

# The 2<sup>nd</sup> Annual Human Rights Training Program – Indonesia

The 2nd annual *Pelatihan Hak Asasi Manusia Tahunan (PHAMT or Annual Human Rights Training Program)*, took place in Wisma Kinasih, Depok from February 12 to 26, 2009. Based on the model of our International Human Rights Training Program in Montreal, this training, delivered in Bahasa Indonesia, was designed to strengthen the capacity of Indonesian educators and activists to engage in effective human rights education aimed at developing a culture of human rights. The PHAMT is the brainchild of Equitas program alumni in Indonesia who wanted to provide to a broader community, the opportunity to learn about human rights and human rights education.

Thirty participants working on diverse issues and sectors of the community such as: the

rights of women, indigenous people, children, migrant and domestic workers, peasants, urban poor, and health and reproductive rights took part in this two-week session. Their interventions include: research, community organizing, promotion of religious pluralism, counselling, legal aid, and human rights education. They were selected from a pool of applicants coming from as far as Aceh and Papua.

Many thanks are extended to our implementing partner, Lembaga Studi dan Advokasi Masyarakat (ELSAM) and all of the Indonesian alumni.

*This Program is made possible with the generous support of the Government of Canada provided through the Canadian International Development Agency (CIDA).*



Participants of the Pelatihan Hak Asasi Manusia Tahunan, Wisma Kinasih, Depok, Indonesia

## Program Activities

JANUARY 2009 – JUNE 2009

### Global Human Rights Education Program

- International Human Rights Training Program (IHRTTP)
  - Selection of participants from over 900 applications received, January
  - 30<sup>th</sup> annual session of the IHRTTP, June 14 to July 3, Ste-Anne-de-Bellevue, Quebec
- IHRTTP Follow-up and support
  - Evaluation meeting of local human rights education activities, Port-au-Prince & Cap-Haïtien, Haiti, January
  - Training of Trainers, Bangui, Central African Republic, January
  - Evaluation meeting of local human rights education activities, Kenya and Tanzania, March
  - Planning meeting for Human Rights Training Session in Francophone Africa, Yaounde, Cameroon, May

### Iraq/Middle East/North Africa

- Evaluation Meeting of local human rights education projects, Beirut, Lebanon, February
- Training of Trainers, Beirut, Lebanon, March

### Indonesia

- 2<sup>nd</sup> Annual Human Rights Training Program: 30 participants from across Indonesia participated in this two week training program, Jakarta, February
- Integrating a Rights-Based Approach into the Work of the Ministry of Social Affairs (MOSA), two day workshop, Bandung, February
- Evaluation of the 2nd Annual Human Rights Training Program, Jakarta, May
- Three-day workshop on Human Rights Education and Sharia law with the Ministry of Law and Human Rights, Jakarta, May

### Canada

- Human Rights Training for Youth aged 13 - 17, activities piloted throughout the spring, Montreal
- Human Rights Training for Youth aged 13 - 17, training sessions with youth workers throughout the spring, Montreal
- Human Rights Education for Youth, Training of Trainers, Winnipeg, March

### Human Rights Training & Conferences

- Training of Foreign Service Officers, Department of Foreign Affairs and International Trade, Ottawa, Canada, February
- Virtual conference: Creative Spaces for Change – Human Rights Education and Popular Culture, February
- Participation in the Montreal Human Rights Film Festival, March
- Human Rights Education Design: e-Workshop, April

equitas

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## Equitas wins 2009 Quebec Citizenship Award

On May 11, 2009, Equitas was awarded the Anne Greenup Prize at this year's *Prix Québécois de la citoyenneté* at the National Assembly in Quebec City. Awarded annually, the Anne Greenup prize recognizes contributions to the fight against racism by a non-profit organization in Quebec.

The prize was presented by Yolande James, Minister of Immigration and Cultural Communities. During the ceremony, Equitas was praised for its contribution to the development of an open, modern and inclusive society.

The prize was given in recognition of the success of the *Play it Fair!* program in Montreal. Developed in collaboration with the City of Montreal, the program is designed for youth attending summer day camps. Through games and fun activities, this educational program works to fight racism, to promote diversity and encourage children to reflect upon issues related to discrimination, inclusion, respect, cooperation and peaceful conflict-resolution.

