A conference promoting World Peace was organised by the Universal Peace Federation, Centre for Sustainable Development and the Department of Law, Himachal Pradesh University in Shimla on September 17, 2014. An event of great standing, with talks by foreign delegates from Korea and United States of America and Indian Delegates working under Universal Peace Federation. Attendees included esteemed faculty and students of HP University and international peace volunteers from Japan. The event began with the welcoming of our guests by the ‘Kulgeet’ of HPU and a warm recital of patriotic songs like ‘Vande Mataram’, ‘Hum honge kaamyaab’ and ‘Saare Jahan Se Acha’ by the Japanese student-volunteers. The dignitaries were honored with Himachali caps and shawls.
Prof. S.N. Sharma, Dean and Chairman, Department of Law, presented the Welcome Address and spoke extensively about the current problems in our world citing the gain in warfare technology and our inability to live through a possible World War III that may result because of the unrest in many countries, thus making it absolutely essential for everyone to actively come together to promote World peace. This was followed by the Introduction to the Universal Peace Federation by Mr Krishna Adhikari, Secretary General of UPF India for the last 12 years. He enlightened everyone about the Origin of Universal Peace Federation in Korea by Revered Sun Myung Moon and his wife and its activities in India since 1985. UPF India was officially launched in 2005 and has been actively involved in conducting peace rallies and multiple conferences all over the country. It has also launched special movements for the Women, Families and Youth movements aimed at building good character.

This was followed by a very motivational talk by Dr Robert S. Kittel, Director of Education, UPF Asia who elaborated the need of understanding peace at micro-levels. He emphasized the concept of duality in life with everything having its counterpart like the yin-yang, male-female, etc. in order to maintain the balance of nature thus the synchronization of mind and body. He also spoke about the goodness of sacrifice citing excerpts from many religious books like the Bhagwad Gita, Quran, The Bible, etc. which have always advocated the concept of selfless service.

The next speaker was Jitender Verma, Director, Centre for Sustainable Development, H.P. who shared his experience of interacting with students on various topics relating to world peace and emphasized the need of educating them to build leaders. He also elaborated the need to involve students in all our endeavours and engage them in order to help them build their identity.

Ashok Thakur, Director NAFED enlightened about the need of development to gain peace and the mutual requirement of peace to attain development. This was followed by a talk by Dr Brajesh Sharma, Department of Law, who spoke about the harmonious relation between internal and external peace. He cited evidence from the Hindi literature explaining this concept as well. Lastly the keynote address was given by Dr Chung Sik Yong, Chairman of UPF-Asia who emphasized on the future prospects of Universal Peace Federation as the balance of power was shifting from the west to the eastern countries. The Vice Chancellor of HPU Prof A.D.N. Bajpai, Prof S.N. Sharma and Jitender Verma were then presented the award of ‘Ambassadors of Peace’ by Dr Chung Sik Yong, Chairman of UPF-Asia.
from India and Japan. The event was concluded by Prof Kailash Thakur, Former Dean and Chairman, Department of Law, H.P. University who delivered the Vote of thanks.

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