

Zhou Enlai Peace Institute

Recognizing the life and achievements of a hero of modern China

60th Anniversary -- The Five Principles of Peace



Bandung Conference to announce the Five Principle of Peace

Celebration Banquet



Dance of the Five Principles, by Chungliang Huang



Michael North, Co-Founder



November 20th, 2013, National People's Congress Hall, Beijing, China

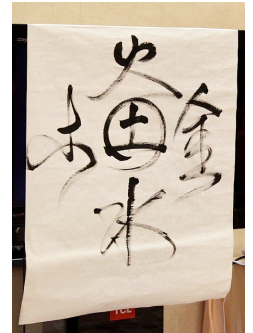
Roger Epstein and Chungliang Huang



Mme. Zhou Bing De, Angela Wong, and Lei of Peace.



Chungliang Al Huang



HISTORY

The Five Principles of Peace

The Five Principles of Peace were first written by Premier Zhou Enlai of China on December 31, 1953. The Principles are:

- 1) Mutual respect for each nation's territorial integrity and sovereignty
- 2) Mutual non-aggression
- 3) Mutual non-interference in each other's internal affairs
- 4) Equality and mutual benefit
- 5) Peaceful co-existence

These words were written at a time when people everywhere were weary of decades of world war, civil war, invasion and occupation. Major cities around the world lay in ruins, rebuilding from conflict; millions of refugees sought new homes. Hunger, poverty and sickness cut down the young. The flower of an entire generation had been sacrificed, and more war loomed. Billions of people sought encouragement. They asked — could there be an end to the violence and destruction? The Five Principles were published and discussed at many more events — in Delhi, Bandung, Geneva and Cairo. They were ultimately signed and ratified by 57 countries, members of the Non-Aligned Movement, and have been incorporated in the charter of the World Trade Organization.



The five principles were distilled from most fundamental ideas of international affairs, and are drawn from the Covenants of the League of Nations, the Brand-Kellogg Treaty, and the United Nations Charter. They are also based on traditional principles of Chinese philosophy, which date back nearly 2600 years to Lao-Tse and Confucius.

The contribution of Zhou Enlai was to identify these principles, simplify them into five brilliant points, then to harmonize and explain them. And he persuaded many governments and public institutions to accept them.

The importance of observing the Five Principles today is amplified by several complex world events — including the disbanding of the Soviet Union, the growth of

multilateralism, the increasing participation of business, the private sector and non-profit organizations in international affairs, the practice of international law, the spread of globalization, the role of the United States as a military, economic and social peacekeeper, and the re-emergence of China as a world power.

Today, 60 years after they were first written, the Five Principles of Peace are more important than ever — to understand, study, extend and practice. The Principles can be extended from the political sphere to the personal and psychological; to the family, the community, to each nation. Wherever people perceive, care and interact, the Five Principles can help to establish basic standards that will make our hearts, our lives, our relationships, our businesses, cities and nations more peaceful.

The world is weary of war, and is finally ready for profound, lasting change.

