

VIRTUAL DAMANHUR

JOURNAL

YEAR XXXIV



MAY - JUNE 2009

Reflections

We have had two incredible months, the busiest ones of the year, I believe! Many events have taken place. Our actors presented a beautiful theater show, *Cyrano De Bergerac* (with celebrated text by E.Rostand), an engaging play in which Damanhurian actors showed their professional growth. Right before this performance, they were invited to Rome, performing *Treatise of Peace* in one of the most well known theaters.



This play was written by Swami Kryananda, the only disciple of Paramansa Yogananda. Four Damanhurians took part in the theater company, along with other participants from various Italian communities and associations. A year and a half ago, these actors decided to come together and form a cross-community theater company.

We attained a very important objective from the Damanhurian administration in the town of Vidracco. The city council approved the creation of a public society called Vidracco Energy, whose aim is to produce energy with zero environmental impact: ecological energy with the use of biomass. The company will be the first Italian producer of biomass from biodiesel.

During the month of May, Italy was struck by an earthquake in Abruzzo, a tragic moment that touched Italian and international hearts. Damanhur sent many people to the site to do volunteer work: a geologist, a restoration worker, and some Damanhurian operators in the Italian Red Cross and Civil Protection, who helped earthquake victims and assisted in one of the temporary shelters.

In the meantime, many others participated in the Holistic City Festival, organized by Conacreis. During that occasion, Damanhur began its campaign to spread the word about the existence of the magnificent underground Temples of

Humankind. Paradoxically, this extraordinary building is better known internationally than within Italy. The Temples have been defined by many as the 'Eighth Wonder of the World'.

Many of our guests finish their visit to the Temples deeply moved, and they have expressed a desire to contribute to this magnificent work in some way. So, we have decided to launch new initiatives that have been specifically considered and tailored, from the ideas we've received from our visitors and from those of us working in hospitality. We are creating opportunities for visitors to contribute to new artwork in the Temples, to its realization and maintenance. There will be special events available for those who would enjoy dreaming, meditating, and playing music in the Temples. For those who would like to leave a trace, donors have the possibility of inscribing their names on plates that shall be inserted in a special place within the Temples.

For Damanhurians the best way to celebrate is to get together working in the Temples and recharging themselves feeling the astonishing energies present. These occasions shall allow to access a reservoir for inner transformation. On August 15th, come and be with us! In the afternoon, there will be turns of two hours, organised in small groups, and you will be able to join and experience the excitement of this active meditation.

And then at night, enjoy a Concert of Damanhurian Music in the Hall of Mirrors!

Come and be a part of Temples of Humankind!



01/05/2009 - A POSSIBLE NEW SPIRITUAL PATHWAY

On Thursday April 30, during the 'Pensatoio' (a think tank in which innovative ideas are discussed for the development of Damanhur), Coyote Cardo, a research specialist in Spiritual Physics, brought the idea of a new Pathway: the Pathway of Research. This pathway would be a journey of transversal research across all the sectors and Pathways, structured with a group that manages the diverse investigations that are currently happening. As a result, it would give direction to all work of research, and it would allow one to obtain comparable results, which could then be shared. This would also shorten the time of data recuperation and would be more satisfying for the researchers themselves.

03/05/2009 - BISONTE QUERCIA: CANDIDATE FOR THE EUROPEAN ELECTIONS

This year, there will be City, Provincial and European elections. Damanhurians, as 'Greens', are taking part in the coalition called 'Left and Freedom', which, in addition to the Greens, includes the Socialists and various groups and associations that came from the Democratic Party. The big news is that Bisonte, the Damanhurian Major of Vidracco, is a candidate for the European elections. The Greens have obtained two candidatures, which means that two candidates shall be elected. As for the Provincial elections, the lists were closed last Wednesday with good results that can be considered as a kind of territorial recognition: five Damanhurians will run with the President Saitta.



05/05/2009 - IN DAMANHUR THE DIRECTORS OF 'TREATISE OF PEACE'

At the beginning of the month, Damanhur had the pleasure of welcoming the directors of Treatise of Peace, Massimo and Candida. They are talent scouts who came to Damanhur to cast a performance in Rome at the Valle Theatre on June 14th. Treatise of Peace is a play written by Swami Kryananda, the only disciple of Paramansa Yogananda.

