

# PEACE CHANNEL

(A Youth Peace Movement)



***“Be a Channel of Peace”***

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## ***Contents***

### ***1. About the Movement***

### ***2. Projects under Peace Channel***

### ***3. Activities carried out***

- a. Seminar cum meeting of Head of institutions***
- b. Capacity Building Programs for teacher animators***
- c. Peace club formation and peace celebration***
- d. Capacity building for peace club members at institutional level***
- e. Inter schools peace activities/Peace rally***
- f. Training programme for women SHG leaders on conflict resolutions and mediation***
- g. Training on good governance for the SHG peace clubs.***
- h. Observance of International day of Human Rights day***
- i. Training programme for youth leaders on conflict resolution, peace building, life skills & mediation***
- j. Peace Seminar for college students.***
- k. Annual Youth Peace and Cultural Festival***
- l. Peace Band performance***
- m. Seminar on peace for CBOs, intellectuals, academicians, bureaucrats & media***
- n. Consultative workshop with the local organizations and peace building organizations***
- o. Consultative workshop with the local organizations and peace building organizations***
- p. Training of religious and community leaders on conflict resolution mediation and dialogue***
- q. Peace Awards***
- r. Publication of Half yearly newsletter - 1000 copies per quarter***
- s. Staff Meetings and review of Progress***
- t. Photo Gallery***
- u. Press Release***
- v. Conclusion***

### ***Introduction:***

**Peace Channel** is a youth peace movement of the third millennium. It is an initiative of the diocese of Kohima, Nagaland, India. It aims to create a peaceful culture rather than a culture of violence. This noble work of the Catholic Church goes beyond the boundaries of religion, caste, culture, language and color. This movement of education for teachers as individuals and role in understanding one relationship with others; across taking actions to create space for schools, homes, communities in the mind of people and so hearts of people. Peace Channel with educational institutions and organizations. It organizes the provide a platform for participatory learning of peace and human rights practices. They work actively for peace and development at personal, family and community levels. Peace Channel is grounded on spiritual foundations of different faith traditions. We draw inspiration from various religious traditions and philosophies that engender a more just and a harmonious society.



### ***Projects under Peace Channel***

Peace Channel has two ongoing projects. They are Peace and Conflict Transformation in North East India (PACT-NEI) by Misereor and Inter Religious & Ecumenical Coalitions for Sustainable Peace in Nagaland supported by Missio E.V, Geothestrassse Germany.

The Peace and conflict transformation Project intervenes with the students in the educational institutions, youths and women in the locality and inter-religious groups, through the Peace Club programme. There are 40 focused schools spread over 3 districts they are Dimapur, Wokha and Kohima in Nagaland. However, Peace Channel has been catering to over 100 educational institutions through its Peace Club activities and different programmes such as career expo, Peace Concert, Cultural Exchanges and Cultural Fest to almost all the districts in the state.

Inter Religious & Ecumenical Coalitions for Sustainable Peace in Nagaland supported by Missio E.V. Geothestrass Germany thrust areas for the Diocese of Kohima is in the field of peace, justice, ecumenism and inter-religious dialogue. The project is conceptualized to enhance inter – religious, inter-ecumenical understanding, respects and harmony through making the youth as focal points for attitudinal change. The project will seek to develop peace clubs, impart peace education and initiate local responses for peace in the communities in the parishes of the diocese as part of the diocesan 10 year strategic plan. Initially the project will focus on 15 out of the 41 full-fledged parishes in the diocese.

Peace Channel Institute of Music, Art and Culture reach out to the young to impart life skills development programmes. The institute imparts music classes, soft skills like leadership, public speaking, spoken English and host of other skill related to the development of the youth.

### **Seminar cum Meeting of head of the institutions**

With the initiative of PACT-NEI project Peace Channel organized seminar cum meetings of head of institutions thrice in the reporting period Of 2016-17 at three different places. Altogether eighty-seven (87) heads or representatives of the institutions attended the program. The themes of the seminar were, “Enhancing skills and quality of Education,” Discovering ones potentials as teachers,” besides the heads also discussed on how they can sustain the peace process in their own institutions for the coming year.

### **Capacity building of Teacher animators**

The activities of Peace Club in educational institutions are assisted by Teacher animators. The teacher animators were provided with inputs on the running of the Peace Clubs through trainings which are conducted at different intervals of time. In the reporting period of 2016-17 there were 6 teacher coordinators training that was held reaching out to 75 teachers. These trainings were conducted in Dimapur, Kohima and Wokha districts. The teachers were capacitated on activities and functioning of peace club, sustaining peace club in the school, outreach programs and others related to peace club in the institution.

