

OUR BELOVED PROPHET IN ACCRA

It is hard to choose the headline today, so many beautiful things had happened during the last two weeks!!!



In summary... A world record in participants to seminar (709), A world record in the number of newcomers (289), 2 African women as new level 5 guides, A representative of the Kimbangist religion on an official visit, great success with the media, great success against the local taboos ...

It all started at the airport at His arrival. Already almost 100 raelians coming from all parts of Africa were gathered there to tell Him their joy to see Him in Africa, with Tam Tam and dynamic dance. The pace was given then and it didn't stop for 10 days.

The day after His arrival, Our Beloved Prophet gave a press conference in front of 27 different media. They all requested a private interview afterwards. Two major TVs talked about His presence and His messages to Africa in the news bulletin in the evening. More radio and TV interviews were done the days after by Brigitte and Hortense, generating a lot of phone calls. To say "there is no god" in Accra while 1 car out of 2 in the street have Jesus or God mentioned on it, it is making quite an impact!

The launching of the seminars on the campus of the university was really impressive. Imagine 700 people expressing their deep joy, jumping on stage to hug Him!!!



The beautiful emotions generated at His entrance in the teaching hall were overwhelming. Among the 709 participants (the new world record of participants at seminar) 289 of them were attending a seminar for the first time (another world record) !! The attendance was young in majority, 150 young members coming from Ivory Coast and about the same amount coming from Burkina Faso. Some of them didn't even have enough money to eat, but they were eager to hear the words of our Beloved Prophet and stayed for the whole 8 days. It is hard to describe the joy, the enthusiasm, the pure love expressed by all of the participants, it has been unique, strong and memorable just like the words of our Beloved Prophet in response to their welcome!

He dedicated the seminar, right from the start, to the African Women. He says that He wants many leaders in Africa like Hortense, African women with diploma, geniuses, who will educate the little girls of this continent so that they never live in a macho culture.

"You are a piece of Infinite that crystallized in the form of your body. You can feel it in the love of the Elohim that puts all races and all sexes at the same level"



Contact cannot reveal of course all the teachings given during the seminars but our Beloved Prophet gave important directions to the gathered African members that we can share here :

“There will be Raelian presidents, kings, and emperors one day in Africa and the Raelianism is going to be the dominant religion in Africa. The theory of evolution generated racism using the black race as a link to monkeys.

I come to bring light. For the first time, the black person knows that he is made in the image of his creators, physically and scientifically. The Messages are also a political revolution. The colonizers didn't take into account the ethnic groups. They pulled some borders and created Ivory Coast and Burkina. The Africans never wanted that. There was decolonization but the borders remained and the presidents become richer, rob their country and leave to Switzerland. Destroy and replace the old borders, recover the ethnic groups. Even the smallest of these groups can be autonomous and can govern themselves. The countries of the West laughed at Bokassa's first emperor. They don't laugh at the Queen of England, or the King of Sweden or Denmark. Where is the difference? Why do they laugh? They criticize the King of Swasiland who buys one of the most expensive cars in the world while his people are poor. Why don't they criticize the cars of the White House, knowing that 60% of American jails are occupied by blacks and that 30% of the African-American population are below the poverty line? A head of state is there to insure that his people are well. The customary chiefs are elected chiefs for life and think of their villages otherwise they wouldn't be chiefs anymore. Henry IV in France had the concern that every family has a hen to eat on Sunday.

Uriel is going to reconstitute the Katangais state and I support it. There exists between 500 and 600 ethnic groups in Africa. There can be as many United States there in a confederation.

The Raelian revolution is religious, scientific and political.

There is a rule for the members of the structure not to be in politics because it is impossible to devote yourself to two causes. But here in Africa, if some among you wish to be candidates, not for existing parties, but to be candidates to shake things up, then I encourage you and I encourage the Raelians to vote for you. If you present yourself as Raelians, I encourage you there. We have a political role to play. You are responsible for this political dimension.”

The wealth of the continent is considerable and it is terrifying to see how much it endures divisions created by the colonists. There is oil everywhere. Africa should keep its oil as Khadafi proposes. There is gold as well. The united Africa is self sufficient and can become, for example, pioneers with the OGM. Between 3-5 years, if money invested in armaments is given to the scientists, it is possible that there will not be even one person left in Africa that dies of hunger. Between 5 and 7 years, it can even become an exporter. Nanotechnology can also be implanted.

One must accelerate the process and if there is a return to the traditional chiefs, we can get there because they don't have problems of ethics when they have the children who die in the village.





The spiritual, philosophical and political dimensions overlap.

When some people go to the moon whereas others die of hunger, the Elohim cry. One comes here to multiply bread without mysticism, by giving to the labs the "wasted things".

The schedule of our Beloved Prophet was very busy between His teachings, the multiple interviews, and the official interviews with political or religious

emissaries coming from different countries of Africa.

One of them represented the Kimbanguist religion that has more than 10 million of adepts in Africa and in the African diaspora. The prophet Kimbangu had announced the arrival of the last Prophet that would be white. The Kimbanguists wish to officially receive our Beloved Prophet in their temple, the third temple as they call it, on Congolese ground.

