



Issue# 385

Raelian Movement Newsletter

March 21st, 67aH

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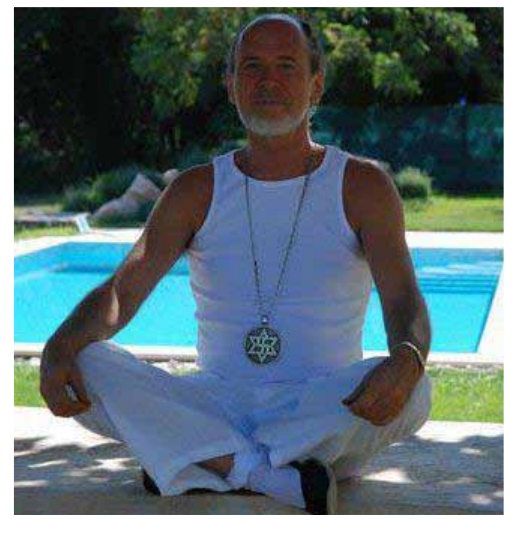
### MORE IN PICTURES

Consciousness must be sculpted in both spirituality and political thought, because they are linked. Every spirituality necessarily has political implications. Telling people to think and to blossom is already extremely political because governments and powers tell us the opposite: "Don't think, trust us". They don't want you to think because if you did you would realize how useless they are.

*Rael August 65*

Awakening and blossoming develop in laughter. All those who say the opposite are false prophets, false Buddhas, and there are many of them. The first step in awakening is laughter, happiness. It would be stupid to reach a serious awakening, what would it be good for? Fortunately, awakening and laughter come hand in hand. One needs to be happy in order to be awakened.

Awakening and consciousness are the opposite of climbing a mountain by hanging on its rocks. You will reach nothing by hanging on the rocks. On the contrary, you must let go. It's when you abandon yourself into the infinite fall that you actually elevate yourself. It's a paradox, but this is what awakening is. If you lay down to meditate and your goal is to feel the effects of meditation, you will not feel anything. With awakening, if you want anything, you will get nothing. If you don't want anything, then you will get everything immediately, you will become the Buddha who is inside you.



*Rael, August 65 aH*

## COMING HAPPINESS ACADEMIES:

The Happiness Academy is a place where we talk about science because science is love, where we talk about meditation because meditation is love and where we become more powerful together because we are the Messengers of the Elohim and therefore Messengers of Love. We are here to bring peace and love. After all the bombings happening everywhere, we need to be back to the peace and love movement of the 60s. Together we will succeed. *Rael, May 62 aH*



### IN INDIA

In a few days India will start the round of Happiness Academies of the season in Mumbai.

It will be the first Happiness Academy in India since the creation of The Indian Raelian Movement. If you want to give your support to our brothers and sisters of India, you may want to join them and Michio Ito, Guide responsible for teaching in Asia on April 6th and 7th at the Grand Hyatt Mumbai, a Five-star-hotel in the central Mumbai.

If you wish to attend the Indian seminar, Please contact:

Masami Narita at [masami@tf7.so-net.ne.jp](mailto:masami@tf7.so-net.ne.jp)

or Anup, the National Guide of India, at [anup1\\_lks@yahoo.com](mailto:anup1_lks@yahoo.com)

### JAPAN

The Asian seminar will follow shortly after in Okinawa from April 28th to May 4th in the prestigious Miyako hotel in Naha. To reserve your room and register go to [rael.org/seminar](http://rael.org/seminar)

### NORTH AMERICA

The North American seminar will take place for the first time in Mexico, in an exceptionally beautiful location at Puerto Vallarta from June 23rd to June 29th... A much anticipated pleasure for the Mexican members who haven't been granted visas to attend the previous seminars in the USA. Don't miss this exceptional reunion of the North American team... Registrations are open on [rael.org](http://rael.org) as well.

## EUROPE

The European team will gather in August, from the 4th to the 10th, in a Spa and Golf resort in Croatia. Another beautiful place to experience the life changing experience to be in the soothing while exhilarating company of the Raelians living the philosophy given to us by the Elohim...

## ABOUT OUR MISSION

Some Raelians are tempted to gather the energy of other Raelians to achieve projects that could potentially be of great help for Humanity. One such project is the building of free energy devices that has been promoted within the structure recently. Maitreya made it clear that it isn't our mission:

"I am not interested in this type of thing. It is up to the scientists to investigate it. For me, my only concern is consciousness, being, meditation and the embassy and that should also be the priority for the members of the structure. Let us leave science to the scientists (there are thousands of them) and let's concern ourselves with that for which we exist. Even if we support the most modern scientific applications such as cloning, stem cells etc, it is not our primary concern, apart from those raelians whose profession it is. *Rael, March 67aH*

## THE RAE LIAN PLANET

### MEETING OF THE EUROPEAN GUIDES:

love, laughter, prayers and sensuality....



