

RAW FILE
MAKING-VISIBLE
Chenxing Han
MAY 14TH, 2021
7:00 P.M.

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>> ANNIE MAHON: WELCOME.

>> ADRIANA ARIZPE MARTIN: HI.

>> ANNIE MAHON: NICE TO SEE YOU ALL ARRIVING.

>> ANNIE MAHON: THANK YOU FOR BEING HERE TONIGHT. THANK YOU.

>> ADRIANA ARIZPE MARTIN: IF YOU WANT TO WRITE YOUR NAME WHERE YOU ARE CALLING FROM IN THE CHAT THAT WOULD BE REALLY NICE.

>> ANNIE MAHON: YES, PLEASE MAKE SURE. LOOKS LIKE PEOPLE ARE COMING IN UNMUTED. MAYBE JUST MAKE SURE YOU ARE MUTED WHEN YOU COME IN. AND IT WILL ALSO -- WE WILL ALSO HELP WITH THAT.

>> ADRIANA ARIZPE MARTIN: THANK YOU, THANK YOU, EVERYONE.
AND JUST TO REMIND PEOPLE, WE HAVE CLOSED-CAPTIONING, LIVE,
AND DON IS HERE WITH US DOING THAT. SO IF YOU WANT TO HAVE
THE CLOSED-CAPTIONING YOU JUST NEED TO GO TO YOUR SCREEN,
WHERE IT SAYS LIVE TRANSCRIPT, AND JUST GO TO SHOW
SUBTITLES. AND YOU WILL BE ABLE TO SEE THE
CLOSED-CAPTIONING. HI TO EVERYONE. SUSAN IN NEW JERSEY.
ALWAYS LOVELY TO HAVE LA WITH US HERE. HI, LA. PREVIOUS
SPEAKER ALSO. AND, HI JIM. IN WISCONSIN. AND, EILEEN IN
CHICAGO.

IF YOU WANT TO PUT YOUR NAME, WHERE YOU ARE CALLING FROM IN
THE CHAT, PLEASE DO. SO EVERYONE CAN WELCOME YOU AND WE CAN
SEE WHERE PEOPLE ARE.

>> MAGDA IN ALEXANDRIA, VIRGINIA. HI.

>> NICE.

>> ELIZABETH FROM LOS ANGELES. NIGEL, IN D.C. AND, AND,

DUAWAMISHIP

/COAST, SALISH TERRITORIES, AKA SEATTLE. YEP.

>> UH-HUH.

>> DON HAS POSTED IN THE CHAT IF YOU WANT A LIVE TRANSCRIPT
OF THE, OF THE CAPTIONS YOU CAN CLICK ON THAT LINK.

>> WELCOME CYNTHIA FROM MARYLAND, THANK YOU FOR BEING HERE

TONIGHT.

>> CYNTHIA, HI, HAVEN'T SEEN YOU IN A WHILE.

>> GOOD TO SEE YOU.

>> ANNIE MAHON: YEA, WELCOME, EVERYONE. WE'LL TAKE A MINUTE OR SO MORE TO ALLOW PEOPLE TO COME. OH, THERE IS HA NFL, MY FRIEND HAN IS HERE, GOOD TO SEE YOU. LOVELY. AND THEN WE WILL HAVE, THEN, WHAT WE WILL DO -- SCHEDULE FOR THE EVENING, WILL BE --

TO HAVE A --

BELL, AND A LITTLE QUOTE FROM THICH NHAT HANH, AND THEN, WE WILL INTRODUCE, CHENXING HAN WHO IS HERE TO SPEAK TO US.

AND, AND --

THAT WILL BE THE MAIN PART OF THE EVENING. THEN WE WILL HAVE HOPEFULLY HAVE TIME FOR QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS AT 8:00 P.M. EASTERN TIME.

>> ADRIANA ARIZPE MARTIN: YES, UH-HUH.

>> ANNIE MAHON: WE HALL SEE.

>> ADRIANA ARIZPE MARTIN: FOR A LOT OF THOSE WHO ARE HERE, A LOT OF OUR PARTICIPANTS HERE, PRACTITIONERS OF MINDFULNESS. AND, WE HAVE THIS, THE FORMAT MAKING-VISIBLE UNDER THE FORMAT OF MINDFULNESS, BUT YOU DON'T HAVE TO BE A PRACTITIONER TO BE HERE. WE ARE JUST DOING AND FOLLOWING

THIS FORMAT. AND, IT IS EASY, AND IT IS --
WE WILL -- SEND IT TO ALL OF YOU WE WILL HAVE THE BELL,
READ A QUOTE. BUT YOU DON'T HAVE TO BE A PRACTITIONER. AND
AGAIN, THANK YOU EVERYONE FOR BEING HERE. AS A REMINDER, WE
HAVE CLOSED-CAPTIONING LIVE, SO IF YOU WANT TO -- TO HAVE
THE CLOSED-CAPTIONING, DON JUST PUT A -- THE INSTRUCTION IN
THE CHAT.

>> SO --

WHAT DO YOU THINK? SHALL WE -- BEGIN WITH A BELL?

>> ADRIANA ARIZPE MARTIN: HOW MANY?

>> ANNIE MAHON: WHAT DO YOU THINK?

>> ADRIANA ARIZPE MARTIN: YES, MAYBE, IT'S TIME. LET'S
START WITH A BELL.

>> ANNIE MAHON: OKAY, IT'S INTERESTING THE TOPIC TONIGHT
BEING ASIAN-AMERICAN, ASIAN PACIFIC ISLANDERS AROUND
BUDDHISM IN PARTICULAR. AND BEING, BEING A WHITE AMERICAN,
USING THE BELL. I JUST WANT TO POINT OUT THAT THIS BELL,
I -- THIS PARTICULAR BELL ACTUALLY I PURCHASED, BUT THE
IDEA OF INVITING BELL COMES FROM THE TEACHER THAT I HAVE
PRACTICED WITH, THICH NHAT HANH AND IT IS AN ASIAN
PRACTICE. AND I JUST WANT TO HONOR THAT, THAT A LOT OF
TIMES WE ARE DOING THESE THINGS THAT WE DON'T MENTION WHERE

THEY CAME FROM, THAT IS WHERE THIS COMES FROM, AND THE WAY WE INVITE THE BELL HERE. IS FROM THICH NHAT HANH AND THE PLUM VILLAGE TRADITION. SO I WILL JUST SHARE THAT. AS WE BEGIN. WE WILL HAVE THREE SOUNDS OF THE BELL. A CHANCE TO SETTLE INTO OUR SEATS AND TO ARRIVE IN OUR BODIES. SO THAT WE CAN BE MORE PRESENT TO -- TO CHENXING HAN AND TO EACH OTHER AND TO REALLY BE HERE TOGETHER. (BELL TOLLS)

(BELL TOLLS) ADRIANA IS GOING TO READ A QUOTE FROM THICH NHAT HANH THAT CHENXING HAN SELECTED FOR US THIS EVENING AND I AM GOING TO TURN IT OVER TO ADRIANA.

>> ADRIANA ARIZPE MARTIN: SO, I AM HERE. THANK YOU, ANNIE.

(ADRIANA READING QUOTE FROM ZOOM SCREEN) THANK YOU.

>> ADRIANA ARIZPE MARTIN: NOW, ANNIE IS GOING TO INTRODUCE, CHENXING HAN, REALLY HONORED TO HAVE HER WITH US. AND -- I HOPE ALL OF YOU ENJOY THIS NIGHT TONIGHT -- THIS TOPIC TONIGHT. THANK YOU. ANNIE.

>> ANNIE MAHON: THANK YOU, ADRIANA SO MUCH. YES, WE ARE SO EXCITED. I LEARNED ABOUT, CHENXING HAN THROUGH A COUPLE PEOPLE, ONE OF WHOM IS ON THIS CALL, AND ALSO, KATIE FROM THE BUDDHIST PEACE FELLOWSHIP. THIS BOOK "BE THE REFUGE" I WAS SO EXCITED. SEE OTHER PEOPLE HOLDING IT UP, YES. I WAS SO EXCITED TO READ. THE SUBTITLE, RAISING THE VOICES OF

ASIAN-AMERICAN BUDDHISTS. I AM GOING TO READ --
CHENXING HAN'S BIO. SO, CHENXING HAN IS A BAY AREA BASED
WRITER WHOSE PUBLICATIONS HAVE APPEARED IN BUDDHA DHARMA
JOURNAL OF GLOBAL BUDDHISM. LION'S ROAR, PACIFIC WORLD,
TRICYCLE AND ELSEWHERE. SHE HOLDS A BA FROM STANFORD AND
MA IN BUDDHIST STUDIES FROM THE THEOLOGICAL UNION. AFTER
STUDYING CHAPLAINCY AT INSTITUTE OF BUDDHIST STUDIES IN
BERKELEY SHE WORKED IN SPIRITUAL CARE AT A NEARBY COMMUNITY
HOSPITAL IN OAKLAND. THIS IS HER FIRST BOOK, BE THE REFUGE,
RAISING THE VOICES OF ASIAN-AMERICAN BUDDHISTS WHICH WAS
PUBLISHED BY NORTH ATLANTIC BOOKS IN JANUARY, 2021. SO,
WITHOUT FURTHER ADIEU, I AM GOING TO TURN IT OVER TO
CHENXING, SO THANKFUL YOU CAN BE HERE AND LOOK FORWARD TO
HEARING EVERYTHING THAT YOU HAVE TO SHARE.

>> Chenxing Han: THANK YOU SO MUCH, ANNIE. I FIRST WANT TO
THANK YOU AND ADRIANA FOR CO-ORGANIZING THIS EVENT. I WANT
TO THANK RACHEL FOR HELPING TO SPREAD THE WORD AND ALSO DON
FOR DOING LIVE CLOSED-CAPTIONING. I ALSO WANT TO
ACKNOWLEDGE I AM SPEAKING TO YOU ALL FROM THE BAY AREA
ABOUT 10 MINUTE SOUTH OF SAN FRANCISCO AIRPORT ON THE
UNCEDDED ANCESTRAL LANDS OF THE COMMUNITY, SPEAKERS OF THE
DIALECT OF THE LANGUAGE. AND, IT IS REALLY DELIGHTFUL TO

SEE ALL OF YOU HERE. SEE IF I CAN PUT ON GALLERY VIEW SO I DON'T HAVE TO LOOK AT MYSELF. THANK YOU ALL FOR TAKING THE TIME JUST TO BE HERE, TODAY, FOR, FOR, THE MAKING-VISIBLE COMMUNITY. THANKS KATIE, DON'T THINK SHE IS HERE. GRATEFUL FOR HER FOR CONNECTING ME WITH THIS SERIES AND, GRATEFUL TO THOSE SPEAKING IN JUNE AND JULY. AND I SEE, SOME FAMILIAR FACES HERE AND LOTS OF NEW FRIENDS AS WELL. SO, WELCOME AND THANK YOU SO MUCH FOR YOUR KIND ATTENTION. SO, TODAY'S A BIT OF AN EXPERIMENT FOR MOST OF MY BOOK EVENTS OVER 3 1/2 MONTHS I HAVE USUALLY BEEN IN DIALOGUE.

THE FIRST TIME I WILL BE DOING A LITTLE BIT MORE OF A PRESENTATION. AND, I THINK FIRST THOUGH BEFORE I DIVE IN AND START SHARING MY SCREEN, I KNOW SOME OF YOU HAVE YOUR VIDEOS ON. I AM CURIOUS TO KNOW, I WAS FIRST, HOW MANY OF YOU HAVE BEEN ABLE TO READ SOME, OR, OR ALL OF MY BOOK? FAMILIAR WITH IT. WONDERFUL. THANK YOU, ALL SO MUCH. OKAY.

SO, QUITE A FEW OF YOU. AND THEN, I WONDER -- LAST WEEK -- THERE WAS A MAY FOURTH GATHERING OF A NATIONAL BUDDHIST MEMORIAL CEREMONY FOR ASIAN-AMERICAN ANCESTORS I WANT TO TALK ABOUT TO DAY

I AM WONDERING HOW MANY PEOPLE HERE WERE ABLE TO ATTEND THE LIVE STREAM OR WATCH THE VIDEO AFTERWARD? QUITE A FEW

PEOPLE. THANK YOU SO MUCH FOR JOINING US. WHEN I WAS THINKING WHAT TO SHARE AND, THIS IS CALLED MAKING-VISIBLE. NOT A VISUAL PERSON MYSELF. PERHAPS MORE AUDITORY, VERY DRAWN TO SMELL AND OTHER SENSES OF COURSE THE WRITTEN WORD. BUT I THOUGHT IT MIGHT BE NICE TO SHARE SOME IMAGES. I STARTED GATHERING THOSE. AND I KNOW I SORT OF PROMISE AID JOURNEY THROUGH, BE THE REFUGE, AND BOTH THE WRITING, OF THE WHOLE WRITING PROCESS, ALSO, THE THEMES WITHIN THE BOOK. AND, THEN --

WHAT IT HAS BEEN LIKE TO PUBLISH THIS BOOK DURING A PANDEMIC, WHEN THERE HAS BEEN RISING ANTI-ASIAN VIOLENCE. AND IT OCCURRED AS ONE OF MY INTERVIEWEES SAID, YOU CONNECT THE THOUGHTS IN RETROSPECT. SO, I THINK I -- ACTUALLY, WILL KIND OF GO BACKWARDS IN TIME. SO I WANT TO BEGIN WITH -- INVITE YOU DURING THIS TIME IF YOU WANT TO WRITE IN THE CHAT, PLEASE DO SO. IN PARTICULAR, IF, IF SOME OF YOU ARE MOVED TO SHARE, WHAT IT WAS LIKE FOR YOU TO, TO WATCH THE GATHERING EVENT TO ATTEND, PLEASE FEEL FREE TO WRITE IN THE CHAT AS ANOTHER WAY TO INTERACT. IF YOU JUST WANT TO FOCUS ON WHAT I AM SAYING, THAT'S WONDERFUL TOO. SO, I AM GOING TO SHARE MY SCREEN. AND, I THINK WE CAN JUST, DIVE IN. GIVE ME A MOMENT TO SET THAT UP. SEEING AN IMAGE. WE HAVE GOT