### **Formation of peace club and peace celebration:**

Peace Celebration is the hallmark of Peace Channel. This is the regular meetings of the Quality Peace Clubs, where the members come together to share, learn and plan, in view of building a peaceful society. They share their experiences and express their aspirations in gathering. It is a powerhouse from where each Quality Peace Clubs members draw strength for collective growth. In the year, 2016 – 2017, 275 Peace Celebrations were carried out in different educational institutions in the state. A total number of 6009 peace club members were part of the peace

celebrations which include 2457 male and 3552 females.

### **Input sessions for peace club at institutional level:**

In the year 2016-2017, members of peace clubs were capacitated on twelve themes for the capacity building trainings at the institutional levels. They are:

- I. Peace Channel: To transform the Culture of Violence into Culture of Peace.
- II. Fundamentals of Peace Building: To understand the concept of Peace Building & Relationship.
- III. Inner Peace (Meditation): Self Exploration & Realization.
- IV. Living Skill Development: To develop a sense of belonging & Responsibility.
- V. Health Awareness & Preventive Education
- VI. Protection of Environment: To protect & Preserve the Mother Earth.
- VII. Youth Issues & Challenges: To identify priorities in life & cope with its challenges.
- VIII. Conflict Transformation Skills: To learn the strategies of Resolving Personal & Societal Conflict
- IX. Human Rights Education: To develop a sense of Respect for fellow beings.
- X. Substance Abuse & Prevention of Tobacco use: Awareness on the Ill-effects & consequences of Substance Use & how to curb on its usage.
- XI. Dignity of Labour: To combat Unemployment
- XII. Preservation & Promotion of Culture.

Based on these 12 topics, 224 Capacity Building programs were carried out catering to 6657 peace club members. There were 2625 males and 4032 females' members who attended the programs

### **Inter School peace activities/Rally**

Inter school peace activities aimed at training the Peace Club leaders in the respective districts. The training is stipulated to be conducted on a quarterly basis, i.e. in every three months. Leaders' Trainings were conducted at Dimapur, Kohima and Wokha. Altogether 11 such trainings were conducted reaching out to 695 Peace Club Leaders. The leaders were also trained on

individual social responsibilities, leadership skill, self motivation and host of other issues relating to the youth.

### **Training programme for women SHG leaders on conflict resolutions and mediation**

Training for women leaders on peace and conflict transformation had been carried out for 132 women leaders at three different places i.e. Dimapur, Wokha and Kohima. The women were trained on different modules of peace building, conflict resolution, conflict management and conflict transformation. They were also imparted knowledge on dialogue and mediation which is applicable in their own areas.

### **Training on good governance for the SHG peace clubs**

Good governance is an often repeated term for any organization in the sphere of government, private or civil society. In order to internalize the ethos, characteristics/values of good governance, training is being imparted to the women. The women mostly the leaders in church and self help groups were given this training that they understand the system of functioning in their own area. One training with 15 participants was conducted at Dimapur.

### **Observance of International day of Human Rights day**

Human Rights Day was celebrated in all the three districts of Nagaland - Dimapur, Kohima and Wokha. In Kohima the program was held at Alder College on 7<sup>th</sup> December with Mr. Medokhriezo Khenguruse as resource person and attended by 116 participants. In Wokha Mr. Echangthung Kikon was the resource person and the program was attended by 56 students at Mt. Carmel High School on 14<sup>th</sup> December 2016. In Dimapur 73 students attended the program at DBDL Hall on 10<sup>th</sup> December 2016.

### **Training of youth leaders on conflict resolution, mediation and dialogue**

Peace building is a community effort which requires the contribution of all the individuals in the community. Thus, locality leaders too were oriented on the concept of Peace building, conflict transformation, mediation and universal peace. Altogether 8 programmes were conducted for 138 participants.

### **Annual North East Youth Peace and Cultural Festival 2016**

Peace Channel organized the 9<sup>th</sup> Annual North East Youth Peace and Cultural Festival at DBDL Hall Dimapur from 9<sup>th</sup> -12<sup>th</sup> December 2016 in commemoration of the 10<sup>th</sup> year anniversary of Peace Channel. The event was organized in collaboration with People Forum for Peace, NEDSSS and Nehru Yuva Kendra Sangathan (NYK) Nagaland. The program was inaugurated by Shri Mmhonlumo Kikon, MLA Government of Nagaland. The valedictory function witnessed the presence of Shri KPS Ilyas Commissioner of Police Dimapur as the main speaker

The event was attended by over 300 students and teachers from different parts of Nagaland and delegates from different States of India.