## CAMBODIA

*Daniel Thibault went back to Cambodia in February to give a lecture at Build Bright University:*

It was a great experience. The university was very worried that we talk about politics or religion in our lecture so they wanted to see our material beforehand. After submitting our material, the director seemed negative and almost changed his mind. But the principal finally approved to let us give the lecture.

“The University allowed us to advertise on the building and in the classrooms. So we installed 2 big banners and 10 posters throughout the campus as well as distributed 200 invitation leaflets. The lecture room could seat 110 students and it was packed.

We showed videos, talked about our values and the importance of science but the students seemed to be mostly interested by our philosophy of happiness and self development during the 30 min Q&A period. There was no hard questions to challenge our beliefs, and I guess this is typical of the Asian culture facing authority especially in public. Overall, it went smoothly and the students were very respectful and grateful for the teaching. 50 of them requested to receive more information about the Raelian movement.

In addition, I gave an interview to 2 journalists working for the most popular newspapers in Cambodia. It was the first time they had heard about the Raelian Movement. Love, Daniel Thibault



## ARAMIS IN PERU

Homosexuals of Peru answer with love and kisses to Police force and discrimination.

ARAMIS Peru supported the event “Kisses Against Homophobia” organized by the Homosexual Movement of Lima. A team led by Latin American Aramis leader Erich Rever, took part in the event “Kisses Against Homophobia” organized by the Homosexual Movement of Lima (HMOL).

The Aramis members took very noticeable banners displaying messages such as “A kiss is love, live your freedom” and “A kiss is peace, live your freedom”. The HMOL welcomed the banners in support of their campaign.

Initially the event was going to take place at the Plaza de Armas of Lima where the Presidential Palace and the Catholic Cathedral of Lima are located, but the Peruvian President Ollanta Humala had ordered the police to close every access to the Plaza de Armas with fences and even with a tank that threw dirty water, so that no lesbian, gay, bisexual or transsexual or heterosexual supporters (LGBT) could enter, though any other people could! That was a clear message of discrimination from President Humala, who initially got votes from the LGBT community for his supposed support to them.

The event gathered a large crowd, including LGBT and heterosexuals supporters who shouted proudly:

“We are not anymore afraid”, “Kisses are love”, “Our rights must be respected like the rights of anybody else”.

As the event kept going with the main entrance still blocked by the police, the Homosexual Movement of Lima succeeded to have an access through another entrance and mobilized everyone there. Once there the police had also blocked with fences that access, but some LGBT people had entered through the police security passing like “normal” civilians and begun kissing in the other side of the fence! It was a victory for the LGBT, but after some minutes the police started to use force to remove them from there.

The LGBT community in the other side pushed the fence to pass through it to prevent any harm from happening to the LGBT members and that prompted the police to bring again the tank that threw pressured dirty water.

Even though Aramis leader, Erich Rever, was not pushing the fence, the water struck all over him, leaving his skin and clothes all wet and dirty. All the LGBT community went backwards as the tank continued throwing dirty water and the police started coming out from the fence with their sticks and shields ready to enforce any necessary measures.

The only one left in front was the ARAMIS Peru leader who decided to sit down, close his eyes and meditate by just sending peace and love towards the aggressive police men. This is what Erich had to say about it: « It was beautiful, an undescrivable sensation. I didn't know if I was going to get hit by the police or taken to jail, I just relied on the power of love, which was the force that moved me to remain there confronting the violence that was coming towards me. I was focused on my meditation, just thinking of love and peace on Earth. I have been reminded that it was like the "1 minute for peace meditation" action launched by Maitreya Rael, though within a completely different circumstance. »

Erich was just meditating peacefully. They didn't harm him, they didn't touch him, they just passed by his side in silence. When he opened his eyes and stood up, he could see that the police got again to the other side of the fence and some LGBT members begun pushing again the fence and the police immediately answered by throwing a bomb of gas that irritates protesters eyes and nose and makes them cry. Everyone went away screaming to protect their sight and airways.

