

Speaker

THERE IS NO REGISTRATION FEE.



Prof. Dr. Malcolm Wilson
“Energy Production and Use in a Carbon Conscious World”



Prof. Osman Bakar
“The Challenge of Global Warming in the Light of the Quranic Idea of Earth as Our Only Planetary Home”



Prof. Johan Elverskog
“Buddhist Contributions to Environmental Ethics: From Creative Destruction to Creative Protection”



Prof. Dr. Stephan Rothlin S.J
“Environmental Responsibility from the perspective of Catholic Social Teaching”



Assoc. Prof. Sayam Aroonsrimorakot
“Science of Ecology and Energy”



Dr. Mohammed Al Maadheed
“Impact of Climate Change in the Humanitarian Crisis”



Prof. Dr. Zhiwu Liang
“Advanced Technology of CO₂ Capture, Utilization & Storage (CCUS) for Coal Chemical Industry in China”



Ven. Santussika Bhikunni
“Mobilizing People of Faith in the People’s Climate Movement - Calling for Ethical Business and Government, Decisive Action on Climate and Decentralized Clean Energy”

INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE ON ETHICS, CLIMATE CHANGE AND ENERGY

VENUE: COLLEGE OF RELIGIOUS STUDIES, MAHIDOL UNIVERSITY, SALAYA, THAILAND-NOV. 27-28, 2014



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Rationale

The every year phenomena of catastrophic climatic events around the world, increased human consumption of energy and sprawling urbanization are critically impacting the life connection between humans, all beings and the cosmos.

The 21st century activities aimed promoting environmentally responsible behavior through “green” activities should not amount to mere commercial gimmicks but require serious attention for the future of humanity. The world is entering into the period of ending of climate stability which started with the Industrial Revolution and the related ecological imbalance due to attendant mass burning of coal and other fossil fuels, biodiversity destructive approach to agriculture and other types of farming of livestock and fishery, etc, consumerist approach to life and living all rooted in profit motive. The current state of knowledge of science informs us that humanity has entered into a dangerous bet with the environment which if not corrected now though late will go bad with no future chance for survival.

Responding to this challenge in Asia requires blending of market-responsive economy with the principle of moral capitalism with the cultural and religious resources found in Asian practices of traditional religions and cultures, Hinduism, Buddhism, Christianity and Islam. In other words, through local determination about the future of development process.

In light of above defined challenges there is an urgent need to revisit questions about:

- how have biodiversity and ecosystems shaped human consciousness and behavior;
- what are the beliefs of world’s religions towards living systems i.e. how do understanding or misunderstanding of religions shape human lifestyle and behavior;
- how should religions, governmental departments, educational institutions and the business sectors respond to environmental concern;
- how will emerging scarcity of natural resources become trigger for conflict and violence between human societies;
- how to integrate study and research in the sciences, business and commercial activities be integrated with nature-related ethics;
- the need for new ontologies of non-violence to shape human-biodiversity relation;

The conference on “Ethics, Climate Change and Energy” will be a collaborative partnership between the practitioners of science and religion. Both in the academic and practical ways as they impact life and thought.

The conference will expose participants and the public to recent scientific findings on climate change and energy insecurity, and the threat to the survival of life and the Earth. It will encourage them to join the global efforts to solve these two major global problems through practical means to restrain their consumption of energy resources and to bring greenhouse emission under control.

Objectives

- 1) Highlight recent scientific findings on global greenhouse effects underlying climate change, and energy insecurity and the threat to human survival.
- 2) Propose common joint effort to undertake to achieve the goals of the UN International Panel on Climate Change (IPCC)
- 3) To draw attention to the role science/technology in bringing about the energy efficiency and the search for renewable energy resources e.g. wind, solar, water, biofuel, coal, nuclear) and assess their cost-benefits and possible harms.
- 4) Exchange information, knowledge and approaches toward sustaining ecology.
- 5) Make policy recommendations to the governments towards protecting biodiversity and raising consciousness about the interlink between ecosystems and human behavior.
- 6) Promoting ethic of global ecological responsibility
- 7) Viewing religions as spiritual epistemologies for transformation of consciousness.
- 8) Proposing practical steps to join the global efforts to bring greenhouse effects under control and to promote responsible consumption of energy resources.