

INTERNATIONAL TEACHER POST

A peace pedagogical newsletter since 1982
Edited by an international board
No. 4 November 2010



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Mette and Frank Krøyer
Nepal 2009

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INTERNATIONAL TEACHER-post

might be free of charge for colleagues in Eastern Europe,
Asia and the developing countries,

- please mail a letter and your name and address

to **Oksana Khomutenko Jørgensen**

(Look please at page 3)

Happy to let you know,

that our magazine

is supported by

the Danish Ministry of Education

("Receipts of the state football and lotto pools")

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The purpose of INTERNATIONAL TEACHER - Post

is to be the international quarterly magazine for “International Teacher Association”, - a network of teachers and pedagogues in order to promote a culture of peace and non-violence, which UN has defined as “*respect for human rights, democracy and tolerance, the promotion of development, education for peace, the free flow of information and the wider participation of women as an integral approach to preventing violence [and creating] conditions for peace and its consolidation.*” (UN Resolution A/58/11)

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THE EDITORIAL BOARD is open to all interested and active colleagues who want to support international understanding through educational work.

We are looking forward receiving your letter to the editor, an interesting article, pictures, students' work, pedagogical projects, information of common interest, “advertisements”, poems etc.!

Notice please: *Our English language might not always be perfectly correct, but we hope that the sincere intentions will be clear!*

Also notice please: Opinions expressed in the articles don't need to reflect the views of ITA or the editorial board!



Remember our website:
www.International-Teacher.dk
It is under reconstruction, but will soon reopen in new and improved version



Generalforsamling 5/3—2011
På Helms Skole, Korsør



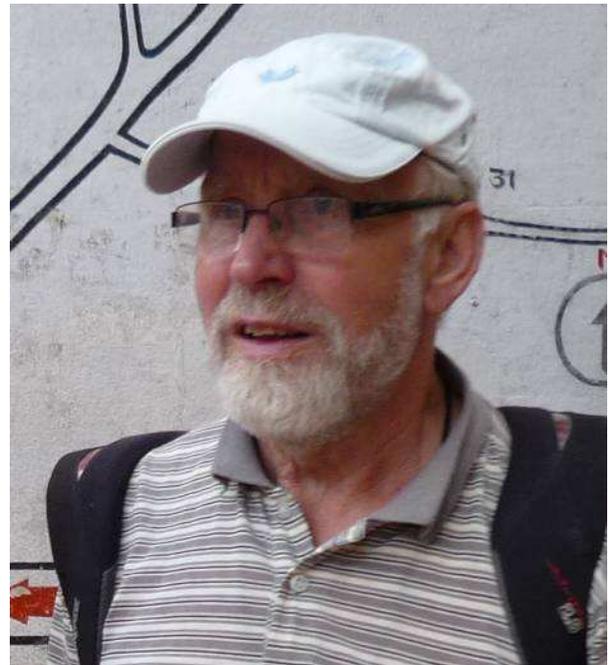
Remember to tell about the International Teacher Association to colleges and friends



Frank Krøyer

Frank Krøyer, retired senior teacher in Skive, has died, 73 years.

He was graduated from Skive college in 1959 and was for many years employed by Dalgas School in Skive. He managed to link his teaching profession with an extensive international involvement. Frank was in the 1980s strongly committed to the 'No to Nuclear Weapons' and worked diligently to make contact with like-minded on the other side of the Iron Curtain. It was not always well received by the authorities there, but it made contacts that could be built upon even after the Soviet collapse. It became the 'International Teacher Association', which he founded and for many years was the driving force in. There were organized trips for teachers and educators to a number of former Soviet republics from a belief that teachers have a special responsibility for the peace and a special opportunity to understand each other across all borders and cultures. On these trips it was a prerequisite that



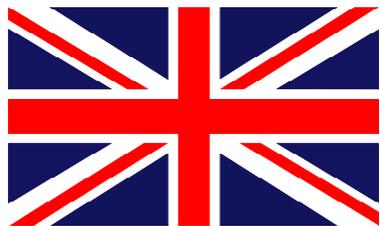
the participants could stay private and thus gain an insight into daily life in the country you visited. At Frank's travels you came to places and saw things which you would never have seen as a tourist. Frank believed in the contact between humans and with his humor and his commitment, he created an understanding and a sympathy that could survive the cold war and is an inspiration to carry his work forward.

Troels Toftkær ITA



Frank presents policy issues to the officials of the Nepalese Ministry of Education

Commemorative words to Frank



From Great Britain:

I am very distressed to hear this news and my thoughts and prayers go out to Frank and his family.

He was a truly remarkable man that will leave a lasting legacy in a World that need so many more people just like him. I will light a candle tonight and say a special prayer for him.

Peace and love.

Paul

"We are not human beings having a spiritual experience. We are spiritual beings having a human experience." - Dr.

Wayne W. Dyer

Frank's spirit will live forever.



From Samara, Russia:

Dear friends and colleagues,
It is with deep grief that I learned of the death of Frank Kroyer, my friend, partner and great person. All who knew him will always remember his kindness and his helpful advice. He was real the culture of peace's personality.

Please accept most sincere condolences and expression of wholehearted sympathy with you and all his Danish friends. Please also convey the sympathy to his family from me and Samara ITA's group.