The seminars were also practice for the teams so that they never accept discrimination. From the very first day, one homosexual Raelian made the acquaintance of several other homosexuals on a beach close to the hotel where he stayed. The local population complained!!! Hey yes, homosexuality is considered as a crime in Ghana!! We denounced the facts and sent out press releases, etc. I will always remember the face of the announcer of a broadcast radio station when I told him that homosexuality was genetic and had to be respected like all other genetic features. He didn't know how to turn and make up for it and hastened to change the subject, the taboo is so strong!!!



Another unacceptable taboo is the way women are treated. Four of our sisters experienced sexual aggressions on the campus committed by employees of the university! Well, a complaint has been filed and justice will be done. But the reverend in charge of the academic community complained about our complaint deposit: he had hoped for an amicable understanding implying that what had happened was our mistake since we dared to reveal a naked chest on the campus. Even the men are supposed to cover their chest in Ghana J. His threats of terminating the contract didn't have any effect on Tai's teams, determined to fight against all injustice. Humph, the Africa Raelian is doing really well J.

At the end of the seminars, 12 new guides level 4 of which 5 were women were named:

Judicael Mounkala from Bénin, national guide
Gonnard Bakimissa from Congo

Landry Gomat from Côte d'Ivoire
 Jean Sanspeur Wawarack from Cameroun; national guide
 Steve Onedo from Nigeria; national guide
 Elina Pelbara from Tchad; national guide
 Symphonie Amet from Togo
 Alimata Mougna from Burkina Faso
 Judicael Mouele Bidilou from Congo
 Dété Koné from Côte d'Ivoire
 Edwige Gouria from Côte d'Ivoire
 Marielle Lembangui from Gabon

Two new guides level 5 were also named, two marvelous women.
 Welcome to all!!!



**Mariam Banemanie
 Traore from Burkina
 Faso (on the right)**

**and Hortense Dodo
 from USA (on the left)**



"I am going to come back" J is what our Beloved Prophet promised before His departure, a small sentence that must resound again in the hearts of the seminarists on their way back home.

Thank you Beloved Prophet for everything that You gave during these 10 days in Africa.... and dear brothers and sisters of Africa, thank you for the love and the respect that you testified to Him, thank you J

RAEL HAS ARRIVED IN MIAMI



Following His tour around the world, our Beloved Prophet has arrived in Miami where the Miami team welcomed Him with a banner and lots of joy. They had a big surprise, the next morning as our Beloved Prophet honored them by coming to their monthly meeting. He spoke

to the small group for more than an hour and here is a small summary of what He said, summary done by Donna.

"I have just arrived from the seminar in Africa, where we were 709 people. This seminar was the best seminar of my life, it was a seminar for me too. The people are so pure and natural". He explained to us how easy we have it here in America. He was greeted by 10 Raelian angels who took a bus for 24 hours to take care of Him for the first days and one of the girls left after 3 days to take another 24 hour bus ride back to the Ivory Coast arrange for 170 new Raelians to come to the seminar. And then she took another 24-hour bus ride back. He told us about how the African people especially the Raelians, ARE without having not having without being. African people are a model for the modern world because they have nothing. They are diamonds and the future of humanity.

We have it easy here in America. The room of the seminar was a hot 104 degrees and no air-conditioning. Although there were many fans and the lighting was inadequate, he had the smiles of 700 people to brighten the room. He told us that one wonderful thing about the African government was they paid for allot of the Raelians to come to the seminar. In their country if you are from any religion and want to go, lets say to Mecca, for your once in a lifetime journey, the government will give you the money to go. So many Raelians who came to the seminar had their entire trip paid for.

He talked about the homeless in America and how compared to the homeless in Africa; American homeless are like Donald Trump. When you see someone homeless in America they have a cart or a shopping bag or something. In Ghana he saw a homeless man laying on the street, with nothing, no bag, and no shopping cart, nothing. He was sleeping completely naked with nothing, nothing. We have so much to be thankful for. Our homeless people are rich compared to them. We have to enjoy totally everything we have without feeling guilty in order to become stronger and then be able to help people. If we feel guilty of having...we become weaker and less able to help others.

He spoke to us about how surprised he was to see many Raelian girls so happy even though many of them have had their clitoris removed in this old barbaric custom of excision. They have learned to use their whole body to give them pleasure. He told us the next time we are a bit sad or a bit depressed for some little nothing reason, like we lost some money or a problem has arrived we should stop and think about these women who embrace life with a smile and lots of love and they have no clitoris. He also mentioned that he commissioned Brigitte to work on the recreation of repairing the clitoris, which is missing among many African women through stem cell research. This will be followed by a campaign throughout Africa telling them that if they are still doing the excision, Brigitte will make it grow again.

He talked extensively about the Tsunami in South Asia saying that it's a lesson of humility for Humanity which is so tiny and fragile, we could disappear at any time and return to infinity being infinity ourselves. We are particles of infinity and these particles are eternal. Tsunami was a beautiful lesson of humility. Of course it is sad for those who died but this humanity is full of pride: Human beings thinking they are masters of universe to control all. Even the Elohim said that they could disappear one day due to a catastrophe. We must have humility, we are dust. Trying to master science yes this is good, but Bush thinks he can control the world. He cannot. The fact that USA barely gave only \$350M to help the victims of that terrible disaster, which is the amount of money they spend per

day for the war in Iraq. Infinity is there to remind us we are a small piece of dust. Enjoy life, be happy.

