



You Are Cordially Invited
INTERNATIONAL ONLINE LAUNCH

ASIAN SCHOOL OF WISDOM

Nurturing an Inclusive Age of Wisdom and Spirit

“We Are Not Living an Era of Change but a Change of Era.” Pope Francis

Time: Friday, July 30, 2021

Bangkok: 3:00–4:30 pm, KL/Manila Time: 4:00–5:30 pm;

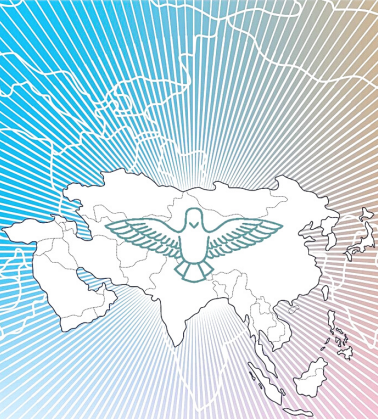
Indian Time 1:30–3:00 pm; European Time: 11:00–12:30 pm; USA Time: 4:00–5:30 am.

Join Zoom Meeting

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/84931373222?pwd=dXYzekVSbStwaGRPaHlhVlBVeUpNQTO9>

Meeting ID: 849 3137 3222

Passcode: 796769



พิธีเปิดสถาบันปรีชาญาณแห่งเอเชีย
Asian School of Wisdom (ASW)

วันศุกร์ที่ 2 กรกฎาคม พ.ศ. 2564

ณ ศูนย์วิจัยและฝึกอบรมศาสนาและวัฒนธรรมชุมชน

Asian School of Wisdom

Brief (For Invitees and the Press)

ASIAN SCHOOL OF WISDOM (ASW)

Asia, and the global south, have truly experienced a change of era, from understanding the deep problems and disasters of just using technical knowledge and technology to solve peoples' livelihood and aspirational concerns to imagine, recover and promote indigenous integral-participatory-spiritual development pathways as viable cultures and practices for an inclusive future, across humankind and otherkind nature. This transformation has been part of and a growing holistic agenda of Asian wisdom -- as civilisational wisdom of other regions -- to serve our common future in the face of increasing global challenges threatening all life.

This trend has animated the last 45 years (since 1965) the Diocesan Social Action Committee (DISAC) and its offshoot, the Research & Training Centre for Religio-cultural Communities (RTRC), based in Chiang Mai, Northern Thailand. The RTRC has in particular encouraged indigenous peoples' participation in their own development through local initiatives and religio-cultural resources.

We must remember that this development is inseparable from the practice of the peoples' worldviews in which a living transcendent world permeates the ordinary and everyday through rituals -- everyday and festive -- routines and celebrations. A living cosmological culture governs the indigenous peoples' everyday existence. Sacred songs and dances along with spiritually-charged storytelling of folklores and myths communicate the ancestral wisdom that "everything is interrelated" in mutuality and that the world is not only material but, more importantly, spirited and sacred. Engaging with the spirit and the sacred has been foundational to RTRC's methodology and socio-spiritual practices.

The Asian School of Wisdom (ASW) emerges from the ecology of this ground experiences along with networks, critical pedagogy and inculturation processes and procedures developed by RTRC over 4 decades. The blessing of the ASW domus in the compound of RTRC by HE Bishop Francis Xavier Vira Arpondratana DD, Chiang Mai Diocese, on July 2, 2021, humbly and symbolically marked this important new phase -- offering to the world the collective wisdom of Asia and its indigenous peoples. *Hence, the Asian School of Wisdom.*

It is ASW's mission to organise deep learning opportunities and platforms through various innovative and novel programs nurturing not just students, who are looking for educational certification, but also organic and public intellectuals practically engaged in the field. ASW will explore innovative fields like cultural agriculture, ecological agriculture (agroecology), new humanities, mother earth social sciences, engaged spirituality studies, compassion and dialogue studies, grassroots/people's theology, localisation studies, and engaging community-based programs inspired by various religious traditions (including Pope Francis' work on the care of our common home, *Laudato Si'*).

In the initial stages, courses will be offered in Thai and in English. It is our aim to reach out to the indigenous and marginalised communities as well as those willing to work with or for them. Over the years, we hope ASW will emerge as the learning and inclusive action platform and hub with a consortium of collaborative partners from the global south (as well as the north).

In short, the Asian School of Wisdom seeks to usher in and strengthen, a *change of era* that facilitates an irruption of wisdom, sacred and the spirit from within the interstitial spaces of the global secular world and our indigeneity. ASW hopes to offer the world another ray of Hope and Resilience.