THAT. PERFECT. MAY WE GATHER WAS AWE CEREMONY FOR ANCESTORS THAT OCCURRED EIGHT DAY AS GO ON MAY 4, 2021. I NEVER WOULD HAVE IMAGINED HAVING THE HONOR TO CO-ORGANIZE SUCH A CEREMONY. IT WAS INCREDIBLE, 1,700 PEOPLE JOINED US DURING THE LIVE STREAM. AND THE VIDEO HAS BEEN WATCHED MORE THAN 7,000 TIMES. SO THANK YOU ALL FOR PARTICIPATING IN THIS CEREMONY. WE WERE REALLY MOVED TO SEE A LOT OF MEDIA COVERAGE OF THIS EVENT INCLUDING, IN "LOS ANGELES TIMES" AND "THE NEW YORK TIMES". RARE TO SEE BUDDHISTS ACKNOWLEDGED BUT ASIAN-AMERICAN BUDDHISTS ACKNOWLEDGED IN THIS NATIONAL WAY WAS INCREDIBLY POWERFUL. FOR MYSELF AND I KNOW FOR MANY OTHER PEOPLE. FOR THOSE ATTENDED A REVIEW, FOR THOSE WHO DIDN'T. AT THE WEBSITE, MAYWEGATHER.ORG. SOMETHING TO DRAW YOUR ATTENTION TO THE MASKS EVERYONE IS WEARING. IT WAS A REALLY POWERFUL SYMBOL OF OUR DESIRE TO PROTECT EACH OTHER DURING THIS TIME. WE HAD TO HAVE A SOCIALLY DISTANCED SAFE CEREMONY, WE WOULD HAVE LOVED TO HAVE MORE PEOPLE ATTEND BUT IT WASN'T QUITE POSSIBLE AT THIS POINT IN THE PANDEMIC. WE OPENED WITH A BEAUTIFUL PROCESSION OF THE APPROXIMATELY, 49 DIFFERENT BUDDHIST MONASTICS AND PRIESTS OF MOSTLY ASIAN HERITAGE, SOME WERE NOT, ALLIES, SPIRITUAL FRIENDS WHO JOINED US. THE

PROCESSION WAS LED BY, REVEREND, WHO ACTUALLY HAND MADE EVERY SINGLE ONE OF THESE MASKS AND, AND, DID THE CALIGRAPHY, A MASTER CALIGRAPHER. AND THE WRITING ON THE MASKS SAYS, HOMAGE TO THE THREE JEWELS THAT WE TAKE REFUGE IN AS BUDDHISTS. OUR MAIN ORGANIZER, THE REVEREND, HELPED OPEN THE CEREMONY WITH WHAT IS CALLED A STATEMENT BEFORE THE BUDDHA TO LET PEOPLE KNOW ABOUT THE INTENTION OF THIS GATHERING. THIS GATHERING REALLY AS I MENTIONED ROSE IN RESPONSE TO THE RISE OF ANTI-ASIAN VIOLENCE IN PARTICULAR, AFTER THE ATLANTA SHOOTINGS THAT REALLY JUST SHOCKED THE NATION AND THE WORLD. AND CERTAINLY, AFFECTED US, AS CO-ORGANIZERS WE WANTED TO KNOW WHAT IS A WAY THAT WE CAN REALLY RESPOND TO THIS. MAGNITUDE OF PAIN, SUFFERING, ISOLATION AND FEAR THAT SO MAVEN US PARTICULARLY IN THE ASIAN-AMERICAN COMMUNITY FEEL. AND HOW CAN WE DO THIS IN A WAY THAT REALLY CENTERS ASIAN-AMERICAN BUDDHIST VOICES WHICH PRESENTLY, HISTORICALLY HAVE BEEN SO OFTEN MARGINALIZED AND ERASED. SO, I WAS ONE OF THE CO-EMCEES FOR THE EVENT, ALONG WITH, A PROFESSOR AT SAN JOSE STATE. I WILL MENTION THEM LATER --

IN THE IMAGES AS WELL. ONE OF THE CENTRAL ASPECTS OF OUR CEREMONY, WERE THESE MEMORIAL TABLETS. SEVEN OF THEM

ALL. AND THE REVEREND WHO MADE THE MAXES ALSO, DID THE CALIGRAPHY FOR THE TABLETS. WE WANTED TO, SELECT JUST A FEW OF THE NAMES OF ASIAN-AMERICAN BUDDHISTS WHO HAVE DIED AT THE HANDS OF -- ANTI-ASIAN. ALSO ANTIRELIGIOUS VIOLENCE. WE SEE THE NAME OF A KOREAN-AMERICAN BUDDHIST KILLED IN THE ATLANTA SHOOTINGS. A LITTLE HARD TO SEE IN THE PICTURES HERE, BUT BENEATH INDICATES THE NAMES WHEN THEY PASSED AWAY.

TO THE LEFT IS A THAI AMERICAN BUDDHIST, WHO WAS ASSAULTED AND KILLED IN JANUARY OF THIS YEAR. WHILE TAKING A WALK IN A SAN FRANCISCO NEIGHBORHOOD. TO HIS LEFT IS TOMMY LE WHO WAS KILLED BY POLICE AND SO WE ARE GOING BACK IN TIME HERE. KILLED BY POLICE FOR HOLDING A PEN, KNOCKING ON A DOOR, HOLDING A PEN, A KNIFE. I WILL SKIP A TABLET. A CENTRAL TABLET. MENTION, A COUPLE DECADES AGO, THIEM MINHLY, BRUTALLY MURDERED BY WHITE SUPREMACISTS IN SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA AT THE HIGH SCHOOL, SO THIS WAS AN INSTANCE OF ANTI-ASIAN VIOLENCE THAT TOUCHES VERY CLOSE TO HER HEART. AND THEN TO THE LEFT WE GO EVEN FURTHER BACK IN HISTORY TO WORLD WAR II, TO HONOR, SHOT BY GUARDS IN A JAPANESE-AMERICAN INCARCERATION CAMP WHEN, DURING, DURING WORLD WAR II, MORE THAN 120,000 JAPANESE-AMERICANS, JUST IN

THE UNITED STATES WERE INCARCERATED THIS HAPPENED ALSO IN CANADA AND ELSEWHERE. AND DUNCAN HAS RESEARCH EXTENSIVELY ON THIS. HIGHLY RECOMMEND HIS BOOK, AMERICAN SUTRA FOR THOSE WHO WANT TO LEARN MORE ABOUT THE HISTORY AND HIS RESEARCH BRINGS US THE STORIES OF PEOPLE LIKE THE WOMAN WHOSE GRANDDAUGHTER WAS ATTENDING THE CEREMONY WITH US, IN HAWAII. AND THEN -- IN THE VERY LEFT MOST, WE HAVE -- A TABLET HONORING SIABUN NING, ONE OF 28 MASSACRED IN WYOMING, CHINESE MINERS, HEAD, NECK, SHOULDERS FOUND NEAR A HUT THERE IN THE VILLAGE. SO, AT THE VERY CENTER, BECAUSE IT IS OF COURSE IMPOSSIBLE TO INCLUDE ALL OF THE NAMES, AND IN FACT, MANY NAMES ARE LOST TO HISTORY. ALSO WE WANTED TO --

REMINDE OURSELVES TO REMEMBER THAT, THAT, ASIAN-AMERICAN BUDDHISTS ARE CONNECTED, ACROSS TRADITIONS, BUT ALSO CONNECTED TO OUR, SPIRITUAL FRIENDS, TO OUR, ACROSS RACIAL BOUNDARIES, ACROSS RELIGIOUS BOUNDARIES. SO SOON AFTER, THE ATLANTA SHOOTINGS. WE FEEL THE HURT. AS PART OF THE CEREMONY, MANY OF THE MONASTICS, PRIESTS, LAY LEADERS PRESENT GAVE OFFERINGS OF LIGHT, CANDLES, INCENSE, SEE THE INCENSE BURNERS. HERE I SHOULD GO BACK AND JUST ACKNOWLEDGE THAT THIS IS FROM THE MONASTERY. AND AVAILABLE AT THE MAY

WE GATHER WEBSITE AND GALLERY. SO, THERE IS AN ADDITIONAL MEDIA COVERAGE. WE CAN SEE THE SPEAKERS THAT GAVE DHARMA TALKS. THESE ARE THE SIX PERFECTIONS. THE PERFECTED QUALITIES OF ENLIGHTENED BEINGS WITHIN BUDDHISM. SO WE CAN SEE THAT -- THE BISHOP WHO IS ALSO THE BISHOP OF THE TEMPLE HERE AT THE TOP LEFT, HE GAVE A DHARMA TALK ON WISDOM. AND IT WAS VERY MOVED WHEN HE SHARED THAT HE -- HE WAS ABLE TO LEAD THE TEMPLE WITH HIS FATHER. HIS FATHER WHEN THE PARISHIONERS, MEMBERS OF THE TEMPLE, THE SANGHA WOULD PASS AWAY WOULD DO A CEREMONY EVERY WEEK, FOR THE 49 DAYS, AND THAT WOULD GIVE HIM AN OCCASION FOR EACH WEEK TO SPEAK ON ONE OF THE PRINCIPLES. SO HE HAD A PERSONAL CONNECTION AND PARTLY THE REASON WE CHOSE TO FEATURE SIX SPEAKERS AND ALSO BECAUSE WE REALLY WANTED TO HIGHLIGHT SOME OF THE BUDDHIST TEACHINGS THAT WE CAN ROOT OURSELVES IN AND TAKE INSPIRATION FROM DURING THIS TIME WHEN THERE HAS BEEN SO MUCH TRAUMA, SO MUCH VIOLENCE.

>> WE HAD A DHARMA TALK IN SPANISH. A TEMPLE SERVES THE THAI AMERICAN COMMUNITY. A REMINDER HOW INTERCONNECTED OUR AMERICAN BUDDHIST CENTER IS. AND THEN THE BISHOP OF TEXAS REALLY WANTED TO BE WITH US IN PERSON, WASN'T ABLE TO COME. SHE GAVE A DHARMA MESSAGE THAT WAS PRERECORDED ON

MEDITATION. CONCENTRATION. AND THEN, THE REVEREND FLEW ALL THE WAY FROM HAWAII TO JOIN US. AND -- SHE GAVE A DHARMA TALK VERY FITTINGLY FOR HER PRACTICE ON, KIND OF SPIRITUAL ENERGY. AND FINALLY, DR. LARRY WARD, MANY OF YOU MAY KNOW HIM. BECAUSE HE IS, DEEPLY CONNECTED TO, TO THE THICH NHAT HANH TRADITION. HE GAVE A TALK ON GENEROSITY. AND, MANY OF US COMMENTED HOW -- WE WERE QUITE DELIGHTED THAT HE WAS, ABLE TO GO OFF SCRIPT, SO, MOST OF THESE TALKS HAD BEEN SCRIPTED BEFOREHAND IN ORDER TO HAVE CAPTIONING. BUT, DR. WARD REALLY SPOKE FROM THE HEART TO OUR AUDIENCE. AND ANOTHER ESSENTIAL ELEMENT OF OUR CEREMONY WAS THIS -- LOTUS. A CENTRAL SYMBOL IN MANY BUDDHIST TRADITIONS. WE THINK OF THE LOTUS AS SYMBOL OF ENLIGHTENMENT, RISES FROM MUDDY ROOTS, MUDDIED WATERS. A LOTUS CAN'T GROW IN PURE WATER. A REMINDER THAT IT IS POSSIBLE FOR US, TO TRANSFORM -- OUR SUFFERING, OUR PAIN INTO SOMETHING, BEAUTIFUL. THIS LOTUS WAS HAND MADE FOR US -- HAND MADE AND SORT OF TEN DAYS IN A VERY COMPRESSED AMOUNT OF TIME. WE CAN ADMIRE WHAT THE LOTUS LOOKS LIKE FROM THE BEGINNING BEFORE IT WAS PAINTED. AND DURING THE CEREMONY, SOME MOON ASICS CAME AND GENTLY GUILDED THE CRACKS. THIS IS

SOMETHING DUNCAN HAS SPOKEN OFTEN OF, A JAPANESE ART OF -- LITERALLY, GOLD AND COMES FROM TO JOIN OR REPAIR. AND IT IS THIS IDEA THAT FOR US WHAT WE WANTED TO HIGHLIGHT IS THAT, WE DIDN'T WANT TO JUST HIDE OUR PAIN, BUT WE WANTED TO ACKNOWLEDGE AND NAME IT. TO HAVE THIS, BE ABLE TO SEE IT. BUT TO HONOR IN A WAY THAT -- THIS GUILING WHICH IS ALSO DONE IN MANY BUDDHIST TRADITIONS, GUILING OF BUDDHIST STATUES, PLACING OF GOLD LEAF, BIT BY BIT, TO WATCH A STATUE TURN FROM -- FROM, YOU KNOW, NOT, LET'S SAY JUST, JUST SOMETHING, WITHOUT COLOR TO SOMETHING THAT, THAT GLEANS. THAT WAS ALSO --

TO US, A POWERFUL SYMBOL THAT WE WANTED TO SHOW. HOW WE HEAL TOGETHERREN COMMUNITY. SO, AFTER THE CEREMONY, WE HAVE REVERENT MOON AND, THE REVEREND, AND, ANOTHER REVEREND TOGETHER, HELPING TO PAINT THE REST OF THE LOTUS, HERE IT IS IN ITS COMPLETED FORM. IN OUR CLOSING PROCESSION, THOSE OF YOU, WHO ATTENDED, MIGHT HAVE NOTICED --

ONE BY ONE INTO THE PROCESSION. BUT EXITED IN PAIRS. THEY WERE ALL CONNECTED BY THIS THREAD. THIS THREAD -- WE DREW INSPIRATION FROM THE BUDDHIST TRADITIONS THAT USE THIS THREAD. SO THE THREAD IS ACTUALLY. YOU CAN'T QUITE SEE IN THE PICTURE, BUT YOU CAN SEE, IN THE VERY BACK, AND THE

THREAD IS CONNECTED TO THE BUDDHA, AND A REMINDER THAT WE ARE ALL CONNECTED TO THE BUDDHA, TO HIS TEACHINGS AND TO THE SANGHA. AND SO, TRADITIONALLY, IN A CEREMONY IF WE HAD HAD TIME DURING THE CEREMONY, WE WOULD HAVE HAD -- THE MONASTICS, CHANTING THE THREAD WAS EMPOWERED. WE DID DO THE ASPECT. WHAT WE DIDN'T DO, CUT BITS OF THREAD AROUND EACH PERSON SO THEY COULD WEAR IT AROUND THEIR WRIST. AND, I THINK IN A WEEK OR SO I WILL BE IN CONVERSATION WITH A DOCTOR, FOR THE HARVARD BUDDHIST COMMUNITY, WE WERE TALKING A FEW WEEKS AGO, AND I WAS COMMENTING ACTUALLY ON THE THREAD ON HER WRIST. AND, PART OF THAT CONVERSATION, ACTUALLY, INSPIRED ME TO SAY, WHY DON'T WE, MAKE SURE WE HAVE IT AS PART OF THE CEREMONY. SO, REALLY THE CEREMONY WAS --

