

BUILDING FOUNDATIONS FOR PEACE RESOURCES

Dear Sangha,

Sometimes in the middle of difficulty, of bad news (as we have been in touch with via the war in the Middle East) we forget about what is possible in terms of generating peace. We may forget our deep aspirations of creating a better inner and outer world. We may forget that we can water wholesome seeds at any time. Somehow the bad or negative news paralyzes us or drags us down.

My intention with these links to different talks from different teachers in our tradition or connected to Thay is to re-ignite that aspiration and capacity to water our wholesome seeds and to remember that there are amazing people in the world that are peace.

We have one short talk by Thay, one article and talk from Cheri Maples who was a police officer in the US and a Dharma teacher in our tradition. We have Larry Ward who was also a powerful voice in our maha-sangha. We have some videos of past but very inspiring events from Wake Up London and a talk by Claude Anshin Thomas who is a Vietnam war veteran who spent a transformational time with Thay in the US and in Plum Village and whom I met in 1996 and was very moved by his experience.

Also included is a proposal for a Ministry of Peace.

War and Peace Within | Thich Nhat Hanh (short teaching video)

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Pki1jpeo3w6U>

In this short teaching video from the Plum Village app <https://plumvillage.app/> Zen Master Thich Nhat Hanh talks about war and peace within us and around us, how not to be overwhelmed by the suffering within and without, and the practice of touching peace.

A Buddhist Cop's Approach to Justice

Cheri Maples, a student of Thich Nhat Hanh and former police officer, addresses the current crisis in policing and how a Buddhist outlook could help.

<https://www.lionsroar.com/a-buddhist-cops-approach-to-justice/>

Mindfulness and the Police | Dharma Talk by Cheri Maples, Vulture Peak Gathering, 2016 06 15

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=NZ4jrd9IIho>

How to Be Engaged Without Becoming Entangled | Larry Ward | 2021-06-26

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=cBGQOKYvroc>

Powerful talk by our dear teacher Larry Ward 🙏

Wake Up with Mindful Activism

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=nU_ogIHI5bo

Why mindfulness should go hand in hand with activism and social impact? “If we want to have a positive impact in the world our actions should come from a place of clarity, peace, understanding and compassion. And that could only happen when we experience it inside”.
Elina Pen – former coordinator of Wake Up UK

Sit in Peace in Trafalgar Square with Thich Nhat Hanh - 31 March 2012

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=LPE10-wcCsg>

A beautiful and powerful event that took place in London with Thay. This is a short video created before that event in 2012.

Interview Claude AnShin Thomas

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=9hZ5NWg-kok>

Claude Anshin Thomas (born 1947) is an American Zen Buddhist monk and Vietnam war veteran. Thomas was brought to Buddhism by Vietnamese Zen Buddhist teacher Thich Nhat Hanh, and was ordained in 1995 by Tetsugen Bernard Glassman of the Zen Peacemaker Order.