

Right Livelihood Award - Congratulations to Ruth Manorama

Von: Im Auftrag von Umakant

Gesendet: Freitag, 29. September 2006 11:30

An: dalit-solidarity

Betreff: Re: NCDHR's Press Release on Alternate Nobel Prize for Ms. Ruth Manorama

Press Release

New Delhi, September 29, 2006

NCDHR Congratulates Ms. Ruth Manorama

The National Campaign on Dalit Human Rights (NCDHR) congratulates one of its founding members and champion of Dalit Human Rights on being selected for the Right Livelihood Award 2006. NCDHR believes that it is not only a recognition of Ms. Ruth Manorama's tireless campaign and dedicated work for Dalit Rights especially the issues related to Dalit Women, at the same time the whole issue of Dalit's struggle for emancipation has been acknowledged by this very action on part of the Jury of the Right Livelihood Award.

This certainly is a moment of great pride not only for the Dalit community but also for those who believe in "casting out caste" from the face of this earth. NCDHR also believes that this award is a recognition for the courage and commitment with which Ms. Ruth Manorama has been engaged in fighting for justice and also for mainstreaming Dalit Rights and concerns in Global Human Rights discourse.

Ms. Ruth Manorama hailing from a Dalit background always believes in fighting for equal rights for Dalits and also for the unorganized rural and urban workers. Being a woman herself she understands the plight of Dalit women in Indian society and that is why Dalit Rights activism with a special focus on Dalit women was a natural choice for her. She holds an honorary Doctorate in Theology from the esteemed Gurukul Theological College based in Chennai. It goes without much of a saying that Ms. Ruth Manorama has emerged as powerful voice of the most marginalized section of Indian society both at the national as well as at the international level, especially with the systems and organs of the United Nation.

Ms. Ruth Manorama has been advocating for Dalit women rights and has very rightly emerged as a champion on being selected for the Right Livelihood Award, the Alternate Nobel Prize. This will certainly go a long way in instilling confidence among the Dalit Human Rights defenders and in the process would also help in further strengthening the Dalit movement for justice and equality.

NCDHR once again congratulate Ms. Ruth Manorama, a fellow campaigner for Dalit Human Rights and it believes that by being honoured with Alternate Nobel Prize it is time for all us to rededicate and carry forward the struggle for equality, justice and humanity.

Sincerely

Sd/.

(J. Vincent Manoharan)

General Secretary - NCDHR

Recognition for courage and causes

Indian activist, Pentagon whistleblower, South American win 'alternative Nobels'

STOCKHOLM: Indian women's rights activist Ruth Manorama was among the winners of the "alternative Nobels" announced on Thursday.



Ruth Manorama

Daniel Ellsberg, the former U.S. Defence Department official who leaked secret Pentagon documents during the Vietnam war, shared the 2 million kronor Right Livelihood Award with Ms. Manorama and a poetry festival in Medellin, Colombia. Anti-corruption campaigner Chico Whitaker Ferreira of Brazil won the honorary award.

"They are all representatives of personal courage," said philanthropist Jakob von Uexkull, who founded the award in 1980 to recognise work he believed was ignored by the high-visibility Nobel Prizes.

In giving the prize to Ms. Manorama, the award committee took into account her work to achieve equality for Dalit women in India. "I think this award will hopefully inspire other young Dalit women to say 'Look what we can do,'" said Mr. von Uexkull.

By choosing Mr. Ellsberg, the committee wanted to highlight parallels between the Vietnam war and the war in Iraq. "It is quite clear that decisions are being taken by governments behind our back, where the argument of secrecy is being misused," Mr. von Uexkull said.

Mr. Ellsberg, 75, became famous for his release of the Pentagon Papers, which indicated the U.S. had deceived the public about whether the Vietnam war could be won and the extent of casualties. The award citation recognised him "for putting peace and truth first, at considerable personal risk, and dedicating his life to inspiring others to follow his example."

The committee cited "The Festival Internacional de Poesia de Medellin" for promoting peace in what it called one of the most violent cities in the world. The poetry festival was started in the early 1990s, providing a safe haven in the midst of heavy fighting between criminal groups in the city, Mr. von Uexkull said. — AP

The HINDU, 29.9.2006

Die Plattform "Dalit Solidarität in Deutschland" hat folgende Glückwunsch-mail geschickt:

Dear Ruth,

it was an overwhelming moment of joy to hear that you have won the "Alternative Nobel Prize 2006" and we all here from the platform "Dalit Solidarity in Germany" and from the "Bread for the World" office join to heartily congratulate you for this recognition of your outstanding contribution in the struggle for justice to the Dalit women!