On behalf of Samara ITA's group

Vladimir Ionesov



From Austria:

Dear family Krøyer,

I wish to express you my condolences at the occasion of the passing of Frank. I knew Frank for 20 years, but in fact, we did not meet very often in person. He invited me, in the early 1990s, to join his peace education network, during a conference in Germany, I guess. Since then, we had always contact by mail and exchanged our findings and articles. Sometimes, I does not need very much to take to somebody. For me, this was the case with Frank, that I immediately liked. I will always remember him as a nice and noble person.

Yours

Werner Wintersteiner

Professor, Klagenfurt University, Austria



From North Ossetia:

The news shocked us and we really can't believe that our friend is not with us on the Earth. Its a great sorrow for all who know Frank and who was working with him all these years.

Please accept our condolences We do share this sorrow with Frank's family.

Sincerely,
*Natalia
Chuprunova*



From Belarus:

To the kindest and most sincere person who united people from the whole world in his organization “International Teacher Association”. We were happy to have an opportunity to communicate with Frank. He had a lot of interesting ideas which were realized in the journal, on the homepage, in life and were the moving force of education, ecology, culture...

Farewell, our friend!

*Denis Sapko,
Natalia Parada
Brest, Belarus*





Azerbajdzan:

Dear friends!

A great loss has befallen us. Our dear Frank Krøyer, the founder of ITA-Denmark, died after a serious illness. He was a generous man devoted to the ideas of peace education and human rights. I ask you to leave your words about him on the homepage [www. idrak-m.com](http://www.idrak-m.com) It is one of the things we can do now in honor of his memory.

Sincerely,

Fatma hanum Bunyatova, Baku



From Ukraine:

Teaching staff and administration of Lugansk Building College of Transport Engineering ask you to present our sincere condolences to Frank Kroeyer’s family.

We suffer a great loss! Frank was our great friend – and he will be our friend forever! The kindness of his heart, sincere care that brought the warmth to people, his wisdom and extra-ordinary strength of mind – all these are very dear and memorable to us. We are very grateful to our destiny that our life roads have been crossed in this world!

We will always remember all the things that Frank Kroeyer has done for us! May his memory live long ...

With great respect,
Alexey Omelchenko

Director of Lugansk Building College of Transport Engineering



From Uzbekistan:

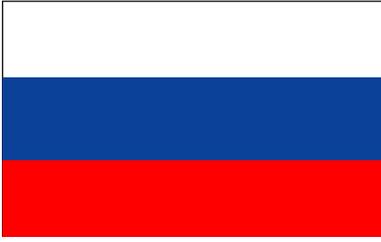
Dear Mette, Krøyer-family, ITA-friends,

We are truly shocked and we feel so bad to hear tragic news of Frank Krøyer's passing and we wish to express to you and to all your dear ones our deepest sympathy and sincere condolences.

It's a very special loss for you, for his colleagues and friends, for all of us in ITA-community worldwide. Frank was not only a prominent and respected peace educator, ITA-founder, its heart, soul and motor, but also a great person and a wonderful friend. He will be sorely missed and your sorrow is shared by everyone who knew and who loved him.

Our thoughts and prayers are with you and your family at this sad time. Let Frank rest in peace. Take care.

Cordially,
*Anatoly Ionesov, Bahodir Habibov,
Dr Ludmila Ionis, Malta Ionesova
Radik Rashitov*

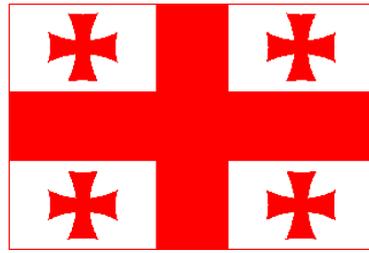


From Russia:

It is a great sorrow. It is a great grief, Frank was the heart and the flag of the ITA, he was a unique person. It is a great loss. I express my deep condolences to Frank's family. Our love and great respect to Frank will remain in our hearts and souls forever.

I am crying with you and all our friends. It is an unmeasurable grief. We must be even more closer, we - teachers from ITA. More than earlier Frank deserved by all his unique life to know that his child - ITA - is alive. Please tell his wife Mette, and his sister, and Per, and his sons how dear is my grief and sorrow. I am crying and praying.

With love and respect,
Marina Azarenkova



From Georgia:

I am very sorry to hear about my dear friend Frank Kroyer's death. He was really devoted member of ITA. He was very nice person to deal with. I was very happy to have a chance to be with him at ITA meeting in HUNGARY and have many friendly talks.

I am very sorry about him. I'd like to express my sincere condolences to Frank's family and tell his family members to be proud to have such a great person as FRANK.

With great respect
Galina Dugashvili from Rustavi, Georgia





From Germany:

It's still hard to believe that Frank has gone. Now it's up to us to keep his ideas and his spirit alive.

I remember Frank as a very open, warm and kind person with a good sense of humour.

And I like the story about how ITA began. During the time of the "cold war" Frank had guests from Russia and when they visited his school, his students started to hide under their tables. That was when Frank thought, that there must something be changed. And he started to make a difference.

I can't remember exactly, when I met Frank for the first time. I remember walking through Denmark on a Peace walk for a nuclear free Europe in 1987. On that walk we met different people from anti-nuclear-groups, teachers and students. We met Erik, an old teacher. One year later I heard about the Dialogue meeting which was held in July in Mors (Denmark). Together with teachers from Poland, Hungary, Russia, Denmark and Norway we discussed peace issues and it was interesting how it worked with so many different languages and cultures. And we didn't have one common language for each of us. Maybe it was there I met Frank for the

first time. He was one of the organisers of that meeting. Despite serious talks we had a lot of fun, cooking together, playing and joking.