HISTORIC CEREMONY. I THINK, NOTHING LIKE IT HAD BEEN DONE BEFORE. IT WAS CERTAINLY -- VERY MEMORABLE FOR ME TO SEE SO MANY TRADITIONS REPRESENTED IN ONE PLACE AND REPRESENTED AT A TEMPLE. THAT HAD BEEN VANDALIZED. YOU KNOW, JUST A FEW MONTHS PRIOR BACK IN FEBRUARY. OF THIS YEAR. SO, THERE WAS REPORTING -- IN LION'S ROAR ON -- ON THE EVENT. AND SOMETHING THAT REALLY STRUCK ME, ABOUT THIS REPORTING WAS -- WHO THE REPORTERS WERE. SO WE HAVE, THE -- IN MY

BOOK, THE REFUGE, BE THE REFUGE WAS INSPIRATION FOR MY
BOOK. AND A TAIWANESE AMERICAN, BUDDHIST, ALSO, A PH.D.
STUDENT AT STANFORD UNIVERSITY. AND, TO HAVE AN EVENT AND
THEN HAVE IT BE REPORTED BY ASIAN-AMERICAN BUDDHIST WOMEN
IS NOT SOMETHING I, I WOULD HAVE IMAGINED. WAS POSSIBLE.
MAYBE, EVEN TEN YEARS AGO. WHEN I, REALLY STARTED TO DO THE
RESEARCH. FOR MY BOOK. SO, THAT, IN AND OF ITSELF WAS
DEEPLY MOVING. AND, THEY'RE TWO OF THE NEW ASSOCIATE
EDITORS AT LION'S ROAR. WHO SOME PEOPLE HERE MAY KNOW.
DOING A LOT OF WORK AROUND THE BUDDHIST JUSTICE REPORTER.
HIGHLIGHTING BLACK BUDDHISTS AND ONE OF THE CONTRIBUTORS.
SO I AM JUST REALLY GLAD TO SEE THAT -- LION'S ROAR, THE
STAFF IS DIVERSIFYING AND IS REALLY, COMMITTED TO -- TO
SHOWCASING MORE BROADLY THE DIVERSITY OF AM BUDDHISM. AND
THEN I JUST WANTED TO TAKE A MOMENT TO ACKNOWLEDGE ROB SATO
WHO DID OUR ILLUSTRATION FOR THIS EVENT. MAY WE GATHER. HE
WAS ABLE TO CAPTURE THE LOTUSES INCLUDING, MOON, AS WE
KNOWEN BUDDHIST TRA TKEUGSZ, THE MOON IS ALSO VERY OFTEN AN
IMAGE, METAPHOR, WE USE IN TRA TKEUGSZ. OF COURSE ALL OF
THE PEOPLE. AND FOR ME, I LOVE THE VIBRANCY OF THE COLORS
IN THIS IMAGE BECAUSE, IT ACTUALLY REMIND ME OF -- OF,
SPENDING TIME IN LA OPEN S, THAILAND, CAMBODIA AROUND THE

NEW YEAR WHERE PEOPLE DRESS IN THEIR FINEST EMBROIDERY. TO ME IT REMIND ME OF THE BUDDHIST HOLIDAYS WHERE PEOPLE ARE WEARING THIS INCREDIBLY COLORFUL AND, AND, JUST, BEAUTIFUL, EMBROIDERED DRESSES, AND, AND, EMBROIDERED, SO THERE WAS, I THINK --

THE COLORS FOR ME ARE A REMINDER SOME TIMES, BUDDHISM CAN BE STEREOTYPED AS DRAB, DULL, BLACK AND WHITE. FOR ME THERE WAS SO MUCH MOURNING IN OUR CEREMONY, SO MUCH GRIEF, A SOMBER NOTE. BUT THERE WAS ALSO A LOT OF, LITERAL COLOR AND A LOT OF -- ALMOST AN ELEMENT OF CELEBRATION IN THAT WE WERE REMINDING OURSELVES OF OUR STRENGTH AND RESILIENCE THAT'S THE RADIOED IN, IN OUR BUDDHIST PRACTICES IN OUR BUDDHIST TEACHINGS AND, AND IN OUR BUDDHIST COMMUNITIES. THIS WAS LAST WEEK. MAY 4 CEREMONY. NOW GOING BACK IN TIME. I WANT TO TACK US BACK TO JANUARY OF THIS YEAR. THIS IS WHEN --

I WAS ABLE TO, LAUNCH MY BOOK, "BE THE REFUGE" AND I HAD NO IDEA HOW THIS BOOK WOULD BE RECEIVED. IT'S THE FIRST BOOK TO REALLY TALK ABOUT ASIAN-AMERICAN BUDDHIST AS A PAN-ETTE NICK AND PAN-BUDDHIST CATEGORY AS WE CAN SEE FROM MAY 4th. WE COME FROM, MANY DIFFERENT COUNTRIES. WE TRACE OUR HERITAGES FROM MANY DIFFERENT COUNTRIES AND PRACTICE IN SO

MANY DIFFERENT BUDDHIST TRADITIONS DURING MAY 4th, WE HAD CHANTING IN FROM A SRI LANKAN GROUP, A CHANTING IN, POLY, FROM A THAI BUDDHIST GROUP, CHANTING IN CHINESE, HEART SUTRA, CHANTING OF THE SAME HEART SUTRA IN KOREAN, FROM THE BUY TOTEAN MONASTICS, SOME OF THE, CHANTS WE COULD HAVE HAD, FOR EXAMPLE, VIETNAMESE CHANTS ARE SO BEAUTIFUL. THERE ARE SO MANY BUDDHIST CHANTS IN OUR COMMUNITY. AND SO, TO, TO, IN 90 MINUTES THERE WAS ONLY SO MUCH WE COULD INCLUDE SO I THINK WE ALSO WANT TO ACKNOWLEDGE THAT, ALL OF THE, DIFFERENT COMMUNITIES THAT WEREN'T ABLE TO JOIN US. THE LAOTIAN COMMUNITIES, FOR EXAMPLE, CENTER BLESSINGS BUT WERE NOT ABLE TO COME BECAUSE OF LIMITATIONS OF DISTANCE. I HAD NO IDEA MAY 4 WAS GOING TO HAPPEN BACK IN JANUARY WHEN THE BOOK LAUNCHED. WHAT WAS REALLY AN HONOR TO BE INVITED, FOR EXAMPLE BY ANNIE AND ADRIANA FOR EVENT LIKE THIS ONE ALL OVER THE U.S AND EVEN IN CANADA AS WELL. SO THESE ARE, A LIST OF SOME OF THE EVENTS I HAVE BEEN ABLE TO DO. AND I THOUGHT -- I WOULD JUST, ACTUALLY MY FIRST TIME IN AN EVENT REFLECTING JUST ON THE PAST THREE AND A HALF MONTHS. IT WAS QUITE FUN FOR ME TO THINK BACK OVER SOME OF THE EVENTS. AND THIS, THERE,

SOME OF THE RECORDINGS FOR EVENT ARE AVAILABLE IF YOU GO TO MY WEBSITE ON EVENTS PAGE. HERE WE ARE NOW. MY NEXT SERIES AT THE BUDDHIST CHURCH OF OAKLAND. I THOUGHT IT WOULD BE FUN TO TALK, HIGHLIGHT THE FOUR PARTS OF MY BOOK. AND, HERE YOU CAN SEE, TRAIL BLAZERS, BRIDGE BUILDERS, INTEGRATORS AND REFUGE MAKERS. AND I THOUGHT I WOULD HIGHLIGHT THE FOUR PARTS OF MY BOOK THROUGH THE LENS OF SOME OF THE EVENT THAT I HAVE DONE. ACTUALLY. OVER THE PAST THREE MONTHS. PART ONE, TRAIL BLAZERS, I WILL READ THIS QUOTE BY GABRIELLE, ONE OF MY INTERVIEWEES, INSPIRATION FOR THE TITLE OF THIS PART OF THE BOOK. I OFTEN FEEL LIKE I AM TRAILBLAZING HOW TO INCORPORATE BUDDHISM INTO LIFE. SO, THE TRAIL BLAZER SECTION OF MY BOOK IS REALLY HONORING THE, WHAT I CALL, MULTIGENERATIONAL ASIAN-AMERICAN BUDDHISTS WHO HAVE, FAMILIES HAVE BEEN IN THE COUNTRY FOR GENERATIONS HAVE BEEN BUDDHIST IN AMERICA FOR MULTIPLE GENERATIONS. WHO CAN TRACE OFTEN THEIR TEMPLES WERE ESTABLISHED IN THE 19th CENTURY IN THE EARLY 20th CENTURY. MANY ARE CELEBRATING IT NOW. SO, IT, BECAUSE OF THAT IT FELT REALLY FITTING TO, TO DO MY BOOK LAUNCH AT INSTITUTE OF BUDDHIST STUDIES HERE WITH SCOTT MITCHELL, MY MASTERS THESIS ADVISER, AND AS WELL AS HARRY BRIDGE, REVEREND WHO LEAD THE BUDDHIST CHURCH OF

OAKLAND. AND THE INSTITUTE OF BUDDHIST STUDIES HERE IN
BERKELEY, CALIFORNIA, 2140DURANT, READ ABOUT IT IN THE
BOOK, THOSE WHO READ FROM, I THINK IT IS IN CHAPTER 1, IN
THE FIRST PART OF THE BOOK, AND I TALK ABOUT THIS, DHARMA
WHEEL, THE INSIDE OF THE LOBBY OF CENTER. SO THIS, NOT THIS
EXACT BUILDING, BUT THIS, THIS BUILDING NOW HOUSES -- THIS,
THIS, I SHOULD SAY, THIS EXACT BUILDING IS NOT VERY OLD.
BUT THE HISTORY OF -- WHAT, WHAT, WENT INTO MAKING THIS
BUILDING POSSIBLE -- HAS VERY DEEP ROOT. AND THE INSTITUTE
OF BUDDHIST STUDIES WHERE TIE DID CERTIFICATE OF BUDDHIST,
CONNECTED TO THE MASTER'S, IT IS A BUDDHIST SEMINARY AROUND
SINCE 1949, TRAINING MINISTERS IN THE TRADITION,
PREDOMINANTLY JAPANESE-AMERICAN TRADITION BUT TRADITION
THAT IS RAPIDLY TY VERSE TIEING SINCE JAPANESE-AMERICANS
ARE, AMONG THE GROUPS THAT ARE THE MOST MULTIRACIAL AND
MULTIETTE NECK AMONG ASIAN-AMERICAN GROUPS THAT ARE MOST
MULTIRACIAL AND MULTIETTE NICK HERE IN THE U.S
I WRITE IN THE BOOK ABOUT THE STATUE, AND HOW, TO MY
MORTIFICATION WHEN FIRST VISITED THE INSTITUTE OF BUDDHIST
STUDIES I DIDN'T KNOW WHO THIS WAS, I DENT KNOW ABOUT SHIN
BUDDHISM, LEARNED ABOUT, PURE LAND IN A COLLEGE COURSE, I
DIDN'T KNOW IT WAS SUCH A LIVING TRADITION AND NOT JUST

THAT THAT IT WAS SO FOUNDATIONAL TO BUDDHISM IN AMERICA. SO
I AM QUITE EXCITED TO BE -- DOING, A HEFTY RETREAT, WITH
THE YOUNG BUDDHIST EDITORIAL, A GROUP OF YOUNG ADULT,
BUDDHIST IS A LITTLE LATER THIS MONTH. I JUST WANTED TO
HIGHLIGHT THAT, AGAIN, JUST THIS IS ALL JUST HAPPENED IN
THE PAST FEW MONTHS. IT HAS BEEN REALLY EXTRAORDINARY TO
SEE YOUNG ADULT ASIAN-AMERICAN BUDDHISTS LIFTED MORE IN THE
MAINSTREAM MEDIA, HERE "WASHINGTON POST" ARTICLE ABOUT THE
YOUNG BUDDHIST EDITORIAL, AND THEN, WHILE I WAS TKPWA*TING
THESE MATERIALS, FOR, FOR OUR GATHERING HERE TODAY,
TOGETHER, I ACTUALLY CAME ACROSS THIS, THAT JUST POST AID
COUPLE DAY AS TKPWERBGS A LITTLE VIDEO ABOUT FROM, FROM,
NBC, TODAY ABOUT YOUNG BUDDHISTS SO
I THIN WEEK HAVE TIME. I AM GOING TO -- JUST PLAY THIS
VIDEO, ONLY ABOUT 4:30 LONG. AND, I THINK IT JUST HELPS US,
JUST SEE SOME OF THAT, ACTIVISM AND WORK THAT YOUNGER
BUDDHISTS ARE DOING. I AM GOING TO STOP THE SHARE OF THIS
POWER POINT FOR A MINUTE. AND THEN, I AM GOING TO --
SHARE --
THIS VIDEO. I APOLOGIZE IF THE VIDEO LAGS A LITTLE BILL
SOMETIMES WITH THE ZOOM, IT IS NOT PERFECT. BUT I HOPE YOU
CAN, BE FORGIVING AND STILL ENJOY THIS VIDEO TOGETHER.

WELCOME TO VIRTUAL DHARMA SCHOOL WHERE THE K-8th GRADE STUDENT FROM WASHINGTON MEET EVERY OTHER SUNDAY TO STUDY SHIN BUDDHIST TEACHINGS.

>> AND REPEAT IT WITH ME. RETIRED ELEMENTARY SCHOOL TEACHER, JUNE IS THE SCHOOL SUPERINTENDENT.

>> YOU KNOW, TEACHING IS KIND OF IN MY BLOOD. BUT, JUST IN MY CAREER, I ALWAYS BELIEVE IN THE ACTIVITY, YOU KNOW, DOING SOMETHING. MAKES IT SET INTO YOUR HEAD A LITTLE BETTER THAN JUST HEARING SOMEONE TELL YOU ABOUT IT. SHIN BUDDHISM ONE OF THE LARGEST SECTS OF BUDDHISM IN JAPAN AND ONE OF THE MOST POPULAR IN THE U.S., BOUNDLESS COMPASSION TO ALL SENTIENT BEINGS. IT ARRIVED IN THE U.S. WITH THE FIRST WAVE OF JAPANESE IMMIGRATION, 1900, BUT KEPT A LOW PROFILE BECAUSE OF RACISM AND INTERNMENT OF JAPANESE-AMERICANS DURING WORLD WAR II. HER PARENTS AND TEN SIBLINGS SPENT THREE YEARS IN THE CAMPS BUT HER MOTHER MADE SURE TO PASS HER RELIGIOUS TRADITIONS ON TO HER DAUGHTER.

