November in the Clara Schuman High School in Bonn. The symposium will try to answer the question of why philosophy has to be taught at school, and what is the appropriate way to teach it in order to make it enjoyable. Lectures and discussion groups between students will take place, as well as a final discussion between students and philosophers

(http://www.unesco.de/tag_der_philosophie_2007.html?&L=0).



German section of the UNESCO Philosophy Chair in "Human rights and culture", Bremen University

The German section of this UNESCO Chair will organize a symposium on 30 November and 1 December 1st, which will take place at the House of Sciences in Bremen. Several German and French scholars will discuss the general theme "Forgotten? Oppressed? Brought back to mind? Philosophy under national-socialism". Eight lectures will be held during the two days of the symposium, each being followed by a debate.

Faculty of Philosophy, Rostock University

On the occasion of World philosophy Day 2007, on 15 November, the Faculty is organizing a series of lectures and a concert.

14. Italy

G. Chiabrera High School, Polo School of Philosophy and Centre for Philosophy Research and Didactics of the Province of Savona

In cooperation with the Italian Philosophical Society, the Philosophical Society of Liguria and the International Association of Philosophy Teachers, the organizers will prepare an event on 15 November that will put an accent on Kant's writings on morality and the relationship between human rights and the genesis of Europe. The event will include lectures by the professors Werner Busch and Luciano Malusa, interventions by students and a concluding student concert.

15. Kenya

Institute for African Ecology and Philosophy (IAEP)

The IEAP will organise on 14 November an activity involving religious leaders, human rights activists, democratic initiators and government officials.

16. Lao People's Democratic Republic

Philosophy Unit, Faculty of Social Sciences (FSS), National University of Laos

The National University of Laos is planning to organize an event to celebrate Philosophy World Day.

17. Madagascar

University of Antananarivo and the Malagasy Academy

Several lectures will take place on 22 November at the Malagasy Academy to celebrate World Philosophy Day 2007, namely on "Why a World Philosophy Day?" by Jacqueline Raelina Andriambololona, "A plural rationality: the personality of Professor Rakoto Ratsimamanga" by Ms Ramomonjisoa, and "The moral philosophy of the Malagasy" by Father Raymond Saint-Jean.

18. Malawi

Malawi National Commission for UNESCO and University of Malawi

Activities will be organized to celebrate the Day.

19. Mauritius

In Mauritius, World Philosophy Day will gather, from 14 to 16 November 2007, philosophers, professors and researchers, to discuss the theme "Old wisdom, eternal



wisdom". Several conferences will take place during the three days in the Port Louis Municipal Theatre. Several philosophical traditions will be evoked, namely Buddhism, Hinduism, Confucianism, Taoism, Shamanism, Sufism, and ancient wisdoms. An exposition of texts relating to the above mentioned philosophical traditions will also be organized.

20. Mexico

Department of Philosophy, University Centre of Social Sciences Guadalajara University

To celebrate World Philosophy Day 2007, the 3rd International Philosophical Banquet will take place in the city of Jalisco on 1 December 2007, during the International Book Fair 2007. This banquet will be the occasion for a dialogue between philosophers from Mexico and Colombia on the topic "Society and Philosophy". Two round tables will take place, on "Ethics and violence" and on "Democracy and power in Latin America".

21. Morocco

Morocco National Commission for UNESCO, UNESVCO Office in Rabat and Faculty of Letters and Sciences of Rabat

On the occasion of World Philosophy Day, the Commission will organize an event for and about women philosophers, including a tribute to Hourya Benis Sinaceur. This event will take place in Rabat, on 16 November. The selected theme is "Philosophical paths: Women philosophers and their work".

Friends of Philosophy Association

On the occasion of World Philosophy Day, the Friends of Philosophy Association will organise activities that will take place on 17 November. Different activities will be organized on this occasion, including lectures on the general theme "Philosophy and perspectives for the future", a philosophical café animated by philosophers and philosophy teachers, the signature of a convention for the distribution of books in philosophy, etc.

Asociación Filosófica Tetuaní (AFT)

The Association this year celebrates the Day with several activities.

On 19 November, a Day of study on philosophy handbooks in Morocco will take place.

On this occasion, an exposition of past and present handbooks will also be organized.

On 23 November, Mohamed Bilal Achmal, President of the Association, will give a lecture on "Philosophy and the city".

Finally, on 30 November 2007, a round table will be organized on "Thinking about Morocco: past and future".

22. Mozambique

UNESCO Club Movement

The Mozambique National Commission for UNESCO, together with the UNESCO Club Movement, will celebrate World Philosophy Day on 16 November.

