

## 2010 Sydney Peace Prize to Dr. Vandana Shiva, Indian Scientist and Environmental Campaigner

The distinguished Indian physicist and environmentalist Dr. Vandana Shiva will be the recipient of the 2010 Sydney Peace Prize. The citation for Dr. Shiva's selection reads, "For courageous leadership of movements for social justice – the empowerment of women in developing countries, advocacy of the human rights of small farming communities and for her scientific analysis of environmental sustainability."

In making the announcement, Chair of the Sydney Peace Foundation, Mary Kostakidis says, Vandana Shiva's work highlights the fundamental connection between human rights and the protection of the environment. Governments worldwide seek her counsel on sustainable development. She offers solutions to some of the most critical problems posed by the effects of globalisation and climate change on the poorest and most populous nations. Her voice is an essential one as we consider pressing decisions facing the global community.

Speaking from Delhi, Dr. Shiva comments, 'I'm honoured to receive this prestigious award and to follow in the footsteps of so many significant world citizens.

The protection of biodiversity, support for women in agriculture and for all subsistence farmers are human rights issues which I'll address in Sydney.'

Director of the Sydney Peace Foundation, Professor Stuart Rees comments, 'This is an exciting choice. Many communities are threatened by the consequences of global warming yet in Australia the movement to address this issue has gone to sleep. Dr. Shiva's presence in Sydney in November should wake them up. Her last book, *Soil Not Oil* identifies the ecologically sound and socially just ways to protect a fragile planet. We should not need the pollution from a massive oil slick in the Gulf of Mexico to remind us of Vandana's leadership and wisdom.

Dr. Shiva will give the City of Sydney Peace Prize Lecture in the Concert Hall of the Sydney Opera House on November 3<sup>rd</sup>. She will receive the 2010 Sydney Peace Prize

on the evening of November 4<sup>th</sup> and will be the guest of 1,500 high school children in a traditional peace festival welcome held at Cabramatta High School on November 5<sup>th</sup>.

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