



Asian Festival in Thailand



This appeal has been drawn up by us, children from the Asian region, gathered at the Culture of Peace Festival for Children in Bangkok and Chon Buri, Thailand.

The appeal may not change the world, but it reflects our feelings and our aspirations. We ask you to read, listen, respect our opinions and ideas and perhaps try to make them a reality.

Peace

What WE, children, want most is peace.

- Stop war everywhere in the world.
- Protect children from war.
- Stop producing and selling weapons, especially nuclear weapons. Children suffer more than anyone from landmines.
- Children and women suffer most from violence. Solve conflicts with diplomacy and negotiation, especially among religious and minority groups.
- We think violence is not necessary. People can listen to each other and live together in friendship.

Child protection

- Children need special protection.
- We ask special care for street children.
- Love us, the children, help us solve problems and do not deceive our hopes.

Education for moral responsibility

- We believe in loving, caring and sharing.
- Teach us caring and moral responsibility in our schools.
- Give better education to all children, also to children out of schools or living in remote areas.

Rich and poor : how unfair !

- We think no countries should dominate, own and exploit other countries.
- Do everything you can to narrow the gap between the rich and the poor within every country and in the world between the rich and the poor countries.
- We demand the same law for everyone.

Human rights education

We want :

- equality in education for all children regardless of sex, race, social status, religion, and physical capability ;
- governments to establish more special schools for disabled children ;
- educational systems to have a balanced curriculum to give children enough time to play;
- national governments to increase budget for education instead of buying military weapons ;
- governments must attend to teachers welfare to improve teaching.

Social problems

Every country must :

- Impose a strong punishment regarding:
 - child abuse,
 - child labour,
 - child prostitution,
 - killing children before birth (abortion) or after birth ;
- set up government juvenile courts and jails for child offenders ;
- stop child marriages ;
- provide for the welfare of the street children, orphans and homeless children.

Media

Governments must :

- regulate electronic and printed media to remove too much violence ;
- encourage media producers and publishers to promote healthy programmes.

We want :

- mass media to publicize more knowledge campaigns on environment.

Economics

Governments should :

- create more job opportunities for adults and provide equal chances for everyone ;
- assist the unemployed families, especially in raising their children properly ;
- solve problems of poverty to make better living for the poor.

Environment education

We want :

- proper education about environment ;
- recycling programmes ;
- family planning ;
- people to respect the traffic rules and regulations ;
- our natural resources to be used wisely.

Practising environmental caring

We want :

- adults to be good models to help put environmental caring into practice ;
- reforestation ;
- clean and green cities.

Laws

We want :

- laws on the environment implemented and respected ;
- laws against using chemicals and pesticides in farming ;
- the number of cars to be reduced ;
- the rich to pay more tax.



Bangkok, Thailand,
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