23. Namibia

UNAM Socratic Society



The Society will celebrate World Philosophy Day on 4 October 2007 with a tribute lecture on Richard Rorty delivered by Professor Anton van Niekerk from Stellenbosch.

24. Nigeria

Department of Philosophy, Nnamdi Azikiwe University, Awka Nigeria (UNIZIK)

On the occasion of World Philosophy Day, the Department of Philosophy invites Nigerian philosophers to a national conference on "Nigerian Democracy, Contributions to Global Democracy". This general theme will be addressed through several sub-themes relating to the concept and conceptions, theory and practice, history and evolution as well as the philosophic foundations of democracy, and particularly, how the practice of democracy in Nigeria can contribute to a further development of democracy at a global scale. During the conference, the published proceedings of the 2006 World Philosophy Day at UNIZIK conference will be presented.

Following the celebration of World Philosophy Day at UNIZIK in 2006, a scholarship foundation has been inaugurated, as a commemoration. Students who have won the scholarship will receive awards on the occasion of the celebration of the Day in 2007.

25. Norway

Consortium of Norwegian publishers specialized in pedagogical literature for kindergartens

The Consortium is planning to celebrate the Day in cooperation with philosophers for children, in order to create for this occasion specific activities in which children from kindergartens could take part.

26. Romania

Activities will be organised to celebrate the Day.

27. Philippines

Philosophical Association of Northern Luzon (PANL)

The Philosophical Association of Northern Luzon (PANL) will celebrate this year's World Philosophy Day in November with a series of symposia, exhibitions, and a parade around the main thoroughfares of Baguio City that will culminate the week-long activities.

28. Portugal

Three major events will be organised by Portuguese universities and other institutions on 15 November 2007 in the context of World Philosophy Day.

Associação Portuguesa de Aconselhamento Ético e Filosófico (APAEF)

APAEF will organize in Faro (Algarve) from 16 to 18 November, the 4th Portuguese Congress of Applied Philosophy on the theme "Philosophical Counseling in the Institutions". Experts from Brazil, Italy, Spain and Portugal will take part in this large event.

Escola Secundária de Paços de Ferreira

Activities will be organized at the school to celebrate the Day.



29. South Africa

Department of Philosophy, University of Fort Hare, Alice

The Department will celebrate this year's World Philosophy Day by organizing a public discussion on the topic "Learning to philosophize", that will be held in the small mountain village of Hogsback.

30. Switzerland

On the occasion of World Philosophy Day 2007, Jaime Vladimir Torres-Heredia Julca (philosopher, programmer specialized in artificial intelligence) will organize on 15 November, in cooperation with Consulate of Peru in Geneva, a conference-debate entitled "The development of artificial intelligence and its impact on education". The aim is to expose the research conducted on artificial intelligence, by putting the accent on its links to philosophical research on the subject of intelligence.

31. Thailand

UNESCO Bangkok Office, Department of Philosophy at the Faculty of Humanities, Srinakharinwirot University

Discussions among philosophers, university students and lecturers will be organized at Srinakharinwirot University in Bangkok on 15 November, on the occasion of World Philosophy Day.

32. Tunisia

UNESCO Chair in Philosophy, University of Tunis I

The Chair, in association with the Beït al Hikma Academy of Sciences, Letters and Arts will organize from 22 to 25 November 2007 in Tunis a forum on the teaching of philosophy in the Arab World. This manifestation will gather about 30 philosophers from various countries of the Arab region, who will address the following subjects : "Current state of research and teaching of philosophy in the Arab World", "Role of philosophy in intercultural and inter-religious dialogue", "Enlightenment revisited: rational methods and ideological passions", "The philosophy in the future".

33. Turkey

Activities will be organised at Gazi University to celebrate the Day.

34. Ukraine

UNESCO Chair for Philosophy of Human Communication, Petro Vasylenko Kharkiv National Technical University of Agriculture

Several activities will be organized to celebrate the Day in the framework of the cultural-educational program "Images of Human Communication".

35. Uruguay

Philosophical Association of Uruguay

The Association will celebrate this year's World Philosophy Day in November with activities, on the theme " The philosophical point of view about addiction", in a public space in Paysandú, a historical town in the northwest of Uruguay). Information about these activities will be diffused by radio, TV and in the press.

36. United States of America



Department of Philosophy, St John Fisher College, Rochester, New York

On 6 and 7 November, the Department of Philosophy of St John Fisher College will organize several events on the theme "Philosophy and Utopias" with a series of roundtable and projection of films.