"It is incredible that we still live in such a primitive society today in the 21st century, where a kiss is so dangerous that it needs a presidential order to use policemen, fences, gas bombs and even tanks to protect a PUBLIC area from homosexual people wanting to express a fundamental human right, armed with only one weapon, a kiss of love!." said Rever

Today's action brings to perspective how much still needs to be done to create the change that we need on our wonderful planet... but thanks to the teachings of the Elohim through Maitreya Rael, the ARAMIS members took the necessary steps in order to achieve it, by answering with love to violence...and it works!



### FRANCE, 'L'EXPRESS' STORY

Following the recent ruling by the European Court of Human Rights condemning France for its witch-hunt against religious minorities, the Express magazine, under the pen of its managing editor, Christophe Barbier, published a particularly "cult-phobic" editorial. This prompted Kimbangu, the National Guide

of France and his team to gather in front the magazine's headquarters and protest against the editorial, which has left Mr. Mettout, editor-in-chief of the online magazine, angry to the point of striking a non-provoking Kimbangu on the face without hesitation... A complaint was immediately filed and other demonstrations are planned to demand an apology...



**Libérez le guide-prêtre raelien  
Jean René Ogoula, injustement  
emprisonné au Gabon !**



**www.rael.org**

The European Court of Human rights still has much to do before the French population, which has been manipulated to fear religious minorities for more than 20 years, finally realizes that it has indeed been duped and that now is the time to relearn what respecting the right and freedom of thought and expression truly means. Raelians have undertaken this rehabilitation process and were made the champions of articles 18 and 19

## ACTION JEAN RENE OGOULA

Guide Jean Rene Ogoula has been sitting in jail for more than 3 weeks now, accused of witchcraft by a judge of his country, Gabon.

Raelians from every continent manifested in front of Gabon embassies and consulates on March 18th to make sure our voice is heard at the highest level in Gabon.

### IN BURKINA FASO

There is no Gabonese representation in Burkina Faso but the National Guide and his team organized a distribution of the press release in the streets.



*in Congo*

### CONGO-MFOA :

Our delegation (50 raelians) led by the National Guide has been received by the 1st Adviser (1er Conseiller) of the Ambassador. When the delegation was about to leave the Embassy, the National Guide was asked by 4 policemen to follow them and kept for 3 hours at the Police Station because he didn't get the official authorization to protest, although he had the receipt of the deposit of the authorization request with him.

### IVORY COAST:

There were 15 persons and everything went on quickly and in harmony. The 1st Adviser (1er Conseiller) of the Ambassador knows about the Movement and was surprised by what happened to Alè.

**CANADA:**



There were about 40 Raelians who went to Ottawa for the protest. Daniel Chabot spoke to the secretary to the ambassador. The secretary told Daniel that our brother was arrested n-o-t for witchcraft but maybe for talking with teens. Daniel asked him if it is illegal to speak with teens. :-) The secretary finally ended up saying that he was maybe arrested for talking about his religion.

**USA:**

Both our teams in New York City (Kasyo and William) and Washington, DC (Jerry and Upendra) started the protest at 1pm. We stood our grounds, spoke with people, held our posters, and gave out flyers proudly as people walked in and out for the Gabonese Embassy/Consulate Office.

What was interesting in both cities were that the staff in both offices and the visitors were very curious about what we were doing, and they wanted to know more. Although we were not able to hand the letters directly to the Ambassador (in DC), and the Consular (in NYC), we confirmed that the letters got to their hands. In NYC, our team got interviewed by a journalist who shared the same building with the Consulate office. In Washington, DC, the florist who was going in and out of the Embassy tipped us off that the letter

was received by the Ambassador, and the issue was being “discussed”. She said “it’s working! keep trying.” :) Very soon a staff from the Embassy came out with his iPad and started taking pictures of us!

**CHINA**

A Chinese Guide went to the embassy of Gabon in Beijing and handed over the letter of protest to them.

**KOREA**

The KRM organized a protest near the Gabon Embassy in Seoul, and delivered the letter to the Ambassador. The police helped us much for delivering the letter.

**JAPAN**

Twenty one Raelians gathered in front of the Gabonese Embassy in Japan on 19th of March to demand the release of Ale.

We demonstrated for one hour in peaceful and harmonious manner. Michio, Shuji and Masayo met and talked with a secretary of the Ambassador and handed the letter and the French message book to her.

Michio informed her that we will continue our demonstration in front of the Embassy until Ale is released.



