

**Between Nonviolent Conflicts and Reconciliation:
An International Workshop
(Chiang Mai, Thailand, 19-20 January 2013)**

Karim D. Crow, LAIS Malaysia

“Between Nonviolent Conflicts and Reconciliation: An International Workshop addressing deadly conflicts in Asia-Pacific” – Chiang Mai [North Thailand] 19-20 January 2013. Sponsors: TODA INSTITUTE FOR GLOBAL PEACE & POLICY RESEARCH (Honolulu); Peace Information Center, Thammasat University (Bangkok); and local host Department of Religious Studies, Payab University (Chiang Mai).

The two-day workshop brought together seventeen university researchers and activists from nine Asian countries to explore the transition from violence to reconciliation in conflicted societies. Prominent peace researchers present were Professors Kevin Clements (New Zealand) and Chaiwat Satha-Anand (Qadir Muhyi l-Din, Thammasat University), as well as Dr Asna Husin (IAIN-ArRaniry, Banda Aceh). Also attending were D. Satoko Takahashi (Director of Research, TODA INSTITUTE), and a four person delegation from Uganda’s northern region reporting on work of reconciliation after the brutal ravages of the notorious “Lord’s Army” – including two eminent religious leaders, the Anglican Bishop and the Maliki Mufti. Among the most striking and heart-rending presentations were by professors from Vietnam (suppression of coffee farmers and confiscation of lands), Nepal (difficult political transformation of Maoist rebels), and Sri Lanka (failed ethnic reconciliation seeding future violence). Significant theoretical reflections were provided by K. Clements and C. Satha-Anand, and the papers will appear in a volume published by the TODA INSTITUTE. The local hosts kindly arranged Jum’ah prayers for Muslim participants in one of Chiang Mai’s seventeen mosques where the khutbah was delivered in Mandarin and Thai.