



2016 NARPI SUMMER PEACEBUILDING TRAINING



The 2016 NARPI Summer Peacebuilding Training took place in Taiwan for the first time, in the Greater Taipei area, from August 7-20. It was a big achievement made possible thanks to our Taiwanese friends who worked hard to organize and host NARPI. Manting Huang, a former NARPI participant (2011-2013), served as the local coordinator and planned details of venue and field trip in advance. Emily Wang, also a former NARPI participant (2011 and 2014), joined as the local coordinator during the entire training. Please see our thanks on page 7 to the many others who worked together to co-create this year's training.

Week 1: Jinshan

Week 1 courses were held at the Jinshan Youth Activity Center in Jinshan, New Taipei City, along the northern coast of Taiwan. In the past, this facility was a venue for youth military camps. During the Week 1 Opening Ceremony in the basement of the Kuang Fu main building, NARPI Executive Director Jae Young Lee shared: "There are very few people in the world who know why we're meeting here together in this basement, but we are the creative minority who will bring change in our communities and our region." At the same gathering, Chiang Ying-mei (May), an activist with the anti-nuclear movement in Jinshan, shared about the painful history of war and nuclear power in the Jinshan area. She closed with the words, "As global citizens in Northeast Asia, we are linked together. We care about each other. We are part of each other. That's why we are here together."



During our evenings in Jinshan, May showed us the beauty and the struggle of the area. Walking by the beach and through the local Night Market with new friends provided good exercise and also a deeper sense of connection to Jinshan. One evening we watched a documentary called “Calm Down Grandpa” on the anti-nuclear movement in Jinshan. May introduced us to Xu Fu Xiong, one of the grandfathers featured in the documentary who lives in the area where a power plant was built and who has been a leader of the anti-nuclear movement for the past 30 years. This energetic and humorous grandfather provided a refreshing example of being a peacebuilder. Several participant-led morning and evening events also provided significant sharing and learning during Week 1.

Week 2: Taipei

After a meaningful week in Jinshan, we boarded two buses and moved to the busy center of Taipei city, where we stayed for the field trip and Week 2 courses. In downtown Taipei, full of cars and motor scooters, participants enjoyed exploring the restaurants, bubble tea stands, night markets, and tourist attractions.

Week 2 courses were held at three different venues near the Taipei Teachers Hostel. Two of these, the 228 Memorial Museum and Taipei Bar Association, provided space at no cost, as co-hosts of the 2016 NARPI Summer Peacebuilding Training. We are grateful for their partnership!



During Week 2, participants led some events in the mornings and evenings, but many people also enjoyed exploring Taipei after class work was finished each day. The annual Culture and Talent Night was a highlight evening event in Week 2, during which participants shared songs, dance and other parts of their cultures with each other.

Courses

There were seven courses offered this year:

Week 1	Conflict and Peace Framework
	Theory and Practice of Peace Education
	Restorative Justice: A New Lens for Justice
	Trainer's Training
Week 2	Nonviolent Struggle for Social Change
	Optimizing Peace Making by Ending Generational Trauma
	Conflict Transformation in Organizations



Of these courses, three were new. We'd like to briefly introduce the three new courses:

Trainer's Training

Facilitator: Wendy Kroeker

In this course, participants learned how to plan, design and carry out effective peacebuilding workshops. The six participants also worked together in pairs to prepare a two-hour workshop to share with the participants in the *Conflict and Peace Framework* course.



One of the *Trainer's Training* course participants, Gail Okuma, reflected afterwards: "I loved the way Wendy presented our course. She consistently strived to show how adults learn, like to be treated, and feel. I received lots of new ideas, strategies and feedback." Many returning NARPI participants have expressed interest in developing their own skills as peacebuilding workshop trainers, and this course is one effort to equip those who are starting out as trainers in this field.



Nonviolent Struggle for Social Change

Co-facilitators: Kyoko Okumoto and Chi Kwan Ho

This course focused on the theory and practice of nonviolent strategies in struggles for social change, using examples from civil societies of various communities in Northeast Asia. Hsing-Chung Wang (Sean) joined the course as a resource person, sharing both theory and some case studies of nonviolent social movements in Taiwan. The facilitators and course participants also joined in to share more examples of struggles for social change in the communities where they live – from Hong Kong, to Okinawa, to Jeju Island. After the course, Enkhjargal Purevee (Enji) shared, “Before I thought that nonviolent activities were much more limited, but I learned about a lot of new methods and techniques.”

Optimizing Peacemaking by Ending Generational Trauma

Co-facilitators: Aya Kasai and Tommy Lee Woon

The aim of this course was to show participants how an understanding of trauma and the body’s natural protective responses can benefit all peace building strategies. The course participants explored and experienced how awareness about the body and expressive arts can help people to face, discuss, and break the cycle and impact of violence. They also learned how individuals and communities can transform trauma into something constructive. After the course, participant Rika Nakashima commented, “I could find a new way of solution about my trauma or bad memories. I realized what I should change and what I don’t need to change about myself. This course is useful, valuable and helpful for me to live my life as the real me.”



Field Trip

The three-day NARPI field trip provided a deeper understanding of Taiwan's history.

