

Youth Dialogue on Religion, Environment & Peace

Ratha CHAN Cambodia



Background

- Youth: over 70% of population is under 30
- Religion: moral education, ethics...
- Environment: Climate change & natural disaster...
- Peace: Not merely an absence of war, but a state of happiness spiritually and physically + harmonious co-existence of human and nature.

Linkage

✓ Climate change & other natural disasters destroy peace

Peace

Youth

- ✓ Huntington's Class of Civilization?
- Common principle of peace: "Treat others as you would like to be treated."

Environment

- ✓ Buddha was enlightened under Bodhi tree;
- ✓ The mentioning of "earth" 485 times in Koran;
- ✓ Hindu- Rig Veda : Tree worship & tree hugging movement.

Religion

Objective

- To create a platform for youth to exchange views on religion, environment and peace.
- To bring into attention the roles of religion in environmental conservation.
- To have youth involved in bringing change
- To share common principle of religion in promoting peace.

Target & Time Frame

Who: 50 university students, age of 17-25

How: Forum/workshop + religious representatives to share their views on the topic.

Where: Cambodia

When: Between Jan -July 2012



rathachan@hotmail.com