>> I STARTED DHARMA SCHOOL IN TACOMA IN 6th GRADE THROUGH HIGH SCHOOL. WENT TO COLLEGE. GOT MARRIED. HAD MY KIDS. THEN MY MOM DIED. AND I NEEDED SOMETHING -- SOMETHING TO HELP ME EXPLAIN WHAT JUST HAPPENED. AND, IT JUST BROUGHT ME BACK TO THE TEMPLE. A LOCAL GROUP OF

JAPANESE-AMERICAN COLLEGE GRADS IN SEATTLE. RECITES ONE OF THE CORE PRACTICES TO EXPRESS GRATITUDE FOR THE BUDDHA, EMBODIMENT OF TRUTH. THEY HAVE BEEN RECONNECTING WITH THEIR CULTURE OVER THE PAST YEAR.

>> AFTER INTERNMENT, A LOT OF OUR GRANDPARENT, GREAT GRANDPARENT THEY DIDN'T WANT TO HEAR DIFFERENT, AVERAGE AMERICANS, SO ALONG WITH THAT THEY DIDN'T, THEY DIDN'T TEACH THEIR KID JAPANESE. MY FIRST NAME IS TREVOR, NOT SOMETHING PHONETICALLY JAPANESE. MY PARENTS DON'T SPEAK JAPANESE. ONE THING THEY DID KEEP WAS BUDDHISM AS RELIGION WHICH IS WHY A LOT CLING TO IT HEAVILY GIVES US A SENSE OF CULTURAL IDENTITY.

>> TO FOSTER THAT SENSE OF CONNECTION, TREVOR AND HIS FRIEND, FORMED YOUNG BUDDHIST EDITORIAL. AN ONLINE FORUM THAT LAUNCHED IN FEBRUARY 2020 AS A SPACE FOR YOUNG ASIAN-AMERICAN BUDDHISTS TO SHARE THEIR PERSPECTIVES ON THE RELIGION, AND, THE GROUP'S PRESIDENT.

>> SO WE WILL START OFF WITH THE TWO.

>> I ACTUALLY WAS NOT REALLY BIG INTO BUDDHISM UNTIL MAYBE MY SENIOR YEAR OF HIGH SCHOOL. I USED TO ALWAYS TELL MY MOM THAT WHEN I TURNED 18, I AM GOING TO BECOME A CHRISTIAN. AND I THINK A LOT OF THAT WAS INTERNALIZED RACISM. TO BE

BUDDHIST WASN'T COOL OR ABG SELLED. IT WAS AROUND THE TIMES I WAS LOOKING AT WHO IS TALKING ABOUT BUDDHISM IN THE UNITED STATES, MOST OF THE TIME IT'S NOT PEOPLE THAT LOOK LIKE US, ASIAN AMERICANS. IT IS USUALLY, MORE, MIDDLE-CLASS, WHITE MEN, WHO -- HAVE COME INTO BUDDHISM LATER ON IN THEIR LIFE. WE AREN'T BEING REPRESENTED. WE'RE NOT BEING SEEN. AMID THE SPIKE OF ANTI-ASIAN VIOLENCE AND HATE, THE YOUNGBUDDHIST EDITORIAL HAS BECOME A SPACE TO DISCUSS TRAUMAS AND RAISE AWARENESS ABOUT SOCIAL JUSTICE MOVEMENTS.

>> WE HAVE ESPECIALLY BEEN EMPHASIZING CREATING A SPACE FOR PEOPLE TO COME TOGETHER AND TALK ABOUT THEIR TRAUMA THAT THEY HAVE EXPERIENCED.

>> OFTEN TIMES IN BUDDHISM WE ARE TOLD WE CAN'T FEEL ANGER. WE CAN'T FEEL FRUSTRATION. WE CAN'T FEEL RAGE. YOU KNOW WE ARE HUMAN FIRST. WE ARE -- WE ARE PEOPLE FIRST. BEFORE WE ARE BUDDHISTS. WE HAVE TO UNDERSTAND THAT THESE EMOTIONS MAKE US WHO WE ARE.

>> THE GROUP INFUSES THEIR DISCUSSIONS ON RACE, AND THE PANDEMIC THROUGH THE LENS OF BUDDHIST TAOEFPGZ.

>> ONE THING WE LOOK TO EMPHASIZE IS, INTERDEPENDENCE. EVERYTHING IS CONNECTED. FREEDOM COMES WITH RESPONSIBILITY.

AND OUR RESPONSIBILITY TO OTHER PEOPLE, IN OUR WORLD, OTHER PEOPLE IN OUR COMMUNITY, AND OTHER PEOPLE, WHO, WHO WE HAVE NEVER INTERACTED WITH.

>> OKAY, DHARMA SCHOOL STUDENTS YOU KNOW THE DRILL.

>> BACK IN VIRTUAL DHARMA SCHOOL, NEXT GENERATION IS LEARNING GUIDING PRINCIPLES OF THE RELIGION IN HOPES OF CREATING A MORE COMPASSIONATE WORLD.

>> PUT YOUR HANDS TOGETHER.

>> THANK YOU FOR ENJOYING THAT VIDEO WITH ME. IT'S -- I GUESS WE CAN'T GO TO MOVIE THEATERS YET. IT'S KIND OF FUN TO WATCH THAT WITH ALL OF YOU. SO, I WANTED TO NOW MOVE ON TO PART TWO OF MY BOOK. WHICH I CALL, BRIDGE BUILDERS. PART ONE, FOCUSED ON MULTIGEN BUDDHISTS I MENTIONED. PART TWO WAS SECOND GEN BUDDHISTS, PEOPLE WHO, LIKE, ARE, REALLY THE SECOND GENERATION IN THEIR FAMILY TO BE BUDDHIST IN AMERICA. PEOPLE WHOSE PARENTS EMIGRATED TO THE U.S. AND RAISED THEM WITHIN THE BUDDHIST FAITH. AND THIS IS -- A QUOTE FROM, ONE OF MY INTERVIEWEES WHO WRITES -- THE VOLUNTEER WHOSE ARE RUNNING THE BUDDHIST YOUTH GROUP, WE WERE THAT YOUTH GROUP AT ONE POINT. WE ARE THERE BECAUSE WE THINK IT IS IMPORTANT WE ARE BRIDGING THAT GAP. WE ARE CREATING THAT SPACE. AND THE SECOND GENERATION BUDDHISTS

NEED TO NAVIGATE SO MANY GAPS IN TERMS OF LANGUAGE,
GENERATIONAL DIFFERENCES, DIFFERENCES IN PRACTICE BETWEEN
THEMSELVES AND THEIR PARENTS. AND SO --
IT'S BEEN -- REALLY FUN, ACTUALLY TO DO SOME EVENTS THAT
ARE REALLY FOR COULDED ON, THE SORTS OF UNIQUE EXPERIENCES
AND, CHALLENGES THAT, THAT THEY ARE FACING. SO, ONE EVENT
THAT I DID WAS TO -- VISIT WITH PROFESSOR CAROLINE
C H-FPL EN'S CLASS. AND --
PROFESSOR CHEN MENTIONED THIS LATER WAS ALSO ONE OF THE
INSPIRATION FOR MY BOOKS SINCE SHE HERSELF HAD WRITTEN A
BOOK ON TAIWANESE AMERICAN BUDDHISTS WELL AS TAIWANESE
CHRISTIANS. SHE COMMENTED SHE HAS LONG BEEN WANTING TO HAVE
A BOOK THAT SHE CAN TEACH, ACTUALLY IN HER UNDERGRADUATE
CLASSROOMS WHERE, WHERE PEOPLE WHO ARE SECOND GENERATION,
PARTICULARLY BUDDHIST MIGHT SEE THEIR OWN EXPERIENCES
REFLECTED RATHER THAN ONLY SEEING, OR, PREDOMINANTLY SEEING
THE VOICES OF WHITE CONVERTS WHICH AS -- AS, AS YOU SAW IN
THE VIDEO THAT I JUST SHOWED, SOMETIMES CAN BECOME THE WAYS
THAT PEOPLE -- YOU KNOW, IMBIBE BUDDHISM. COME TO GOT TO
KNOW BUDDHISM. THEN THERE CAN BE THE SENSE THAT MY OWN,
MORE, CULTURALLY REFLECTED BUDDHISM IS INAUTHENTIC OR NOT
REALLY, REAL BUDDHISM OR INFERIOR KIND OF BUDDHISM. SO I

WAS ABLE TO SPEAK WITH, CAROLINE JUST QUITE RECENTLY
ACTUALLY. IN A BOOK THAT WAS, COSPONSORED BY, SEVERAL
DEPARTMENTS AT UC BERKELEY BUT ALSO AT EASTMAN BOOKS IN
BERKELEY. AND THIS IS REALLY, SPECIAL FOR ME BECAUSE I
STILL REMEMBER, PROBABLY, GOSH, ALMOST A TOUCHLE DECADES
AGO, FIRST VISITING BERKELEY, I WAS IN HIGH SCHOOL AT THE
TIME. LIVING IN A SUBURB OF SEATTLE. NOT VERY AWARE OF
ASIAN-AMERICAN HISTORY. OR ISSUES AT ALL. AND THEN TO COME
TO BERKELEY AND REALIZE THERE WAS A BOOKSTORE DEDICATED TO
ASIAN AMERICANS WRITING, BUT A BOOKSTORE THAT, YOU CAN KIND
OF SEE HERE, ALSO, INCLUDES, BOOKS BY, BY PEOPLE OF COLOR
WRITERS OF COLOR OF OTHER BACKGROUNDS. AND A BOOKSTORE IN
SOLIDARITY WITH BLACK LIVES MATTER, WITH, WITH, OTHER
DIFFERENT MOVEMENTS. SO WHEN WE WENT, I GOT TO SIGN BOOKS.
THIS IS THE FIRST PLACE WHERE I WAS ABLE TO SIGN BOOKS IN
PERSON. THEN OF COURSE I COULDN'T RESIST COMING HOME WITH A
HUGE STACK OF BOOKS. AND, I WAS LOOKING AT THE STACK OF
BOOKS THINKING OH, THIS IS LIKE THIS STACK OF BOOKS
INCLUDES NOT JUST ASIAN-AMERICAN WRITERS DIFFERENT ETHNIC
BACKGROUNDS AND BLACK AND LATINX WRITERS. SO YOU KNOW FROM
THIS ASIAN-AMERICAN BOOKSTORE. SO I MENTIONED CAROLINE
CHIN, WRITTEN HIS BOOK, ACKNOWLEDGE SOME OF THE BOOKS THAT

WERE INSPIRATIONAL TO ME AS I WAS STARTING TO DO THIS RESEARCH PROJECT FOR MY MASTERS THESIS ON ASIAN-AMERICAN BUDDHISTS. SO, ALONG WITH CAROLIN ETCH, SHARON SUE WHO I WAS ABLE TO DO AN EVENT WITH, ELLIOTT BAY BOOKS IN SEATTLE WROTE THIS ETHNOGRAPHY OF KOREAN-AMERICAN BUDDHISTS AND, ACTUALLY, MOST KOREAN AMERICANS BY AND LARGE ARE CHRISTIAN. SO, THIS IS WHY THE TITLE IS BEING BUDDHIST IN A CHRISTIAN WORLD. AND, SHARON REALLY LOOKED AT DYNAMICS AS ESPECIALLY OF GENDER IN THE COMMUNITIES. WHAT I NOTICED IN BOTH OF THE BOOKS WAS THAT THEY MENTION, DIDN'T SEE A LOT OF YOUNG ADULTS HERE IN THESE COMMUNITIES. AND I NOTICE THE SAME THING. IN THIS BOOK, SHE LOOKED AT BOTH A THAI AMERICAN BUDDHIST COMMUNITY AND PREDOMINANTLY WHITE CONVERT INSIDE BUDDHIST COMMUNITY. AND ALSO IN, THE BOOK, CREATING A BUDDHIST COMMUNITY AT THE THAI TEMPLE. SO THERE IS SOME MENTION OF YOUTH THROUGHOUT THE BOOKS. BUT, WHAT MADE ME CURIOUS IS THAT THEY WEREN'T EXACTLY, CENTRAL, IT SEEMED THAT, SOMETIMES THEY DIDN'T ALWAYS FEEL ENTIRELY AT HOME AT THESE TEMPLES MAYBE AGAIN BECAUSE OF A LANGUAGE BARRIER, MAYBE THEY HAD OTHER THINGS TO DO. OR MAYBE THEY, YOU KNOW FELT KIND OF EMBARRASSED MAYBE THERE WAS PRESSURE AT SCHOOL TO BE CHRISTIAN OR JUST FIT IN AND SOMETIMES IT IS JUST NOT

SO, FUN, TO SIGN UP FOR BEING, ON TOP OF BEING A RACIAL
MINORITY, ALSO A RELIGIOUS MINORITY. SO WHEN I WAS WRITING
MY BOOK I WAS INSPIRED BY THE TWO ANTHOLOGIES, BEFORE SHE
MARRIED HER HUSBAND. AND, SHE LOOKS TO REMIND PEOPLE SHE
HERSELF IS WHITE THOUGH HER KIDS ARE MIXED RACE. BUT THAT
HER, HER PARENTS WERE, WERE BUDDHIST IN THE 60S AND 70s,
HENCE THE NAME U.SUMI, IT HAD A PRETTY GOOD REPRESENTATION
OF ASIAN-AMERICAN BUDDHISTS, AND, SEEING THE WAY THAT SUMI
WAS ABLE TO REACH OUT IN THIS KIND OF NETWORKED WAY IN
DECENTRALIZED WAY, IN OTHER WORDS SHE WAS NOT JUST GOING TO
ONE TEMPLE OR ONE MEDITATION CENTER AND GETTING VOICES. BUT
ACTUALLY JUST, ASKING FRIENDS, TO ENCOURAGE OTHER FRIENDS
TO SPEAK WITH HER FOR THIS ANTHOLOGY. SO, I ACTUALLY TOOK
THE SAME APPROACH. WHEN DOING THE RESEARCH FOR MY BOOKS
JUST, TRYING TO CAST THE WIDE NET AND SAYING, HEY, ANYONE
WHO WANT TO TALK TO ME IF YOU ARE A FULL OR PARTIAL ASIAN
HERITAGE, FEEL CONNECTED TO BUDDHISM IN SOME WAY, I WOULD
LOVE TO TALK TO YOU, LOVE TO LEARN MORE. AND, YEAH, SO THIS
IS ANOTHER EVENT -- THAT REALLY, CENTERED, THE SECOND
GENERATION -- ASIAN-AMERICAN BUDDHIST EX-PEER YEN WITH THE
BOCA YOUTH GROUP. THIS IS AN EVENT THAT I WAS ABLE TO DO
WITH JOHN GILL. ALL OF WHOM WHO ARE -- IN LOU OF ME

EXPLAINING WHAT THE BOCA YOUTH GROUP IS I WOULD JUST SHOW THE LITTLE, 1:30 TRAILER FROM THE BEAUTIFUL DOCUMENTARY CALLED YOUTH GROUP. ABOUT THIS BUDDHIST YOUTH GROUP. IN SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA. THAT, THAT I READ ABOUT IN PART TWO OF MY BOOK.