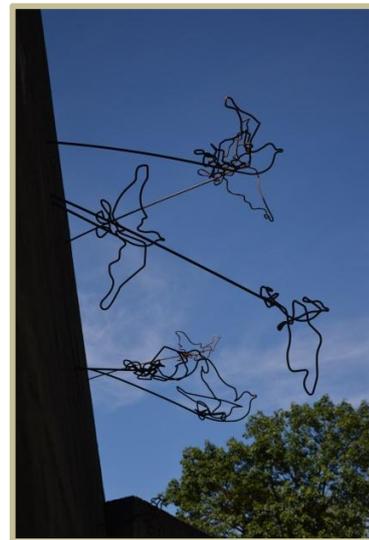
228 Memorial Museum



We visited the 228 Memorial Museum, which tells the story of the clash between soldiers sent from Mainland China after the Japanese Imperial Army left Taiwan and the people living in Taiwan. It started with an argument about contraband cigarettes on February 27, 1947, during which one officer shot and killed a bystander. Violence escalated quickly, and the troops from Mainland China under Chiang Kai-shek started a widespread massacre. The following era of suppression of any political dissidents was called “White Terror,” and it lasted until July 15, 1987.

Jing-Mei Human Rights Memorial and Cultural Park

We also visited the Jing-Mei Human Rights Memorial and Cultural Park. This memorial was the site of the Jingmei Military Detention Centre, where accused political dissidents were held and tried in military courts during the White Terror period. There, we were honored to meet three former political prisoners, who shared their personal stories and also gave us a tour of the memorial. It was a deep honor to meet these individuals who had suffered under the most violent faces of war, including imprisonment and torture, and who live with a passion to ensure that the next generations in Taiwan will protect human rights.



In addition to witnessing the history of Taiwan, we learned about a great example of current peace work happening in Taipei. Jiazhen Wu, a representative from the Taiwan Alliance to End the Death Penalty (TAEDP), shared about the struggle of human rights NGOs in Taiwan against the death penalty policy.

Throughout the field trip, “human rights” was a key phrase that appeared often in both Taiwanese history and current NGO work. Along with democracy and freedom, respecting human rights is one of the main values of Taiwanese society.

Overall, we have learned and been reminded of many important aspects of peacebuilding in Northeast Asia during this year's training in Taiwan. We have rediscovered that we are all influenced by the same history of our parents' and grandparents' generations. We have also re-realized that the mission of our generation is to find ways to respond differently and creatively to this history of past generations.

NARPI's First Rotation around the Region Completed

The Summer Peacebuilding Training in Taiwan this year was a milestone for NARPI overall, as it marks the completion of a rotation to all parts of the region where we have strong partnerships. Here is where the Summer Peacebuilding Trainings have been held over the past six years.



Unfortunately, we have not been able to make a strong partnership in Far East Russia, and we are not able to hold NARPI in North Korea. Maybe in the next round or two!

Through this first cycle around the region, it is clear that NARPI has gained a lot of momentum. There are now around 250 NARPI alumni (including facilitators, participants and volunteers). Many of these individuals have taken on ownership of the vision of NARPI.

These are some of the ways that NARPI alumni are working toward their vision for peace:

- Giving peacebuilding trainings in their home communities.
- Pursuing study or work in peacebuilding areas.
- Staying in touch with other NARPI alumni by sharing knowledge and resources and visiting each other to find out more about different peacebuilding efforts in the region.

These are some ways that NARPI alumni are supporting NARPI:

- Sharing about their NARPI experiences with family, friends, and colleagues.
- Continuing to join the NARPI Summer Peacebuilding Training.
- Recruiting participants for the NARPI Summer Training each year.
- Giving small donations to NARPI.

Stay connected !

Website www.narpi.net

Facebook page

www.facebook.com/narpipeace

If you want to do a presentation about NARPI in your community, please let us know at admin@narpi.net, and we can send you some resources



2017 Announcement

The 2017 NARPI Summer Peacebuilding Training will be held somewhere in **Japan**. The tentative dates are **August 6 (registration) to 20 (departures)**. Please mark your calendar with these dates and plan to join!

Thank You!

We would like to thank all of our friends who worked to make NARPI in Taiwan a reality:

Local coordinators: Manting Huang and Emily Wang

Jinshan local guide: Chiang Ying-mei (May)

Week 2 co-host organizations: 228 Memorial Museum and Taipei Bar Association

Official visa host: The Department of Diplomacy and International Relations, and the Graduate Institute of China Studies, Tamkang University

Visa coordinator: Chen Chien-Fu

Drivers: Hung Yao Nan and Chen Chien-Fu

We would also like to thank these groups and individuals for their financial support:

Organizations: Mennonite Central Committee, Niwano Peace Foundation, Mennonite Mission Network, Nonviolent Peaceforce Japan, Honancho Christ Church, Japan Mennonite Fellowship, Obihiro Mennonite Church, Transcend Japan, University Mennonite Church, Fort Garry Mennonite Church, ChamJoEun Church

Individuals: Kazuyuki Sasaki, Moe Sasaki, Takahashi Kenji, Eri Somoto, Daisuke Nojima, Ya huei Chen, Syi chang Wu, Asakawa Kazuya, Yoshimura Yasuhiro, Gail Okuma, Munkhshur Chimid, Amgalanzaya Tserenbaljir, Oyunsuren Damdinsuren, Uuriintuya Mendsaikhan, Battogtokh Javzandolgor, Saruul Gan-Erdene, Asem Myeiramkhan, Dorjderem Byambasuren, Tsogjavkhlan Tuvshinjargal, Dashtsetseg Mandalbayar, Zoljargal Batbaatar, Youki Kato, Kyoko Okumoto, Kathy Matsui, Emily Wang, Choi DaJung, Yeoreum Song, John & Virginia Spicher, Jim & Carol Spicher, Tom & Sharon Spicher

Please support NARPI through your donations!
Donations can be received at the NARPI bank account:

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