Later I joined in a meeting in Hungary and many years later in Belarus and Ukraine. Again I became acquainted with wonderful, very special people. Again I learned a lot. Again good experiences, overwhelming hospitality, discussions, games, excursions, jokes. There is the same kind of people in every country, no matter what colour, language, culture or religion they might have. (And that's what I try to teach my students.)

When Frank came to Germany for an anniversary at the Institut für Friedenspädagogik in Tübingen, he picked me up and we went there together.

And another time, when he and Mette were in Germany, they picked me up and we went to their home in Denmark and was honoured to be their guest. It's always interesting to see, how people live. After that visit (and still), when I think of Mette and Frank, I think of their house and they view you have, the silence, the nature of that wonderful place.

I'm very thankful for having met Frank and all the others who try to teach and live peace and make differences. For me ITA is part of the global family, we should all be.

Brigitte Müller





From Ukraine:

I'm late with my sincere condolences : it's just today, on returning from my summer leave, I've been struck by the awful fact of Frank's death.

Though we all knew that he is deteriorating but to hear about his going...

It's uncreditably hard. Frank Kroyer – this name well known from Japan and Nepal to New World – and very dear in our Ukraine – concentrates a lot of features that are rarely good tempered in one person.

He was a creator and coordinator by his nature : the heart of his big family – tender and careful husband, father, grandpa – , the teacher dearly beloved and appreciated by his pupils, the farmer dearly gratified by his garden and cattle, the friend admired by colleagues and adherents, a creature that'd never stop in endless noble activities for the sake of peace and mutual understanding, for the sake of love and friendship, for the sake of joining efforts of people of good will. He was always young both in his desires and powers. And he was a real democrat. I dare translate some lines from the great Russian poet Nikolai Nekrasov. These lines were written more than 150 years ago but res to Frank they sound quite contemporary:
Oh, Mother Nature ! If sometimes
You didn't grant such people to below,
You would produce not songs but cries
And all your fields would overgrow...

Those who knew Frank do agree. The rest have to.

On behalf of Lugansk regional committee
“Educators for Peace & Mutual Understanding”

Dr. Julia Kipko



From Russia:

Dear Mette and all your family,

It's really very difficult to find the words to express that pain that was in our hearts when we had known the sad news about our dear Frank. That sad news shocked us. We could hardly believe that. He always was so cheerful, so strong and so full of positive energy...

“Everything must be beautiful in a person...” says a famous Chekhov's quotation. Everything was beautiful in Frank. He was a perfect husband, father and grandpa, a talented democratic teacher, a creative person, a wise man. He was so kind, so frank, so open-hearted. He did a lot for the development of our International Teacher Association and without him we wouldn't know each other. It's so sad, that he died so early. May the earth be gentle to him. We shall all miss him. He will live in our memory and hearts forever.

Sincerely yours,
Natasha Semenova,
Olga and Alexei Semenov



From Kyrgyzstan:

Dear Mette, Per, and Lars,
Dear ITA community,

Frank Kroyer died on the 31st of July. It is too hard to find words to express my sorrow. It is next to impossible to except the reality without tears in my eyes. Frank is still alive in my memory. I share sympathy with the members of his family; his compassionate wife Mette and his sons Per and Lars.

I would like to express my special thanks to Frank and the members to his family who touched my life so significantly. There were international conferences (I was happy to meet Frank in Dubna, Moscow area in 1992), workshops and annual ITA meetings in different countries, and above all sincere greetings with family pictures on special events, regular correspondance and unbelievable hospitality at your peaceful home filled with warmth and friendship. Despite the great distance Frank was close to me at the most dramatic period in my life when I suffered heavy family losses. I will never forget your support. Frank proved to be a real friend in need.

It was my friend, Frank Kroyer, who brought many teachers together and contributed a special spirit to our International Teacher Association. Frank Kroyer,

the sensitive soul, happened to appear all the time in the right time, therefore, he was close, helpful and supportive not only to me but to many people in Kyrgyzstan with educational projects for teachers, doctors, and students with righteousness in his heart, beauty in the character, harmony in the relationship.

Frank demonstrated his dedication to the International Teacher Association promoting the culture of peace and non-violence. He helped me discover the best teachers, my friends, not only in Denmark but also in many other counties including the former Soviet Union.

We will never forget Frank Kroyer "a mighty power, a danish teacher, with his democracy, traditions, life values, challenges, ambitions who taught us to work and win achieving aims in a team".

We will do our best to assist the ITA movement and its development from Kyrgyzstan working together with our friends from different countries to ensure that International Teacher Association stays effective for decades to come. We are ready to discuss the possibility of ITA annual meeting in 2011 in Kyrgyzstan taking into account the peaceful development of political events in our country. We know Frank will be proud and happy with us.

On behalf of the ITA teachers from Kyrgyzstan

Ludmila Sergeenkova and Guldzhamal Esenalieva,

Members of the ITA executive committee



When good people leave...

by Oksana Jørgensen, Hejnsvig, Denmark

God saw you getting tired
and a cure was not to be
so he put his arms around you
and whispered, "Come to Me".

With tearful eyes we watched you
and saw you pass away
and although we love you dearly
we could not make you stay.

A golden heart stopped beating,
hard-working hands at rest.
God broke our hearts to prove to us
he only takes the best.
(Unknown)

Writing for IT-Post has always been a pleasure for me, except for this time. Today, even though it is more than a month ago that Frank died, I still feel unusually hard to put myself together and express my feelings in writing.