We are very proud about this decision and are feeling honoured for having had the opportunity over long years to partner you in these efforts!

We think that the dedication of the award to you has several dimensions, mirroring your broad, tireless and courageous work and struggle generally for the poor in the slums of Bangalore, all those working vulnerably in the informal sector and all those, whose right for a sheltered living in India is at stake. But the award is also a recognition of the struggle of the Dalits as such as one of the main human rights issues still plaguing the world in the 21st century. But more so it is definitely a recognition of the issue which is really at the bottom of your heart: the particular suffering of Dalit women who are trice discriminated (as you always pointed out) and for whom you have contributed a lot on their journey for getting a voice, achieve liberation and empowerment.

Joining in the worldwide felicitations and celebrations with all good wishes.

Walter Hahn

Von: Im Auftrag von Bishnu Pariyar
Gesendet: Freitag, 29. September 2006 15:31
An: Dalitconference
Betreff: Re: Congratulations to Ms Ruth Manorama

Dear Ruth Manorama,
Congratulation for the prestigious award. You deserve it. We are very proud of you.
Bishnu Maya Pariyar, Empower Dalit Women of Nepal
www.edwon.org

Von: Im Auftrag von kancha ilaiah
Gesendet: Freitag, 29. September 2006 14:08
An: Dalitconference
Betreff: Re: Ruth, Congratulation, Kancha Ilaiah

Dear Ruth
My hearty Congatulations for this wonderful achievement. You are the first Not only Dalit woman but Indian to get such an award while living and working in India. It is not only the recognition of you but the movement itself. It is really great an event to celbrate.
Kancha Ilaiah

Von: Im Auftrag von savio lourdu
Gesendet: Freitag, 29. September 2006 11:42
An: dalitgroups
Betreff: [IDSN-Council] Recognition for the fight against "WAR on TERROR - The Caste System"

Dear Friends,
Hearty Congratulations to our beloved Ruth Manorama !
This is the day of honor and recognition of Dalit Women & Men's Dignity ; it is our dispensation to have in our midst our person Ruth Manorama as the recipient of the "2006 Right Livelihood Award – Alternative Nobel Price".
It is the price for her ceaseless effort and also it is the sign of the continued support and solidarity of the International Community for OUR fight against "**WAR on TERROR- The Caste System**".

<http://www.hindu.com/2006/09/29/stories/2006092900832400.htm>

Yours in Solidarity
Savio, NCDHR

Von: Im Auftrag von Rikke Nöhrlind
Gesendet: Freitag, 29. September 2006 09:06
An: IDSN-Council
Betreff: Ruth Manorama selected for the alternate Noble Prize Award

Dear Ruth,
Congratulations with the 2006 Right Livelihood Award! This is a fantastic achievement and a much deserved recognition of your work and commitment to the cause and struggle for Dalit rights.
Warm regards,
Rikke

Von: Im Auftrag von Benjamin Kaila
Gesendet: Freitag, 29. September 2006 05:59

An: Dalit Group; Dalit-international

Betreff: Re: Personal - Riuth Manorama selected to the Alternate Noble Prize Award

Friends,

I am glad to hear the news that Ms Ruth had received a prestigious award. May many such awards come on our way to make the world know about the condition of Dalits in India.

Congrats sister Ruth Manorama. We are delighted of your achievement.

With regards

Benjamin P Kaila

Von: Dalit Solidarity Network UK

Gesendet: Freitag, 29. September 2006 00:21

An: Hahn Walter et al

Betreff: Ruth Manorama selected for the alternate Noble Prize Award

Dear friends

DSN UK would like to add its wholehearted congratulations to those below to Ruth Manorama in being selected for the Alternative Nobel Prize Award. This is an amazing achievement and recognition of years of hard work and dedication to the cause of Dalit women. This recognises the importance of the work that Ruth is doing and the fight for the rights of Dalit women!

