



The Mt. Tron Mail

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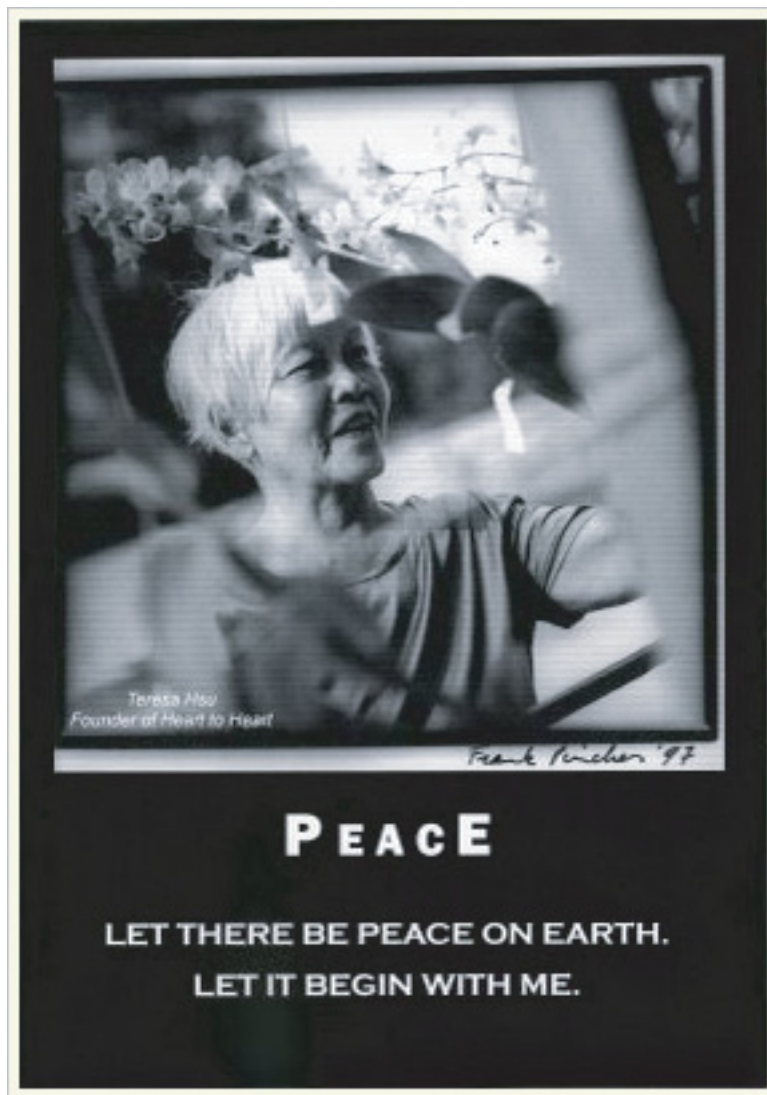


*Mt. Tron seen from a bridge where the two rivers Glåma and Folla meet, near the centre of Alvdal on May 21st 2010.
In the foreground the Storsteigen agricultural school. Photo: BP.*

Many rocks in the sea for the University of Peace!

It is necessary to watch one's steps to be able to navigate through the rough seas which lie ahead in establishing the University of Peace because here there are many rocks in the sea! It is in no way easy for an ideal trust, which only wants to do something good for others, to realize its plan in an ideally proper way. Society, it seems, neither has experience nor arrangements for these. On the other hand, if you are a commercial company which only wants to earn money and only needs to maintain narrow interests everything is all right. Then society has a lot of arrangements and wants to help you in every possible way.

However, the Trust is ready to meet the challenges! Read more about status quo on the last page!



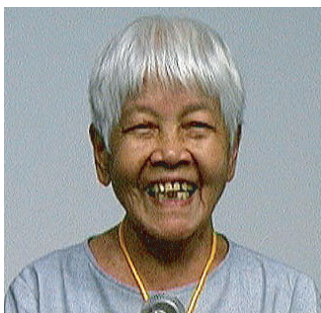
Teresa Hsu

Over: The picture is taken from Heart to Heart's home pages on the Internet.

Under: Video clip from Brisbane, Australia, October 2003, by BP.

Bottom: Taken from the organisation's own home pages on the Internet.

Everyone's sister: 112 year old Teresa Hsu!