## BELGIUM

From Dunkirk, North of France, Metz, Valenciennes, Luxembourg, Liege and Brussels, we were 13 in front of the Brussels' Gabonese Embassy to protest in favor of the release of our guide brother Jean-René Ogoula from Gabon. From 1:30-4pm, we displayed a colorful and peaceful presence, sometimes happy, sometimes in a meditative mood, and sometimes chanting the slogan "Release Jean-René Ogoula." We had sandwich-like panels, posters, and fliers that we gave to passersby who were attracted by this strange heteroclit group. At around 3pm, we rang the Embassy's doorbell and Catherine Cambrésy gave the letter and press release to the assistant of the Ambassador of Gabon.



We were welcomed with kindness and the assistant asked us questions on this issue. At around 3:30pm, she returned to ask us for a signature on the document as well as a contact phone number. Catherine signed the document and we communicated the phone number to our Belgian national guide Eric Remacle. The assistant who was visibly annoyed by our presence asked us to leave the premises as she deemed we had taken enough of her time!

Although we replied that we would, we ended up staying on their sidewalk and the one across the street until 4pm. We did not fail to let the assistant know that this action was taking place around the world, that all the Gabonese Embassies were now aware of this case, and that we were now waiting for them to intervene and resolve this situation as fast as possible.

We ended our afternoon sipping a warm beverage and with tremendous joy to feel Raelians from France and Belgium once again united for such a beautiful common cause, as it was often the case in the past. .

## PARIS, FRANCE:

We were 17 near the Embassy of Gabon in Paris (41 rue de la Bienfaisance, Paris 8th) with slogans and flyers printed that same morning. We were not able to be in front of the Embassy but at a crossroads fifty yards away.

The categorical refusal of the embassy to receive us, not even to deliver a letter to the Ambassador, was a surprise because in the morning, we had reached someone at the embassy by phone who assured us that we would be received .. .

The police officers who had been especially deployed for us knew that the embassy would not see us. It was obvious from the number of officers present both from Paris Police department and the Intervention Brigade of the city of Paris!), that they had the strict order to prevent us from getting close to the embassy ....

Despite all the diplomacy of Michel, the only answer he had when calling the embassy again, was to go through ... the Quai d'Orsay, the French Ministry of Foreign Affairs to get our letter delivered! Which will be done tomorrow, and in parallel the same registered letter will be sent to the Embassy of Gabon.

With 17 attendees, the great participation of the action was reflecting its importance, and we certainly created an event in this quiet part of Paris. We gave our flyers, especially to the black community: one person from Gabon assured us she would pass the information in her country. We can be sure that they were well aware of our presence and especially the reason why...

Mission accomplished! In harmony, in pleasure, in connection with the Raelian planet, for the happiness of mankind, according to the wishes of Our Beloved Maitreya and on the path of consciousness and the Elohim.



## BORDEAUX, FRANCE:



This Monday, March 18 67aH, our team was present for this action in front of the Gabon consulate in Bordeaux. We were 8 in the wind and pouring rain to show our support to our brother Jean Rene!

The Consul was absent, she was in PARIS this week, but we met Josephine and her assistant. We gave her the official letter and 1 of our 60 flyers which we then handed out to inform the passersby of our action.

Tonight I am sending an email to the Consul to inform her that a letter is waiting for her when she comes back.

I intensely think of our imprisoned brother and I send him all my strength and all my love to help him go through this ordeal.

## GENEVA

There were about 30 of us who had come from all areas of French-speaking Switzerland to demonstrate in front of the Gabon embassy, located in a beautiful, pleasant, modern, glass building.

The police was on time, faithfully obeying their contract and after a few exchanges on how the demonstration would take place, we decided to stand on the sidewalk across from the embassy. Indeed, we realized that we were more visible that way because there was hardly any traffic in that area. We gave out about 30 flyers. We lined up with posters and 2 of us remained on the sidewalk near the entrance of the embassy to give out flyers.

At 11:45 am, Jimmy and Lucie entered the Embassy to deliver our letter. They were greeted by 2 ladies at the reception, one was a Gabon representative and the other from Cameroon. Then we noticed a mail box for human rights affairs and we placed a copy of our letter there.



*The Lyon team :-)*

We demonstrated until 12H30 pm. The police stayed with us until the very end and complained that we had stayed 15 minutes too long. They were probably upset to have missed "their apéritif" at the bar with their colleagues.

At the end of the event, the snow had stopped falling, though it was still cold but the sun came out to warm us up. We gathered below a tree and its good energy. We all had a beautiful smile, happy to have done something toward this wonderful planetary action.

# IMIN4PEACE

## IN MIAMI

“The Miami team gently spread their blanket on the grassy knoll on Lincoln road in South Beach where we invited the passerby’s to join in and pray one minute for peace.

