



DTP – BUILDING THE CAPACITY OF ASIA-PACIFIC HUMAN RIGHTS MOVEMENT 1990 – 2020

On Human Rights Day, December 10, [DTP's Executive Director Patrick Earle received the 2019 Asia Democracy and Human Rights Award](#) on behalf of DTP from Taiwan's President Tsai Ing-wen at an official ceremony at the President's Guest House in Taipei. Radio Taiwan International aired their [interview with Patrick](#) over two weeks in February.

CHANGES TO YOUR NEWSLETTER

This is the 100th issue of the DTP E-Newsletter in this, DTP's 30th anniversary year. It was started as a way to follow-up DTP's programs, to continue providing useful information to DTP alumni and to stay connected with the growing community of DTP alumni and their diverse contributions to human rights. Following the recent readers' survey we are making changes: more detail on programs, more attractive graphics, a greater focus on human rights challenges, human rights and business, migrant workers' rights and Indigenous rights. We will be dropping "Human rights – country specific news" and will just provide a link to relevant "Newsletters/Regular publications". We want to be sure that we are not dropping areas that are of interest to our readers, so please do send in your comments about any of the changes. You can find the results of the survey by clicking on [this link](#).

HUMAN RIGHTS CHALLENGES AND DEVELOPMENTS

- [What difference does the UN human rights treaty system make, and why?](#) A new, global academic study to answer this question is launched in collaboration with the UN High Commissioner for Human Rights
- Recommendations from the International Service for Human Rights: [Blueprint for States to ensure that the UN Human Rights Council continues to be credible, accessible and effective](#)
- Former DTP Executive Director Dr Laksiri Fernando has sent us an [article on the centenary of the World University Service](#). Dr Fernando was the Associate Secretary for Asia/Pacific of WUS from 1984 to 1991

PLEASE DONATE

- DTP relies on donations to provide quality training to human rights defenders so that they can promote and protect human rights effectively in their societies. Please help if you can. Donations over \$2 are tax-deductible. Please send your donation to DTP now [online](#), or by credit card or EFT with this [donation form](#).

DTP's CAPACITY BUILDING PROGRAMS

Due to COVID-19, DTP's programs are currently postponed until health advice and travel restrictions make the programs possible. Please follow DTP's socials and [visit our website](#) for current information on the status of specific programs.

[For reports on completed DTP Training Programs](#)

- February 2020 - The [United Nations Convention on the Rights of the Child: Building Capacity on Implementation and Reporting](#) with a focus on implementation of the Committee's most recent [Concluding Observations \(Recommendations\) to Australia](#), A Workshop in Brisbane. [Program Summary Report](#)

- August 2020 - 30th Annual Human Rights and People's Diplomacy Training for Human Rights Defenders from the Asia-Pacific Region, Timor-Leste. Click [here](#) to download application form and program brochure
- November 2019 – [Business and Human Rights and SDGs in PNG](#) – Capacity Building Program with PIANGO, OHCHR, UNDP, UNSW Institute for Global Development - [Program Summary Report](#)
- August 2019 – [29th Annual Regional Human Rights and People's Diplomacy Training Program](#) in Timor-Leste – [Report](#)
- July 2019 – [Capacity Building Program on the Convention of the Rights of the Child, Darwin Australia](#) - [Report](#)
- [Final Report on DTP's Capacity Building Programs on Migrant Workers' Rights in Middle East 2015-2019](#)
- [Final Report on DTP's Capacity Building Programs on Migrant Workers' Rights in South and South-East Asia programs 2015-2019](#)
- [2019 Indigenous Peoples, Human Rights and Business](#) with Asia Indigenous Peoples Pact and Forum-Asia – [Report](#), and [Opening Speech](#) by DTP Alumna and AICHR Commissioner, [Yuyun Wahyuningrum](#)
- [March 2019 Human Rights and Business and the SDGs in the Pacific – Capacity Building for Civil Society – Report](#)
- [DTP 2018 Annual Report](#) and [2018/19 audited financial statements](#)

Awards and Opportunities

- [The Taiwan Foundation for Democracy \(TFD\) is calling for nominations for the 15th Asia Democracy and Human Rights Award \(ADHRA\)](#)
- [The Rotary Foundation is now accepting applications for the fully-funded 2021 Rotary Peace Fellowship](#)
- [Esther Busser Memorial Prize for a person who has done outstanding work to promote social justice and decent work in the Global South](#)