Our Prophet is so kind to us. He then offered to answer questions if any one had a question. One member asked about his learning disability as he has trouble to read and write. Rael told us that our technology very soon will allow us to speak into a computer and ask it questions and the computer will write what we tell it to write and the computer will also read all the texts we need it to read so we will need less and less this ability.

A new girl said that although she read His books and agrees with everything she still believes that there is a higher being. Rael's response was, "If we destroy our internal fears, if we love ourselves ...we don't need to believe any longer in an almighty god. The need of a god is a lack of confidence in our self. The myth of god is what's the most dangerous belief. Growing up means to stop waiting for protection from the outside. Nobody is protecting you. Only yourself with your consciousness can protect yourself. It is stupid to believe in a god who which would be very bad considering that he let 200,000 people die in few minutes without intervention of any kind. That demonstrates one more time how much humanity is stupid with their beliefs. He laughed about a man he saw on television that said, "I thank God that he saved my life". How stupid is this. That a god would save one man and let die 199,000 other die. This must be a very important man. Our Beloved Prophet then walked around and hugged and meet all of the team.

Our tiny little team felt so privileged to have Him speak to us, as we were the first ones he had the opportunity to tell about His adventure in Africa. We are humbled dear Prophet of your humility and the tremendous love You have for this humanity. Thank you so much for all that you bring to us. With all that we have in our being, and I speak for the whole American continent and for all of the Raelians everywhere, we love You.

IMPORTANT NOTICE To all members of the structure of the Raelian Movement:

Our Beloved Prophet reminds us that the condom is absolutely necessary in all our sexual intercourses, except in the privacy of a couple if one lives as a couple. But in all other opportunities, He asks us to respect this order and demands to women to signal all men who don't want to respect this order.

The non port of the condom will be punished of exclusion of the structure as it is not possible to be a member of the structures and not to have the conscience to protect oneself and to protect the others.

ABOUT PROSTITUTION

The following question was asked to our Beloved Prophet : Is prostitution a good and positive thing with no detriment to anyone involved?

Here is His answer:

Regarding this subject we are not here to create a morality police like in muslim countries and invade private life of people. Some people prostitute their brain as intellectual workers, or their hands as factory workers, and it is all prostitution. As long as money exists there will be people doing things for money. They can do it working with their hands, brain, sex or singing, as long as they do it for money it is prostitution. We just can hope that one day money will disappear like in the Elohim society where people do things only for pleasure. (even in this case some people continue to "prostitute" some part of themselves in order to learn things...for instance some girls may want to be close to a higher spiritual or artistic teacher and learn from him in exchange of some sexual moments of pleasure...without any money involved !)

Selling your sex for money is not worst than selling any other part of your body including your brain. Some societies criminalise the sexual part because they were shaped by judeo islamo christian values which describe sex as bad. I prefer to see a girl selling her body for sex than a scientist selling his brain to weapon industry which will use his knowledge to kill millions of people. Sex (with protection of course) never intends to kill anybody.

So, yes , in an ideal society prostitution may be wrong, which means selling any part of our body including the mind, or hands , or voice for money ... but in our world it's up to each person to decide what they want to sell or not. I personally know a philosophy teacher woman who prostitutes herself and enjoys it... because like that working one night a week she can enjoy life more than teaching stupid children who do not care about philosophy 5 days a week for a very low salary. Of course the dream is to help women do something they like and escape prostitution if they have a higher dream...(and if they don't enjoy prostitution, because some women do, loving the thrill of it...even if they are a minority...for instance there are some clubs in Paris where rich women prostitute themselves just for the thrill of it !!) and can afford it. But even if we recommend to them to do something "better"...(it s not better for my philosophy teacher friend !) we must let everybody free to live their life the way they want. Freedom is the key. But of course whenever a woman (or a man) is victimised and forced into prostitution against her will by pimps , gangsters or criminal prostitution networks we must fight it and protect the victims. But as long as it is the free will of adult and independant people we must respect their freedom to make money the way they want.

I want to add another kind of prostitution which is well accepted both morally and socially : women getting married with rich men only for the money. They can even have children with this rich husband (or a secret beautiful lover as we saw in this scientific document during the seminar !) and selected him for his wealth in order to give a beautiful future to her children. But this is also prostitution ! And it is done everyday and well respected by everybody. Even kings used to marry princesses from surrounding kingdoms in order to create more powerfull alliances...

When you have sex in order to get anything in exchange it is prostitution. Even if in exchange you get the comfort of being the wife of a wealthy person. And beside marriages , so many women are just making a living being mistresses of wealthy men . And we can also talk about muslim people having as many wives as they can afford to support financially...

So what is not prostitution ? Doing something you love without expecting anything in return.

We all should do what we really like as jobs and that will come one day.

So the advice I always give to girls being in prostitution or working in clubs is : do you do what you really like ? If not please change. But I would give exactly the same advice to people working in a factory !

And it's much better for a woman like my philosophy teacher friend, to prostitute herself once a week in a luxurious condo than dancing 5 days a week in a smoky club full of drugs and violence. I always push girls dancing in this kind of clubs to find another job because they are damaging their genetic code, not because of sexual activity but because of the smoke , drugs and alcohol. But it would be exactly the same advice for a girl working in a factory full of smoke and dangerous pollutants. It is not about the sex. One more time our body cannot be separated in pure and unpure parts. Catholic people teach that, the sex being for them dirty, the mind is pure, which is very stupid. Some people are lucky enough to have the privilege of doing as a job what is their passion. That should be the privilege of everybody. And we must also remember, even if they are a small minority that some women love and enjoy prostitution. And that there was even some religions which had what they called "holly prostitutes"...

