

News From The Dalai Lama Foundation —

May 2008

Ethics and the Incarcerated

In 2004 James and John, inmates in the Mark W. Stiles Unit of the Texas Department of Corrections in Beaumont, TX were exploring Buddhism and ethics. Having shared the book *Ethics for the New Millennium* by His Holiness the Dalai Lama they sought to take



the concepts from the book and integrate them into the prison environment. In 2004 James first contacted the Dalai Lama Foundation inquiring about the study guide and was provided with study guides and workbooks for the text. Around that same time James and John ap-

proached Chaplain Terry Conrad at the correctional unit to seek approval to form a study group. As James said "I suppose it is true: all good things come to those with patience and perseverance." In July of 2007 the Religious Practice Committee in Huntsville approved the class as a life changes course allowing up to 16 weeks of study.

Each Wednesday morning Chaplain Conrad leads the group in discussions of the text and the book. One of the inmate facilitators will take the chosen chapter's key concepts and orchestrate group interaction, discussions and questions. Facilitators take the time to goad participants towards prison-centric issues that are particularly relevant to prison culture.

Class leader Chaplain Conrad states that "If the way the class is going so far is any indication, it can be of tremendous benefit to inmates, and others, everywhere." Last week John was the facilitator for the session. He devised an exciting group exercise to elicit varying perspectives regarding the antidotes to afflictive emotions.



James and John, along with Chaplain Conrad, wish to get word of their work out to other inmates and other correctional facilities. Their goal is to eventually take the workbook and develop their

own version for use in other correctional facilities. They want to take the key concepts in the original study guide and build new and provoking questions that are more pertinent to the prison environment and offender issues.

If you want to know how you can help, or are interested in finding out more about the program and how it could be implemented in other correctional institutions, please contact [Chaplain Conrad \(terry@conradnet.net\)](mailto:terry@conradnet.net).



Ethics for the New Millennium Study Circles

Since the publication of the Dalai Lama's book *Ethics for the New Millennium* many study circles have formed around the world. The original circle in Los Altos, CA formed in 2002, and the fruit of their work was the study guide to accompany the book and serve as a guide to inspire discussion. Today we offer this study guide to anyone who might want to start such a study circle with their friends or colleagues. Our hope is that it may serve as an inspiration and map as you set out on your own course of discovery in the vast under-explored territory of ethics and peace. Starting a circle is easy. [Download the study guide](#), and if you're interested, you can go ahead and start a circle among your friends, or request further information and advice by contacting the Dalai Lama Foundation's [study circle coordinator](#).

By working together we can make a difference in our world today and for the world we will leave to our children.

Study guides are now available in multiple languages, including:

[Study Guide for](#)
ETHICS FOR THE NEW MILLENNIUM
by His Holiness The Dalai Lama

Guia de Estudo para
UMA ÉTICA PARA O NOVO MILÊNIO
Por Sua Santidade, o Dalai Lama

達賴喇嘛 著
新千禧年的心靈革命
研讀指南

Guía de estudio
Ética para el Nuevo Milenio
S.S. el Dalai Lama

Thoughts from Pangea Day

On May 10th all the world became a stage as the four-hour live event was simulcast on-line, and on television. With more than 1,000 screenings in over 100 countries Pangea Day touched the lives of millions of people around the world. Since the screenings many people have been inspired to look at the world and their world around them in a slightly different way and are sharing their [thoughts online](#). Others have been inspired to [blog about their experiences](#). Video clips of the event as well as the entire event are available to view on-line at the [Pangea Day website](#).



Watch this space

If you're a writer, there are two ways you can help our online community. And you could start today!

If you know of a peace-related or ethics-related project, you could write an article for our series on *organizations of interest*. Write to us first, however, so we can send you our writer's guidelines.

Or, if you're already an editor with excellent English-language skills, we can use help processing and editing articles each month.

For either, please [contact Scott Taillie](#), newsletter editor (neditor@dlfound.org).

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