On the 3rd of July Chineseborn Teresa Hsu will reach 112 years! The Mt. Tron Mail wrote about her in No. 4, 2005, after we had been so fortunate as to get acquainted with her at the international peace symposium "Pathways to Peace" in Brisbane, Australia, in October 2003. Teresa Hsu runs humanitarian welfare work (via her ideal organization Heart to Heart Service) among the poor and needy in Singapore together with her less than half her age co-worker, the Malaysian Sharana Rao. The following is taken from their home pages on the Internet: www.hearttoheartservice.org

"When I was a child, in my hometown in Shantou in China, I saw a lot of beggars through the window in our house. I said nobody should go on like that. I told myself that when I grew up and had money, I would give it to these poor people."

With the help of a group of volunteers she started her humanitarian relief work in Singapore in 1963 under the name of "Friends of the Needy", becoming known affectionately as "The Mother Teresa of Singapore". This relief work, which was actually the continuation of the same work started in 1933 in Hong Kong, gradually developed into the organization "Heart to Heart Service", which solely depends on food and money donations from well wishers. Her philosophy is simple: "All I want is to help the poorest and the helpless. We were helpless once. No-one should go without their basic needs, meaning food, shelter and medical care."

"We care for needy people in their own home, not in institutions, who do not know where to turn to ask for help. We supply them with the basic food needs every month in addition to cash aids to pay for their bills. Our motive is to help the needy with their basic needs which normally a father of a family would supply or in the case of single old people, what their children would supply if they had children. In other words, we try to fill the care normally family members would provide, which in their case, they do not have."



" The world is my home, all living beings are my brothers and sisters, selfless service is my religion."

Teresa Hsu is a keen practitioner of life-long learning, She continues to expand her knowledge by reading and learning new skills. Teresa has a collection of more than 2000 books all donated, and is currently reading the Bhagavad-Gita for the eighth time. It's incredible that at her age she reads without the aid of glasses. At 69, she learned yoga and has incorporated it into her daily rituals. At 90, she embraced Buddhism. At 100, she picked up Mandarin and now speaks it fluently. She also speaks Malay, French, German, Spanish and four Chinese dialects. At present, Teresa is busy learning Sanskrit. When asked about her longevity, Teresa attributes it to a spartan lifestyle, a vegetarian diet, healthy habits, and a positive outlook on life. Here are some quotable quotes from Teresa:

"I never harbor negative thoughts as this will distract my focus in getting on with life and work."

"There are no naughty children - only naughty parents."

"When you greet people with a smile, people will feel happy and smile back. If you pull a long face, people will not feel happy and pull a long face back at you."

"Crying wastes tissue paper, and cuts down trees. It's better to laugh."

"If you see someone fall, you do not ask him why he did not see the stone. You help him up and ask him to be more careful next time."

"If I'm married, I make only one man happy. If I'm not married, I make many people happy."

"The answers are not from me. They are just out there."

"I prefer to laugh than to weep. Those people who cry to me, I say is your body full of water? I always tell them it is better to laugh than to use tissue paper, as laughing is free but tissue paper costs five cents. 'Ha ha ha' costs no cents."

"If I stay at home, I just ha-ha to myself. If I go out and ha-ha with 20 people, I make 20 people happy."

"I don't give. Giving means I have and you don't have. I share - I share all I have, except ice cream and durians!"

"The whole world is one big family. All human beings are related to me. We may not have the same surname, but we share the same universal surname - human beings. And that's good enough for me."

"What do I think about death? I don't know. I haven't been there yet. Have you?"

"No one has ever explained religion or spirituality satisfactorily to me. My religion is my conscience, and my conscience guides me."