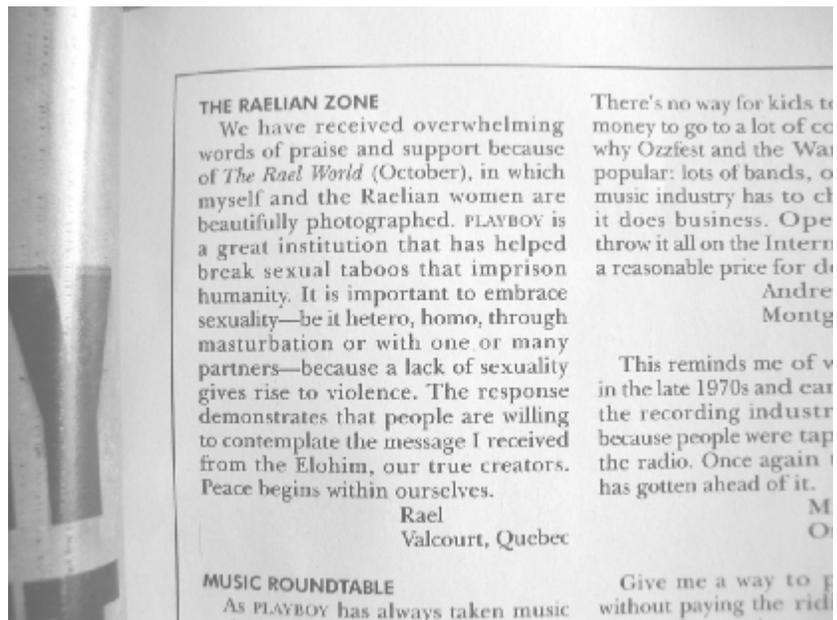
We must always remember the basic principles of Elohim's teaching : do whatever you like as long as you don't hurt or kill anybody including yourself and use your life to improve the level of love, science ,consciousness and happiness on this planet.

Can a prostitute improve the level of love, science ,consciousness and happiness on this planet ? Certainly it is possible. Can a non prostitute monogamous traditional catholic woman damage the level of love, science ,consciousness and happiness on this planet: certainly yes also... So it 's definitely not which part of your body you use for a living which will be the factor of desserving to have eternal life but what effect your actions have on improving the well being of humanity.

THE MOVEMENT AND THE NEWS

A letter of our Beloved
Prophet published on
Playboy....

Our support was sent to
Hans Keirstead from the
University of California-
Irvine, who is making
paralyzed rats walk again
by injecting them with
healthy brain cells sussed
from a reddish soup of
human embryonic stem cells he and his colleagues have created.



Press release in the US : Neuroscience will prove there is no Soul

Las Vegas, December 29th, 2004 - Following the recent interview by Martha Farah, director of the University of Pennsylvania's Center for Cognitive Neuroscience*, Ricky Lee Roehr of the Raelian Movement issued the following statement: "We would like to take this opportunity to remind the world that there are a fast-growing number of scientists

who are discovering more and more of the human brain's functions. They are demystifying what was once known as the "soul" and this is why religions are protesting the advancement of science. Science always proves religion wrong and adds more and more evidence every week to support what Rael relayed to humanity in 1973 after being told that, in fact, there is no such thing as a "soul" or a god - during the face-to-face contact with an Extraterrestrial who dictated to him a series of messages, explaining the origin of all life on Earth, the origins of all religions and the future of humanity. These Extraterrestrials are true Creators of humanity so they should know if they created us with a soul or not!

One of the great minds of our time, Nobel Laureate Francis Crick, the co-discoverer of the DNA double helix also believed there is no soul but only consciousness - as he wrote in his book: Astonishing Hypothesis as much as 10 years ago. But Rael revealed this information **31 years ago** - as well as how cloning would develop and many other revelations which have proven true. Recently, Dr. Crick was searching for the location of the consciousness, which Rael also revealed last year but could not contact Dr. Crick before he died this summer to give him this deeply sought after information.

The biggest inhibitor of scientific progress is religion. Information like this, which is being revealed at an exponential rate, advancements in cloning, gene therapy etc. is what religion is starting to realize will destroy the myth of god, will destroy their paychecks and, worst of all, destroy the absolute control they have over billions of faithful followers who have been duped into fearing a god - who does not exist! Man created god in his image, not the contrary. As foretold, humanity is in the "Age of Revelation". The true Creators of humanity revealed that there is no soul, no god, and that it is time for humanity to start understanding instead of believing."

RAEL'S COMMENTS OF THE CLONING OF THE PET CAT LITTLE NICKY

Texas, December 28th, 2004 - Following the recent cloning of a pet cat by a company named Genetic Saving and Clones, RAEL, founder of the International Raelian Movement (www.rael.org) commented,

"Some anti cloning people are saying it is "morally problematic ". I would like to know what is morally problematic in cloning animals since the religious beliefs, which apply to human cloning for some religious people, should not overlap into animal cloning.