We meditated and sang the AOM which resonated over the hustle and bustle of the crowds. Thank you Elohim for sending us your son and the message which has enriched our lives.”



The Ivory Coast team decided to launch a campaign where huge billboards that read “one minute for peace” would be displayed around the city of Abidjan. It was a logical follow up to our media action of last November (the 15th) and all the diffusion activities that had taken place in the streets of the country.

First, according to our means, we began with 10 billboards in the city of Abidjan for the month. Then, we will go up to 30 billboards to cover all the regions of the country. But, we can tell that this campaign is already a great success if we judge by the reaction of our friends, colleagues of raelians or simply the passersby. Right now, there is so much turbulence in Africa and in Ivory Coast too with the social situation and the Raelian Movement is giving a great lesson of peace to the populations thanks to this very popular action, well covered by the media through this message: “Let us meditate together everyday, 1 minute for peace”.

## MEXICO CITY

The Raelians of Mexico City, were again successful in their diffusion, “Meditate with Us, 1 Minute for Peace” was emotional as people stopped to see the blanket, and without us having to invite them to meditate, they sat, it was Great! We realized that every time, there are people who actually want peace.

A newlywed couple saw the blanket and came to meditate with us, people thanked us for performing this action of conscience for peace on this planet.

With love, Frank Caballero, Guide of Mx City

## IVORY COAST



## CLITORAID IN SUPPORT OF ONE BILLION RISING 2013

The famous women's rights activist, Eve Ensler is at the origin of the event One Billion Rising, an event gathering women worldwide to stand up and dance against violence made to women. Many Raelians joined the event, representing Clitoraid to the crowd and dancers around the world.

### BOBODIULASSO, BURKINA FASO (WEST AFRICA)

In the outskirts of Bobodioulasso, Burkina Faso, Clitoraid's Pleasure Hospital was the site of a grand One Billion Rising event where women from many surrounding towns came to dance and stand up against the most despicable violence done to a female child: Genital Mutilation. They were warmly welcomed by Banemanie Traore, a former victim of FGM whose genitals have since been surgically repaired and who has been keeping a caring and watchful eye over the progression of the Pleasure Hospital since it started being built.

Around 1PM, women began to arrive in small groups. At 2:30, the ceremony began with a speech from Ms. Traore, head of AVFE (as Clitoraid is legally known there). She addressed the pain of living with FGM and the life threatening dangers of practicing this tradition. She invited everyone to work for the elimination of violence done to women and to cultivate femininity and love for self and others.

Then Dr. Sie Benoit, the National Guide, invited all the women who had suffered from FGM to place their name on Clitoraid's surgical waiting list and be able to benefit from the free Clitoral Repair Surgery once the hospital opens in a few month.

The musicians and their drums started to sound in the background until the music became center stage and everyone began to rise and dance. Visits of the hospital were later organized. Happiness and hope could truly be read on everyone's faces.

### LAS VEGAS, NV USA

A group of 15 women and men Clitoraid representatives led by Lia Steinman gathered on Fremont Street on the evening of Feb 14 to partake in a dance performance prepared by Olivia Jane, an Art Student from UNLV who wanted to stand up for One Billion Rising in a special way. Olivia's group was named Not Just A Beaver. She asked all those participating in the dance to wear white sexy clothes and to perform a dance routine she had created on the music "Crash". She wanted women performers to be in sexy outfits to stand up against our cultural subconscious that certain aspects of a woman's appearance may somehow legitimize rape or violence.

The Clitoraid group and those invited by Olivia like Yasmina Chavez began the performance in the middle of the street and attracted much attention as they stood up against violence in their sexy public performance. Some men from Clitoraid, wore skirts to support the women's cause and held signs that said "An Outfit is Not an invitation for Rape!", echoing Eve Ensler's famous line in her Vagina Monologues play "my short skirt is not an invitation for rape".



## CHICAGO, IL, USA

Larry Abdullah represented Clitoraid at the One Billion Rising event in Chicago which took place at the Daley Center, downtown Chicago. This Center is a common rallying point for protests, group marches, and the like. Larry arrived there about 30 minutes before the crowd had assembled clad in his "Adopt a Clitoris" tee shirt and a red scarf. Walking among the growing crowds of people that had begun to assemble, he distributed a handout of the two latest press releases from the Clitoraid web site: On one side was the report of "Clitoraid's head surgeon to perform clitoral repair surgery ... in conjunction with One Billion Rising movement; and on the other side, "Clitoraid supports One Billion Rising ...".