>> TURN TO THE VIDEO.

>> IT STARTED, MAYBE, SIX, SEVENTH GRADE, MY MOM JUST HAD ME GO --

YEAH.

>> WHEN BUDDHISM CAME TO CHINA, AS WHEN BUDDHISM COMES TO ALL MANNER OF PLACES IT CHANGES EVERY CULTURE IT GOES ON AND CHANGED BY EVERY CULTURE THAT IT GOES TO.

>> THE CONGREGATION IS OF A CERTAIN GENERATION, AND, IT MIGHT NOT BE SOMETHING THAT TRANSLATES QUITE AS EASILY TO YOUTH, WHAT'S KIND OF SPECIAL IS THAT THE VOLUNTEERS RUNNING THE ORGANIZATION WERE ACTUALLY, THEY WERE THE YOUTH AT THAT POINT.

>> ALWAYS PRAYING FOR PEACE.

>> PEACEFUL.

>> YEAH.

>> FOR SAFETY.

>> IN, FOR HEALTHY.

>> WHAT I NEVER UNDERSTOOD WAS WHO WAS GOING TO DO THAT.

>> YOU CAN HAVE A KID DO THE CHANT AND THEN BOW HIS -- SO WEIRD.

>> THE YOUTH GROUP.

>> WE CHANT EVERY SINGLE SUNDAY. AN OFFERING CHANT BEFORE THE MEALS.

>> I DON'T FEEL LIKE, I'M BUDDHIST. I DON'T PUT ANY EFFORT INTO IT, OR ANY WORK, THE WORK AND EFFORT. THAT I AM TALKING ABOUT IS, LIKE, CHANTS. AND -- AND MEDITATION.

>> I HELP OUT AT THE YOUTH GROUP.

>> OH, OH --

>> YES.

>> SO, CAN YOU ALL HEAR ME? YES? GREAT. YEAH, I LOVE THAT DOCUMENTARY SO MUCH. AND -- AND, IT'S THAT, THAT'S WHY I WOVE IT REALLY INTO PART TWO OF MY BOOK AS MUCH AS I CAN. BUT, THE WRITTEN WORD NEVER QUITE, YOU KNOW, DOES AS MUCH AS THIS, VIDEO CAN. SO I AM HAPPY TO BE ABLE TO WATCH A LITTLE CLIP OF IT WITH YOU. AND THEN -- THE FINAL VIDEO FOR THIS SECTION, I JUST WANT TO SHOW A BRIEF CLIP FROM -- THE DOCUMENTARY THAT SHE MADE BACK IN -- OH, GOSH, I THINK A

DECADE AGO, CALLED I TAKE REFUGE. SO, MIHIRI, RECOGNIZE HER
NAME SINCE ONE OF THE NEW ASSOCIATE EDITORS AT LION'S WAR
AND A BUDDHIST, SHE DID THIS -- THIS DOCUMENTARY, FOCUSED
ON THE EXPERIENCES OF, OF 1.5 SECOND GENERATION --

SRI

LANKANED BYIS IN HER COMMUNITY. I DECIDED TO CHOOSE JUST
THIS SCREEN CAPTURE AS I WAS TALKING TO, A SRI
LANKAN, GREW UP IN SRI

LANKA CAME TO AMERICA LATER, SHE WAS SAYING HOW TOUCHED SHE
WAS BY THE SCENE BECAUSE IT, TO HER IT FELT VERY AMERICAN
BECAUSE THE MONK WAS SERVING THE KIDS FOOD AND SHE WAS
SAYING, IN SRI

LANKA, YOU WOULDN'T SEE THIS, WE SERVE MONKS THERE, OFFER
FOOD TO THE MONKS. BUT SO I WILL SHOW THE CLIP AGAIN. SO
BEAR WITH ME AS WE DO THE SWITCH TO THE, TO THE --
OTHER SETTING.

>> THERE WAS NEVER ANOTHER PLACE OR ANOTHER TEMPLE THAT I
WOULD RATHER GO TO THAN THE CRENSHAW ONE, BECAUSE THAT'S
WHERE I GREW UP, THAT'S THE TEMPLE I KNEW. NOT JUST
BECAUSE, I HAD CHILDHOOD MEMORIES THERE, BUT ALSO BECAUSE
OF -- MY GRANDPARENTS INVESTING SO MUCH OF THEIR TIME
THERE.

>> THE EARLIEST MEMORIES THAT COME UP ARE JUST, SITTING IN FRONT OF THE -- YOU KNOW, BIG GOLDEN BUDDHA, THAT WE HAVE AT THE DHARMA, AND, INTERACTING WITH THE MONKS.

DEFINITELY LIKE THE CEREMONIES AND LIKE -- BANQUET OF FOOD THAT THEY HAVE FOR EVERYONE. AND HAVING TO TACK OFF YOUR SHOES COUNTLESS TIMES AND ON AND OFF.

>> I REMEMBER GOING TO SUNDAY SCHOOL. AND BEING -- WITH OTHER CHILDREN AROUND MY SAME AGE. SEEING OTHER CHILDREN WHICH WAS SOMETHING THAT WAS, KIND OF UNUSUAL BECAUSE IN MOST OTHER SETTINGS I WAS, YOU KNOW ONE OF A KIND. IN A WAY THERE IS KIND OF LOOK A VERY, FAMILIAL RELATIONSHIP THERE.

JUST, YOU KNOW, BUILDING RELATIONSHIPS --

WITH, WITH THE MONKS. KNOWING THEM TO KIND OF BE LIKE --

AN UNCLE, IN A WAY. AND, THEN --

AND THEN, SEEKING --

SOME OF THOSE MONKS OUT ON MY OWN TIME.

>> SO THE DOCUMENTARY WAS CERTAINLY ANOTHER ONE OF THE MANY STRANDS THAT I WAS ABLE TO, AND ALSO READING HER INCREDIBLE MASTERS THESIS. AND, SO THEN --

PART THREE OF MY BOOK IS, WHICH I CALL, INTEGRATORS IS

FOCUSED ON THE EX-PEER YENS OF CONVERT ASIAN-AMERICAN

BUDDHISTS OR FIRST GEN AMERICAN BUDDHISTS. AND FIRST GEN IS

A PHRASE BORROWING FROM ONE OF MY INTERVIEWEES. HE IS FIRST GENERATION BUDDHIST, FIRST GENERATION IN HIS FAMILY TO BE BUDDHIST IN AMERICA, HAVING BEEN RAISED CATHOLIC. BUDDHISTS LIKE MYSELF FACE CHALLENGES IN INTEGRATING AND EXPRESSING MULTICULTURAL IDENTITIES AS YOUNG AMERICAN BUDDHISTS AND ASIAN -- YET I THINK WE ARE ALL MOVING TOWARDS A MORE PLURALISTIC ROAD IN WHICH MULTIPLICITY OF IDENTITY WILL BE THE NORM. SO, SOME, SOME REESE EVENTS THAT REALLY FOCUS ON ASIAN AMERICANS IN, IN CONVERT COMMUNITIES, JUST YESTERDAY, I WAS, WAS WITH THE API SANGHA IN L.A. WHICH IS ACTUALLY LED BY NOELE, MENTIONED IN THE BOOK. AND, YOU KNOW THE IS JUST, YEAH, MOST OF THE PEOPLE IN THIS GROUP ACTUALLY PRACTICE IN PREDOMINANTLY WHITE CONVERT COMMUNITIES AND TALKED ABOUT HOW IT DOES FEEL IMPORTANT TO BE ABLE TO HAVE, AFFINITY GROUPS AS WELL TO BE ABLE TO PROCESS JUST SOME OF THE DYNAMICS THAT COME UP, SOME OF THE DIFFICULTIES. FOR THOSE WHOUS WEREN'T RAISED BUDDHIST. IT'S, SOMETIMES, ALL VERY NEW TO US. THEN IF WE ENTER BUDDHISM THROUGH PREDOMINANTLY WHITE COMMUNITIES, SOMETIMES THEY DON'T ALWAYS AS ANNIE MENTIONED AT THE BEGINNING OF OUR TOMB TOGETHER. DON'T ALWAYS ACKNOWLEDGE THE ROOTS OF WHERE THE PRACTICES COME FROM OR MIGHT SAY THINGS THAT, REALLY, FEEL

OFFENSIVE. IN A WAY THAT KIND OF -- SEEMS, TO INSINUATE THAT ASIAN, OR ASIAN-AMERICAN BUDDHISTS ARE KIND OF DOING IT INFERIOR KIND OF PRACTICE, YOU KNOW, THERE IS UNFORTUNATELY, TOO MANY STORIES OF THAT NATURE. AND SO I HAVE BEEN REALLY GRATEFUL TO BE ABLE TO -- BE IN CONVERSATION FOR EXAMPLE, HERE INTO LIKE MANY, ZOOMED INTO A FEW, ZEN COMMUNITIES NOW. THEY HAVE ALL BEEN REALLY WONDERFUL AND WARM AND INVITING. IT WAS A REAL TREAT TO TALK WITH HOWARD FOR THIS EVENT. SINCE, TYPICALLY, PEOPLE OF ASIAN IDENT ARE ACTUALLY FEW AND FAR BETWEEN IN THE PREDOMINANTLY WHITE CONVERT SANGHAS AS WELL. AND IN ANOTHER EVENT WAS, JUST TO BE ABLE TO ZOOM INTO THE IMS TEACHER TRAINING PROGRAM. I THINK THEY RECENTLY GRADUATED. CONGRATULATIONS TO THE COHORT. AT THE INSIGHT MEDITATION SOCIETY IN MASSACHUSETTS. REALLY GROUNDED IN THE INSIGHT TRADITION. AND, AND -- IN MANY WAYS, I WOULD SAY FOR MANY DECADES FROM THE 60S AND 70s ONWARD THAT TRADITION WAS REALLY DOMINATED BY, WHITE, EVEN, MALE VOICES. BUT WE CAN SEE THAT THERE ARE REALLY EFFORTS NOW TO DIVERSIFY, THE TEACHERS. AND, THE, THE COHORT IS, 75% BIPOC AND HAS DIVERSITY IN OTHER WAYS IN TERMS OF GENDER, OR, SEXUALITY, OR -- OR, ALSO, SOCIOECONOMIC CLASS.

SO FORTH. SO IT IS REALLY AN HONOR TO BE ABLE TO SPEAK WITH THIS BIPOC COMMUNITY AS WELL. AND THEN, FINALLY, THE FOURTH PART OF MY BOOK, REALLY WEAVES TOGETHER VOICES, FROM THE PREVIOUS THREE PARTS. AND THIS PART OF THE BOOK IS CALLED --

REFUGE MAKERS. SO, THOSE OF YOU WHO HAVE READ THE BOOK KNOW IT IS VERY MUCH INDEBTED TO AARON LEE I WILL ACKNOWLEDGE IN A FEW MINUTES AS I WRAP UP THIS PORTION OF OUR TOMB TOGETHER. BUT THIS QUOTE IS FROM AARON. WHILE WE STILL NEED TO ARE TECH LATE OUR PRINCIPLES, RELAY OUR STORIES, PROTEST INJUSTICE AND CAST OUR VOTES, WE ARE MOST COMPELLING, WHEN WE ARE THE VERY REFUGES WE WISH TO SEE IN THIS WORLD. SO, I JUST WANTED TO CELEBRATE THE BUDDHIST COMMUNITY AT STANFORD, WHICH I WAS AT AS AN UNDERGRAD BACK WHEN IT WAS MUCH SMALLER AS A COMMUNITY. COLEADERS, HAVE JUST DONE A REALLY BEAUTIFUL JOB OF NURTURING THIS, THIS VERY DIVERSE SANGHA. SO, THEY ACTUALLY CAME FIRST IN MIND WHEN I THOUGHT OF REFUGE MAKERS. SO, LAST, LAST, JUST IN THE FALL OF LAST YEAR WE READ THIS BOOK, RADICAL DHARMA TOGETHER. AND, ROD OWENS CAM TO SPEAK ON HIS BOOK, LOVING RAGE. AND THEN THEY HAD A READING GROUP. SO THAT WE WERE ALL ABLE TO READ THIS TOGETHER. AND ALSO BEEN THINKING ABOUT ACTUALLY, REALLY THE

FIRST UNOFFICIAL BOOK EVENT I DID. ALTHOUGH, WAY BACK IN OCTOBER, FEW MONTHS BEFORE THE BOOK CAME OUT. WAS -- WITH, REVEREND WHO SOME OF YOU MAY ALSO KNOW. SHE PUBLISHED THIS BEAUTIFUL BOOK, THE DEEPEST PEACE. IT WAS REALLY JUST AN HONOR TO BE IN CONVERSATION, WITH HER. AND, AND ALSO, VERY MUCH LOOKING FORWARD TO A CON VERY SAYING WITH, WITH, BRISHA WADE WHO IS, WROTE THIS BOOK, GRIEVING WHILE BLACK, ACTUALLY WE HAVE THE SAME PUBLISHER. SO, THAT FELT LOOK KIND OF SPECIAL CONNECTION. SHE ALSO HAS TRAINING AS A CHAPLAIN AND DOES WORK WITH CHAPLAINCY AND GRIEF. I JUST HIGH LIGHT THESE EVENTS BECAUSE -- MY BOOK DOES END ON THIS CHAPTER CALLED SOLIDARITY. A REMINDER TO ME THAT, ASIAN-AMERICAN BUDDHISTS, THIS, THIS IDENTITY IS KIND OF A LENS, AND A PLATFORM OR PLACE, FROM WHICH WE CAN ACTUALLY CONNECT OUT TO SO MANY OTHER -- DIFFERENT COMMUNITIES. AS THE MAY FOURTH GATHERING DID. AND ALSO, AS THESE DIFFERENT EVENT SHOW. THAT WE HAVE SO MUCH TO LEARN, IN DIALOGUE. AND, COMMUNITY. WITH EACH OTHER. SO -- I'M LOOKING AT THE TIME. I THINK I WILL JUST VERY BRIEFLY GO THROUGH THE, NEXT FEW SLIDES. SO IF YOU WILL BEAR WITH ME FOR A FEW MORE MINUTES. I WANTED TO GO ACTUALLY EVEN FURTHER BACK IN TIME. SO I JUST HIGHLIGHTED THE LAST THREE

MONTHS OF 2021. I WANTED TO GO BACK ALMOST A YEAR TO,
AROUND, MARCH 2020. WHEN, WHEN REALLY -- THE, THE COVID-19
REALLY HIT THE U.S
ALTHOUGH IN ASIA.