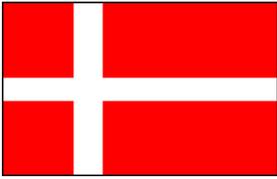
Yes, we knew he was sick. Yes, we knew it was serious. But I truly believed he would be all right... the doctors would find something that could help... the modern medicine is so advanced now... Frank,

with his great love for life, with his fantastic ability to enjoy the beauty of the world, countries, cultures, people, events... he would not just die, he can't. I have never known any other person who at the age of 70 could travel so much, work so hard at different projects, keep in touch with so many people all over the world and still plan, arrange, organize, help, learn...

Now that he is no longer with us, I feel a deep sorrow and emptiness. But one thing I know for sure – there are so many people in the world who feel the same – those who knew and loved him. He had a natural talent to unite people, to unite by his journal, his ideas, projects, conferences, annual meetings etc, to unite those who would never have met otherwise. Today he unites us not only by his organization, he unites our hearts by the common grief of his departure. I know that for many years ahead, not a single meeting of ITA will go without us mentioning Frank, cherishing his memory. His life gave us memories too beautiful to forget. When good people leave, it is difficult to see beyond the sorrow, but may looking back in memory will help to comfort us and built the road into the future.

Our dear Frank, your own family and your ITA family will never forget you. May you rest in peace.





FRANK KRØYER

I want to commemorate Frank Krøyer.

I first met Frank in Gothenburg in the year 1991. It was on a sunny day in June. We were standing outside Gothenburg Railway Station when a middle-aged man wearing a white cap approached us and exclaimed, You look like somebody who are going to Leningrad! Am I right? Yes you are, we answered unanimously. Come with me to our bus and have a nice cup of coffee, Frank went on. That's how I first met Frank Krøyer, and I liked him right away. His boyish smile and his dry humour.

My first impression of Frank never faded. I got to know him as a dedicated fiery soul who always wanted to fight for freedom, peace and democracy wherever it was needed.

His heart was especially burning for the former Sovjet States. He truly believed that peace and democracy could be spread out by people meeting each other across the iron curtain which used to divide Europe into an east and west side. He surely did a great job connecting people, making friends across strictly guarded borders and deep gaps.

We in Denmark esteem Frank highly for what he achieved and stood for during his life.

All honour to his memory!

Eva Iversen, Copenhagen.

Frank Krøyer . The founder of ITA

Frank had been ill since we were in Nepal in October 2009. In January it was found, that Frank was suffering from cancer. Unfortunately it was not a mild form of its kind. Friday, July 30 Frank passed away. He died in his home and his wife Mette and his two sons were by his side.

I talked to him on the phone a couple of days before he passed away, and I could hear, that he was in very bad state. I promised him, that we will take very good care of International Teachers Association, and we will work hard to continue the association in his spirit.

A week later we went to his funeral in Skive. ITA brought flowers for the coffin. There were a great many people who would help to commemorate Frank. Frank has founded the ITA, and he has developed the Association for what it is today. He has done a really great job for many people all over the world, and he has built something very valuable. I hope we will be able to continue the association in his spirit and continue the excellent and important work that Frank for many years has taken responsibility for.

But it is quite certain that we will miss him terribly much.

Jytte Svendsen, Korsør, Denmark





From Hungary:

It's very difficult to write anything after getting the bad news on Frank's death. It seems to be unbelievable.

I have known Frank since 1989 and he was always active, ready to act and help other people. He was a man with a 'big heart'. I often admired his lifestyle, way of thinking and hardworking personality. He tried to solve all kinds of problems.

It was a great work to start the dialogue meetings and then create and improve an international association.

Can I suggest to name the association 'Frank Kroyer' ITA?

We were in close contact, he regularly reported me about family events, celebrations, wedding ceremonies (Oksana - even about your wedding he sent me some photos). We had common holidays in Scandinavia and visits in Hungary. So a few days ago I wrote a letter to Frank's family.

I knew about his illness and problems and I was worried when he wasn't able to write or talk on skype any more. It's a hard time to everyone - especially for his family. He was very proud of them, his grandchildren. I hope the work he had started would be continued.

Best wishes from *Magdi*



Nepal 2009



From Moscow, Russia

My dear friend Frank!

My soul is crying. I can't realize I'll have no chance to see you again. But I'm sure that you are with us: your kindness, your nobility, your intelligence, your ideas.

Now I remember I've seen you the first time. It was your visit to Samara and Togliatty on the Volga. From that time we begin to cooperate. I won't be able to forget my visit to Denmark. There I learned more about you. I saw a real master of our profession. You are (I can't say was) a teacher in literal sense of this word.

From St. Petersburg, Russia:

With great sorrow I've received this news about Frank's death. I've just come from a short vacation where I was out of net, sorry to be a bit late, but please express my sorrow to Frank's family. I will remember him, kind and friendly.

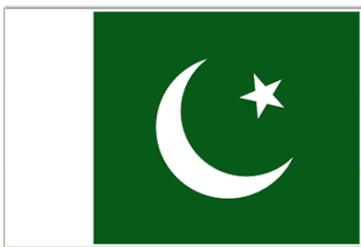
Natalia Shamberova

We had mutual understanding. All your life is an example for me. An example how much I should love my country, my family and my job.

You should know I've lost a big part of my heart because you're a real friend. I miss you.