As for the cost, many people buy very expensive races of cats and dogs ...and as the United States is a free capitalist country, it is the freedom of each individual to spend their money as they like. Individuals can spend millions for houses, racing horses, cars, airplanes, etc. and no one would criticize them saying this money should be used to build "homes for strays" or, something even more useful, to buy shelters for homeless people! Because the USA is a capitalistic, non-communist, free country. Why apply this kind of thinking to people spending their hard earned money to do what they like? They should clone their beloved pet! Do these people criticizing want America to become communist and limit the freedom of Americans to spend their money the way they want? In this case they should stop being hypocrites and clearly say what they mean to say. Because what they are saying now would mean that all pet stores are morally problematic also since they breed more pets. And would these "morally just" people agree to stop having

children until all adoption clinics are emptied? Human overpopulation is a much bigger problem than little cats. And how many of these people are for capital punishment? They should say what they mean and address the truly "morally problematic" issues."

A little something else to think about over this season: Do these same moral thinkers have a problem with all the money spent on Christmas? After all, American and British citizens spend an average of 15 times more on Christmas than the annual income in Ethiopia. Cosmetic sales alone (usually tested on animals, by the way) would bail out a couple of poor African countries from their increasing debt. The amount of food we eat on this day could easily feed a hungry child for a week, and the price of an average restaurant lunch would supply grain for a family in drought-hit Malawi for a full week.

DIFFUSION AND PLEASURE AROUND THE WORLD

BELGIUM

Our actions of promotion of Atheism didn't pass unobserved.

By Eric Remacle, level 4

In the setting of the Year of Atheism, we have attempted like our brothers and sisters of Italy, to promote Atheism in a resonant manner in the cities on Sunday. We sent hundreds of letters in the cities, to associations, etc. All that, in addition to our action for commemoration of the death of Guirdano Bruno, our complaint against the Vatican.... all this didn't pass unobserved as we realized it afterwards:

- One of the people responsible for the biggest student association of French-speaking Belgium promoting secularism and atheism came to one of our conferences and confided to us that without being able to say it officially, our actions are followed and strongly appreciated by several responsible! An article about our complaint against the chief of the Vatican should see the day in their magazine!
- A lay magazine promoting Atheism, the first in Belgium, very valued and very well read, had in November an article entitled, "The Church Must Pay", a very pleasing article when one realizes that NOPEDO Belgium was the subject of a judicial pursuit to have declared on it's site that there are hundreds of child molestor priests (we are currently in appeal, and as our lawyer said, every day that passes shows us that we were underestimating the reality..). Here is an extract from this article:

"One continues today to hide his face on one aspect of the increasingly fattening pond: in contemporary society, the difficult topic centered around sex and the celibacy of priests makes the Catholic church a den of unbalanced sexual freaks. These individuals represent an abnormal proportion of their agents. (..) As usual, in Belgium we stay as discreet as possible. On the continent, we are not used to paying. Anyway, the Catholic church ends up paying the price for its crimes and its weaknesses when we consider that they want to pursue what they call the sects. It is the history of the straw and the beam or 'depending on whether you will be powerful or miserable'."

Patrice Dartevelle. Space Of Liberties, magazine of the center of action. laic n°323, 2004

- And finally, a media personality widely-known for her struggle in favor of liberty,

notably religious freedom and the respect of the minorities, as well as her fight for Atheism, came to one of our conferences at the beginning of December.

We wanted to film and interview her and at the end of the conference we asked her some questions. Here are her answers full of wisdom!

Anne Morelli, Hello! You are a history professor of the contemporary Christian churches at the Institute of the History of the Religions at the free University of Brussels. You are a writer, you wrote this famous book full of common sense, An Open Letter To The Sect Of The Adversaries Of The Sects", and you are also a very mediatized personality right now in Belgium for your fight in favor of liberty, notably religious liberty and the respect of the religious minorities, as well as your fight for secularism and atheism.

Although atheistic, you say in your book that "it would be illusory to want to definitely block the evolution of the religious passage for the next millennium". What message do you wish to bring out here?

Anne Morelli: *About the new religions I have an opinion that: one cannot have two weights and two measures. Therefore if one tolerates, if one encourages the expression of the 3 or 4 big major religions, it is necessary to encourage all religious confessions also, which includes the expression of the irreligious (the non religion) and the expression of Atheism, they must clearly have the same treatment as the religions. If one respects belief, it is necessary to respect unbelief also and in our world it is not something obvious.*

Why choose to be atheistic?

Anne Morelli: *My evolution towards Atheism was an evolution from adolescence. I questioned a lot, notably about suffering. If there was a God all good and all powerful, how could he tolerate that there is here on Earth flagrant injustice, war, suffering? And the question of women also, because if God is interested in all creatures that he created, why does he let some creatures oppress some others? Why has he been taking sides for so long, always for the same ones, the men, while letting the women be oppressed? That it is one of the questions I had.*

The world is torn by the wars of religion and terrorism under the name of a divine mission, even up to the President of the United States himself!... It seems that the belief in god never provoked as much death and suffering. In your opinion, is Atheism a hope facing this situation and what are the stakes of Atheism today?

Anne Morelli: *The massacres all around the world have most of the time religious alibis. And therefore when one sees what happens today in Iraq, or what happens between Palestinians and Israelis, or what happened between Yugoslavians, there is always religion to put oil on the fire. It seems to me that the religions had an extremely harmful role (in the origin of these conflicts).*

In your opinion can an atheistic terrorism exist?

