

**Garden Of Peace in the Middle East©**  
**Action Research, Stage I: ARTiculating Human Dignity with Palestinian Children**

Abstract for the 2011 Workshop on Humiliation and Violent Conflict, Columbia University,  
New York, December 8-9, 2011

I. **Garden Of Peace©** is a combined science, art and communication ecology to the study and development of Human Dignity in areas of social change and conflict transformation.

**Goals of Garden Of Peace**

- To advance Human Dignity and Dialogic Consciousness in the cause of peace in the Middle East.
- To bring people together across religious, cultural, ethnic, and political divides on the common ground of Human Dignity and fulfillment of the best in every human being.
- To break down barriers of fear of change, ignorance, and hate towards "the other".
- To recognize innovation and support those who are courageous and committed enough to work to overcome the religious, cultural, ethnic and political issues which divide the region.
- To inspire others in the Middle East and around the world in developing innovative leadership based on principles of mutual responsibility, creativity and dignity for the greater benefit of human advancement.
- To motivate innovative collaboration toward peace and social development in the Middle East.
- To become a role model for conflict transformation in action.

**ARTiculation Modality© in Garden Of Peace**

- ARTiculation is a human developmental knowledge behavior that is structurally connected to neuroplasticity, and evolutionary connected to social and cultural epigenetics.
- ARTiculation is a scientifically proven modality for the processing of change, trauma, survival, and new leadership skills building.
- ARTiculation is an integrative approach to knowledge combining science, art, and communication.
- ARTiculation is an ecological approach to transformational learning experiences.
- ARTiculation is rooted in the principles of dialogic ontology, realism, relations and relationships.

II. **Report on research, design and groundwork in Palestine, Summer 2011, in collaboration with Mohammed Eid Mousa Abuayash.**

- Identifying and defining needs, approach, form, structure.
- "Don't say 'peace'"... Politics or Education... Obstacles and strategic decisions.
- What's at stake for the Palestinian children... Risks and benefits in ARTiculating Human Dignity.
- Challenges ahead... Search for support and collaboration.