WE WERE AWARE OF IT. MY PARTNER, TRENT AND I WERE LIVING IN
BANGKOK AT THE TIME. WHEN WE LANDED, ONE OF MY, HERE IN SAN
FRANCISCO, THINKING HERE FOR JUST A MONTH OF COURSE HAVEN'T
LEFT SINCE. WHEN WE LANDED, MY FRIEND SAID STAY SAFE FROM
THE VIOLENCE AND RACISM. KIND OF A SHOCKING WAY TO ARRIVE
BACK IN THE U.S. FOR MUCH OF THE LAST PRESIDENCY WE LIVED
IN CAM BED YEAH AND THAILAND. WE WEREN'T BASED IN THE U.S
AND, SO --

WHEN I CAME BECOME TO, WHAT I CAME BECOME TO WAS STATISTICS
ON HOW WORRIED ASIAN AMERICANS, FROM CLASSETTE NICK
BACKGROUNDS ARE OF BEING THE VICTIMS OF HATE CRIMES. I ALSO
CAME BACK TO --

YOU KNOW, THE MURDER OF GEORGE FLOYD. ALSO THE, THE
ACTIVISM THAT AROSE FROM THAT, THE KIND OF INCREDIBLE --
I THINK, HOW TO DETERMINE, TERM IT, THE RAISING UP OF
CONSCIOUSNESS OF CONVERSATIONS NOW ABOUT RACE IN THIS
COUNTRY ABOUT THE HEAVY RACIAL CHARMA THAT WE HAVE
INHERITED SO

HERE IS -- HERE WE SEE, BUDDHIST FOR BLACK LIVES MATTER.
PROTEST. SILENT MARCH HELD IN LOS ANGELES. AND, DAVID WU IS
GOING TO BE ONE OF THE SPEAKERS IN THE SERIES, I WANTED TO
HIGHLIGHT HIM TOO, ONE OF THE CO-ORGANIZERS OF THIS,
THIS --
YOU KNOW, I ALSO WAS REALLY AMAZED TO SEE -- MORE, MORE, IN
THE INSIDE COMMUNITY. MORE AFFINITY GROUPS. NOT SOMETHING,
15 YEARS AGO I WAS SEEING. EVEN AFFINITY GROUPS FOCUSED ON
THE COMMUNITY. PEOPLE FROM INDIA. AND, AND -- PEOPLE, I
THINK, A LOT OF US ARE FEELING -- IN OUR HEARTS, SO
CONCERNED ABOUT, INDIA, ABOUT THE COVID-19 SITUATION THERE.
AND SO, IT WAS JUST, STRIKING TO THINK ABOUT AT THAT TIME,
BACK IN, THIS WAS WHEN, THIS IS, MORE RECENT IN MARCH,
BUT -- TO SEE ALMOST MORE GRANULAR AFFINITY GROUPS.
REMINDING OURSELVES. ASIAN AMERICANS ARE NOT A MONOLITH.
ASIAN-AMERICANED BYIS ARE NOT A MONOLITH. THEN THERE WAS
THE VANDALIZATION OF BUDDHIST TEMPLES IN LITTLE SAIGON.
JUST SO MUCH TO TACK IN. DURING THIS TIME. OF, OF RELATIVE
ISOLATION. YOU KNOW, ALSO, AN SPEAKING IN THE SERIES IN THE
COMING MONTHS. HERE WAS A CONTROVERSY. NOT ABOUT -- THE
DESECRATION OF STATUES OR, OR OF TEMPLES PER SAY, BUT
STILL, ABOUT SOMETHING THAT CAN BE, PAINFUL THIS CULTURAL

APPROPRIATION. A TOPIC THAT'S, HOTLY DEBATED THAT THE WE
COULD HAVE A WHOLE ANOTHER PRESENTATION ON. BUT, FOR ME TO
SEE IN LITERARY HUB A MAJOR LITERARY MAGAZINE, AHN'S VOICE
TALKING ABOUT THE CONTROVERSY AROUND A BOOK THAT WAS
CLAIMED TO BE A TRANSLATION OF, OF -- OF THE POETRY OF
BUDDHIST NUNS. I WON'T GO INTO IT IN DETAIL HERE. JUST TO
SEE THESE, USE LIFTED IN A MORE PUBLIC WAY TO SEE MORE
PEOPLE DISCUSSING THIS. WAS REALLY POWERFUL FOR ME. THEN,
INCREDIBLY HEARTBREAKING TO LEARN ABOUT, THE ASSAULT THAT
LED TO HIS DEATH AND THIS IS A PICTURE OF HIS DAUGHTER,
HOLDING A PHOTO OF HER FATHER, AT THE LOCATION, MY PARTNER
HAS SPENT A LOT OF TIME AT THE TEMPLE WHICH SERVES, THAI,
CAMBODIAN, AND, BUDDHISTS, AND WE WERE ABLE TO GO AND PAY
OUR RESPECTS TO THE TEMPLE, JUST A COUPLE MONTHS AGO. IT
WAS OUR FIRST TIME -- STEPPING FOOT IN A BUDDHIST TEMPLE
SINCE THE PANDEMIC BEGAN.

WHICH IS REALLY, REALLY MOVING FOR ME. AND, THEN OF COURSE,
THE, THE VANDALIZATION OF MAY 4th EVENT WAS HELD. BUT TO ME
THIS GRAPHIC, BY THE SAME PERSON WHO DID OUR MAY 4, MAY WE
GATHER GRAPHIC, REALLY SPECK TO ME. IT WAS A REMINDER THAT
THE LANTERNS MAY HAVE BEEN TOPPLED BUT THEN TOGETHER AS A
COMMUNITY WE CAM TOGETHER AND LIFTED THOSE LANTERNS. WE, WE

RESTORED, WE CAN TOGETHER. TO, TO REPAIR --

YOU KNOW AND THEN OF COURSE, ATLANTA. THAT WAS ALL JUST IN THIS PAST YEAR. KIND OF OVERWHELMING TO THINK ABOUT THAT. THE VIDEO THAT WE WERE ABLE TO SCREEN APART OF, DURING THE MAY 4, MAY WE GATHER CEREMONY. AND JUST, THIS, REALLY MOVING, FOR ME TO THINK HERE ARE TWO SONS OF THE KOREAN-AMERICAN IMMIGRANT MOTHER, AND A BLACK FATHER. TALKING ABOUT WHAT IT IS LOOK TO BE BOTH, BLACK AND ASIAN. IN THIS COUNTRY THAT HAS SUCH LONG HISTORIES, CENTURIES OF DISCRIMINATION. AND HOW THEY MOM THOUGH ALWAYS TAUGHT THEM TO RESPECT PEOPLE AND STAND UP AGAINST DISCRIMINATION. STAND UP FOR WHAT, IS RIGHT. AND JUST SO MOVING WHEN, WHEN THIS IS THE MOMENT, ROBERT TALKS ABOUT FINDING OUT THAT IT WAS HIS MOM WHO WAS, ONE OF THE PEOPLE KILLED. IN THOSE SHOOTINGS. SO, I AM GOING TO MOVE US BACK IN TIME JUST A LITTLE BIT MORE. THIS IS A PERIOD FROM 2016 TO 2020 WHERE I PRIMARILY LIVED IN CAMBODIA. IN THAILAND. IN PHNOM PENH AND BANGKOK. THE FIRST TIME IN MY LIFE, LIVING IN THE COUNTRY WHERE I WAS A RACIAL MAJORITY, RELIGIOUS MAJORITY. SHOULDN'T SAY FOR THE FIRST TIME IN MY LIFE. I WAS BORN IN CHINA. I LEFT WHEN I WAS 4. FIRST TIME IN MY LIFE I COULD REMEMBER. I WANTED TO SHOW THIS PICTURE IN BANGKOK, THE

TEMPLE WITH THE INCREDIBLE THREE-STORY TALL BUDDHIST MURALS. HERE WE CAN SEE THE THREAD. THIS THREAD THAT WE SAWEN THE MAY 4th CEREMONY. YOU KNOW, WHILE I WAS IN, BANGKOK, DUNCAN'S BOOK CAME OUT, FEBRUARY 201 ON THE DAY OF REMEMBRANCE. THIS IS A DAY COMMEMORATING THE DAY WHEN JAPANESE-AMERICANS IN CALIFORNIA WERE ROUNDED UP TO GO TO THE CAMPS. BEFORE BANGKOK, WE WERE LIVING IN PHNOM PENH, JUST RIGHT DOWN THE STREET FROM US. THE BUDDHIST TEMPLES. IT MADE ME THINK IF I AM GOING TO DISMISS ASIAN PWAO*EUSDS OR ASIANS PRACTICE OF CHANTING AND RITUAL, DISMISSING MILLIONS UPON MILLIONS OF PEOPLE. NOT A TENABLE WAY TO THINK OF BUDDHISM. SO MY TIME HERE IN CAMBODIA AND THAILAND REALLY ALSO DEEPENED JUST MY ADMIRATION AND RESPECT FOR, FOR THE COUNTLESS MILLIONS OF PEOPLE WE ARE CONNECTED TO AS AMERICAN BUDDHISTS THAT HAVE STEWARDED AND SHAPED THIS RELIGION OVER CENTURIES.

THEM AND THEIR FAMILIES. AND SO, WAY OF ENDING JUST BY CLOSING, I DO WANT TO ACKNOWLEDGE AARON LI, THE ANGRY ASIAN BUDDHIST, WHO, DIED, I THINK -- ON THE SECOND TO LAST DAY THAT WE WERE LIVING IN PHNOM PENH. I CAME BACK AND WAS JUST, ABLE TO, ATTEND HIS MEMORIAL CEREMONY WHICH WOULD BE THE REFUGE OPENS WITH. THE PICTURE OF, US, WE WERE ABLE TO

VISIT HIM JUST A TOUCHLE MONTHS BEFORE HE PASSED. WE TALKED ABOUT -- JOHN KWAN, A KOREAN NUN MAKES AMAZING FOOD. IN THE BOOK. SOME MAY REALIZE, AARON SAID I WANT TO EAT THOSE SHITAKE MUSHROOMS FOREVER. SO, LET'S SEE, I WILL SKIP. BECAUSE I THINK WE ARE RUNNING A LITTLE LOW ON TIME. THIS IS JUST SOME PHOTOS FROM TIME IN TAIWAN WHERE I LIVED BEFORE CAMBODIA. ABLE TO SPEND A SEMESTER AT BUDDHIST COLLEGE THERE. ACTUALLY, IN TAIWAN THAT I, WROTE, TO MY FIRST, YOU KNOW, REALLY MAJOR ARTICLE ABOUT ASIAN-AMERICANED BYIS. ALL OF THE WAY BACK IN 2016. SO THIS IS ALL JUST CONNECTING THE DOTS IN RETROSPECT. ALL OF THE MANY THINGS THAT WENT INTO MAKING THIS BOOK POSSIBLE. PHOTO OF GABRIELLE, WE SAW QUOTED EARLIER. RIGHT AFTER I PUBLISHED THIS BOOK. ALSO PUBLISHED AN ARTICLE URGING US TO HONOR THE ROOTS OF ASIAN-AMERICAN BUDDHISM WITH HISTORICAL PHOTOS. AARON ON HIS BLOG, JUST HAD PICTURES OF BOTH OF THE MAGAZINES .

GOT THE PRINT COPIES. HE WAS CELEBRATING THAT. HERE, JUST ALSO WANTING TO CELEBRATE, WE READ A QUOTE FROM THICH NHAT HANH, FROM AT THE BEGINNING UH THIS, THIS, OUR TIME TOGETHER HERE, THAT QUOTE IS FROM THIS BOOK. TARPA COLOR AND CULTURE. AND, SORRY A LITTLE CUT OFF HERE. ONE OF MY

INSPIRATIONS AMONG, MANY, MANY FOR THIS BOOK IS THIS --
THIS PAMPHLET CALLED MAKING THE INVOICE PWURBLGS VISIBLE.
VERY APPROPRIATE FOR THIS SERIES WRITTEN BACK IN 2000.
THERE WERE SO MANY DIFFERENT VOICES INCLUDING, YOU KNOW
ANONYMOUS CHINESE-AMERICAN, PRACTITIONER WHOM I QUOTE IN MY
BOOK. SO, YEAH, AARON BEGAN BY WRITING, HERE HE IS, JOHN IS
JOHN GILL, WHO WE SAW IN, IN THE YOUTH GROUP. KUDOS AND OZ,
CHOSEN TO REMAIN ANONYMOUS. WOVEN IN MY BOOK AS WELL.
STARTED A GROUP BLOG. AARON STARTED ANGRY ASIAN BUDDHIST
BLOG. THEN WHEN HE GOT CANCER, RIGHT BEFORE HE PASSED IN
2017, HE START AID NEW BLOG, HE TITLED IT, BE THE RECEIVE
AOUPLG. AND HE TITLED IT BE THE REF UNI, HE WANTED US TO
THINK ABUT WHAT IT MEANS TO BE A REFUGE FOR OURSELVES AND
OTHERS, FOR ALL BEINGS. THE MANY, MANY, CREATIVE WAYS WE
CAN DO THAT. AND ACTUALLY FOR A VERY LONG TIME
I COULDN'T FIGURE OUT -- THE TITLE FOR MY BOOK. SO YOU
COULD SAY I WAS, VERY GOOD AT MISSING THE OBVIOUS. AS I
MENTION IN MY BOOK. I JUST WANTED TO CLOSE HERE WITH --
WITH THIS FROM 2014. WHEN AARON SAID, HAPPY ASIAN PACIFIC
AMERICAN HERITAGE MONTH CREATED THE COLLAGE OF BUDDHIST
FACES. IF WE DID THE COLLAGE NOW. SO MANY FACES. I COULD
HAVE SLIDE UPON SLIDE OF FACES. SO, JUST WANT TO END HERE.