PROFILES AND NEWS OF DTP ALUMNI

- Profile of DTP alumna and trainer, [Sumitha Shaanthinni Kishna](#) from Malaysia – Founding Director [Our Journey](#) and recently elected Chair of [Migrant Forum in Asia](#)
- Profile of [Sayed Abdul Qader Rahimi from Afghanistan](#), Acting Director, [Afghanistan Independent Human Rights Commission](#), alumnus of DTP's 18th Annual Regional Human Rights and Peoples' Diplomacy Training Program in Australia in 2008
- DTP alumna Tevita Naikasowalu in Fiji works with the Commission of Social and Ecological Justice and is campaigning against black sand mining, its impact on the environment, and the lack of community consultations. [His campaign was highlighted on Australian ABC Radio](#)
- DTP Indonesia/West Papua alumnus [Agustinus Mahuze](#) shared this [link to media coverage](#) highlighting his organisation's work on language, culture and traditional knowledge documentation and advocacy in West Papua
- DTP alumnus Tirtha Prasad Saikia (N.E. India) advises that his organisation [North-East Affected Area Development Society \(NEADS\)](#) has been granted special consultative status by the United Nations Economic and Social Council (ECOSOC)
- DTP alumnus [Sushil Pyakurel](#), long-time human rights advocate and former Nepalese Human Rights Commissioner, has [resigned as Human Rights Adviser to the Nepal's President](#) following his refusal to drop human rights case against the [proposed new Speaker of the Nepalese Parliament](#)
- DTP congratulates alumna [Holly Jonas on her appointment as Global Coordinator](#) of the [ICCA Consortium](#). Holly, based in Sabah, Malaysia, is a long-time campaigner on Indigenous peoples rights and the environment
- DTP alumnus [John Tripura](#) from Bangladesh has sent us the latest issue of [Jumma Barta](#) focused on the Chittagong Hills Tracts

ACTIVISM/CAMPAIGNING/RESOURCES

- [Case studies from civil society groups using digital technologies to respond to populism](#)
- [Gender matters - A manual on addressing gender-based violence affecting young people](#)

- [The Internet Shutdowns series: Resources and tips based on learnings from activists on how to document and film during shutdowns](#)
- [Toolkit for Lawyers at Risk](#)
- [New Tools Help Communities Affected by Asian Infrastructure Investment Bank Projects Defend Their Rights and the Environment](#)

JOBS

- Call for Expression of Interest Raoul Wallenberg Institute: [Experts on the Linkages between Human Rights and Environment, Climate Change and Sustainable Development \(Jakarta\)](#)

DTP'S THEMATIC PRIORITIES

Human Rights and Business

- Bougainville: [After the Mine: Living with Rio Tinto's deadly legacy](#)
- [The Kota Kinabalu Statement on Palm Oil and Freedom of Expression](#)
- Australia: [Complaint on behalf of Cambodian families under OECD Guidelines settled with bank agreeing to compensate families and to review and strengthen its human rights policies](#)
- Papua New Guinea: [Landowners & Madang Govt sue Chinese company Ramu Nico for damages](#)
- [Canada mining firm accused of slavery abroad can be sued at home, supreme court rules](#)
- ['Uyghurs for sale': Report exposes forced labour beyond Xinjiang, implicating major brands](#)

Indigenous Peoples' Rights

- [Indigenous Peoples of Bangladesh – alive, struggling, fighting and uniting](#)
- [Indigenous NGOs call at the UN Convention on Biological Diversity negotiations: Protect Human Rights to Protect the Planet](#)
- Malaysia: [Palm oil impacted people demand the right to speak out against human rights abuses and environmental destruction](#)
- [Indigenous community files FSC Policy of Association complaint against Roda Mas Group in Indonesia](#)
- [Under threat for resisting an illegal mine in India](#)

Migrant Workers' Rights

- [UN experts call on Governments to adopt urgent measures to protect migrants and trafficked persons in their response to COVID-19](#)
- Nepal: [National Human Rights Commission urges govt to unveil details of six construction worker deaths in Kuwait](#)
- [How Nepal's migration ban traps female 'modern day slaves' in the Gulf](#)
- Cambodia: [Code of Ethics for private recruitment companies launched by Labour Ministry & recruitment agencies in bid to better protect migrant workers](#)

Children's Rights

- Australia: [Police watchdog shines light on invasive practices against children and young people](#)
- [Every child under 'immediate threat' from climate, poor diet: UN](#)
- [UN chief: 250 million children in conflict-affected nations](#)
- [Child Rights Coalition ASIA Co-Organizes the ASEAN Dialogue on the United Nations Convention on the Rights of the Child General Comments](#)
- [CRC Committee publishes Concluding Observations for Micronesia, Cook Islands and Tuvalu following historic session in Samoa](#)