Cervo Volante, Gambero, Stambecco and Zebù are taking part in the theatre company, along with participants from various Italian communities and associations, in particular Ananda, Città della Luce (City of Light), Lumen, Coscienza e Salute (Knowledge and Health), a follower of Sai Baba and Damanhur.

As the four Damanhurian actors are performing in one of two big scenes of the show, they are able to organize rehearsals here in Damanhur.

10/05/2009 - NAIADI'S PLANT NURSERY AWARDED

Naiadi's nursery has recently been participating in important plant and gardening fairs: "Three Days for the Garden" held in the Castle of Masino, and

'Orticola' held in Milan. During both expositions, the community of Tijal has had great success regarding sales and becoming more widely known. One of the attractive features of the nursery is that it sells wild edible plants, varieties that have never been sold before. They received compliments for their significant contribution to biodiversity and to the revival of woods and country grounds. At the 'Orticola' exposition (the second biggest one of its kind), the nursery won the Small Nursery Prize. Many people, from architects to private individuals, have requested the creation of such gardens on their own properties. We intend that this helps the nursery's business to take off.

10/05/2009 - ASSISTANCE FOR EARTHQUAKE VICTIMS

A Damanhurian geologist, Cernia, has been in Abruzzo to help the earthquake victims, and now Giuseppe from Florence is going there as a Civil Protection Agent to assist in one of the temporary shelters. Our restoration workers from Aurifolia and operators from the Italian Red Cross will also go to help when they are called to do so in the future.

13/05/2009 - AVAL WINE NEWS

For some time, Tigre has been occupied with promoting Aval wine in several gastronomical happenings at a national and international level. In fact, from Tigre's point of view, the Aval wine is considered one of the best "Erbaluce" wines on the market in Italy. As far as Damanhur is concerned, we believe this wine should appear on our dining tables more and more, to promote our self-sufficiency, and to reinforce the bond that we have with the land.

14/05/2009 - A NEW ELECTRONICS LABORATORY

Basile, a newly arrived French citizen had a dream: to build his own electronics laboratory. Synchronically, he came to stay at Magilla, a nucleo that has had the same

dream for years. Together, they have realized their common dream, and the laboratory is open for production. Basile is a professional electro-technician with a specialization in recyclable material. He is now working on various projects, such as a solar pointer, which helps solar panels to orient themselves towards the sun. (The older solution did not work so well. The idea is to sell the invention to the firm that constructed the old one, in order to make it more functional.) Basile is also working on apparatuses used for the music of the plants. This laboratory has been developed to give new life to objects which do not function, saving resources, reusing and recycling, and it also serves to create small productions of domestic and industrial apparatuses.

14/05/2009 - HEART TOUCH (TOCCO COL CUORE) IN GERMANY

On May 9 and 10, Setter Gordon taught a Heart Touch and Mind Chess course near Frankfurt. The participants were very enthusiastic, and they are now prepared to take the Master Course. For the 4th time, Heart Touch was done in the water, and some spectacular healing took place. With the Damanhur University, Setter is collaborating to disseminate the Heart Touch and Mind Chess methods.

15/05/2009 - SMALL STRAW HOUSE

On May 14th, Inti participated in a conference on straw houses held by Felix



Jerusalem, a famous Swiss architect, at the Turin Polytechnic College. Inti was invited there by the organizer of the conference, an engineer who has taken part in a seminar held at Damanhur. There were about 150 people present at the conference, and at a certain point, Inti was invited to talk about Damanhur's straw house project. Fortunately, he had brought his materials with him, and his talk was a great success for the students and also for the teachers, so much so that a collaboration was formed for future investigations. Some of the instructors will come to Damanhur to see the project, and two of them asked Inti to teach their own students.