Congratulations again

Gina

Von: Aruna Gnanadason - wcc

Gesendet: Donnerstag, 28. September 2006 15:50

An: Hahn Walter et al

Betreff: Re: Ruth Manorama selected for the alternate Noble Prize Award

Dear Henri,

What great news. We are proud of Ruth and this great recognition of her important contributions to women in general and to Dalit women in particular. She truly deserves the recognition!

Thank you.....in her getting this prize, I feel almost as if I have been honoured too!!

Thank you and god Bless!

Aruna

Von: Im Auftrag von Ramaiah A

Gesendet: Donnerstag, 28. September 2006 20:17

An: Dalitconference

Betreff: Re: Personal - Riuth Manorama selected to the Alternate Noble Prize Award

Dear Mr. Henri Tiphagne

Greetings. It is really a great news that Ms. Ruth Manorama has been honoured with such a great awarded. She deserves it. It is a moment of pride for all of us who talk of dalit empowerment. I join you celebrating this happy moment. Thank you very much for sharing this good news with me.

With warm regards,

Dr. A. Ramaiah,

Associate Professor, Centre for Dalit and Tribal Studies, Tata Institute of Social Sciences,

Von: Im Auftrag von Umakant

Gesendet: Donnerstag, 28. September 2006 14:59

An: Dalit Solidarity Network - Sweden; dalit-solidarity

Betreff: Re: Ruth Manorama - Right Livelihood Award

Dear Hans Magnusson and Friends

It is a great news to hear that our Ruth Manorama has been selected for the Right Livelihood Award 2006. It is an honour for her dedicated work and much more than that it is an honour for the entire Dalit Community. Let us celebrate this as a recognition of Dalit Women's Dignity, Honour, Self Respect and the need for Liberation from an oppressive Caste System.

Hearty Congratulation to Ruth Manorama

With Regards and In Solidarity
Umakant, Ph.D

Von: Im Auftrag von Dr.KP Singh

Gesendet: Donnerstag, 28. September 2006 19:31

An: Dalitconference

Betreff: Re: Personal - Riuth Manorama selected to the Alternate Noble Prize Award

Dear Ruth Manorma ji:

Please accept our heartiest congratulations for such a wonderful achievement that we can be proud of. We truly appreciate your dedication and commitments to uplift the Dalit community. Once again congrats and thanks for brother Henri for bringing this good news to us.

Sincerely,
Dr. KP Singh

Von: Im Auftrag von Laxmi Berwa

Gesendet: Donnerstag, 28. September 2006 20:03

An: Dalitconference

Betreff: Re: Personal - Riuth Manorama selected to the Alternate Noble Prize Award

Dear Henri,

It is indeed a great news the our famour, affectionately called "Bulldozer", Ruth Manorama got the Alternative Noble Award worth \$275,000.00. She richly deserves it with her hard work dedication, devotion, it is also a victory to our Dalit cause, she is a cause celebre.

Please convey my hearth felt Congratulstions!!!

With regards,
Dr.Berwa

Von: Im Auftrag von Smita Narula

Gesendet: Donnerstag, 28. September 2006 20:02

An: IDSN-Council; Sweden, Dalit Solidarity Network

Betreff: Re: Ruth Manorama - Right Livelihood Award

Dear Ruth,

This is incredibly amazing news and a well well deserved honor. Congratulations. We are proud to know you!

Smita

Von: henri – People's Watch Tamil Nadu

Gesendet: Donnerstag, 28. September 2006 14:19

An: Hahn Walter; et al

Betreff: Ruth Manorama selected for the alternate Noble Prize Award

Dear Friends and Colleagues,

I am so happy to share a news that I just received a few minutes ago. let me not add anything to this except share with you how proud we all are at this gesture of the jury and of the work that Ruth has carried on all these years to have been nominated to this very coveted prize. It make us proud of her work, her sacrifice and all her commitment for her varied responses many a time lonely for the cause of women, people in vulnerable situations in the urban slums of Bangalore, the Dalit cause in general as well as specifically for having been the lone and sole voice – but yet loud of Dalit women in this country.
Henri

Von: Hans Magnusson
Gesendet: Donnerstag, 28. September 2006 13:07
An: Dalit Solidarity Network - Sweden
Betreff: Ruth Manorama - Right Livelihood Award

Dear friends,

I am very happy to announce that Ruth Manorama is one of the three recipients of the 2006 Right Livelihood Award, widely known as the 'alternative Nobel Prize'. They share the price of SEK 2 million (USD 275,000/EUR 220,000).

