



The Mt. Tron Mail

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Mt. Tron towers over Alvdal while the river Glomma runs silently in the valley bottom, 11th September 2007. Photo: BP.

"Excited to realize the Mt. Tron University of Peace"

**Alvdal's new Mayor OLOV GRØTTING
in the Østlendingen newspaper Friday 26th October 2007:**

"Do you know what I am really excited about? One of my great visions? To build the University of Peace on Mt. Tron, she says with great commitment.

She is more than willing to tell the story of the Indian philosopher Baral who settled on Mt. Tron in 1917 and who predicted his own death for the Day of Armistice 8th May 1945."

"Visitors to Alvdal are gaping when we tell the story about this exotic philosopher whose goal was to start an international university of peace on Mt. Tron, she says.

Think what an enormous issue it could be for Alvdal! And for the whole region! Yes, why not internationally, she says with enthusiasm, and promises that the municipality at least shall not be a hindrance for such a project."

Read The Mt. Tron Mail's own interview with the Mayor on page 3!

View from Mt. Tron

By Bjørn Pettersen

(To satisfy an ever increasing demand from the readers for more 'spiritual food', we reproduce the authors regular column in a local cultural newspaper)

War and Peace

Creation and destruction happen continuously on all levels in nature, and they are as obvious contradictions as for instance night and day or man and woman. Nature maintains a relative balance between the creative and the destructive forces, and is thus always in harmony with herself. Behind all manifested life there lies a wish to live and to enjoy fully and completely. But "the price of life is death", which means that on the physical level all forms of life will only be manifested within a certain cycle of time, and that in the end all physical forms are destroyed and transformed. The source of life is eternal and everlasting but the physical universe where life is played out is relative and transitory.

All manifested forms of life live by other manifested forms of life - "life batters on life" and "the death of one becomes the bread of another", and so forth. As such all animals are "carnivores", all plants are "predators", yes, all forms of life are "life of prey". In nature we see the tendency of the various forms of life always to try to dominate and to conquer each other. That is what is called "the struggle for survival". And this is also the case with humans. In the history of humankind we have yet to find a civilisation in the true sense of the word - all we have seen is the rise and fall of countless dynasties and superpowers which have flourished by suppressing others and the exploitation of nature. As such, our present day society in the western world is no exception. We follow our instincts by trying to "secure a place in the sun" for ourselves.

On all levels we are trying to conquer each other, but we don't know how we really can conquer. We have to conquer each other by humanity, love and wisdom. In fact, all actual development, real progress and true civilisation happen in this way. It is the cultivation and the social transmission of motherly love, and the need to be loved, which is given expression and which is immanent in all life. Only a world which can foster basic philanthropic values in its various societies and systems of government, can hope for peace and stability, and will cause a quantum leap in the evolution of humankind towards a nobler nature.

War and Peace (2)

In nature there is always violence and war in various forms both within each species and between the different species. It is that which is called "the law of nature". In a seemingly peaceful forest or flowery meadow there is a constant fight for water and nourishment between the various trees' and plants' roots underneath the surface of the soil. And just think about the fight between the white blood corpuscles and virus infection in our own body. Like this there are continuous battles on all levels of nature - and necessarily it has to stay like this in the incessant self-expression of life in evolution. It is just like hair and nails which all the time grow and have to be cut down. Therefore it makes no sense to talk about war and peace in the human understanding of the term in relation to nature. Nature is always as she should be and she is always in harmony with herself. But 'the thinking nomad' - man - the fruit of evolution's incessant fight over million of years - is neither in harmony with himself nor his surroundings.

He suffers from chronic ignorance about himself and misunderstanding about his place in nature. And therefore the whole world suffers from this darkness of ignorance where wrong identity, ego and desire are allowed to grow like cancer in society. Man suffers because he does not know himself and the world suffers because it has no human knowledge. Actually this lacking human knowledge is already there but it isn't valued or given the possibility for its expression.

Man now lives in a 'global village' and cannot any longer merely follow his lower inclinations and instincts. He has to wake up to his higher qualities and really show what it means to be human - how it is to be able to realize himself fully. In a 'village', where after some time each will know all the others, the individual will have her rightful worth and natural significance. Every human being is a unique manifestation - the only expression of its kind in the infinite display of life. It is a microcosm in a macrocosm, i.e. nothing outside is not already within - inside all of us. Every individual is like a ray from the sun of Life or like a wave on the ocean of the Absolute. We are alike in essence and belong to one another. A World Government originating in the United Nations and its Universal Declaration of Human Rights, with superpowers and revenge forbidden, would today probably be the best start and hope for worldwide political peace and stability in the future.



Mt. Tron seen from Sølndalen in Alvdal Vestfjell, 27th September 2007. Photo: BP.

I want to realize the Mt.Tron University of Peace!



Alvdal's new Mayor Olov Grøtting in her office in the Alvdal municipal building, 31st October 2007. Photo: BP.

Olov Grøtting from the Centre Party is the new Mayor of Alvdal. Born in Alvdal in 1960 she grew up on a farm in the far south of the village. Now she lives on a farm more centrally situated in Alvdal, which grows corn, potatoes and animal fodder. She is a married mother with two grown up children. Most recently she has worked as a regional advisor at the Regional Council for the Mountain Region and her educational background is in economics, business economics, administration and organization management, together with a Masters degree in state administration.

The editor of The Mt.Tron Mail showed up at the Mayor's office at 10 a.m. on Wednesday 31st October for a pre-arranged interview and presented her with a symbolic, white lily of peace, and a copy of the Foundation's large format 30 page detailed project description. It is really fantastic for those of us who have been working on this project ever since 1993 that Alvdal now finally has a mayor who dares publicly to show enthusiasm about realizing the Mt.Tron University of Peace!

Against the background of various strange capers on the part of a couple of your predecessors in relation to the Foundation and our project, where other quite incidental participants from outside who wanted to take over our project were allowed to do so completely against our will, it is now important for the Foundation to get an assurance from you as Mayor that you and Alvdal Municipality regard the Mt.Tron University of Peace Foundation as the rightful owner of the idea and the project developer for the Mt.Tron University of Peace.

- Yes, for me it has never been any other than you who has been doing this project, that is for sure, and like this it will continue to be.

What is it about the idea and the project for the University of Peace that attracts you?

- There are several things. It has an enormously exciting history with a touch of mysticism with Baral (Swami Sri Ananda Acharya) who came here to Alvdal in 1917. And then it is the thought of peace itself which is good thinking and which only becomes more and more of current interest. Work for peace will be very, very important in the time to come. Otherwise, this is an important project for Alvdal and the region which will make our village known.

What do you wish the University of Peace shall become and what importance should it have for Alvdal?

- My wish is that it must be open for absolutely all and not exclude anyone. And then I hope that it will be good for economic activity in Alvdal.

What do you think is important for the Foundation to emphasise in the project?

- That it realizes that we are living in a modern society with the cultural traits of today, for example in relation to gender roles.

As a loyal subscriber of support to The Mt.Tron Mail for almost 10 years now - do you have any other comments for the project?

- I think it is right to think big and feel that this should be a magnificent project. Especially I think that it will be important if the University of Peace could be host for meetings and peace negotiations on the political and diplomatic summit level. But in any case I think it will do something to all of us if we can get this working!

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Mt. Tron with the peak (Blåskarven) furthest back and Sørkletten in the foreground, seen from Nysetervangen, 11th September 2007. Photo: BP.