

Danish Peace Academy, Report for 2005

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2005 was a very productive and successful year for the Danish Peace Academy, largely because of the dedicated work of our Editor, Holger Terp. Because of his efforts, the average number of visitors to our website has now reached approximately 4000 per day. The visits come from all parts of the world.

Holger has also published several scholarly studies related to peace. The first of these is a comprehensive study of the proposed constitution of the European Union in relation to peace.

The Greenham Common Song Book, which Holger has recently published on our website is a milestone in peace movement history. The book contains the history of the successful effort of the women of the Greenham Common protest movement to stop the British people's common land from being used as a base for nuclear weapons. The book also contains 86 protest songs, many with musical scores, and many others recorded by artists such as Peggy Seeger. The book also offers a wealth of visual material.

Friends of Gandhi, edited by E.S. Reddy and Holger Terp, has also been published on the Danish Peace Academy website. The book contains letters written by Mahatma Gandhi to three Danish women friends. It is an important historical document, and it gives an unusual insight into Mahatma Gandhi's thoughts about the struggles in which he was engaged. The book is now being printed in India, and free copies will be distributed to Peace Academy members.

The anti-war book *Space-Age Science and Stone-Age Politics* by John Avery (274 pages) was also published by the Danish Peace Academy during 2005. The book discusses the steps we must take to harmonize our social and political institutions with the constantly-accelerating achievements of science

and technology. It can be read on the Peace Academy website, and printed copies are available from Amazon or from www.lulu.com. Free copies have been distributed to Peace Academy members.

Among our activities during 2005 was a commemoration of the 60th anniversary of the tragic bombings of Hiroshima and Nagasaki in 1945. The commemoration was a collaboration between the Danish Peace Academy, the Danish Pugwash Group, DLMK (the Danish branch of International Physicians for the Prevention of Nuclear War, IPPNW), and the Embassy of Japan in Denmark. There were three parts to this action:

1. A poster exhibition, provided by the Hiroshima Peace Memorial Museum, was exhibited for two weeks at the Nørrebro Public Library in Copenhagen.
2. An afternoon symposium was held on August 6 at Christianshavn Gymnasium in Copenhagen. There were six speakers at the symposium, and it was attended by approximately 60 people.
3. On the evening of August 6, an evening commemoration ceremony took place, with speeches, poetry and group singing. His Excellency Ambassador Gotaro Ogawa gave an important speech on Japan's renunciation of nuclear weapons and other peace-related issues.

The spring of 2006 has also been an active period for the Danish Peace Academy. Together with the Danish Pugwash Group and the International Network of Scientists and Engineers for Global Responsibility (INES) we sponsored a symposium on *Nuclear Dangers* at the Social Forum in Copenhagen. There were three main speakers: Gunnar Westberg, President of IPPNW, from Stockholm; Andre Mechelynck from the Belgian Pugwash Group; and Armin Tenner, from INES, Holland. One of the main purposes of the symposium was to discuss and launch an appeal for the removal of the remaining 480 US tactical nuclear weapons that are still stationed in Europe. This petition can be supported by writing to nuclear@kvante.org.

Finally, in collaboration with the Danish branch of IPPNW, the Danish Pugwash Group, and the SGI Association for Education and Culture, we arranged a symposium to mark the 20th anniversary of the Chernobyl disaster, 26 April, 2006. The symposium, which took place at the SGI Culture Center in Copenhagen, featured lectures on the crisis connected with Iran's nuclear activities, on the medical effects of the Chernobyl disaster, and on renewable alternatives to nuclear energy.