In the summer of 2008, the program was in use in 145 day camps across Canada and reached over 40,000 children. Camp counsellors confirmed that the games in the *Play it Fair!* toolkit contributed to sensitize the children to respect others. They noticed a decrease in verbal abuse, violence and intimidation and a marked improvement in team-spirit and participation.

Equitas extends its thanks to the City of Montreal, its partner in the program in Quebec. Equitas also wishes to thank the funders of the *Play it Fair!* program: The TD Bank Financial Group, The J.W. McConnell Family Foundation, Canadian Heritage, the City of Montreal through its *Direction de la diversité sociale*, the *Ministère de l'immigration et des communautés culturelles du Québec*, the *Fondation du Grand Montréal* and Telus.

For more on the *Play it Fair!* program or to download the *Play it Fair!* toolkit visit the *Programs in Canada* page on our web site at <http://www.equitas.org/english/programs/canada.php>



Ian Hamilton, Executive Director of Equitas and Yolande James, Minister of Immigration and Cultural Communities

## A Canadian success story celebrates 30 years of accomplishment

**For the 30th year in a row, Equitas welcomes over 100 human rights defenders for a one of a kind human rights training session**

On June 15, 2009, 115 human rights defenders from over 55 countries arrived in Montreal for the 30th edition of Equitas' International Human Rights Training Program (IHRTP). These courageous and dynamic individuals, working in often dangerous circumstances on some of the most difficult issues in their countries took part in the three-week program in order to enhance the knowledge, skills and attitudes necessary to bring about positive change in their communities.

**A lasting impact around the world**

"This training program is an important Canadian contribution to the spread of human rights and

democratic principles around the world," says Ian Hamilton, Executive Director of Equitas.

"Through the IHRTP, participants gain greater confidence in their abilities as well as the skills and motivation to become effective human rights champions upon their return home".

Over 3,000 participants have been trained by the IHRTP since 1980. In recent years, Equitas alumni have contributed to the following changes:

India: Successful village-level campaigns led by children to end the practice of female infanticide.  
Kenya: A successful campaign to introduce compulsory and free primary education.

Democratic Republic of the Congo: Mobilization of women in a campaign in Eastern Congo to end impunity for perpetrators of sexual violence.



Haiti: Empowerment of Haitian youth to promote and defend their human rights and the rights of others.

Middle East and North Africa: Establishment of a regional network of activists committed to advancing the values of human rights and democratic pluralism. (See page 2)

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# The Arab Network for Human Rights & Citizenship Education

In October 2008, 75 alumni of Equitas' Middle East and North Africa program voted in an unprecedented on-line election on the Equitas community to select the Coordination Committee of the newly formed Arab Network for Human Rights and Citizenship Education (ANHRE).

ANHRE is an independent regional network consisting presently of members belonging to different organizations which are involved in Equitas' activities in Arab countries and are active in the fields of human rights and citizenship education in the region. The objective of the network is to enhance cooperation, exchange and sharing aiming to build a culture of human rights and citizenship education in the Arab world.

The newly formed network traces its roots back to Equitas' International Human Rights Training Program (IHRTP), held annually in Canada and now in its 30th year. In 2004, during the three-week program, an idea had taken hold among participants from the Middle East and North Africa to create a regional network that would work in partnership with Equitas to develop and implement human rights education programs in the region. Before the participants left Montreal, an informal network was established and a listserv was operative. Equitas' current program in the Middle East and North Africa (MENA) is based on a proposal that the members of this initial network developed themselves and submitted to Equitas.

Through the MENA Program, alumni of the region made use of Equitas' on-line community and 75 of them registered in September 2008 to vote for the leadership of the new network. Taking into consideration the number and provenance of the MENA program alumni, it was determined that the Coordination Committee would be composed of seven members with a minimum of three members from Iraq, a minimum of two members from the Middle East and a minimum of one from North Africa. At least two seats were reserved for women and one seat for the candidate with the highest number of votes. Voting was done using the questionnaire tool posted on the Equitas Community. There were 21 eligible nominees, and 88% of the members voted. They could only vote once for seven different candidates. The voting took place over a period of ten days during which the electoral campaign went on. Results were only given at the end of the ten day period. This successful experiment in on-line democracy led to the election of the new Coordination Committee.

