



“Auteuil News” – En direct du chapitre – 19 juillet 2012

Our planet, today and tomorrow

The last 48 hours of the chapter were rich with powerful conferences following the schedule of the Chapter. The reports submitted by the International Commission of Education and the International Secretariat of the JPIC, which we jointly have with the Little Sisters of the Assumption, have provided a strong framework. The day's work on "Ecology and Migration," challenged us to invent ways of wisdom and prophecy to contribute towards the "transformation of the society by "knitting" initiatives towards transformative pedagogy at the heart of our world. Benoit Faraco, of the Foundation for Nature and Man (initiated by Nicolas Hulot) spoke this morning to explain the interaction between ecological interest, economic and social factors. These need to be treated globally, so that humanity may have a healthy environment on which she and the succeeding generations depend. Humanity must invent a new model of sustainable development.

In the afternoon, Sr Cécile Renouard invited the Chapter members through her stimulating conference, to "Walking Gently on the Earth" by developing the notion of "human ecology" an idea so dear to Pope Benedict XVI.



Sr Cecilia presents Benoit Faraco and the FNH foundation

Ecology and Migration

Before beginning his presentation, Benedict Faraco, made us view the speech of 11-year-old Severn Suzuki, who addressed over 200 world leaders at the Summit on Environment and Sustainable Development in Rio de Janeiro in 1992 to take care of the earth that they are passing on to the next generation. Benoit pointed out that this year's conference in 2012 marks the 20th anniversary of the Rio Summit, the day the girl "opened the eyes of the world." The scientific community took stock and made a summary of the state of the planet 20 years after. Despite the guidelines established and the commitments made in 1992, one thing is clear: the situation in the world has deteriorated rather than improved. Despite this very bleak reality, a breakthrough is that the world's population has been made more aware of the problem and there is now the militant activism of many groups and individuals trying to concretely and urgently solve the global crisis...before it becomes too late. It is not the world's leaders who will save the earth, but the people, you and me, with our 'decisive actions' in our little sphere that will begin to make the difference.



The conference highlighted the contrast between what nature gives us freely in its bio-diversity so as the human being can live and our "natural selfishness," as Marie Eugenie says it. Our selfishness that exploits our limited resources and degrades the earth by what we produce.

Broadly, we learned the causes and consequences of climate change. In particular, the conference developed the link between climate change with the migration of people and the many armed conflicts on our planet. People are fighting each other for domination of the earth, the control of water supply, the use of natural resources and even the possession of bio-diversity, finally recognized as a wealth.

These armed conflicts have caused many migrations throughout history. International law recognizes and advocates for political refugees.

Soon, the States are going to recognize the cause of "climate refugees" fleeing land rendered uninhabitable due to conflict or degradation of their land through desertification, changing the rhythm and balance of the seasons, floods, or even the disappearance of habitable zones, which make life impossible in entire regions. "Who will be the host for these 'climate refugees'?" B. Faraco asks: "Is it not a moral duty for the countries who caused climate change, to welcome those people whose impoverished lands had to pay the consequences?"

For us, the Religious of the Assumption, a question arises after the conference: how do we create awareness of these problems in our transformative education?

This afternoon was devoted to group work in 5 groups working on five themes : education in schools, transformative education in everyday life, lifestyle and economic life, spirituality and liturgy, and citizen engagement and advocacy. The questions to the groups were : 1. How does ecology and migration impact on the theme of the group ? 2. What calls do we hear today for Assumption Together ?

For those who wish to know more

here are some sites you can visit:

- **Seven Suzuki's speech**: <http://cg2012.assumpta.fr/2012/07/19/la-nina-que-abrio-los-ojos-al-mundo/#more-2037> Eng / Fr / Sp / Port / It
- The **FNH foundation's** website: <http://www.fondation-nicolas-hulot.org/>
- The official website of **Al Gore**: An Inconvenient Truth: <http://www.climatecrisis.net/>
- The site of the **International Secretariat JPIC** the Little Sisters and Sisters of the Assumption: <http://jpic.assumpta.fr>

Some documentaries

- "We feed the world" Marché de la faim , Erwin Wagenhofer, 2007; <http://www.reconnexions.net/documentaire-we-feed-the-world/>
- "Local Solutions for a global disorder," Coline Serreau, 2010, <http://www.streamingvideos.fr/films/solutions-locales-pour-un-desordre->

global/

- "Darwin's Nightmare," by Sandor Rieder, 2003 and a fictionalized movie "The Day After Tomorrow," Roland Emmerich, 2004

The photo of the day



Photo taken at some 6 billion kms from the planet Earth : the little white dot is us !

"Everything that has happened to humanite has happened on this little dot and today even the survival of the Earth is at stake." (excerpts from the film of Al Gore, "Inconvenient Truth").

Visitez le blog dédié : <http://cg2012.assumpta.fr>

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