They say the person is alive till someone remembers him. I'll always remember you. Good-bye my dear friend.

Raisa Pochevalova, Moscow, Russia



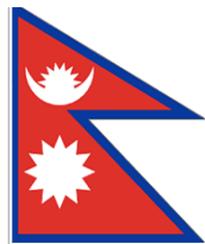
From Pakistan:

This is a great loss to us. Mr. Frank was very nice person and very hard worked to establish the ITA. I am very sad to know that he died yesterday. The ITA Pakistan pray to God always to him and his family.

Noushad Ahmed Khan

Secretary General

ITA- Pakistan



From Nepal:

It is extremely sad news, therefore, on behalf of ITA Nepal, we are sending this card. Please do pass our condolences to his family.

With peace and love,

Jimmy Lama

Heartfelt Condolence From ITA Nepal
May our beloved Frank's departed soul rest in peace
We will miss you very much



Skive , 5. august 2010



Frank Krøyer og Preben Rasmussen, 1989

Nicolaj, Frank Krøyer, Vladimir Alexeev, St Petersburg, 1989



The chairman of LFF/USSR Gorbajchenko in grey suit. Frank in red shirt. Dubna, USSR, 1991



Frank Krøyer, Søren Kappel and Geo Horn, 1986 Founding Peace Pedagogical Workshop. The name changed later to ITA



In Kirgistan 1998

Voxpop

What do you think about going to school?

The answers can be positive or critical.
Both things are necessary and important.



The secondary school 985 in Moscow,
827 students

Alena Rukina,
the 8th form

"I think that school helps you to find yourself in the world. You can socialize, make new friends. School is a place for getting knowledge. Experience which we get at school can be helpful in the future life. School years are wonderful."

Kate Nosova,
the 8th form

"I like going to school because it makes my life bright."

Kate Selantieva,
the 10th form

"Going to school is very boring for me. I'm always late at school because I like sleeping. I do homework very seldom because I'm very lazy. But sometimes it's fun at school."

Egor Lakomchenko,
the 9th form

"As for me going home, school is better."

Ivan Chuprikov,
the 8th form

"I think everyone must go to school because school helps you to develop your personality"



Raisa Pochevalova,
Assistant director
at Secondary
School 985
in Moscow



Voxpop

What do you think about going to school?

The answers can be positive or critical.
Both things are necessary and important.



Helms School, Korsør, Denmark
Primary and secondary school, 200 pupils



It is not always fun to go to school. It's fun to be with your friends. We have too much homework and sometimes the teachers are acidic. It is not so nice. But mostly it's fun to go to school.
Mia and Selina , 9th form



There should be some more healthy things in the student booth. Eating break is too short. It's good for our education, we have so much homework, even though it can get too much.
Agnete 4th form



It is good to go to school, you meet so many people. We have some very good teachers here at Helms School.
Sille 4 h form



Some school work can be boring and some is fun. Sometimes one might want to stay home, but you gotta go. It's nice to go to school, because that is where your friends are.
Andreas 8th. form



It must be safe to go to school. It can be annoying with a lot of homework, but it's important to do them, to get a good education.
Mikkel 7th form



Jytte Svendsen
Teacher at
Helms School,
Korsør, Denmark





PROGRAMME FOR ITA MEETING 2011 IN KYRGYZSTAN



ITA meeting in Kyrgyzstan

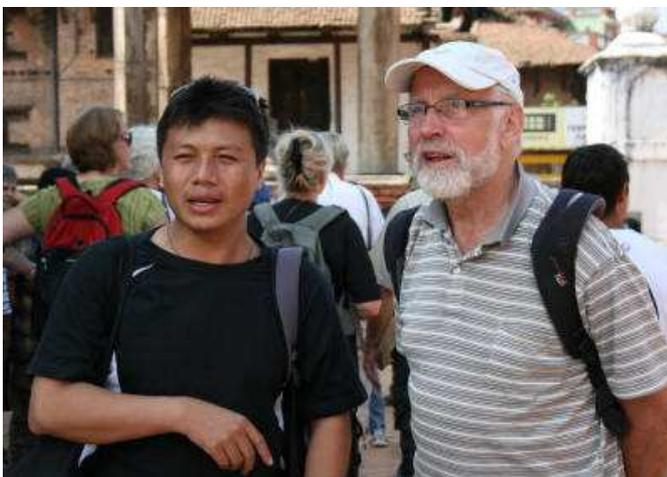
We hope, that we can have the annual international meeting in Kyrgyzstan next summer. It depends of the stability in the country. We are planning to visit our ITA-friends there 25/6 - 5/7 2011.

Penpals

I would very much like to have some pen friends for my students in class 4 (12 girls, 5 boys, aged 9 and 10) We live in Neu-Ulm, Germany. Best wishes Brigitte mail: Mueller.britte@web.de



ITA Nepal until 2010- A tribute to an unsung hero Frank



By Jimmy Lama, Nepal

I was only 17 years old when I first heard of International Teachers Association in 2000 while I was a student at Yangrima School. A teacher of mine, Mr Norchung Lama who originally served as the representative to ITA in Nepal had been to Denmark on a teachers' gathering followed by few other teachers. They all came back with lots of new energy and enthusiasm which greatly benefitted our₂₀

learning environment. This relationship kept on growing modestly in several forms, for example, Danish teachers visiting Nepal and the exchanges of news. Although there were less activities during the years after 2001 when Nepal went through a severe political disturbance, things started to take its momentum in 2006 after I was trusted to take on the responsibility as the ITA representative. In the year, I proposed late Frank Kroyer, the then chairman of ITA, to support two government schools in the villages of Helambu called Tartong and Nakote where there had been an urgent need for paying salaries for extra teachers. In each of the school, there were only two teachers, however with a responsibility of looking after over at least 70 children for the classes that stretched for grade one through to five.