23/05/2009 - THE HOLISTIC CITY FESTIVAL

The Holistic City Festival, organized by Conacreis, welcomed twice the number of participants as it did last year. The theme this year was, 'The economic recession and the end of oil: propositions to come out of the crisis made by associations concerned with ethical research and eco-villages.' The opening speech was given by Ervin Laszlo on the theme, 'Values for a responsible lifestyle.' The Festival continued on May 23 and 24 with round table discussions, conferences and workshops. This year, 35 associations presented workshops and 80 exposition stands were booked. Damanhur

participated with demonstrations from its many disciplines, conferences and shows. The various Damanhur Centers from Turin, Florence and Bologna were also present. The artist Pangolino showed his paintings, Granchia offered tarot readings, the nucleo of Aval presented its wine, and Giancarlo Fiorucci presented his latest book. Several concerts were held at the end of the festival to finish it off.

21/05/2009 - DAMANHURIAN CHILDREN HOLD A CONFERENCE ON THEIR COLLABORATION WITH GREENPEACE.

During a 2006 journey on the Greenpeace boat the Rainbow Warrior, Damanhurian children met Greenpeace activists and organized a number of other journeys. Greenpeace has been also to Damanhur a number of times, and the leader of the Sea Campaign has offered several conferences here.

On May 29th, the Damanhurian students gave a conference at the Treviso Damanhur Center to present their collaboration with Greenpeace, displaying their own photographs and monographs on the cetaceans they observed.

22/05/2009 - VIDRACCO, FIRST ITALIAN PRODUCER OF BIOMASS FROM BIODIESEL

On May 21st, Vidracco's City Council approved the formation of a public society called Vidracco Energy during an extraordinary session. Vidracco Energy plans to produce energy with zero environmental impact, and the administration of Vidracco has given the group an initial capital investment, though soon the society will be self-sustaining. The principal objectives are defined in different areas of action: producing ecological energy with the use of biomass, supporting the economy by creating new jobs, and gradually increasing the involvement of citizens through share participation. In order to produce biodiesel on top of the biomass, a humid portion of residue, paper and carton will be used. This model should be easily duplicable



and transferable.

23/05/2009 - DAMANHUR MENTIONED AT THE CANNES FILM FESTIVAL

Ervin Laszlo mentioned Damanhur at the Cannes Film Festival, where he had been invited as President of the Club of Budapest to give the Ethical Award for the film *Soldiers of Peace*. He mentioned Damanhur amongst various examples of peaceful living and application of ethical principles.

23/05/2009 - SMART YOUNG AMBASSADORS

Environment Day took place as planned in Ivrea near a beautiful lake, and many schools from the Canavese area were present. The Damanhurian students presented activities from the school year around the theme: *The Ecological House*. The students enacted a humorous theatrical sketch, which explained technical details of the house. They also distributed an informational pamphlet with ecological advice, which prompted many questions and exchanges. Soon, they are going to Modena to participate in the Holistic City conference.

26/05/2009 - SOLERÀ IS GROWING STRONG

Solerà is a Damanhurian alternative energy firm, operating in the field of photovoltaic and solar panels systems. The firm is anticipating finances to install Damanhur's largest solar panel system at Damanhur Crea. This system will allow the control of each individual panel, insuring proper functioning and optimal energy production. This installation could serve as a showroom piece for clients. After articles about Solerà have appeared in *National Geographic* magazine and *Il Sole 24 Ore*, an Italian financial newspaper, Solerà has been increasingly sought out in all of Italy. The firm is also participating in many festivals and conventions. Solerà has developed a new method that connects long distance systems through the Internet, to permanently control how the systems are functioning and how much they are producing.

27/05/2009 - STRAW HOUSES

Inti, a Damanhurian, spoke during a conference on straw bale construction, sharing our experience in this field and making contact with a polytechnic college for possible future collaboration. This collaboration has now been actualized, thanks to Inti's proposal to test straw's resistance to heat and humidity and its effectiveness in acoustic isolation. These kinds of high-level tests have been done in northern Europe, though they do not yet exist in Italy. The polytechnic college is offering technicians and laboratories at Inti's disposal. Damanhur's straw house, built in the community of Dendera, will serve as a prototype for these tests. Other specialists and professors from the polytechnic college are forming a research group to construct a whole village of straw houses.