The main objectives for organizing a North Youth Peace and Cultural festival are;

- I. To enhance integration of various tribal cultures across North East upholding the values that binds them together.
- II. To capacitate the youth to propagate the messages of Peace and Harmony through informative sessions, sharing and discussion.
- III. To explore the possibility of forming and /or form inter-cultural peace promotion groups to carry forward the messages to the masses.
- IV. To identify and promote young leaders who would stand for peace, promotion and preservation of Culture.
- V. Exposition of folk songs and dances of the various tribes and communities through a cultural Fiesta
- VI. Educational& informative sessions on Culture, Peace & Conflict Transformation with the help of experts in the field.
- VII. Felicitation of one outstanding individual with Peace Channel Awards for his/her outstanding contributions towards peace building and Community welfare.
- VIII. Felicitation of model institution with model Peace clubs.

### **District level dialogue for peace, conflict resolution and human rights once a year at three places**

At the backdrop of political-social unrest in the state Peace Channel took the initiative to bring together Naga Christian leaders for a consultative meeting to mediate with the government and the agitating public to settle the issues and for lasting peace at Ura Academy Kohima. Twenty six church leaders from different churches from Kohima and Dimapur attended the meeting. Miss Martha from Liverpool University was the resource person for the program

### **Training of Religious and Community leaders on Dialogue & Mediation**

One of the events that bring people together and where unity in diversity is being displayed under the banner of Peace Channel the Youth Movement is Cultural Exchange. Peace Channel Dimapur organized a Cultural Exchange program on 31<sup>st</sup> January 2016 at Town Hall Dimapur. There were about 350 participants - the delegate from different localities of Dimapur district and Student and Youth delegates from educational institution of Nagaland and different states.

The objectives of the programme was to showcase the rich cultural tradition of the region, to appreciate the culture and imbibe its essence, to learn about others customs and tradition and above all to learn to live united in diverse culture.

### **Peace Award:**

Peace Award 2015 was conferred to Prof. A Lanunungsang Pro vice Chancellor Nagaland University and Shri Ahidur Rahman, working President Muslim Council Dimapur for their contribution towards peace building in Nagaland. Before handing over the award which contains a cheque of Rs. 10,000, Certificate of appreciation, Peace Channel Badge and mementos, a short documentary on the achievements of the awardees were projected. The award were given away to the awardees by the chief guest Shri Kesonyu Yhome IAS Deputy Commissioner Dimapur, Shri KJ Alphonse IAS former Commissioner Delhi Development Authority, Rt. Rev. Dr. James Thoppil Bishop of Kohima and Rev. Dr. CP Anto Founder and Director Peace Channel.

### **Peace Concerto**

The Peace Channel Band is an initiative towards spreading the message of peace to one and all through a thematic show consisting of music, dance and drama. The show projects the present scenario of the state, and the people's cry for peace. The band has been formed with talented youths drawn from different tribes and religious communities belonging to the marginalized sections of the society, a program to engage especially school drop-outs and unemployed youths of the region. Peace channel band has been creating impacts in the minds of youths with number of performances carried out in several Educational Institutions, Churches, villages and Public places in the state and the neighboring regions since last year. 6 shows were conducted across Nagaland during the year.

### **Staff Review Meetings**

The staff of Peace Channel meets every month to plan out and discuss about the impact of the activities and the challenges faced in the field. 12 such meetings were called and conducted in the year, 2016- 2017 and was attended by the coordinators of the Districts along with the volunteers.

### **Key Initiatives of the Movement**

- ❖ Peace Club formation in educational institutions
- ❖ Peace Club formation in localities and villages
- ❖ Peace and Development Awareness programmes
- ❖ Leadership Training programme
- ❖ Training of Media Persons on Peace Journalism
- ❖ Training of community and church leaders

❖ Reaching out to institutions outside the state

**Expected Outcome of 2016 - 2017**

1. Members of Peace are learned to live together in peace irrespective of tribe, class, gender and religion.
2. Reduce the conflict situation in the educational institution and communities by becoming Non- Violent communicators.
3. Enhance personality and leadership skills of the members.
4. The members are empowered to take the initiative to reduce the conflict situation in the educational institution, families and communities. They are enhanced to become proactive and not reactive.
5. They are made leaders and taught to make others leaders too.
6. The members are enhanced to develop their personal talents and confidence.
7. Empowered to develop their life coping skills and problem solving skills to handle their own problems and others.
8. Create awareness on various social and health issues to handle them in a peaceful way and also make the institution and communities' drug and tobacco free area.