Responding to this need, Frank emailed me with pleasant news that Danish groups have arranged a way to pay the salaries for two teachers. Ever since, the support has encouraged the schools to produce lots of positive changes from improved classroom environment, increased school activities and motivated teachers to teach the children to mention few. In the year 2009, the visit of Danish group to Nepal that trekked through the villages and meeting the locals have inspired them to do more for the school and certainly has left behind the deep sense of friendship.

Bolstered by all these support and inspiration, the villagers in both villages worked hard throughout 2009 until the early summer of 2010 to build whole new school building with support from ranges of supports. The supporters such as MondoChallenge Foundation, which is a UK based Charity provided funding for new school building Shree Deurali Primary School in Tartong and Nepal Education Initiative, a non-profit in the US provided resources for building for Nakote School. In gaining and managing these supports, I was the key person.

Where both of these schools stand now in comparison to the year 2006 when ITA first jumped in to provide a teacher salary is a clearly a different picture on ranges of positive track of development. To note that the community's involvement is now inextricable from the schools' overall management and to observe encouraging number of children attending the schools are a few, but worthy notes of development that could not have happened without the supports the schools have received from various sources included ITA.

In these villages, life is difficult for the villagers because of their economic hardship, so a small support like this do spur to bring about a great change as we can read in my description above. A majority of the villagers live under poverty line and their only way of making income is by going to India or elsewhere to labor for half a year. Everyday their life starts before the dawn and do not rest until very late evening just to be able to make their ends meet yet no savings they can make. With education opportunity for their children, living standard is surely to change over the years as the children will grow up to have much wider options in their life.

The ITA group visit to Nepal in 2009 not only enjoyed themselves to the majestic beauty of the mountainous sceneries and exposure to cultures and people of this country, but also left a donation towards building of a toilet for girls in Tartong



New Toilet Picture Tartong

No doubt with the completion of the project in May of 2009, it has dramatically improved the sanitation of the school and has marked the end to the era of jungle-toilet that the children use to run into prior to it.

All of these positive works and the progress made in these two villages which will continue to ensure better future for the local children reflect distinctly the support and love Frank Kroyer had for

His absence is felt with a great loss, and we continue to pray in all our hearts that Frank's departed soul rest peacefully at the caring hands of the god forever!

In his memory, ITA Nepal wish to continue the support to the two schools, and further welcomes our Danish friends to continue our cultural and educational exchanges through the opportunities that might open up in the form of visits to Nepal and Denmark, and volunteering opportunity for young Danes in these beautiful Nepalese hillside villages to feel and support the works so that we may be able to pay tribute to Frank this way.

For those interested in volunteering as a teacher in these villages; please contact jimmylama@gmail.com. Volunteering is a life-time experience helping the underprivileged children who are keen to meeting new people and learning new things, and one best way to nourish your spiritual well-being. One does not need to be professionally a teacher, although best if one is, to qualify to spend a short stint as a volunteer. To be a volunteer, there is no age bar, however one must be healthy and be able to walk the rugged paths of the

hills. Any discipline of expertise is useful such as sports, music, arts and crafts etc, however one must possess utmost enthusiasm and open-mindedness. The volunteers can spend a time anywhere from 4 weeks up to 12 weeks or even more. The volunteers live with the local family in a house of vernacular setting and eat local food. There is absolutely no fees in doing this, however one must pay towards their local food and accommodation which comes to as less as \$ 20 weekly. Any donations that could be brought along either in cash or kinds for the schools will be greatly appreciated. To reach to Tartong and Nakote, it takes 5 hours of bus ride from Kathmandu and 4-5 hours of walking steep uphill. For application form and further detail, please write to us.

Below is testimony of recent volunteers from Denmark Stine Thesjberg and Elisabeth who spent a short stint at Nakote School. They came through the connection of ITA.

Thank you and wish you all good days, weeks and months ahead!

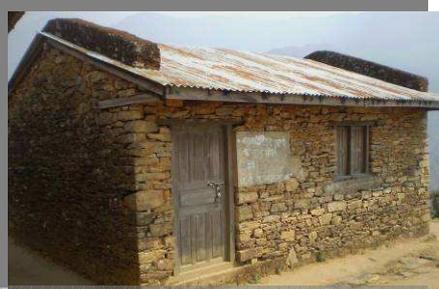
Jimmy Lama, ITA Nepal Representative.



Narkote School Picture in 2009



Nakote School Picture in 2010



Tartong School Picture in 2009



Tartong School Picture in 2010

Cooperative learning

brings democracy in the classroom

By Eva Iversen, teacher in Copenhagen



What does cooperative learning mean?

You can say that COOPERATIVE LEARNING was invented by Dr. Spencer Kagan from California. In the sixties he and his team were studying how kids interacted when they were playing together. Which elements made the kids cooperate and which elements had the opposite effect. From their studies here Dr. Spencer Kagan and his team developed a new way of teaching, COOPERATIVE LEARNING.

Since 1990 many teachers in the USA have

started practising this new method called, COOP.LEARNING. The method works both in the kindergarten as well as in the high school.