Anne Morelli: *I am Atheistic and in heaps of areas I doubt. People who doubt don't have this virulence that the people who have certainty do... When you are sure and you claim, "God is with us"... you have an arrogance that the one who doubts and who wonders*

naturally doesn't have. In front of every thing, he wonders is this good or no? Is this well or no? The massacres that would have taken place in the name of doubt don't exist, it is an empty slot.

His Holiness Raël, spiritual chief of the Raelian religion, an atheistic religion, has proclaimed 2004 the Year of Atheism. You followed all the activity that the members of the Raelian Movement made for the promotion of atheism this year. What do you think of this activity?

Anne Morelli: *One of your actions that I will support completely is to have the same space for the Atheists as for the believers. When we see how much one imposes upon us religious missions or the sounds of bells... It would be normal for us to say that religion is a idiot's trap in the same proportions ;-)). And I must say that one of your actions that I appreciated was the balloons sent over the Pope in Lourdes... because few people dare to do it and it is an action that seems beneficial.*

(Staring at my T-shirt, "There Is No God") And I like your T-shirt a lot! Yes, yes I will buy one from you!(laughter)

On December 7th, Raël will give in Rome a press conference about the International Convention of the Atheists and will commemorate the murder of Giordano Bruno by the Vatican. He will also denounce the other crimes of the Vatican and will ask for the termination of the agreements of Latran. You, what do you think of the Vatican, this small non-democratic state that has so much influence in the world?

Anne Morelli: *The Vatican is a state that is recognized like an observer of the UN in that it even has a deliberative voice. It means that there is a state of confusion between State and Religion and that it is quite unhealthy evidently, because they put pressure on structures of states according to their religion. And then we saw in the recent Europeans questions that there is an obvious influence of the Vatican and the Pope on European political structures.*

For what of Giordano Bruno and all those that are victims of the intolerance of the Catholic church, they will have to wait for 1,000 years to receive apologies from the church. But it doesn't prevent Giordano Bruno and so many others to have been put on the stake. You have just said that what is superior in an atheist's theology compared to a believer's is that they don't possess a certainty, that they pass everything through their consciousness. Do you agree that atheism can save the world?

Anne Morelli: *I would say that Secularism is necessary to the world. The only countries where people have succeeded in living together peacefully with different opinions and different confessions, are the the secular countries. In Pakistan it is not possible to be something else other than Muslim. In Israel, if you are not Jewish you are a second rate citizen. In Ireland, which is a fundamentally religious country, all religious dissidence is a drama. Only the secular countries succeeded in living together on the same territory with people of different convictions. Therefore, I think that in that sense Secularism is in any case an absolute necessity for the world. It creates a place for the Atheists on the side of the main religions.*

...And to conclude, I would like to add that in the domain of the hypotheses, yours (the extraterrestrial scientific creation of life on earth) seems to me more plausible than that of the stupidities of the kind describing resurrection of the body as extolled by the Catholic church.

Interview done December 5 at the Plaza Hotel in Brussels.

AUSTRALIA

We have celebrated the Aids day and the end of the Year of Atheism in Oceania. All areas have participated in demonstration against the catholic church for the rehabilitation of Giordano Bruno. In Brisbane we also had a debaptism ceremony with Pope Alice. We made quite a big impression.

All the signs that were used for the debaptism ceremony (there is no god, debaptise now etc...) and which all include rael.org website will be exposed at a prestigious Bribane Art Gallery. The show is over but the controversy will continue thank to Luke Roberts and the director of the Art Gallery who has loved the show.



JAPAN

Japan - Farewell Party for Haruko

By Lluisa

On Sunday, a farewell party was held to celebrate the departure of our beloved sister Haruko who passed away on December, Saturday 18th.

Haruko was the wife or Peru's national guide, Enrique. Together they made a great team and she supported him in all his activities and actions. We joined together in a telepathic prayer and rejoiced at the thought that she might have finally reached eternal happiness



by the side of our beloved Parents the Elohim.

As Haruko had wished, her body was donated to science, and the Aichi Ika University Hospital who received her remains promised to remove 1 square centimetre of her frontal bone as specified in the Messages. They were most helpful and we are keeping their name and contact phones in our files for future reference as it is not easy to find a hospital who will readily agree to carry out the extraction of the frontal bone.

P.S. The "bearded beauty" in pink, is our dear Japanese guide Tony, whose wit and love helped make the body donation to science and the farewell party possible.

GREAT ARTICLES about NEURO BIO PLASTICITY.... well, another word to say SENSUAL MEDITATION J

Meditation Gives Brain a Charge, Study Finds

By Marc Kaufman
Washington Post Staff Writer
Monday, January 3, 2005; Page A05

Brain research is beginning to produce concrete evidence for something that Buddhist practitioners of meditation have maintained for centuries: Mental discipline and meditative practice can change the workings of the brain and allow people to achieve different levels of awareness.

Those transformed states have traditionally been understood in transcendent terms, as something outside the world of physical measurement and objective evaluation. But over the past few years, researchers at the University of Wisconsin working with Tibetan monks have been able to translate those mental experiences into the scientific language of high-frequency gamma waves and brain synchrony, or coordination. And they have pinpointed the left prefrontal cortex, an area just behind the left forehead, as the place where brain activity associated with meditation is especially intense.

