

PART 2: MOOT SPIRITUAL LEADERS

BY: BENJAMIN BARDA

Ming Quang (Buddhist monk)

"Buddah gave up his prince life to practice meditation with a teacher. After 6 years and 49 days he was enlightened. For us, everybody has a Buddah nature. By conquering ourselves, our Buddah nature and our wisdom come out. We are then able to know everything. The essence of everything is emptiness. I became a Buddhist monk about 20 years ago. Monk's life is very simple: I am a vegetarian. In Buddhism if we eat animals we have to feel compassionate and thankful. Buddah and Baden Powell had the same point: both liked nature. In nature our mind feels more open and we know more about truth. We understand that everything has a cause and a result. My Buddhist faith was to lead me to Scouting. It's the encounter with a Scout leader that urged me to try the Scout life. I was then 33 years old. Since then I have been involved as a Buddhist Scout monk."



Victor Ortega

Jean-Pascal Diame (Catholic Priest)

"The Christ has a project of love for the world. He came to gather all of mankind in the same family, to save humanity. I became a priest 3 years ago in Senegal. As a missionary my first assignment was Taiwan. I chose to come here because I was interested in Chinese culture and history. I also wanted to serve the Aboriginal people. Coming here I found out that Buddhist culture is sometimes contradictory with Catholicism. The dragon in Taiwan is a very positive and powerful sign. It means happiness and prosperity. For Christians it's a bad sign. Another example: as money is very important in Taiwan, how shall I present Jesus Christ who was poor and sharing with disinherited people? Anyhow I am working hard to understand the culture: the Christ invites us to open ourselves to people."



Victor Ortega



Victor Ortega

Anas Chao (Muslim)

"I am Taiwanese but I was born in Saudi-Arabia where I spent most of my life. In that country I felt like a foreigner. And still here in Taiwan, people see me as a stranger even though we share the same language and culture. In China there is an estimate number of 100 million Muslims . Only 60000 Muslims are in Taiwan.

There is a gap between Muslim people in Taiwan and very Buddhist Taiwanese people. My belief is in one God, Allah, creator of the universe. Some Taiwanese people pray to several gods in temples which is not allowed in my religion. Our conception of God is very close to the Jewish one: God feels no emotions, has no beginning nor end. God created time and space. Thus it takes time for Buddhist people to understand Islam. Some might even argue. But the most important thing for me is to live for a meaning. As such, besides Mohammed, Martin Luther King is a great Christian example for me."



Carine Van Humbeek

WSM 12



PHOTO COMPETITION WINNERS



嚴永鴻



Kapusy Qäl



陳信毫



黃醫儀



Thomas Atinon



劉佑楷



Ervin Chua Joy



Hua Chen-Wen



詹玉玲



Adolf Strvester



Thomas Schudler

The winner should bring the registration receipt to the Public Relationship Office to collect their prize. Prize collection time: 09:00~17:50 on August 9th.

得獎人請於八月九日上午九點至下午五點五十分前, 持證明至公共關係部辦公室領取獎品