## Photo gallery:

### Seminar cum Meeting of Heads of Institution



### Capacity Building for teacher animators



### Formation of Peace Club and Peace Celebration



## Capacity Building program



## Inter-School Peace Activities



**Training programme for women SHG leaders on conflict resolutions and mediation**



**Training on Good Governance for the SHG**



**Training of youth leaders on conflict resolution, mediation & dialogue**



## Observance of International Human Rights Day



## North East Youth Peace and Cultural Festival



## District Level Dialogue for Peace, Conflict Resolution & Human Rights



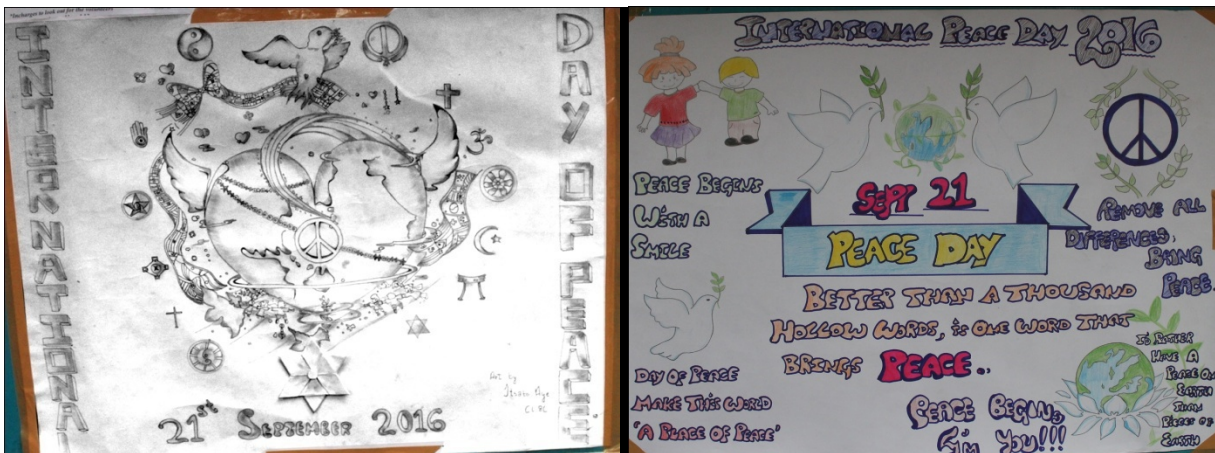
Training of Community and Religious leaders



## Staff Review Meeting



## Other Activities



Press Release:

# Assam-Nagaland-Manipur: Paradigm shift from 'grand narratives' to 'creative imagination'

Monday 12 May 13

**Peace activists moots peace commission**

**Peace Channel conducts training for animators**

**Workshop on 'conflict resolution' held**

**Seminar held on 'coalition sustainable peace'**

**Naga society needs to build blocks for peace**

**DCF consultation meet adopts 5-point resolution to fight corruption**

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MONDAY 12-12-2014 THE MORNING EXPRESS

# 'Become building blocks for peace,' youths urged

9th North East Youth Peace and Cultural Festival concludes

**Nagaland Muslim students felicitated**

**Peace Channel's Music Crash Course concludes**

**'Peace is not possible without truth and justice'**

**NE youth peace festival concludes**

**Northeast youth peace & cultural festival 2016 underway**

# Active effort

**people possess the potential to build peace, students told**

**Capacity building**

**It should be nip at the initial stage to avoid further escalation, she further explained to the participants the the ways to respond to conflict such as avoidance, competition, compromise, accommodation and collaboration.**

**The programme followed with presentations by religious leaders, women representatives, teachers, local leaders and students of NEISSR. The programme concluded with the formulation of action plans where all the participants decided to organise similar programmes in their locality in the future.**

**She said, competition, distrust, anger, self or group interest or action is unacceptable.**

The year  
t h e

sown to  
t h e  
a n d  
support

t h a n k  
stagnant

We look

people with the message of peace and mobilizing them as co-runners in our quest to bring a world where peace and harmony lives among its People.

**Fr. C.P. Anto**  
**Secretary, Peace Channel**



## Conclusion:

2016 - 2017 was fruitful in every aspect to movement. Apart from consolidating on the activities in the existing districts, seeds were reach out to other districts of Nagaland with Peace Club initiatives. We duly remember thank every individual who came forward to and cooperate with the initiatives of the movement to make it a success. We sincerely the volunteers without whom we will remain in the corner.

forward to yet another year of success and achievements in reaching out to the young