"What we found is that the longtime practitioners showed brain activation on a scale we have never seen before," said Richard Davidson, a neuroscientist at the university's new \$10 million W.M. Keck Laboratory for Functional Brain Imaging and Behavior. "Their mental practice is having an effect on the brain in the same way golf or tennis practice will enhance performance." It demonstrates, he said, that the brain is capable of being trained and physically modified in ways few people can imagine.

Scientists used to believe the opposite -- that connections among brain nerve cells were fixed early in life and did not change in adulthood. But that assumption was disproved over the past decade with the help of advances in brain imaging and other techniques, and in its place, scientists have embraced the concept of ongoing brain development and "neuroplasticity."

Davidson says his newest results from the meditation study, published in the Proceedings of the National Academy of Sciences in November, take the concept of neuroplasticity a step further by showing that mental training through meditation (and presumably other disciplines) can itself change the inner workings and circuitry of the brain.

The new findings are the result of a long, if unlikely, collaboration between Davidson and Tibet's Dalai Lama, the world's best-known practitioner of Buddhism. The Dalai Lama first invited Davidson to his home in Dharamsala, India, in 1992 after learning about Davidson's innovative research into the neuroscience of emotions. The Tibetans have a centuries-old tradition of intensive meditation and, from the start, the Dalai Lama was interested in having Davidson scientifically explore the workings of his monks' meditating minds. Three years ago, the Dalai Lama spent two days visiting Davidson's lab.

The Dalai Lama ultimately dispatched eight of his most accomplished practitioners to Davidson's lab to have them hooked up for electroencephalograph (EEG) testing and brain scanning. The Buddhist practitioners in the experiment had undergone training in the Tibetan Nyingmapa and Kagyupa traditions of meditation for an estimated 10,000 to 50,000 hours, over time periods of 15 to 40 years. As a control, 10 student volunteers with no previous meditation experience were also tested after one week of training.

The monks and volunteers were fitted with a net of 256 electrical sensors and asked to meditate for short periods. Thinking and other mental activity are known to produce slight, but detectable, bursts of electrical activity as large groupings of neurons send messages to each other, and that's what the sensors picked up. Davidson was especially interested in measuring gamma waves, some of the highest-frequency and most important electrical brain impulses.

Both groups were asked to meditate, specifically on unconditional compassion. Buddhist teaching describes that state, which is at the heart of the Dalai Lama's teaching, as the "unrestricted readiness and availability to help living beings." The researchers chose that focus because it does not require concentrating on particular objects, memories or images, and cultivates instead a transformed state of being.

Davidson said that the results unambiguously showed that meditation activated the trained minds of the monks in significantly different ways from those of the volunteers. Most important, the electrodes picked up much greater activation of fast-moving and unusually powerful gamma waves in the monks, and found that the movement of the waves through the brain was far better organized and coordinated than in the students. The meditation novices showed only a slight increase in gamma wave activity while meditating, but some of the monks produced gamma wave activity more powerful than any previously reported in a healthy person, Davidson said.

The monks who had spent the most years meditating had the highest levels of gamma waves, he added. This "dose response" -- where higher levels of a drug or activity have greater effect than lower levels -- is what researchers look for to assess cause and effect.

In previous studies, mental activities such as focus, memory, learning and consciousness were associated with the kind of enhanced neural coordination found in the monks. The intense gamma waves found in the monks have also been associated with knitting together disparate brain circuits, and so are connected to higher mental activity and heightened awareness, as well.

Davidson's research is consistent with his earlier work that pinpointed the left prefrontal cortex as a brain region associated with happiness and positive thoughts and emotions. Using functional magnetic resonance imaging (fMRI) on the meditating monks, Davidson found that their brain activity -- as measured by the EEG -- was especially high in this area.

Davidson concludes from the research that meditation not only changes the workings of the brain in the short term, but also quite possibly produces permanent changes. That finding, he said, is based

on the fact that the monks had considerably more gamma wave activity than the control group even before they started meditating. A researcher at the University of Massachusetts, Jon Kabat-Zinn, came to a similar conclusion several years ago.

Researchers at Harvard and Princeton universities are now testing some of the same monks on different aspects of their meditation practice: their ability to visualize images and control their thinking. Davidson is also planning further research.

"What we found is that the trained mind, or brain, is physically different from the untrained one," he said. In time, "we'll be able to better understand the potential importance of this kind of mental training and increase the likelihood that it will be taken seriously."

The power in silent speech -Humair Hashmi

January 2nd, 2005

Research on silent speech also led psychologists to discover the process of silent reading and memorisation in college students which proved to be of immense value in improving learning and teaching methodologies at college level and beyond

Most of modern psychology is cognitive psychology, that is, it deals with human thought processes. What is thinking, psychologists ask themselves. Isn't manipulation of mental images, is it playing around with symbols, or is it covert oral behaviour?

It was the work of Russian physiologist-psychologist Pavlov that demonstrated, perhaps for the first time, that by thinking of performing an act - having a kinesthetic idea - one involuntarily performs that act without noticing it. Some earlier work had demonstrated that a thought - as a conditioned stimulus - can provoke physiological reactions corresponding to its meaning. It was Vasilyeva who was first successful in his attempt to elicit a conditioned motor reflex in response to a thought. He was able to demonstrate in laboratory experiments that a stable motor conditioned reflex (an act) can be elicited by cognitive stimuli alone.