The tee shirt and logo proved to be a popular combination. As he mingled through the crowd, many people asked to pose with him for a picture. Though some found the logo catchy and humorous, most were well aware of its well-intended reference and genuinely pleased to learn of the surgical procedure to repair the harmful effects of female genital mutilations. On this wintry day in Chicago, Larry danced through the afternoon with random groups of ladies obviously filled with excitement and joy to be there as a part of the One Billion Rising protest.



## TORONTO, CANADA

The six Clitoraid representatives led by Diane Brisebois happily joined the celebration; they learned to dance Groove and enjoyed listening to many great speakers present that evening, including Olivia Chow and Jack Layton's son from the New Social Democratic party who spoke out to end the violence against women. Mehrak Mehrvar an Iranian woman who is part of the group of organizers welcomed the Clitoraid delegation with wide open arms. She was very pleased with our support. Clitoraid flyers were handed out and everyone had a great time!

## MEXICO CITY, MEXICO

The Clitoraid group in the city of Mexico joined a crowd of 10,000 people present at One Billion Rising in the center of the largest city on Earth. They had brought Clitoraid posters to let the public know about our cause and began to join everyone in the dancing with much happiness. National News Station, Project 40, TV Azteca and Televisa asked the Clitoraid leader a few questions and did a close up of Clitoraid's poster. Clitoraid wishes to thank Carlos Damasco and Aida Fernandez for their participation.



## PUEBLA, MEXICO

In the city of Puebla, a young lady by the name of Cynthia accompanied by her father, Beny and a friend Alvaro made their way to the town square to join all the other organizations who supported One Billion Rising and dance with them. As soon as they arrived, the signs they carried caught the attention of 2 TV stations and invited Cynthia to speak about Clitoraid and why she supported it.



## CARTAGENA, COLOMBIA



The Colombian Clitoraid group, led by Ruby supported One Billion Rising by standing in a popular and touristic place near the beach with catchy signs which the group's graphic designer, TJ Lucifer created for the occasion. The local media was alerted to this event that was part of a larger international effort to end violence against women by Press Releases that were sent sent out. Colombia is one of the only countries in South America where FGM takes place. Indeed, the small Embera Tribe still cuts the genitals of the little girls in that community when the baby girls are born. During the afternoon of the event, people came by to read the signs and to chat about the Clitoraid cause. Two women tourists walked to the Clitoraid group and informed them that in Bangladesh, FGM was also performed. A gentleman, who was not aware of Clitoraid's purpose, asked jokingly: "Clitoraid? What sort

of drink are you promoting here?" - to which Clitoraid representative, Angel Xue immediately replied "the drink of pleasure!". Towards the end of the afternoon, a man from the University of Cartagena stopped by and invited the group to promote Clitoraid on campus where he would make a space available for them.

## LIMA, PERU

In Lima, the Clitoraid team was led by Raelian Bishop, Marco Sevilla. The event "Un billón de pie" in the Peruvian capital city was organized by Peruvian actor, Jason Day. The celebration took place at the new "Alameda de la Integración" where a big stage welcomed both political celebrities like Mrs. Susana Villara, the Mayor of Lima and popular Peruvian actors like "La Chola Chabuca" and Denisse Dibós, and many others.

With tshirts, posters, flyers and the biggest, most notorious banner of all the event, Clitoraid created awareness for its cause among the Peruvian people who reacted positively. The Clitoraid Peruvian team danced happily with all the people present. Bishop Sevilla reflected on this peaceful experience in this way: "If every man or woman thought first of dancing before reacting with violence to any situation, the world would know peace".

## PARIS, FRANCE

In the French capital, Clitoraid supporters met on the famous Beaubourg Town Square to dance and stand up against violence by handing out Clitoraid flyers and dancing with the One Billion Rising group organizing the event. Suddenly, Clitoraid representatives were summoned to leave by the organizers alluding to Clitoraid's association with the Raelian philosophy as if a crime had been committed. The Paris Clitoraid leader was at a loss for words in front of the hateful and aggressive demeanor of the head of the One Billion Rising event and the police that supported their stance. France has already been denounced by the European Community for its discriminatory policy with minority religions that often rubs off on its citizens. But who would expect such reaction at One Billion Rising, an event that precisely rises against hatred and violence! A police investigation is underway to bring to justice these citizens and police officers with illegal discriminating attitudes toward our peaceful, humanitarian cause.

