

Our Participation in the Commitment of Chivalry: The Caravan of Links by Qayyima and Kabir Clainchard

A few years ago, we were very involved (Head in France) in a project of Seven Pillars House of Wisdom. In his vision, Pir Zia invited us to work on each of the pillars:

1st Pillar: The Journey of Life

2nd Pillar: The Living Universe

3rd Pillar: The Cloud of Witnesses, Our Sacred Heritage

4th Pillar: The Ultimate

5th Pillar: The Cry

6th Pillar: What May Be

7th Pillar: The Pledge, the Oath of the Knight

At the same time, we were involved in an association, "Living in Peace Together", and we had in our thoughts the words of Pir Zia: "... To be a knight means to be in each situation attentive to one's duties, obligations towards oneself and toward others. We are connected with each other and we have obligations with each person. The word 'obligation' comes from the feeling of a bond and by the fulfillment of our obligations, we participate in connecting with each other; life is One."

In the association Living in Peace Together, we proposed a project "The Caravan of Links," a response in our eyes to the 7th pillar of the House of Wisdom.

Our association, Living in Peace Together - VEPE (Vivre En Paix Ensemble), was born when a group from Rennes (including our honorary president Magda Hollander-Lafon, witness of the Shoah) participated in May 2003 on a unique visit to Auschwitz Birkenau, organized on the next day of the 2nd Intifada by 200 Israeli Arabs, under the leadership of Émile Shoufani (Israeli Arab priest, school director, support of links between Israeli citizens of Arab and Jewish origin), a visit for which he received in 2003 the UNESCO Prize for Peace Education.

Living in Peace Together is an association created in 2004 under a 1901 law, which encourages men and women of good will seeking to bring people together in a process of education for peace.

Our association has a global mission to create and to make known or support projects that are part of a process of Peace Education (active listening to the other, ethics emerging from "for or against", spirit of non-violence and even of unity with the other, work on remembrance, valuing of direct testimonies) by managing its legal or organizational framework.

Project 2016 The Caravan of Links

We wanted to create a broad movement around the theme of the Link (what links us) to better understand what brings us together beyond our differences and how these differences enrich each other, allowing us to live better together in peace. The Link, the breeding ground of our humanity, would thus be approached in its different aspects (with oneself, with the other - known or not-known, of a different culture or nationality, of another generation, nature, the environment ...).

This unifying theme, The Link, could bring answers to fear, to withdrawal, to the fight against prejudice (recall of the events of January and November 2015), and to make us aware of all that brings us closer, rather than what separates us and what helps us to "Live in Intelligence," which is the slogan of the city of Rennes!

Everyone is a generator of links (family, friends, meetings, with the land ...). Show that the links are a source of enrichment - Cultivate this spirit of the Link, especially for youth - Make everyone understand that he/she can be or become an "actor-citizen" - Highlight local initiatives often unknown and to stimulate creativity ...

→ Since 2016, we have created and sparked good actions, especially with young people:

- evenings with testimonies of young people around commitment: vis-à-vis migrants, isolated people, the land ...
- production of a documentary presenting the testimonies of six engaged young people. This allows the opening of a debate on commitment, its why, its difficulties ...
- production of a dinner for making links: 110 people of all ages and cultures! To renew.

A reminder: The philosopher Abdenour Bidar, in his book *The Weavers*: "To repair together the torn fabric of the world, ... we need to achieve the union of a great awareness weaver, a great cause weaver, powerful and radiant, thanks to which the global evolution of the human world will be able to switch to the side of a general repair of all the links of solidarity, fraternity, symbiosis. We must promote as much as possible new commitments, increase the energy generated by the re-creation of links. Because everything that connects us makes us stronger ... "

Our hope for the year 2019, is to realize a dream: to organize a fortnight in Rennes, on the theme of the Link in all its aspects (with oneself, others, the earth, beliefs, arts ...) and we must meet in February with partners to carry out this project.

In addition, the city of Suresnes (city dear to the Inayatiyya) invited us, in late March 2019, to present this project to the inhabitants of the city, to discuss the commitment.

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