08/07/2009 - 'AT DINNER WITH THE DAIRYMAN'

Damanhurian cheese makers have created a new way of promoting their cheeses in an entertaining and by no means academic formula. Scarabeo and Visone invite their guests to enjoy a dinner based on Damanhurian cheeses, and then offer them all they need to produce their own fresh cheese on the spot. The guests can choose whether to eat the cheese they made right away or to take it home with them. This event is a nice way to get to know people while educating them about the cheese production process. Mostly restaurateurs are coming to these cheese happenings, and discovering themselves as cheese producers' make the cheese much more special.

19/06/2009 - NEW HOSPITALITY COORDINATORS

After a six-month trial period for the new Welcome Center, the Guides have proposed a joint venture with Olami and the Welcome Center, coordinated by Crotalo Sesamo, Goura Loto and Aracne Orchidea. The new staff has the task of accomplishing spiritual goals for the entire Federation, with

important common objectives such as courses, visits and the Temples of Humankind. The Damanhurians directly involved in this field need to be supported by the entirety of the community in order to offer spiritual hospitality in 360 degrees. Many ideas have been shared in the communities and sectors of Damanhur about offering new opportunities for visitors.

20/06/2009 - CYRANO DE BERGERAC

Damanhurian actors expressed themselves in a new theatrical performance that kept them busy almost every night. Thanks to the exhilarating play written by E. Rostand, they are collecting funds to support the Temples of Humankind. Many friends and people living in the nearby towns came to enjoy the performances. Damanhurian actors are showing evidence of their passion for this art form and of their significant professional growth. A different actor has performed the main character Cyrano every night, to gauge different interpretations and the impact on the public.

24/06/2009 - RESTORING AND BEAUTIFYING DAMJL, THE CAPITAL OF DAMANHUR

The Damanhurian meditations in action have been taking care of Damjil, the main city of the Federation. Many citizens, guests, and friends, including ones from Damanhurian centers in Italy, are involved in the restoration and beautification.

The community of Tesan, in collaboration with the Guides, are coordinating the work that needs to be done. At present, we have succeeded in refurbishing the pavement of the Open Temple. All the clay masks along the sides of the main street have been painted, as well as the stones of the beautiful circuit used during the Solstice and Equinox celebrations. The Greek style feminine statue has been restored, and many walls have been painted white. Another part of the territory has been dedicated to vegetable gardens for the two communities living in Damjl.

26/06/2009 - A NEW DAMANHUR CULINARY CONTEST

The Etulte Region has launched a national culinary contest to produce biscuits and cakes using Damanhurian chestnut flour as a basic ingredient. The intention of the contest is to initiate traditional recipes using homemade products. Moreover, the Etulte region would like to restore the watermill situated in Vidracco and to promote a party in the village dedicated to chestnuts. The final results will be contested on July 15 and 22 at the Literary Café. Representatives from each region shall present their specialties, and a jury of chefs will choose the best biscuit and cake. The winning region shall receive five kilograms of chestnut flour and the privilege of naming the recipe that they have experimented.

27/06/2009 - NEW GENERATION OF SELFIC STRUCTURES GIVE RISE TO PRANA - SELFICA

Natalina and other complex selfic structures made during the last year have been re-united and connected with each other to create an innovative new experiment called Prana-Selfica. Many Damanhurians have received sessions using this technique, which combines prana healing with selfic devices. We are currently compiling responses and analyzing results in order to further develop the experiment.





COURSES CALENDAR

ENROLMENT OPEN

JULY 11 - 12TH

RE-AWAKENING THE INNER SENSES

AUGUST 19-20TH

SUMMER FESTIVAL

Presentation of Damanhur's main fields of study

AUGUST 22nd

BRAL TALEJ

Divination system

AUGUST 29-30TH

PAST LIFE RESEARCH

enrolment open until August 6th

SEPTEMBER 19-20TH

CONTACT WITH THE COSMOS

in the Temples of Humankind

OCTOBER 20-24TH

HOW TO CREATE A SUCCESSFUL COMMUNITY

NOVEMBER

MYSTERY SCHOOL, first session

For more details please contact us directly or by email:

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