Thus it became known that by forming higher-order chain reflexes, thoughts become capable of exerting a very powerful specific and general influence on the cerebral cortex. It is possible therefore, to provoke, even an involuntary response in a human subject purely through thoughts. Such responses include pain, local dilation of blood vessels and even premature menstruation. They have been invoked under experimental conditions by Wedensky. Thus thoughts were demonstrated to exert an exceptionally powerful influence on an individual's life in general.

The Russian physiologist-psychologists also emphasised the role of thinking in shaping a man's behaviour. They pointed out that thinking can 'cause' behaviour. They called such thinking auto-suggestion. In other words, giving suggestions to oneself may exert a powerful influence on the individual's behaviour.

Both Russian and American researchers cite the example of Christian martyrs being burnt at the stake without pain, as a demonstration of the power of thinking to avoid pain. In Islamic culture mourners walking on red-hot live coals to express their grief in solidarity with martyrs may be a similar example. Capri and Berger had separately shown in the USA that just as we are susceptible to being influenced by others, we are also susceptible to our own thoughts. Thoughts may be the cause of a lot of our behaviour.

In the sixties and seventies experimental psychologists began using various instruments and electronic devices to explore this human function. The evidence from an extensive body of research in the area revealed that covert oral responses occur when a person is supposed to be thinking. When electrodes were attached to different parts of human body in a series of experiments, they picked up clear signals of muscular activity during "silent speech" or thought.

It was discovered additionally, that the signals showed a relationship between thought and the relevant body organ. If a person thought about walking, for example, the muscular activity signals originated in the legs. If a person thought about food or eating, his tongue showed muscular activity. If he thought about talking, his vocal apparatus registered muscular movement.

Research done by such electromyography (EMG) instrumentation opened a whole new vista of exploration. EMG uses now include crime investigation and testing the authenticity of testimony given by witnesses.

Using similar instrumentation child psychologists have studied reading abilities and disabilities in children. They used high audio amplification and discovered, among other things, the difference between rapid readers and slow readers, as well as some special intellectual problems, such as dyslexia and dyscalculia.

Research on silent speech also led psychologists at about the same time to discover the process of silent reading and memorisation in college students which proved to be of immense value in improving learning and teaching methodologies at college level and beyond.

Specially-devised digital cameras were later used in the eighties and nineties to observe and record pupillary response that accompanied thinking. Such research revealed a number of interesting observations including, in the present context, that human pupils dilate in the process of decision-making and contract during other 'intelligence activity'. In this context 'intelligence activity' means weighing pros and cons in relation to a decision and does not refer to 'intelligence gathering' in the conventional sense of acquiring information. Research also revealed that the more complex the thinking carried on, the greater the pupillary dilation.

A particular form of brain activity, called P300, was found involved in a variety of thought processes. This waveform reaches its amplitude peak in 300 milliseconds after a thought "occurs". This reflects the reaction time between a thought and the subsequent act. This information is used in various ways related to our daily life, including prevention of road accidents.

The use of EMG, the pupillary response, and the P300 as electronic measures of thought have revealed some basic information about thinking and thought processes. In conjunction with other facts this information has led psychologists to devise a number of strategies to help 'train' human thinking.

The Russian physiologists had shown that thought or silent speech does influence human behaviour, even the involuntary responses such as change in one's heartbeat, blood pressure and galvanic skin response. They also showed that if thoughts were modified, the behaviour also changed. By changing one's thinking, for example, one could raise or lower one's blood pressure. Appropriate thoughts also influence one's brain activity, making it calm or excited. Based upon these findings thought modification was later used for therapeutic purposes all over the world. In recent times it has proved of immense value.

One line of investigation in this context was discovering various problems in a person's thinking

that may cause pain or unhappiness - which in other words, could precipitate mental disease. Research in the USA, and recently in Pakistan, has identified at least eleven factors that cause 'cloudy thinking' and predispose a person to a lot of confusion and unhappiness - even mental illness.

Humair Hashmi is a professionally certified psychotherapist who teaches at Imperial College Lahore. This is the first in a series of article on the subject

THE 7 WONDERS

Transmitted by Joe Behand

A group of students were asked to list what they thought were the present "Seven Wonders of the World." Though there were some disagreements, the following received the most votes:

1. Egypt's Great Pyramids
2. Taj Mahal
3. Grand Canyon
4. Panama Canal
5. Empire State Building
6. St. Peter's Basilica
7. China's Great Wall

While gathering the votes, the teacher noted that one student had not finished her paper yet. So she asked the girl if she was having trouble with her list. The girl replied, "Yes, a little. I couldn't quite make up my mind because there were so many."

The teacher said, "Well, tell us what you have, and maybe we can help.

The girl hesitated , then read, "I think the seven wonders of the World are :

1. To See
2. To Hear
3. To Touch
4. To Taste
5. To Feel
6. To Laugh
7. And to Love."

The room was so quiet you could have heard a pin drop.

The things we overlook as simple and ordinary and that we take for granted are truly wondrous!

A gentle reminder -- that the most precious things in life cannot be built by hand or bought by man.