

## Thoughts on the lecture “Non violence”

On our way to non-violence, we should not seek anything for ourselves. At the start of the speech, Dr. Jahanbegloo says.

The way to non-violence is unique, because it is a fight not for power, but for peace; defence is not for its loneliness, but for truth and justice. Just like Mandela, he was the present because people wanted him to be, and they want to change the country. Therefore, persuasion is the key. You have to persuade people that they are wrong, instead of killing them. In order to convince, we have to use a lot of things, like friendship, compassion, and love. The love is the love in which we only seek the good for the other, and don't ask for the other to love back. It is a selflessness kind of love.

This reminds me of my buddhism culture, where compassion is emphasized a lot. We want peace for everything in the world. The humans, the plants, the animals. Everything should be in harmony. The evil and the good are interchangeable. The question of “me” is on another planet. Similarly, the lecturer also mentions that compassion is the art of understanding the otherness of the others. What does otherness mean? The otherness of a dog is to be a dog, not the way we see it. We see it as a pet, but dog has has itself. “Animals don't create concentration camps. Plants don't kill themselves,” he said.

However, even though the concept of compassion is related to buddhism, we do not need to be religious in order to be compassionate. We might be godless in this society, but we can still talk about non-violence.

This is because, humans are born of the plurality of human beings around them. We are all born from the relatives of human beings. In UWC, people are from different places, and our roots is always in our own culture, but our eyes have to survey the culture, have our heads around, under the sky of the world. It is not because I am an Asian, I cannot understand the First Nations. We are part of the universe. That's why we can see beyond.

What's more, in order to eliminate violence, we have to transcend, and have not only our humanness, but also be sensitive to others' sufferings. Others not only means humans, but also includes animals and plants, just like what buddhism has taught us.

All in all, the way to non-violence is full of struggle and challenges. So in order to achieve non-violence globally, we should be ready to suffer, to face death, and exclude any form of self-interest.