The idea behind COOP.LEARNING is that each and every pupil in a class is active during a lesson the whole time! No pupil is left/forgotten behind sitting inactive during lessons.

“The pupils become more responsible towards each other.”

But how does a teacher fulfill such aims in a class-room with perhaps 28 pupils?

Well, the teacher makes the pupils work in teams.

In each team there are 4 pupils. It is essential that the teacher forms the teams. Each team consists of a weak pupil, two pupils from the middle group and a bright pupil.



and has feedback in each lesson. That's why no one is getting bored and therefore starting making noise or disturbing the others.

The pupils also become more responsible to-

If possible two girls and two boys in a group, but it is certainly not a must. The four pupils must be seated like this, the weak pupil at the same desk as the middle one, the bright one at the same desk as the other middle pupil, and the weak pupil must be facing the middle pupil, and the bright one must be facing the other middle one. If the number of pupils in a class is not divisible by four, you may put five pupils in some of the teams.

wards each other and towards the teaching going on.

This way of teaching brings democracy into the class-room.

Normally the teacher will form new teams after six weeks or so. It depends on the group of pupils you are teaching.

How does the teacher teach in co-operative learning?

- A. The teacher sets a task.
- B. Individual time for each pupil to consider how to solve the problem.
- C. Dialogue with your neighbour, where you try to solve the problem. Discussion in the team in order to solve the problem.

“The pupils become more responsible towards teaching going on.”

The team's solution to the problem is introduced to the whole class.

We have a special sign for silence. The teacher puts up his hand, when he wants attention from his pupils, and when the pupils see his hand they also put up their hands and they stop talking or writing. It only takes a few seconds before the class is silent.

In this way each pupil in a class is active during the whole lesson. No pupil must sit inactive waiting until the teacher has got time for her/him. Every pupil is in a dialogue, gets sparring

We also teach the pupils to use long and short voices, which means, you talk with a short voice when speaking to your neighbour, but you use a long voice when speaking to the whole class.

In this way the pupils learn how to control the noise in their class-room.

The Asia European Classroom

by Helene Tind



In the beginning of November, Helene Tind and one of her students are going to AEC-Net's yearly conference which this time is held in New Delhi, India. They have been invited because the project "Chain Stories" has become nominated to be among 6 finalists out of 31 projects.

5 years ago I had an idea for a project which demanded other participants than Danish students. I just didn't know how I should get started and where I should find participants, because I had never before tried to concern myself with the international dimension in the classroom. Through Cirius I got in touch with the organization AEC-Net, Asia European Classroom – Network (<http://aec.asef.org/>) and during the fall of 2005, I participated in its yearly conference where I created contacts and my project got participants. Thereafter it was just a question of plunging myself into it along with my students, whom of course had been involved in what the project was about.

"it gives sense when what you learn in the book also is useful."

At that time I taught an eighth grade class in English and together we participated in the project "Mosaic", where we together with peered students from Brunei, China, Hungary, Italy and Malaysia were going to tell about ourselves, our family, the school, city and not the least about Denmark.

Many English lessons went by and also some spare time, but as we evaluated on the project at the end of the year the students thought they had learned a lot and that it had been exciting. They had learned about other cultures and

some of them got friends they corresponded with in English even after the project had ended.



Some of the participants from Malaysia this years. They wrote several chapters to Chain Stories

How the project developed

During the last 3 years I have been in charge of my project called “Chain Stories” (<http://www.itiscannizzaro.net/chainstories/home.htm>) but from being my project it has now turned into a common project prepared with foreign colleagues.

My past sixth grade has participated in it every year but from being the whole class which participated it was only those who wished to participate in the project the last time, and it is possible to give those students who wants the extra challenge the possibility of doing so by letting them

”It is clear to me that the international dimension has come to stay in my classroom.”

write and read stories in English.

During the first years I have worked with international projects I have primarily involved the subject English as the communication with the foreign collaborators is in English, but the other teachers from my team have also been involved with geography, biology, art and history.

In that way it is not only me and my lessons but the whole team which has been involved in getting the international dimension into the classroom and thereby the workload was distributed.



*The Romanian pupils from Lucian Blanga Highschool in Cluj-Napoca .
The teacher's name is Claudia Morar*

What comes out of it?

Maybe we didn't do everything in the English book but in return I had some students whom became more interested in spelling English correctly, using the right terms in the right connections and had become more open regarding communicating in English. All of a sudden "English" made sense and as one of my students said: "Somebody has to read it in the other end". It also reflects on Facebook where some of my students are now communicating with the foreign students they also communicated with in the project and reverse. In that way it is not only while the project last my students communicate in English, but all of a sudden there was a more long-termed perspective in it and it is not only during school time anymore.

Of course it is not all students who are equally excited, but I have learned from experience that tasks can be divided into different severities so that all students can participate depending on what they are capable of. It is clear to me that the international dimension has come to stay in my classroom.

There are so many possibilities of participating in international projects depending on what you want and is capable of, and the teaching you give the students becomes attentive in a different way – it becomes useful, more realistic and all of a sudden it gives sense when what you learn in the book also is useful.



Alberte is going with Helene Tind to the final in India in November

The future

In the beginning of November, Helene Tind and one of her students are going to AEC-Net's yearly conference which this time is held in New Delhi, India. They have been invited because the project "Chain Stories" has become nominated to be among 6 finalists out of 31 projects. Here they are going to run a presentation of the project in front of all the other participants and 3 judges and hopefully they will win.