The other two recipients are Daniel Ellsberg, USA, and the Festival Internacional de Poesia de Medellin, Columbia. The Honorary Award goes to Chico Whitaker Ferreira, Brazil.

A press conference will be held in Stockholm on Wednesday, December 6th at 09.30. The award presentation ceremony will be held in the Swedish Parliament on December 8th.

2006

Chico Whitaker Ferreira (Brazil) *Honorary Award*

“ ... for a lifetime's dedicated work for social justice that has strengthened democracy in Brazil and helped give birth to the World Social Forum, showing that 'another world is possible' ”

Daniel Ellsberg (USA)

“ ... for putting peace and truth first, at considerable personal risk, and dedicating his life to inspiring others to follow his example. ”

Ruth Manorama (India)

“ ... for her commitment over decades to achieving equality for Dalit women, building effective and committed women's organisations and working for their rights at national and international levels. ”

The Festival Internacional de Poesia de Medellin (Colombia)

“ ... for showing how creativity, beauty, free expression and community can flourish amongst and overcome even deeply entrenched fear and violence. ”

THE PRIZE FOR OUTSTANDING VISION AND WORK ON BEHALF OF OUR PLANET AND ITS PEOPLE

The idea of 'right livelihood' is an ancient one. It embodies the principle that each person should follow an honest occupation which fully respects other people and the natural world. It means being responsible for the consequences of our actions and taking only a fair share of the earth's resources. In every generation, there are groups of people and individuals around the globe who valiantly uphold these principles of right livelihood. They should be the stars in our human cosmos, but their work often entails personal sacrifice, being opposed by powerful forces around them. The Right Livelihood Award was established in 1980 to honour and support such people. It has become widely known as the 'Alternative Nobel Prize' and there are now over 100 laureates from 48 countries.

This Award exists to strengthen the positive social forces that its recipients represent and to provide the support and inspiration needed to make them a model for the future. It has been said that if the Nobel Prizes reflected world concerns of the 20th century, the Right Livelihood Award should reflect those of the 21st.

With kind regards,

Hans Magnusson

Dalit Solidarity Network – Sweden

Presseerklarung des Right Livelihood Award:

2006 RIGHT LIVELIHOOD AWARDS HONOUR PIONEERS FOR JUSTICE, TRUTH AND PEACE-BUILDING

The 2006 Right Livelihood Honorary Award goes to Chico Whitaker Ferreira (Brazil), "for a lifetime's dedicated work for social justice that has strengthened democracy in Brazil and helped give birth to the World Social Forum, showing that 'another world is possible'".

The 2006 Right Livelihood Award of SEK 2 million is shared between three recipients:

Daniel Ellsberg (USA), whose 'whistleblowing' helped end the Vietnam War, is awarded "for putting peace and truth first, at considerable personal risk, and dedicating his life to inspiring others to follow his example."

Ruth Manorama (India) is the sub-continent's most effective organiser of and advocate for Dalit women, belonging to the 'scheduled castes' sometimes also called 'untouchables'. The Jury honours Manorama, a Dalit herself, "for her commitment over decades to achieving equality for Dalit women, building effective and committed women's organisations and working for their rights at national and international levels."

The Festival Internacional de Poesia de Medellin (Colombia) is a unique poetry festival, which has helped build peace in one of the most violent cities in the world. The jury recognises the Festival "for showing how creativity, beauty, free expression and community can flourish amongst and overcome even deeply entrenched fear and violence."

Jakob von Uexkull: "The 2006 Right Livelihood Awards call on us all to speak up and act now for truth, non-violence and justice. The recipients demonstrate how individual courage, even in the face of powerful interests and repression, can bring about remarkable changes."

Founded in 1980 the Right Livelihood Awards are presented annually in the Swedish Parliament and are often referred to as 'Alternative Nobel Prizes'. They were introduced "to honour and support those offering practical and exemplary answers to the most urgent challenges facing us today".

Jakob von Uexkull, a Swedish-German professional philatelist, sold his business to provide the original funding. Since then, the Award has been supported by individual donors. The prize money is currently SEK 2 million (USD 275,000/EUR 220,000).

A press conference with the Recipients will be held in Stockholm on Wednesday, December 6th at 9:30 am. The award presentation ceremony in the Swedish Parliament will be held on December 8th.