



## **Apeejay Surrendra Group to conduct Humanism Trainings in Apeejay Schools.**

**July 6, Kolkata:** Apeejay Education Trust under the aegis of Apeejay Surrendra Group will conduct Humanism Training Program at its Schools. The Youth Training Program will be conducted by The Tehelka Foundation covering 16 year old children from Apeejay Schools and Apeejay Anand Library, between July and August 2010

The Trainings called ***Being Human*** created as a Workshop series by Tehelka Foundation will focus on re-discovery of, and, expression of core Human Values in the Youth. The workshops will track responses of the Youth to conflict, discrimination, violent situations and train them in being human while tackling hatred and greed prevalent in Modern day life. Experts and Resource persons from The Tehelka Foundation shall stay and spend some serious time with the young people and assist them discover their true essence of being Human. The first phase of workshops will commence July 6 and the second phase will be held in August with an outbound training program to Shanti Niketan.

**Apeejay Surrendra Group Spokesperson said,** "Our Century in business is founded in Family Values, Ethics, and a philosophy of listening to the other person's point of view. Various new initiatives within communities connected to us through our businesses or otherwise are underway in the Centenary Year. ***Being Human*** Workshop series is being facilitated for the community of our Youth. The intent is to make our children pause, reflect upon their essential Being and construct a new paradigm of success by which they can co-exist peacefully with all fellow humans. We hope that this training will reinforce traditional values as the foundation of their character and equip them for life as adults."

**Mrs Reeta Chatterjee, Apeejay School Principal, said,** "The world today is a confusing place for our young ones. All around them they see greed, conflict and violence, driven by insecure humans who want to grasp and hoard whatever they have. The operating energy seems to be one of fear and anxiety. Of living for individual gain and not the collective good. However, to be truly Human is to be blessed with intelligence, awareness and the ability to make our choices, to exercise "our free will". We are powerful beings, and can choose to make our own Reality as expansive and inclusive as we wish. It is imperative we teach our children about how to expand our Vision, receive our Light and become once more the Beings of love that were sent to inhabit the Earth."

**Puneeta Roy, Executive director of Tehelka Foundation** is the Trainer from the Foundation. She said, " ***Being Human*** is a National Project launched at the Jaipur Literature Festival, January 2010. The Program at Apeejay School is our very first direct intervention in a private school . Apeejay representatives recently contacted us to design the Being Human workshop series for their community of Youth. There will be a mix of activities ranging from intense group work using the medium of theatre, improvisations and role-plays on different situations in the human experience, to individual meditations prompting deep self-reflection. I hope the workshops will lead to some real benefit".

## Notes to Editors



***“We die when we lose our physical life; we perish when we miss our humanity. And humanity is the dharma of human beings.” – Rabindranath Tagore***

In Tagore’s world of creation and ideation we notice a convergence of several such interconnected themes of the human being, human potential and human life culminating to a unique relationship between individual human personality and the universal and collective spirit. This is what we are grievously missing today in our upcoming generation fatally knotted to the world of cutthroat competition and petty material success. And every error that they commit while relating to the nation, family, society or even to his individual self he inconsiderately blames his human self and calls it a ‘Human error’.

*Are you personally taking care of your parents? What is your contribution to stop noise pollution? How do you plan to celebrate the Independence Day?* When such questions are asked to a ‘successful’ young man doing extremely good in his economic gymnastics fails to give a satisfactory answer. Even his individual self is half happier at the job front that generates the ‘successes’ that he flaunts.

Why is it so?

This sincere and essential question has prompted us to adopt a magnificent project of equal relevance for our growing Apeejay School students. The well designed training programme shall address the issue of being Human. Hu, that stands for Light and Man that signifies the person, is a forgotten definition that needs to be re-established among our younger counterparts. They need to know the

1. Qualities and core values that define a Human
2. Response of a Human in situations of conflict, discrimination and violence
3. Solution to the greed and hatred so prevalent in the World today

Through interesting expressive mediums like writing, painting, music, dance, drama and debate they shall be ushered into the arena of self discovery and shall themselves hunt for the answers of their questions. Who am I shall no more be a neglected enquiry.

The intent is to make young people pause, reflect upon their essential Being and construct a new paradigm of success by which they can co-exist peacefully with all fellow humans. It is time now to begin a “rebirth” with our young, and help define the new Renaissance Human!

### About Apeejay Schools

Apeejay Schools were established in Kolkata in 1975 under Apeejay Education Trust dedicated to the quest for excellence. For more information please visit [www.apeejayschool.in](http://www.apeejayschool.in)

### **About Apeejay Surrendra Group**

Established in 1910 with its foundation in Steel, the over Rs 6000 crore Apeejay Surrendra Group employs close to 43000 people in rapidly expanding operations in Tea, Hospitality, Shipping, Retail & Real Estate, Financial Services and has diversified into new business initiatives like Shipyards, Logistics and Knowledge Parks. The Group completes a 100 years in business in 2010. For more Information, please visit [www.apeejaygroup.com](http://www.apeejaygroup.com)

### **About Tehelka Foundation**

The Foundation is a not-for-profit NGO committed to youth empowerment for the past 5 years. The Foundation's focus is on building bridges between marginalized / disadvantaged youth and those from mainstream / privileged strata of society. Tehelka Foundation's primary connect with youth is at the senior school level, at both government and private schools and it works on Youth Empowerment through community engagement and citizenship activities. For more information please visit [www.thetehelkafoundation.org](http://www.thetehelkafoundation.org)