## BORDEAUX, FRANCE

Hervé Bibens, a retired French fireman who has spent a good part of his recent retirement fundraising for Clitoraid and traveling to Africa to help in the construction of Clitoraid's Hospital, decided to stand up against the violence done to women by going to Victory Square and promote Clitoraid's cause. Noticing a storm coming, he launched a flash mob ahead of the officially scheduled One Billion Rising event which ended up being canceled because of the rain. The young Bordeaux citizens on the plaza readily partook in the dance with Hervé despite the absence of music! Many Clitoraid flyers were handed out by Herve and those who spontaneously joined him.

## BRUSSELS, BELGIUM

Naella Des Sables represented Clitoraid on the Money Town Square as she joined the One Billion Rising Crowd. Two woman's associations noticed her presence and approached her to see about working together since some of the women they cater to are FGM victims.

## ANTWERP, BELGIUM



The Clitoraid Dutch-Belgian team led by Monica Marcucci, head of Clitoraid in Belgium joined One Billion Rising in the Suikerrui district of Antwerp. The event was organized by An Thys who was touched to see representatives of Clitoraid there. She has linked Clitoraid's website to their facebook page.

“Although it was a freezing cold day, the outcome was really warm and positive. One contact worth noting is the one with a Portuguese girl, currently studying social courses, who wants to go to Africa after finishing her studies. She did not know exactly where. When she heard about the actions and goals of Clitoraid, she said she finally found her destination: Bobodialouso, Burkina Faso where Clitoraid's hospital is being built. She hopes to be able to volunteer there”. reported Karlien Kennis, volunteer.

## GENEVA, SWITZERLAND

Emilie Garault head of Clitoraid Switzerland, invited her group to come and support One Billion Rising in Geneva, an



event that spread through the city's public places, streets and the shopping centers. One of the organizers, Antonella Notari, head of the Foundation Womanity began to dance and was soon accompanied by women, joined by men, children and elderly people. The message spread like wildfire and the spirit of peace and sister/brotherhood reigned among the 200 people or more present. The Clitoraid supporters became acquainted with the participants, spontaneously exchanged contact info as if to say, this is it, we are at the start of an inevitable process of worldwide unity in peace and love. May we continue to rise while singing, dancing and laughing every day, every moment!

## CLITORAID ITALY AND THE BURKINA FASO FIRST LADY

A celebration was organized in Rome on February 3-5th, to commemorate the great EVENT that is the Universal MFG ban, by the member of the Italian Congress, Emma Bonino, vice President of the Senate and founder of “No peace without Justice” association. We had a great success there thanks to the initiative of the European Celebrity Team leader, Maria Antonietta (Skylet).

There were political personalities like the Italian Prime Minister, Ministers, the C.I.A.F. (African non governmental organisation, born in 1984 against traditional practices against women and children) which is present in 20 African Countries, 8 European, USA, Japan and New Zealand.

Thanks to the detailed and long work of letters, contacts and relationships, the wonderful team P.R., led by Maria Antonietta, succeeded to be invited at the Event!

Please note that the invite to this important round-table was reserved to only 30 persons, and we had the privilege to be in!

The guest of honor was the first lady of Burkina Faso and Maria Antonietta spoke with her, introducing herself as Clitoraid

leader in Italy. speaking about the Clitoraid hospital. The first lady told to Maria Antonietta that she already knew about it :-)!

Maria Antonietta added that its inauguration is going to be imminent and she invited her, telling also about the 40 women surgeries already done in USA.

Maria Antonietta spoke also with Emma Bonino, and now we have her contact for possible future new collaborations!

We are very happy for this good result :-)

Mari

## SAN FRANCISCO. CLITORAID AT THE INSTITUTE FOR THE ADVANCED STUDY OF HUMAN SEXUALITY



*It was a worthwhile marathon for Nadine Gary who went to San Francisco to present Clitoraid with Dr Bowers at the Institute for the Advanced Study of Human Sexuality.*

*Her trip was payed by the Institute.*

“Dr. Bowers and I spoke from the heart which is not very hard to do with Clitoraid! The audience was mesmerized by what our organization was setting out to do! Dr. Bowers was superb, funny, gentle, the surgical aspects with

certain graphic images were described with incredible femininity which took away the emotional charge attached to the images .

She had included pictures with her mentor, Dr. Foldes whom she referred to with deep respect, she had a few pictures of the patients. Personally, though I know the subject well, I found myself floating on this cloud of kindness that emanated from her words and energy. I could sense the audience wrapped in this warmth, everyone loved it !

She left before the end of the presentation to pick up her son and I finished with showing the hospital and I felt this true excitement from the students, they asked how they could help, one is interested in making a donation. They wanted to know, how as sexual therapists, they could assist the patients and mentioned a hands on “Body Logic” course that the certified students could volunteer to offer to our patients and their spouse.