HUMAN RIGHTS – GENERAL NEWS

- [COVID-19 and its human rights dimensions](#)
- [China is trying to rewrite the definition of human rights](#). Call for Australia to intervene at the Human Rights Council
- [UN human rights chief warns of women's rights complacency](#)
- [Civil society call to renew mandate of UN Special Rapporteur on Human Rights Defenders](#)

- [When UN's Cash Crisis Undermines Human Rights, Are the World's Torturers the Key Beneficiaries?](#)
- [NGOs raise alarm about negative impacts on human rights of UN budget negotiations](#)
- Michelle Bachelet: [Justice for past crimes can build a shared future](#)

Climate Change and Human Rights

- [Carbon majors can be held liable for human rights violations, Philippines commission rules](#)
- [Climate breakdown 'is increasing violence against women'](#)

HUMAN RIGHTS – PACIFIC ISLANDS NEWS

- Fiji: [Union says Government is not playing fair in tripartite talks on labour issues](#)
- [Thai geologist shot dead in second mining-related killing in Bougainville](#)
- Fiji: [Australian-based company Amex Resources allegedly operates black sand mining without community approval](#)
- Fiji: [Macuata chiefs will oppose seabed mining for risk of destruction of livelihood](#)
- PNG: [The rejection of the Exxon P'nyang LNG deal signals a new way of doing business](#)
- [Child rights in the Pacific: UN body concludes historic session in Samoa](#)

HUMAN RIGHTS – COUNTRY SPECIFIC NEWS

Australia

- [The International Criminal Court \(ICC\): Australia's offshore detention regime is unlawful under international law](#)
- [Aboriginal Australians cannot be deported as 'aliens', High Court holds](#)
- [Australian bushfire victims file OECD complaint against ANZ Bank for financing fossil fuel projects](#)

China

- [UN demands "unfettered access" for China Uighur region visit](#)

India

- [Statement issued by people's organizations and concerned individuals from India to condemn the clampdown on Naga civil society groups by Government of India](#)
- [UN raises concern over anti-Muslim violence as Delhi riots claim 38 lives](#)

Indonesia

- [Indonesia military to blame for 2014 Papua killings: Rights commission](#)
- [Indonesian military depopulating villages to protect Freeport gold mine](#)

Laos

- [Activists Protest Laos' Rights Record at UPR in Geneva](#)

Myanmar

- [Myanmar Arrests 49 Rohingya Muslims Attempting to Flee to Malaysia](#)
- [UN fails to take action on order against Myanmar on Rohingya](#)

New Zealand

- [UN rapporteur on the right to housing, Leilani Farha damns New Zealand's housing crisis](#)

Pakistan

- [Mass detention of and false charges against human rights defenders supporting the Pashtun Tahaffuz Movement](#)

Singapore

- [Singapore must stop targeting HR defenders and media](#)

Sri Lanka

- [Government withdraws from 2015 U.N. Human Rights Council resolution calling for the investigation of allegations of war crimes committed during the island nation's long civil war](#)

Thailand

- [Court Dissolves Opposition Party](#)

- [Drop Spurious Defamation Charges Against Human Rights Defenders](#)
- [Human rights specialist faces 28 years in prison as poultry firm Thammakaset files another criminal defamation complaint](#)

NEWSLETTERS/REGULAR PUBLICATIONS

In this section, we list contributions that appear on a regular basis that may be of interest to our readers

- BANGLADESH: [Kapaeng Foundation](#)
- CAMBODIA: [Cambodia Center for Human Rights \(CCHR\) Fair Trial Newsletter](#)
- CHINA: [Chinese Responsible Investment Overseas Newsletter](#)
- MYANMAR/BURMA: [Burma Human Rights Network Monthly Situation Updates Registration](#)
- MYANMAR/BURMA: [Myanmar Centre for Responsible Business \(MCRB\)](#)
- NEPAL: [Centre for Migration and International Relations \(CMIR\)](#)
- VIETNAM: [Vietnam Human Rights Defenders Weekly](#)
- WEST PAPUA: [Human Rights and Peace for Papua – The International Coalition for Papua](#)
- [Forest Peoples Programme Newsletter](#)
- [HREA Upcoming E-Learning Courses](#)
- [Hurights-Osaka: Asia Pacific Human Rights Information Center](#)
- [Mekong Eye News Digest](#)
- [OHCHR UN Human Rights Civil Society Weekly Newsletter](#)
- [SDC Migration Network Newsletter](#)
- [Stop Child Labour Newsletter](#)
- [United Nations Democracy Fund Monthly Newsletter](#)

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