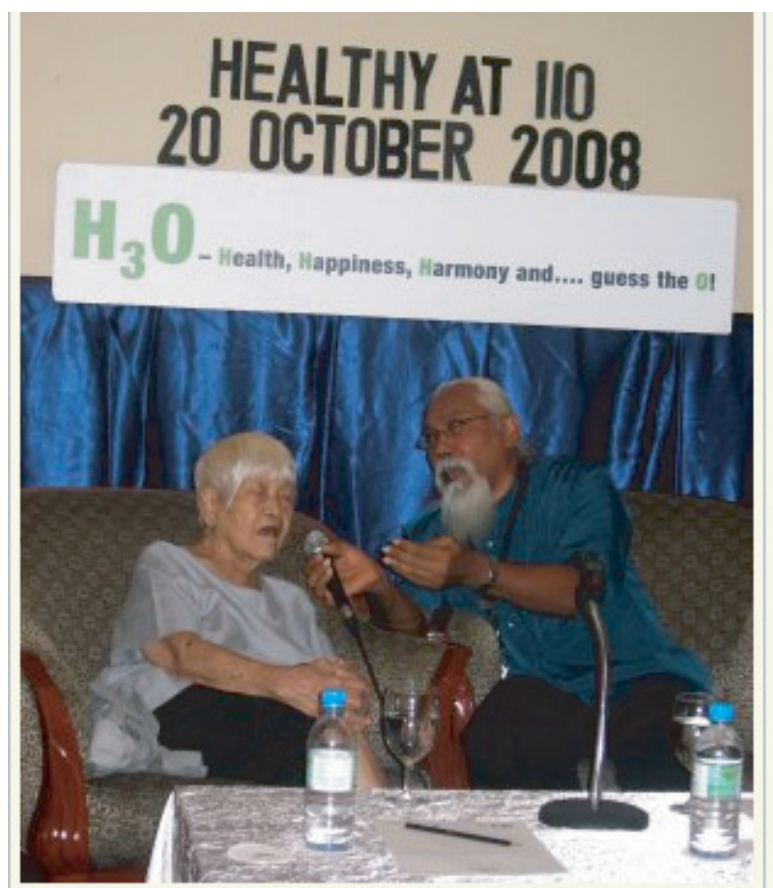
"If you think old, you are old. If you think young, you are young. Even when you are 100+, you can still do a lot."

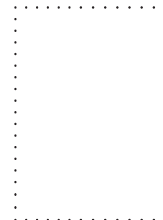
"Why am I a vegetarian? Do you want to cause pain for your pleasure? Ask yourself that, and you won't dare to put a knife to their (animals and fish) throat."

"It's good to have a black man in the White House who rules with grey matter."

Over the years, Teresa has received numerous accolades in recognition of her humanitarian work. But she remains humble, preferring to shift focus from herself to her work at Heart-to-Heart Service.

To the left: The picture is taken from the Internet and shows a festivity where Teresa Hsu is being interviewed by her co-worker Sharana Rao. Notice the board over them with the H3O!





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Latest news about the University of Peace

Trust or company?

This problem has turned up again lately after first appearing on the scene about a year ago, when Innovation Norway, in a meeting with Alvdal municipality, said that they contribute to commercial companies but not to trusts. Later (in May this year) the municipality of Alvdal too has signalled that it would be difficult for them to support a trust rather than a commercial company, in the event that our Foundation applies to the municipality's commercial fund for means to finance the forthcoming regulation plan.

Today the Mt. Tron University of Peace Foundation is defined as a "common trust". It can easily be changed into a "commercial trust". But that would require a capital base of NOK 200 000 which will be tied up. At the same time the law makes strict demands on the composition of the board. This possibility therefore doesn't seem like a good or interesting option.

The Foundation's board is therefore now looking at the possibility of establishing a real estate company as private persons independent of the Foundation. Such a company would be subject to the rules and regulations for ordinary limited companies and require a capital base of NOK 100 000 which will not be tied up. However, the further role of the Foundation has to be clarified, and possibly how it might establish legal ties with the real estate company without becoming commercial.

From whom shall we buy land on Mt. Tron?

This is another and even more complicated problem which has been present during the past three quarters of a year. After the judicial decision of the Nord-Østerdal Land Consolidation Court of 16.03.2004, where Mt. Tron was divided into four separate sectors of joint ownership, the Foundation has understood that who the owners are was clear. The sector which includes Flattron (the "Peace Plateau") was subject to the Nysetra Joint Ownership where there are seven land owners included.

However, in September last year, when the Foundation invited all the land owners of the Nysetra Joint Ownership for discussion of the possibilities for regulation on Flattron, it stirred up a certain commotion. Protests from individuals both in the Nysetra Joint Ownership and in the Tronsvangen Joint Ownership arose as to why Tronsvangen was not invited to the meeting. In that joint ownership there are about 35 members, and it is obvious that some in both these joint ownerships are of the opinion that both have rights on Flattron. What kind of rights are now a big question, but ground rights, pasture rights and hunting rights will come into consideration. Subsequently it has also come to light that in general it is a problem that the land consolidation court only decides ground rights and no other rights.

After much correspondence and several meetings the land consolidation court now recommends that a new land consolidation case has to be brought by the land owners to make a legally valid decision. Such a case can only be opened at the beginning of next year and may take several years to conclude.