During the event, my medallion (and Felix’s) did not go unnoticed and a Jewish student who is very interested in helping asked about it. Of course, my presentation included one slide explaining that Clitoraid originated from an idea of Maitreya Rael. (as the back of Clitoraid’s flyers point out as well)

Beautiful contacts were made and wonderful ideas were discussed. It was my first time officially presenting with Dr. Bowers and I sincerely hope to be able to do this again in different university settings perhaps. Dr. Bowers is of course available to give these presentations at any university or medical school.

## PLEASURE WAVES AT CLITORAID SPONSORED “GENDER FREE” ORGASM WORKSHOP

On Jan. 30, Clitoraid sponsored a gender-free orgasm workshop at the Erotic Heritage Museum in Las Vegas where the 25 male and female participants embarked in an evening of pleasurable and harmonizing experiences, even spiritual ones for some.

Barbara Carrellas, author of the book *Urban Tantra* had come from NYC and volunteered to teach a tantra workshop to benefit Clitoraid's FGM patients. The workshop is meant for every human being but in the case of women who have suffered clitoral excision, this “full body orgasm” class may allow them to broaden their sexual energy beyond their genital area. The group gathered in the museum's Erotic Chapel where 2 large beds covered with a plush, red, velvety bedspread welcomed a few of the participants. Others found a seat on the cushions displayed in a circle on the wooden floor. Phallic, Roman-like columns were propped up here and there against the ivory-colored walls. In this warm, sensual atmosphere, single women and men as well as couples were ready to experience the pleasures of “gender free orgasm”.

Barbara jokingly asked us to leave our gender at the door and to be sure to pick up the right one on our way out; the workshop was not going to be about stimulating our genitals or at least not physically. She also asked us to completely let go of any expectations. Whatever we were to feel that evening was just the right thing for us. She added that there was no “wrong way” to do the exercises and encouraged us to definitely try this at home!

She dedicated the first hour to giving us the tools for our personal pleasure journey ahead. She began to speak about the importance of breathing for tonight's exercise in order to increase energy in our body and to circulate it more consciously inside us. “Body follows thought” she said. So whatever sensation you imagine, your body will reproduce it, like a tingling in your right little finger or increasing the warmth in a body part. She said that what we were about to experience would be enhanced by our imagination. Some people are more visual, she pointed out and would be more inclined to imagining a color, others more olfactive and would be turned on by imagining a scent. Florence, Clitoraid representative in San Francisco reported a sensation of liquid sugar invading her body as she experienced the first hints of orgasmic feeling during the breath work.

Barbara also made us feel at ease about the moaning sounds, the laughter, the crying we may vocalize as the pleasure builds up in our bodies. These are sound “gasms” she giggled or “pleasurable reactions” that we were to let our body express naturally, without shame. She even encouraged making sounds of different pitch to increase pleasure.

When asked about people who may have emotional or mental blocks like Clitoraid's patients who will experience this workshop one day, Barbara reassured everyone that emotional blockage is not a problem in this exercise; that energy, like water will find ways to meander through. She had just lived through Hurricane Sandy in NYC and told us that she saw water appear in places she did not think possible; pleasurable energy in the body will also seep through one way or the other with practice.

When the second hour of the workshop arrived, all 25 passengers were ready to travel these pleasurable paths offered to them. Mats and blankets replaced the cushions on the floor, lights were dimmed and everybody found a comfortable place to lie down and began breathing as instructed by Barbara. The next hour would transform everyone in the room even the energy in the room itself! Lara, Raelian Guide from Los Angeles said that it was as if her cells were showered with harmony. Ouhi, a female participant from Japan reported the following: “I felt peace and love for myself, my tears didn't stop, so much gratitude and self-appreciation for what I was feeling. My body became sensitive and I felt the air touching me.” Charly, a musician by trade, expressed feeling “very delightful” sensing “good vibes.”

As the intensity began to come down, a deep sense of peace invaded everyone, the music that had transported us during this journey, gently faded, leaving us to calmly cradle in the silence of our peaceful beings while feeling totally connected with all those around us. We were ONE.

Shelley, a PhD student in sexuality, volunteering at the museum was delighted by the workshop and highly recommends it to others - an opinion echoed by the other attendees.



# MORE IN PICTURES



*Clitoraid fundraising in Ottawa*



*Clitoraid fundraising in Montreal*



*Clitoraid fundraising in Las Vegas*



*Meditation for peace in Angers, France*



The Korean team had their national gathering in January. Meditation and laughter... and the pleasure to be together!