At the conference the upcoming projects for next season will also be presented and Helene Tind will try to find new participants for new Chain Stories. You can see all the projects on http://aec.asef.org/projects/current_projects.html and they will start up sometime after the conference in November, so it is still possible to join them.

Tolerance at school

By Irina Meshkova

She has recently become a teacher of English at Moscow school 985. In the article she shares her opinion about solving national problems in her class.



Nowadays tolerance in general sense is a very actual and controversial topic today. Not only in Russian federation this problem is widely spoken about. Xenophobic mood that is so popular in contemporary society today is not typical for a concrete country. It is a tendency in the whole

world. In Europe it appears constantly and in the USA the situation is saved only due to the political correctness. To start solving the problem it is wise to start from our educational sphere from schools where the roots of the tolerance take place where children are taught to be tolerant.

Sincerely speaking schools and teachers should pay attention not only to the global aspect to this problem. We live in Russia and the contemporary situation of patience and tolerance leaves much to be desired. It is not only a problem of national tolerance that Teacher have to bred. During the meetings of parents teachers constantly speak of the way to teach children to respect other people, about the necessity of valuing people's lives, that peoples personality is the most important thing that people's rights are of greatest important, human self confidence.

Schools since the very beginning must show every child that he is a personality and every human around him is also a real deep personality as well. So consequently when pupils leave school they feel themselves the full-fledged citizen who understands that personality must be more appreciated than any other things.

Naturally it would be strange to hire a teacher of tolerance at school. It is obvious that it is the teacher who really needs tolerance trainings. There are programmes of tolerance and they are oriented on teacher training .If the teacher is not patient to himself and his pupils don't respect himself.

His pupils copy its thoughts and points of view. Among the great variety of teacher training courses there are lectures about tolerance. Auto training is a branch of the training. It is socially psychological programmes that last about 2 weeks.

The main point of them is to see the world with the other people's eyes. They are dedicated and were worked out by leading psychologists, consequently when teacher is a personality it is obvious he can pass it to the pupils.

When pupils enter primary school they begin to be taught being tolerant but unfortunately it is too late. Kindergarten is the place where we should start working on this program as it's the first time children face the society. In the birthplace of teasing a fat or a lop-eared fellow it's the time for teachers to react. Some years later great problems with national problems appear. The teacher must always be attentive, must know children and know how to influence them to know how to stop the humiliation of the personality.

Unfortunately there is no universal recipe how to educate tolerance. It must become the lifestyle of professional teachers. But it is not only teachers who must teach being patient. It comes from the family. What should a teacher do if he faces the problem when the child comes to school with intolerance that is copied from his parents some rude words towards other nations. May be parents supposes the child will no hear them or they simply don't care. I know that there have been held some investigations according the link between the level of intelligence and tolerance. It showed that chil-

dren motivated on science and education are not involved into the national arguing and quarrels. Teachers have to acquaint pupils with the ways of behavior with other nationalities.

I would be glad to share my own experience of working with children in order to make them form one united team in spite of the fact they come from different countries and they are different in general sense.

I have a class now it's the ninth form, there are 15 pupils in my group. There are pupils from Russia, Ukraine, Georgia, Tatarstan, Azerbadjan in my group. This class is multinational. When we started working together 3 years ago I was impressed that constantly they use impolite words addressed to each other and this words usually contains humiliation mixed with anti-Semitic words. All the children are kind and not aggressive. It seemed to me that they simply don't pay attention to the words they use to offend each other and don't really understand how offensive it is.

I wanted to change the situation

I made up my mind to try to change the situation and to fight with the problem. First of all I made a plan where they must sit in class and children of different nationalities were sitting separately not to provoke conflicts. Then I draw a poster where there were photos of all my classes and I wrote rules of behavior in my classroom. They were: do not shout, don't stand, and don't say offensive words. Don't name the nationality, don't be aggressive, don't fight, and don't offend.

“they simply don't pay attention to the words they use to offend each other and don't really understand how offensive it is.”



Students at Moscow School 985

And as psychologists say that if we forbid something we should also permit something so that the pupils would not feel themselves in a cage. So I also made a list of things they are allowed to do: answer the teacher's questions, do homework, be in time, enjoy the lesson, have fun, relax, be polite and kind. So if any of these items was broken I asked the pupil to stay after the lesson for the discussion and he got more homework. Some time later I noticed that there are fewer and fewer children who left after lessons. Then I realized that it's time to create some command activity I mean to do something together to become closer to each other to spend time together.

First we went to the cinema and I realized that there are no problems for the children to communicate without offensive words and they easily get on well and find themes for the conversation. We also made a theatrical play together moreover it was made by the children themselves. We watched the film put down the plot and the dialogues and then made scenery. We worked together and aggression as severe as I was has

gone. Naturally when people see each other 7 hours a day when they are different as personalities it is not always easy to be polite and kind and not to be annoying. But the goal of my work with this class was to reduce the race quarrels and to show that all the people are personalities and they worth being respected and tolerance is more fashionable than to repeat rude and resist words and phrases they hear in the street or in a film or in magazines and books.

So to sum it up I can mention that naturally teachers are not gods and we are not capable of changing the world but in the very start of my work as a teacher I faced the problem or children's ignorance about the necessity of being tolerant. I suspect to solve the problem teachers should show the other side of people of different nationalities I mean to explain that the human must not be judged according to the nationality as we can be kind moral sensitive helpful understanding friendly tender and with a deep inner world that is more important than the color of the skin and the place we were born in...

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