

Day 4 Feb. 19

Building a better Asia future
leaders retreat 2008



Mime, Rhyme and Rhythm

For some of us who are a little too adventurous, day five of the BABA Retreat started at midnight at the beach of Baga drinking Feni, the local drink. And for all of us the day ended at the San Antonea cruise on the Mandovi River, dancing to the tune of a variety of music.

In between we had, as every other day, enriching sessions of lectures and activities. It began with an inspiring and informative lecture by Dr. Tay Kheng Soon of Akitek Tenggara, Singapore. Dr. Soon discussed the problems of today's industrial world and suggested how and why we, as social activists need to refocus on the countryside rather than the urban areas.

This session was followed by a breakout session where groups from different regions compiled items related to the

common good from their country. It was a wonderful exercise which helped us understand each other better and learn about innovative local initiatives in different parts of Asia.

Post-lunch, the participants were asked to "represent" persons and scenes from their trips the previous day. Groups impressed the F4 with their vibrant and creative skits. These sessions helped us identify several common 'goods' and 'bads' we see around us.

Another group activity followed wherein we were asked to compose short poems on a person, thing or scene that we came across the day before. Once again we surprised each other with our poetic prowess. Next came the more challenging part of the activity which required us to

go back to our groups and merge each individual poem into a sort of "post-modern" agglomeration of metaphorical allusion. This is the cliffhanger friends! Expect an explosion of poetic synergy!



Alwin Chavez Aguirre (Philippine)
Payoshini Mitra (India)
Tomoko Momiyama (Japan)

Time Schedule

0900

Interactive Session VI
by Tay Kheng soon

1030

Break

1100

Breakout Sessions;
-Act three scenes from field trip on 18th

1230

Lunch

1430-1830

"Dula-Tula" creating Collective Poetry
through Individual Voices

1930

River Cruise on the Mandovi
/Dinner



Dr. Soon urges us to reconceptualize space



BABA participants display astonishing theatrical skills



Participants share what is the common good



Bold(ly) growing a white moustache



Configuring the common good



the Oscar goes to Mother (Kyi Kyi)resa



Yuli shares to the group a Yogyakarta common good project



Reliving an enriching field experience



BABA redefines the poetic



Xiang Xiang shows off native fabric common to many Southeast Asian cultures.jpg