

"Education & Citizenship" conference in Senegal

Representing Senegal's Ministry of Education, Mr. Babacar Tall confirmed to the large gathering on 14th April 2007 at the Hotel Méridien, Dakar, that this conference met the guidelines set out in Senegal's 1991 education law, which seeks to promote citizenship through education and respect for the rights and responsibilities of its citizens.



One of the goals of the conference, organised by Sukyo Mahikari, was to share the experiences of Sukyo Mahikari youth and the progress they have made in this field, which also goes some way towards addressing the challenges of development. This was highlighted by the president of the Sukyo Mahikari Senegal association, Mr. Djibril Diagne, in his welcome to the assembly, which included several ministers, ambassadors, and directors of NGOs, schools and universities.

Mr. Ody-Marc Duclos, vice-president of the Association Internationale Africaine de Sukyo Mahikari, explained that despite all the efforts made by the state to teach young people to read and write, and to train them through higher education, there is an increase in violent behaviour and social problems and a lack of morality among the young. At the same time, their respect for nature and the value of life is diminishing. Changing this means promoting good citizenship, a sense of responsibility and the values of constructive dialogue. The most effective means for this is to foster spiritual values and religious feelings among young people, while bearing in mind that all the religions, all countries and all who live on this earth are like so many branches of one single tree. As Mr. Kotama Okada, the founder of Sukyo Mahikari himself recommended, it is the responsibility of parents and educators to see that young people receive the spiritual vitality that will enable them naturally to respect God's laws and the laws of nature, and to play their part in fulfilling the will of God.



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