Fotouh Younes, Equitas' MENA Program Regional Coordinator in Amman, Jordan is serving as Executive Director of the committee and the network is functioning under the guidance and overall management of Equitas.

ANHRE has recently become a member of the Global Campaign for Education and has published its first newsletter in both Arabic and English. Other activities planned by the network include seminars, research and publications on key human rights issues in the region all in the goal of strengthening human rights and citizenship education throughout the region.

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*Members of the Arab Network for Human Rights and Citizenship Education coordinating committee in Amman, Jordan*

## What's in a Name?

**By: Refaat Sabbah, The Chairman of ANHRE and General Director of the Teacher Creativity Center in Ramallah, Palestine.**

The Arab Network for Human Rights and Citizenship Education is a coordination network that tries to unite the current efforts in the field of human rights and citizenship education in countries of the Arab region. It is a network that involves members whose interests recognize the importance of enriching the Arab experience of human rights and citizenship education.

We looked for an acronym for the network, to help people remember it and which would also reflect the network's goals. We brainstormed, discussed,

wrote, and talked, and then from Sudan and its rivers came the idea to use the Arabic word for river 'ANHRE' to symbolize giving, taking, mixing, and continuity of life, hope and love.

ANHRE (rivers) brings with it a meaning of solidarity and of crossing borders in order to reach the goals, ambitions, and dreams which we grew up with. We say we dreamt of a home country where humans would feel their freedom protected and their humanity considered sacred. This is our hope, nothing more, to have one big home that embraces all of us; where we all interact. A home where we do not feel oppressed but rather proud and belonging, where we give without limitation and it gives us back without limitations as well.



Our aim is to weave a future together and remain positive in our directions and thoughts to create a better tomorrow and a fairer world.

# Equitas Annual Cocktail

## A Sold-out Affair

For the second year in a row, it was a capacity crowd for Equitas' Annual Cocktail on March 19th. It was wonderful to see many loyal friends return and a large number of new faces who turned out to show their concern for human rights and support for Equitas. With over 200 guests attending, the 4th Annual Cocktail raised over \$24,000 to support Equitas' programming in Canada and around the world.

The keynote speaker for the evening was Jameel Jaffer, Director of the American Civil Liberties Union's National Security Project and an active member of the Equitas Board of Directors. Mr. Jaffer was introduced by Alexandre Trudeau. Having recently co-authored the widely acclaimed book "Administration of Torture", Mr. Jaffer was ideally placed to explore the connection between security and the protection of hu-

man rights: "The democratic freedoms that we have been too ready to give up [in times of crisis and in the name of security] are freedoms that lead to more informed citizens and to more accountable leaders... These freedoms are what make democracies worth defending." In their remarks, Mr. Jaffer and Mr. Trudeau underscored the critical role of human rights defenders – the people benefiting from Equitas' programs – in speaking out and defending those whose freedoms are being threatened.

Equitas would like to thank all the event sponsors and volunteers who made the event such a success. We recognize in particular our platinum sponsors: BCE Enterprises, Ernst & Young and Osler, Hoskin, Harcourt. Furthermore we are grateful to Claudia's Catering for once again providing our guests with delicious food and for donating a significant portion of their services. We look forward to an even greater success next year!



Photo : Patrick Lortie

Ian Hamilton, Executive Director, Jameel Jaffer, and Rob Yalden, President of the Board of Directors



Photo : Patrick Lortie

Jameel Jaffer and Alexandre Trudeau with Equitas staff and volunteers

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**EQUITAS WOULD LIKE TO THANK ALL THOSE WHO CONTRIBUTED FINANCIALLY TO THE SUCCESS OF OUR PROGRAMS BETWEEN THE 1ST OF JANUARY AND MAY 31, 2009.**

**We thank our institutional donors for their generous support of our programs:**

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**A big thank you goes out also to all those who attended our March 19 fundraising cocktail.**