SINCE IT IS -- APA HERITAGE MONTH. OR THERE ARE MANY WAYS
TO CALL THIS MONTH. WHICH IS A TESTAMENT TO HOW TY VERSE
OUR COMMUNITY IS, NOT A MONOLITH. SORRY FOR GOING A LITTLE
OVER TIME. I THINK WE HAVE 20 MINUTES FOR QUESTIONS. I
APPRECIATE ALL OF YOU FOR JUST JOINING ME IN THIS
EXPERIMENT OF, OF, LISTENING, OF SHARING THE VIDEOS
TOGETHER AND LOOKING AT ALL OF THESE, IMAGES TOGETHER.
>> THANK YOU, CHENXING HAN. SO MUCH. IF THIS WAS AN
EXPERIMENT. I CAN'T IMAGINE WHAT SOMETHING THAT ISN'T AN
EXPERIMENT, MUST BE AMAZING, EVEN MORE AMAZING. THIS WAS
WONDERFUL. AND YOU COVERED SO MUCH. IN YOUR TALK IT WAS SO
RICH. AND SO BEAUTIFUL. AND SO MOVING. AND I, WANT TO LEAVE
TIME FOR PEOPLE WHO ARE HERE TO ASK QUESTIONS. SO I
THINK --
THAT I WILL JUST --
I WILL LEARNED ABOUT. I HAVE BEEN PRACTICING IN AN
TRADITION, OVER 20 YEARS, I HAD NOT HEARD ABOUT AMERICAN
ASIAN BUDDHISTS UNTIL, FUNI SPOKE AT BUDDHIST PEACE
FELLOWSHIP, SOME YEARS AGO. AND SO, IT REALLY IS -- AN
INVISIBLE IN A LOT OF WAYS. I AM SO APPRECIATING THAT WE
CAN HELP TO MAKE IT MORE VISIBLE TO, ESPECIALLY, TO WHITE
BUDDHISTS. CONVERT BUDDHISTS OR WHATEVER. I WOULD LIKE TO

GET CLARITY ON THE TERMINOLOGY IF WE HAVE AT SOME POINT, IF WE HAVE TIME. OPEN THE FLOOR. WANTED TO PUT A" IN THE CHAT. OR UNMUTE YOURSELF. THERE IS LOTS OF GRATITUDE IN THE CHAT RIGHT NOW. IF ANYONE HAS A QUESTION TO PUT IN THE CHAT. FEEL FREE TO UNMUTE OR ASK YOUR QUESTION DIRECTLY. THANK YOU.

>> I AM JUST REVIEWING THE CHATS TOO. I WANT TO SAY MY DEEP APOLOGIES FOR NOT TURNING ON THE CLOSED-CAPTIONING FOR THE VIDEOS. I AM SINCERELY SORRY FOR THAT. HOPEFULLY, A WAY AFTER THE FACT THAT WE CAN PUT THEM BACK IN. VERY SORRY, THANK YOU ALL FOR BEARING WITH ME WITH THE TECHNICAL CHALLENGES OF GIVING A PRESENTATION LIKE THIS.

>> WELL, MAYBE SINCE NO ONE IS ASKING A QUESTION, I WILL ASK THAT QUESTION, ABOUT TERMINOLOGY. OH, HERE COMES SOME ONE. OKAY, GOOD. LET'S SEE. I AM CURIOUS WHAT REACTION OR RESPONSES, DOMINANT CULTURE, TEACHERS SANGHAS HAVE HAD TO YOUR BOOK? GREAT. AND THERE IS A COUPLE MORE QUESTIONS. DON'T KNOW IF YOU WANT TO LOOK AT THEM ALL FIRST. THERE IS ONE MORE QUESTION, I GUESS. UH-HUH. OKAY, THE IDEA OF, ASIAN-AMERICAN AND ASIAN PA SIEVING ISLANDER BEING PAIRED TOGETHER. IS THERE ANKER TO THAT ASIAN AMERICANS MAY BE MORE PROMINENT THAN APIs IN THAT GROUPING? THOSE ARE THE

TWO QUESTIONS OPEN. DON'T KNOW IF YOU WANT TO TACK THOSE,
HOWEVER YOU WOULD LIKE. TO TACK THOSE, HOWEVER YOU WOULD
LOOK.

>> THANK YOU, SO MUCH, LA FOR YOUR QUESTION. AND, ABOUT
DOMINANT CULTURE, TEACHERS AND SANGHAS. I THINK SO FAR --
YEAH, I HAVE HEARD SOME FEEDBACK FROM PEOPLE THAT -- THAT
THEY HAVE APPRECIATED THIS BOOK. I WOULD SAY. THAT IT HAS
BEEN EYE OPENING FOR THEM. TO THINK ABOUT --

I DON'T KNOW

I HEARD FROM TOO MANY, TOO MAYBE TEACHERS AND SANGHAS EACH
OF GUESS I JUST FEEL FORTUNATE THAT I FELT WELCOMED TO, ALL
OF THESE DIFFERENT SPACES. I RECOGNIZE, YOU KNOW, I THINK I
WANT TO POINT OUT THAT EVEN AMONG ASIAN AMERICANS, WE DON'T
ALWAYS --

YOU KNOW, PEOPLE WHO ARE RAISED, DON'T ALWAYS NECESSARILY
GET TO CONNECT WITH SECOND GEN OR, OR FIRST GEN
ASIAN-AMERICAN CONVERT BUDDHISTS.

I THINK FROM THE DOMINANT SANGHA SPACES CERTAINLY I HEAR
FROM ASIAN-AMERICAN PRACTITIONERS, FEELING GRATITUDE OF
BEING SEEN AND HEARD AND ACKNOWLEDGED. THEN ALSO -- PEOPLE
SEEING, THAT IT'S, THE BOOK, MAYBE HAS CAUSED THEM TO,
YEAH, IT'S KIND OF RECKONING TO TACK PAUSE AND THINK ABOUT,

HMM, WHAT ARE SOME OF THE WAYS MAYBE INADVERTENTLY EVEN THAT MY COMMUNITIES HAVE CONTRIBUTED TO THE ERASURE OR MARGINALIZATION OF ASIAN-AMERICAN BUDDHISTS.

SO I AM REALLY MOVED TO SEE THAT, THE BOOK IS, SPARKING CONVERSATIONS. I DIDN'T DESIGN THE COVER, BUT WHEN I SAW THIS COVER I THOUGHT THIS IS PERFECT. BECAUSE, THIS IS PRECISELY WHAT I HOPE IT DOES. RIGHT, THE BOOK IS A STARTING POINT. IT DOESN'T COME CLOSE TO CAPTURING OF EVERYTHING THAT COULD MAKE UP ASIAN-AMERICAN BUDDHISM. BUT -- IT IS A START. IT SEEMS LIKE IT IS STARTING TO SPARK CONVERSATIONS IN THESE COMMUNITIES. OKAY, I SEE A QUESTION FROM KEITH. THANK YOU, GOOD TO SEE YOU HERE. BY CUSTOM AND FROM A TRANSNATIONAL PERSPECTIVE, IT SEEMS NOT UNCOMMON THAT ASIAN-AMERICAN AND ASIAN PA SIEVING ISLANDER ARE PAIRED TOGETHER ALL THOUGH THERE DOES APPEAR TO BE AFFINITY AND A COMMON INTEREST IN SOLIDARITY, IS THERE ANY ISSUE THAT AAs MAY BE MORE PROMINENT THAN APIs IN THAT GROUP SNAG >> ASIAN-AMERICAN REDOD TO EAST ASIAN, SOUTH ASIANS CAN FEEL EXCLUDED. WE SEE, SOME TIMES, ACKNOWLEDGING, THE TERM CAN SEEN TO EXCLUDE OTHERS, ALL OF THIS TERMINOLOGY IS CONTESTED. I THINK THAT'S HEALTHY AND AS IT SHOULD BE. THAT

WE NEED TO THINK DEEPLY ABOUT THESE, USE. SO I HAVE BEEN --
KIND OF INVOLVED WITH THE GROUP THAT IS TRYING TO PUT
TOGETHER, AN AAPI BUDDHIST RETREAT OR BRING US TOGETHER
MORE.

AND, WE ARE HAVING A THE LOW OF DEBATE ABOUT THIS
TERMINOLOGY. BECAUSE -- STATISTICALLY SPEAKING NOT A LOT OF
PEOPLE IN THE PACIFIC ISLANDER ARE OF BUDDHIST HERITAGE,
COMPARED TO, YOU KNOW PEOPLE OF OTHER ASIAN BACKGROUNDS.
AND SO --

WE ALSO WANT TO BE CAREFUL NOT TO JUST NAME THEM IN THIS
SORT OF SENSE OF LIKE, SHALLOW INCLUSION, OR ALMOST A
TOKENIZING INCLUSION, WHEN IN FACT THEY MAY NOT WANT TO BE,
PART OF, PART OF THIS PARTICULAR SPACE. SO I THINK THAT IF
WE ARE TO INCLUDE, AAPI, I THINK IS VERY IMPORTANT TO
INCLUDE THEM AND ALSO ACKNOWLEDGE THE WAYS ASIAN AMERICANS,
THEY'RE SORT OF DOMINANTS WITHIN DIFFERENTETTE NICK GROUPS,
CHINESE AMERICANS, EAST ASIANS LIKE MYSELF ARE IN SOME
WAYS, MORE RADIOSEPTEMBERED THAN SOUTHEAST ASIANS, SOUTH
ASIANS, WE DON'T HEAR THOSE VOICES NEARLY AS MUCH AS I
WOULD LIKE TO.

>> TWO MORE GREAT QUESTIONS IN THE CHAT. IF YOU WANT TO
LOOK FROM, EITHER, AM. AND THEN, YEN -- YENKUI. YEAH,

THAT'S REALLY TRUE. (READING QUESTION QUICKLY FROM CHAT)

>> YOU KNOW, TO BE HONEST, MY INTERVIEWS FEEL LIKE SUCH A LONG TIME AGO, RIGHT, ALMOST A DECADE AGO. SO I THINK THAT, I AM NOT SURE WE TALKED SO MUCH ABOUT REPAIR, I THIN WEEK WERE STILL JUST BEGINNING TO EXPLORE WHAT WE ARE, WERE EVEN THE ISSUES. SOME PEOPLE WERE BOTHERED BY THE LACK OF REPRESENTATION. SOME PEOPLE WEREN'T REALLY BOTHERED. THERE WAS A WIDE SPECTRUM OF OPINION. BUT I THINK SOME OF THAT REPAIR AND RECKONING IS HAPPENING MORE SO NOW AND I THINK IT REALLY HELPS THAT WE ARE MR. ABLE TO FIND EACH OTHER NOW AS ASIAN-AMERICAN BUDDHIST. EVEN JUST TO ARTICULATE THAT I DIDN'T TEE. I MEAN, LOTS OF PEOPLE I IN THE VIEWED WERE SAYING, I HAVE NEVER EVEN LIKE HEARD THE PHRASE ASIAN-AMERICAN BUDDHIST. NEVER THOUGHT ABOUT THE INTERSECTION OF THE TWO IDENTITIES. THOUGH I HAVE THOUGHT ABOUT BEING ASIAN AM CANNED AND OF COURSE, THOUGHT OF BEING BUDDHIST. JUST NEVER THOUGHT OF THE PAIRING OF THE TWO. AND, YOU ASK -- CAN YOU COMMENT ON ANY CROSS CULTURAL FERTILIZATION OF BUDDHISM, FOR EXAMPLE THE EMPHASIS ON MEDITATION, AND WHITE CONVERT BUDDHISM IN THE U.S. AND SECULARIZATION OF MINDFUL REPRESENTATION, IS THAT HAPPENING, SEEN AS WESTERNIZATION THERE OR SOMETHING

ENDOGENOUS MODERNIZATION OF BUDDHISM THERE?

>> YEAH, A REALLY BIG QUESTION. BUT CROSS CULTURAL TRANSNATIONAL, THESE SORTS OF FLOWS IN CONNECTIONS VERY MUCH. ALWAYS HAPPENING. AMERICAN BUDDHISM IS TRANSNATIONAL BUDDHISM. THE PRACTICE PRACTICES ARE SHAPED BY BURMESE, THAI, MODERNIZERS IN ASIA WHO INTERACTED WITH THE WEST. SO I DON'T KNOW THERE IS NOT REALLY SUCH A THING, I THINK AS A PURE, WHITE, BUDDHISM OR REALLY A PURE ASIAN, ASIAN-AMERICAN BUDDHISM. NOT WHAT MY BOOK IS ARE GOING FOR. BUT RATHER, MY BOOK, AND I HOPE MY WORK, HELPS US BE MORE, CULTURALLY ENGAGED BUDDHISTS.

PEOPLE WHO ARE ENGAGING WITH THE MANY CULTURES THAT SHAPE US. SOME OF THE CULTURES MAY NOT BE SO VISIBLE TO UH.

RIGHT. BUT EVEN I THINK AS WE SEE MORE PEOPLE, DO LAND ACKNOWLEDGELES WE RECOGNIZE, THAT, THAT HOW MUCH WHERE OUR DEBTS ARE OWED, HOW INTERCONNECTED WE ARE. LEARNING

CULTURES THAT AFFECT, SHAPE, OR HAVE, STEWARDED THE VERY, LAND ON WHICH WE STAND. SO, IT, YES, I THINK IT WAS

INTERESTING, I SHOWED BRIEFLY A PICTURE OF MY TIME AT DHARMA IN TAIWAN, THEY WERE ADOPTING MINDFULNESS, KIND OF FROM THE U.S

AND, THAT WAS REALLY FASCINATING TO ME. TO SEE THIS KIND OF

RICOCHETING EFFECT. I THINK, PEOPLE COULD WRITE BOOKS ON THIS OR THESE IS OR ON THIS. I DON'T WANT TO SPECULATE MORE. I THINK VERY MUCH, ASIAN PEOPLE, IN ASIA, ARE AWEAR OF THE WEST. AND YOU KNOW, NOT SURE TO WHAT EXTENT THEY'RE AWARE OF BUDDHIST COMMUNITIES IN THE WEST

I KNOW THAT FOR MAY 4th GATHERING PEOPLE WERE TUNING IN ALL THE WAY FROM ASIA WAKING UP EARLY TO BE IN COMMUNITY WITH TOGETHER.

>> THAT LEAD US TO LOUISE'S QUESTION ABOUT WHETHER WE WILL HAVE MORE CEREMONIES LIKE THIS, WHICH I THINK IS A REALLY IMPORN QUESTION. BECAUSE THAT CEREMONY WAS SO NOURISHING FOR SO MANY PEOPLE AS YOU SAID. I THINK 4,000 PEOPLE WATCHED IT AFTER. AFTER, 700 LIVE. I MEAN THAT'S RIDICULOUS.