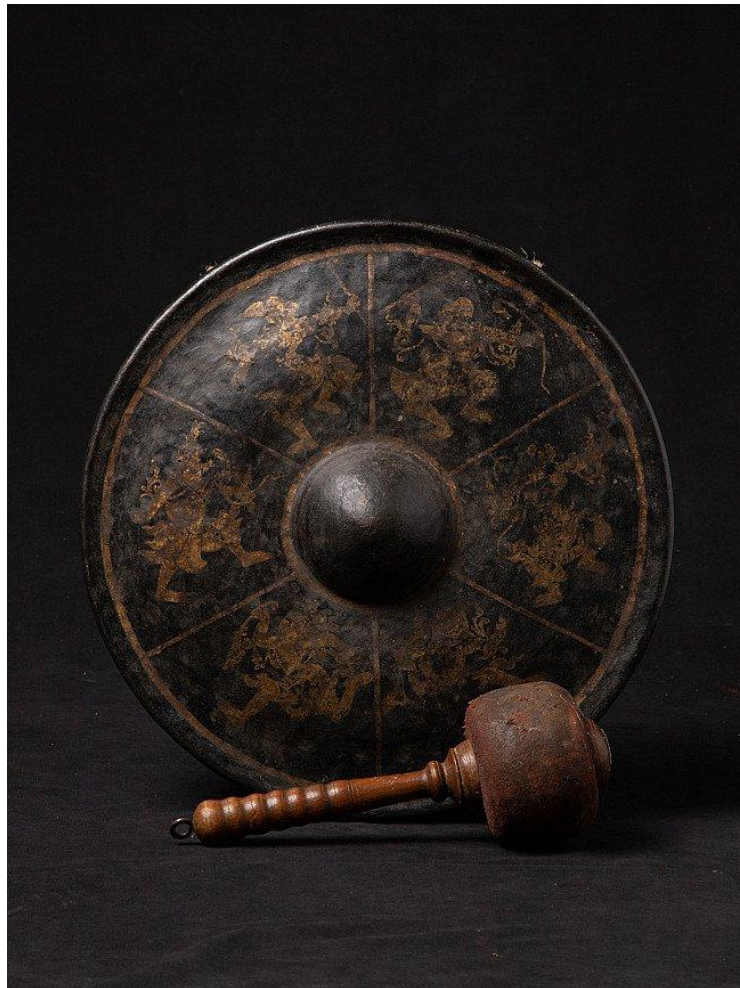


Asian School of Wisdom (ASW)

Program

International Online Launch

*Bangkok: 3:00-4.45 pm, KL/Manila Time: 4.00-5.45 pm; Indian Time 1.30-3.15 pm;
European Time: 11.00-12.45 pm; USA Time: 4.00-5.45 am*



	Event	Speaker /Presenter	Content	Time (in Thailand)
1.	Invocation	Tobo Yasi, Lahu Shaman	Blessings from Guisha & all the ancestors, mystics & prophets, accompanied by indigenous Elders, girls and boys of the Ahka, Karen, Hmong, Lahu, Lisu, Lua, Kung Mien, symbolizing RTRC's synodal journey of unity in diversity & diversity in unity with the grassroots communities.	3:00-3.10pm
2.	Keynote I	Fr. Niphot Thienvihan, PhD. Director of RTRC, Thailand	1. DISAC - Western development approach 2. RTRC- paradigm shift to peoples' religiocultural wisdom that drives spirit-led development; 3. ASW to "school" the young today & tomorrow in this wisdom in this Change of Era with the "irruption of the sacred & wisdom" in Asia	3.10-3.30pm
3.	Keynote 2	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Prof. Victor Karunan, PhD (14 min) ● Dr. Fr. Agustinus S. Pitoyo SJ (3 mins) ● Dr. Fr. Vinai Boonlue SJ (3 mins) 	1. Vision of ASW 2. Organizational Structure of ASW 3. Educational Programs of ASW 4. Present Collaboration with XIP (Pitoyo) 5. Present Collaboration with XLC of the sacred & wisdom" in Asia (Vinai)	3.30-3.50pm
4.	Statement of Solidarity	Fr. Miguel Garaizabal SJ, Thai Regional Superior	Importance of Wisdom in Asia and Jesuit support of ASW	3.50-3.55pm
5.	Statement of Solidarity	Dr. Fr. Fr. Denzil Fernandes SJ Director, Indian Social Institute (ISI), New Delhi, India.	Future collaboration of ISI with ASW	3.55-4.00pm
5.	Statement of Solidarity	Mr. Somboon Chungprampree (Moo), Executive Secretary, International Network of Engaged Buddhists (INEB). Involved with <i>Spirit in Education (SEM)</i> , Bangkok, Thailand	Future collaboration of INEB with ASW	4.00-4.05pm
6.	Statement of Solidarity	Mdm. Norma Mapansa Gonos, Director of AGILA, Philippines	Future collaboration of Apo Governance & Indigenous Leadership Academy with	4.05-4.10pm

			ASW	
7.	Statement of Solidarity	Prof. Dicky Sofjan PhD, Indonesian Consortium of Religious Studies (ICRS): Universiti Gadja Mada, the Catholic university Duta Wacana (UKDW -Christian University) and State Islamic University Sunan Kalijaga (UIN), Indonesia	Future collaboration of ICRS with ASW	4.10-4.15pm
8.	Statement of Solidarity	Venerable Pharmaha Boochuai Doojai, Thailand	Future collaboration of Mahachulalongkon Buddhist University with ASW	4.15-4.20pm
9.	Statement of Solidarity	Dr. Somkit Kaewkit, Maejo University, Chiangmai, Thailand	Future collaboration of Maejo University with ASW	4.20-4.25pm
10.	Statement of Solidarity	Prof. Dr. Prasert Kitirttharka, UMKC/CLMVT, King's College, Florida, USA.	Possible collaboration between King's College and ASW	4.25-4.30pm
11.	Hitting of the Gong	Kung Po Niphot Thienvihan, Ph.D.	International Launch of ASW. A clarion call to solidarity and collaboration in bringing about a 'change of era' to an inclusive, peaceful and compassionate world, ushering in the age of the Sacred & Wisdom	4.30-4.35pm
12.	Words of Thanks	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Dr. Fr. Agustinus S. Pitoyo SJ ● Dr. Fr. Vinai Boonlue SJ 	In Thai In English	4.35-4.40pm

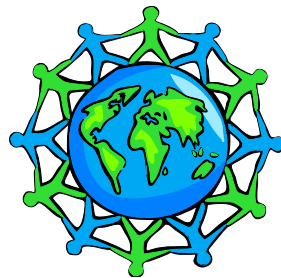




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