SO --

I THINK IT IS A GREAT QUESTION. IF WE ARE GOING TO KEEP, YOU WILL BE DOING THOSE, ANY ONE WILL KEEP DOING THOSE?

>> YEAH, WE HOPE PEOPLE CONTINUE TO GATHER. SO, WE HAVE TO SEE, YOU KNOW. I THEUBING WE ALL HAVE TO DO OUR PART, RIGHT. BE THE REFUGE. THIS TEAM TOGETHER HAS BEEN EXPERIMENT, MAY 4th WAS AN EXPERIMENT. WHETHER WE FEEL MOVED BY THAT EXPERIMENT, PARTLY DEPENDS MAYBE IN A WAY, I

CAN SEE THE SUCCESS IF WE WILL OF THAT EXPERIMENT, DEPEND ON HOW MANY MORE PEOPLE, ARE INSPIRED TO CREATE THE GATHERINGS. SO, YEAH, YEAH, WE ARE IN AN ON GOING CONVERSATION, VERY MUCH WELCOMING FEEDBACK FROM THE COMMUNITY BUT WE ALSO RECOGNIZE THERE ARE SO MAN OTHER PEOPLE OUT THERE IN THE COMMUNITY WITH, WITH THE SKILLS AND THE GIFT, TO, TO ALSO, CREATE THESE GATHERINGS AND SO I HOPE WE CAN FIND EACH OTHER, AND DO THIS IN AN ONGOING WAY SO THAT, YOU KNOW THIS DOES IN JUST HAPPEN ONCE A YEAR IN L.A. THAT IT CAN HAPPEN, MANY, MANY TIMES. AND ALL OAF THE U.S

ALL OVER, ALL OVER AMERICA. YOU KNOW ALL OVER THE WEST.

>> THANK YOU, ANOTHER QUESTION FROM KEITH IN THE CHAT. IF YOU WOULD LOOK TO READ THAT. (READING QUESTION FROM CHAT)

>> THANKS, KEITH. THIS FEELS LIKE A --

VERY CONTEMPLATIVE REFLECTIVE SESSION TODAY. WHICH IS KIND OF A TREAT. I DON'T OFTEN GET TO DO THAT. I FEEL LIKE I AM SO MUCH IN IT. I NEED OTHER PEOPLE TO TELL ME HOW I AM CHANGING. BUT I THINK THAT SOMETHING THAT IS REALLY BEEN HIGHLIGHTED FOR ME ARE MIRRORED FOR ME IN A LOT OF EVENTS IS PEOPLE ARE JUST REMINDING ME, THERE HAVE BEEN SOME PEOPLE WHO HAVE ACTUALLY BEEN OFFENDED BY THE BOOK OR FELT

IT WAS KIND OF, THERE US WAS ANGER IS IT THEY DIDN'T FEEL
LIKE THAT, THAT, YOU KNOW REALLY RESONATED WITH THEIR
BUDDHIST PRACTICE. AND, I, JUST WANT TO RECOGNIZE AND HONOR
AND RESPECT THAT. HOPEFULLY, NO BOOK IS FOR EVERYBODY. BUT,
WHAT'S BEEN REFLECTED BACK TO ME IS ACTUALLY JUST THE HEART
OF SPIRITUAL FRIENDSHIP IN THE BOOK, AND LOVE, THE BOOK
COMES FROM A PLACE OF LOVE. JUST PREPARING THIS
PRESENTATION TODAY I WAS TEARING UP THINKING OF ALL OF THE
ME PEOPLE WHOM I AM DEEPLY INDEBTED TO, THE -- MY PARENTS,
MY FAMILY, MY FRIEND. MY SPIRITUAL TEACHERS. SO MANY, YOU
KNOW, I WAS, ACTUALLY. GRABBED SOME OF MY FAVORITE BOOKS
BY, SOME OF THE OLD CLASSICS. "LOTUS AND THE SEA OF FIRE."
"FRAGRANT PALM LEAVES," AND, "THE NOVICE." AND, WE HAVE, WE
HAVE VERY LARGE STAFF, WE HAVE, THE WHOLE SHELF OF THICH
NHAT HANH'S BOOKS, ONE OF MANY, MANY, BUDDHIST TEACHERS WHO
HAVE INFLUENCED ME. I THINK JUST, WHAT'S CHANGED, FOR ME IS
JUST --

THIS FEELING OF ALMOST OVERWHELMING GRATITUDE OF JUST HOW
INTERCONNECTED WE ARE. LIKE, A DREAM OF MY BOOK WAS TO HAVE
SOMETHING LIKE MAY 4th. LIKE I WASN'T SURE IF WE WOULD EVER
SEE SOMETHING LIKE THAT OFF THE PAGE. AND IN THE PERSON.
AND THEN TO ACTUALLY SEE IT. AND BE LUCKY, FORTUNATE ENOUGH

TO, TO, BE THERE. I DON'T KNOW, IT IS HUMBLING

I FEEL VERY MUCH. KIND OF, OVERWHELMING SENSE OF GRATITUDE. AND SOME OF MAYBE, I THINK THAT'S TRANSFORMED SOME OF THE -- CERTAINLY THE ISOLATION AND THE LONLINESS AND THE CONFUSION THAT WAS ALSO -- YOU KNOW PART OF THE STORY OF THIS BOOK. PART OF SPARK. PART OF THE, BUT I THINK. IT HELPED ME TO APPRECIATE HOW TO FUEL THE MOVEMENT. ANGER IS IN THE BOOK. NOT THE FUEL FOR THE BOOK. LOVE IS FUEL FOR THE BOOK. THE BOOK NEVER WOULD HAVE BEEN WRITTEN WITHOUT IT.

>> ADRIANA ARIZPE MARTIN: THANK YOU SO MUCH. WE HAVE ABOUT FIVE MORE MINUTES.

>> ANNIE MAHON: THANK YOU SO MUCH. WE HAVE FIVE MORE MINUTES. IF ANY ONE IS SITTING ON A QUESTION OR COMMENT OR ANYTHING YOU WOULD LOOK TO SHARE IN THE CHAT OR BY UNMUTING AND SPEAKING OUT. THIS IS YOUR, YOUR CHANCE. PLEASE DO.

>> ADRIANA ARIZPE MARTIN: YOU HAVE ANOTHER QUESTION. I DON'T KNOW IF YOU WANT TO READ IT FROM GARY GACH.

>> Chenxing Han: SURE, THANK YOU FOR BEING HERE. ANY WORD OF SUPPORT FOR AMERICANS FEELING FEAR, GRIEF ON A DAILY BASIS? I JUST THINK SO SIMPLY THAT YOU ARE NOT ALONE.

AND --

AND, YOU ARE DEEPLY CARED FOR. I THINK FOR ASIAN-AMERICAN BUDDHISTS JUST TO WATCH THAT CEREMONY, MAY 4th CEREMONY. JUST TO REMEMBER AGAIN, MORE THAN 1,700 PEOPLE WERE THERE LIVE. TO ME THAT WAS A MANIFESTATION OF HOW -- WE BELONG IN THIS COUNTRY. AND ALSO WE BELONG TO EACH OTHER. WE WERE -- WE WERE SHOWING THAT, BY SHOWING UP. AND -- AND, EVEN WHEN WE CAN'T PHYSICALLY BE TOGETHER, I THINK ACTUALLY BUDDHIST TEACHINGS, HELP REMIND US, THAT, THAT -- IN SORT OF MAGICAL, UNFATHOMABLE WAYS WE ARE CONNECTED ACROSS, GEOGRAPHY A. CROSS TIME, ACROSS SPACE.

GEOGRAPHY, ACROSS TIME, ACROSS SPACE. MY WORD OF SUPPORT ARE JUST WANTING THEM TO REMEMBER THAT AND REMEMBER THE STRENGTH OF THEIR, ANCESTORS, OF THEIR HERITAGE, AND OF OUR ANCESTORS OF OUR HERITAGE. AND, THERE IS SO MUCH SUPPORT OUT THERE. SO DON'T BE AFRAID TO REACH OUT. AND, AND, ASK FOR HELP.

>> ANNIE MAHON: THANK YOU. AND, I GUESS WE WILL JUST GO TO WRAPPING UP. UNLESS THERE IS ANY LAST BURNING QUESTIONS, OR COMMENTS. JUST TO SAY THOUGHT OF COURSE THIS PRACTICE, THIS WHOLE COMMUNITY OF MAKING-VISIBLE GREW OUT OF OUR PRACTICE IN TRADITION OF THICH NHAT HANH, SO WE ARE GRATEFUL TO ALL OF THE ANCESTORS IN ASIA THAT CARRIED THIS PRACTICE ON

FOR -- FOR SO MANY, HUNDRED AND HUNDREDS OF YEARS. AND WITHOUT THAT, WE WOULDN'T BE ABLE TO BE HERE, PRACTICING. AN, AND FOR ME PERSONALLY, I THINK FOR A LOT OF PEOPLE ON THIS CALL, THIS PRACTICE HAS BEEN LIFE SAVING. AND SO -- YEAH, SO, JUST SO GRATEFUL. SO, THANK YOU.

>> THANK YOU.

>> THANK YOU. THANK YOU SO MUCH FOR BEING HERE TONIGHT. THANK YOU EVERYONE FOR BEING HERE TONIGHT WITH US. AS WE ALWAYS SAY, WE ARE HERE, LEARNING TOGETHER. AND THIS IS A SPACE FOR THAT. FOR, LEARNING TOGETHER. FOR HEALING, HEALING TOGETHER. AND -- AND FOR HEALING TOGETHER. AND THANK YOU SO MUCH FOR EVERYONE BEING HERE.

AN I GUESS WE ARE GOING TO CLOSE RIGHT NOW WITH A BELL, ANNIE. AND THEN WE WILL HAVE SOME ANNOUNCEMENTS, ABOUT OUR NEXT SESSIONS, IN THIS -- TOPIC WHICH WE DIDN'T, I DON'T REMEMBER IF WE MENTIONED AT THE BEGINNING. CHENXING HAN IS CURATING THE SERIES, WE HAVE THREE, 3/4 SESSION OF THE SERIES. SHE APPROACHED OUR NEXT SPEAKERSMENT THANK YOU SO MUCH FOR THAT. YES, WE WILL MAKE THE ANNOUNCEMENT AFTER THE BELL. AND I WILL JUST INVITE THE BELL TO FINISH. AND FROM THE TIME THAT WE HAVE SPENT HERE TOGETHER, MAY ALL OF US HERE AND ALL BEINGS EVERYWHERE HAVE EASE AND FREEDOM AND

SAFETY AND WELL-BEING AND JOY. AND MAY OUR TIME TOGETHER IN SOME WAY LEAD TO THE HEALING AND AWAKENING OF THE WHOLE WORLD. MAY WE CONTINUE ON THIS PATH TOGETHER, LEARNING AND GROWING AND LOVING. AND MAY ALL BEINGS BE FREE FROM SUFFERING. AND THE ROOT CAUSES OF SUFFERING.

(BELL TOLLS)

>> ANNIE MAHON: THANK YOU SO MUCH.

>> ADRIANA ARIZPE MARTIN: YES.

>> ANNIE MAHON: YES, WE HAVE TWO MORE WEBINARS IN THIS SERIES. AND YOU WILL, YOU WILL BE GETTING MORE INFORMATION IN EMAIL ABOUT THOSE WEEVIL HAVE JUNE 23RD, I BELIEVE, AND, JULY 28th. IF I AM NOT WRONG.

>>Y, JUNE 23RD, DAVID WOO. JULY 28th. AN TRAN.

>> ANNIE MAHON: YES, THANK YOU. PLEASE, PLEASE, JOIN US FOR THOSE. DO YOU HAVE ANYTHING YOU WOULD LIKE TO SAY AS WE -- AS WE WRAP UP.

>> Chenxing Han: THANK YOU SO MUCH. MOVED THAT YOU ARE ALL HERE. EASY TO CONTACT THROUGH MY WEBSITE. I HOPE THAT WE CAN JUST CONTINUE THESE, THESE, CONTINUE THESE BONDS OF SPIRITUAL FRIENDSHIP TOGETHER

>> ANNIE MAHON: YES, YES, YES, TO THAT. THANK YOU.

>> ADRIANA ARIZPE MARTIN: IF YOU WANT TO FOLLOW

MAKING-VISIBLE, SOCIAL MEDIA, ON INSTAGRAM, FACEBOOK AND YOUTUBE. SO YOU CAN -- GO BACK THERE TO, TO, TO SEE THIS RECORDING OF THIS SESSION. AND OUR PREVIOUS SESSIONS. AND ALL OF THE OTHER TOPICS THAT WOE HAVE COVERED. THANK YOU SO MUCH. AND I HOPE YOU CAN -- CONTINUE, MAKING THIS PROJECT POSSIBLE. THANK YOU SO MUCH.

>> ANNIE MAHON: THANK YOU TO CLAIRE AND RACHEL FOR SOCIAL MEDIA WORK. IF YOU CAN DONATE TO OUR WORK, WE -- WE, MOSTLY VOLUNTEER RUN, ADRIANA, AND I ARE VOLUNTEERS, LITTLE PAID COMMUNICATIONS HELP. AND THEN WE DO PAY OUR SPEAKERS. A STIPEND. IF YOU CAN HELP THAT ALLOWS US TO BRING MORE SPEAKERS IN.

JUST GO TO MAKING-VISIBLE.ORG, RACHEL PUT IT IN THE CHAT. IF YOU CAN MAKE A DONATION, ONE TIME OR EVERY MONTH WOULD BE SUPER AWESOME AND HELPFUL. SO --

>> ANNIE MAHON: THANK YOU SO MUCH. ENJOY THE REST OF YOUR EVENING, EVERYONE. AND BE WELL.

>> ADRIANA ARIZPE MARTIN: THANK YOU, EVERYONE.

>> HI, LYN.

>> SORRY TO COME LATE. GREAT TO HEAR YOU.

>> OH, GARY. HI, GARY, GOOD TO SEE YOU.

>> OKAY.

>> SIGNING OFF NOW.

>> ALL RIGHT.

>> ADIOS.

>> THANK YOU.

>> BYE.

>> THANK YOU. THANKS, DON.

>> THANK YOU, CHENXING HAN. HAVE A WONDERFUL REST OF YOUR DAY. WE WILL BE IN TOUCH. AND WE OFFER A FOLLOW-UP IF YOU WANT TO FOLLOW-UP. BUT THERE IS NO REQUIREMENT TO FOLLOW-UP. IF YOU WANTED TO OFFER ANYTHING BACK, WE ARE HERE.

>> OKAY. THANK YOU.

>> THANK YOU.

>> AMAZING. AMAZING. YES. THANK YOU. THANK YOU.