„POLYGON“

– A Project for a New Philosophy of Life –

June 2004

Juri Buchantschenko
Preamble

A thousand years of religious wars is our history. Every one of our achievements, the peaks and crisis of the human cosmos, are results of that clash of religions.

In order to give ourselves the chance to lead a creative religious discourse, we need the courage to make ourselves realize that the faith of every single one of us has the same roots and that all men are equal. We need a new institution in the context of which representatives of all religions create a new world view without waging religious wars. The old paradigms no longer meet our opportunities and thus have to be substituted.

The visions that emerge are supposed to enable us to keep to the spirit of competition without leading mankind to the brink of self-destruction. This is an up-to-date challenge for all spiritual leaders of our civilization.
World Heritage

Polygon—the nuclear testing ground where the Soviets carried out their first nuclear tests is located in the East of Kazakhstan.

Its infrastructure was built up between 1947 and 1949. The Polygon-site covers an area of about 18,500 square kilometres. "Opytnoe Pole" ("Testing Ground"), a part of the Polygon-site that covers some 300 square kilometres, was the scene of 116 nuclear explosions (surface explosions).

At 7 a.m. local time on August 29th in 1949 the Soviets carried out the test of their first nuclear weapon there. On November 22nd in 1955 the largest amount of energy was released with the explosion of a nuclear weapon that had the explosive force of 1.6 mega-tons of TNT. The surface testing at Opytnoe Pole stopped with the last nuclear blasting on December 24th in 1962.

Opytnoe Pole stands for a man-made object that—in its function—was and will always be unique. The place conveys mankind’s attempt to generate, utilize and master energy on a so far unknown scale.

Nature and historical events have left their mark on these monuments. Nevertheless, the towers, craters, drops of slag, and military shelters have been preserved. They are definitely worth being inscribed on the World Heritage List of UNESCO. This type of infrastructure will never be built again. It represents a revolutionary step within the history of human progress.

Polygon is the world heritage, the holy ground of our civilization. It is a frontier to a new view of the world. The gods have entrusted man with the power to control nuclear energy. This energy and its utilization are the basis for a new view of the world. Mankind does not need the gods anymore.
The view of the world is a faith. Faith emerges as a result of an inner dialogue that is part of every human being. A prayer is a kind of inner dialogue. The prophets have socialized that dialogue. Thus, it became the beginning of all religions. The religions differ only in the experience of that socialized dialogue. That experience, again, depends on nature (climate, race or natural phenomena [earthquakes, meteorites, comets]).

Mankind does not need religion anymore. What mankind needs now is to have faith in itself. This new philosophy can only be born without the renunciation of responsibility and action and without an indifferent and unlimited tolerance that is misanthropic.

Decadence and inbreeding of the world religions is not a matter for mankind. The ideology of permanent war in the name of the prophet who was the last to appear—and who is hence the only true and right prophet—is the way to self-destruction in the misery of primitive arrogance and fanaticism.

It is our responsibility is to create a world full of new opportunities and positive energy—a new philosophy. The holy grounds of this new view of the world already exist. They have been inscribed on the World Heritage List of UNESCO (as a sort of monument of religious history).

Polygon—a frontier to a new world where mankind has to fend for itself and consciously creates its own faith. For that it takes responsibility in the form of every single person.

The challenge is present. There is no other possibility than to continue the fascinating passions of the history of mankind, beyond the self-destruction of human energy. Human energy needs a new ideology, a new view of the world.

The last nuclear blasting (it was subterranean) was carried out on October 19th in 1989.
Conditions at Present

Presently, the whole testing ground including “Opytnoe Pole” is being administered by the “National Nuclear Center of the Republic of Kazakhstan”. This centre is subordinated to the Ministry of Energy and Mineral Resources of the Republic of Kazakhstan. Both institutions are contacts in the case of “World Heritage Polygon”.

In November 2003, within the context of the shooting for a documentary on the testing ground for the ARTE channel, exploratory discussions with a few members of the Nuclear Center were held concerning the “World Heritage”. In those discussions I got a positive response. I was assured of support and cooperation of the institution.

A number of objects belonging to the infrastructure of Opytnoe Pole I consider pieces of art suitable for a touring exhibition („Defined Resistance”). These objects are a number of concrete constructions the purpose of which was to put up defined resistance and to measure the effective power of the shock wave which resulted from this resistance.

The Nuclear Centre does not have the necessary financial resources at its disposal to preserve Polygon as a historic site. At present, only those parts of the testing ground that are in operation are being financed sufficiently.

Beside the danger of destruction or decay of the historic object caused by insufficient monitoring, the threat of radioactive contamination through inadequate use of the testing ground and thus of damage to the people living in the vicinity (and not only in the vicinity) of the area is impending.

UNESCO is the authority that is responsible for World Heritage. This particular case obliges us to act fast and effectively in order to establish the project “World Heritage Polygon”.

June 2004

Juri Buchantschenko
Photographic Material on the Project

„Polygon“
Man and Art

Art is the first and highest step in human creation, human view of the world. Art is the main theme of cultures, their presentation in concentrated form lacking an alternative.

The terms “creation”, “vocation”, and “destiny” reflect an immense faith as well as the artist’s inspiration. They are the basis and the source of energy of every civilization.

The objects I chose for „Defined Resistance“ were not built as art objects consciously which makes them real art and gives the whole matter even more meaning.

When it comes to creation, vocation, and destiny here in our time, they are experienced and emotionally manifested.

From the rational point of view, they are just a whim of nature, which makes the private experience even more intensive.

After all, we communicate with heaven without a go-between. Thus, we do not owe anybody anything for that, we are absolutely free and proudly take full responsibility.

There is no point in the question of legitimacy, for who confirms the legitimacy of heaven? Only the legitimacy of its settlement has been questioned again and again.

The laws of art were created sometime. They have been developed further and are substituted by new laws. The latter is art, everything else just imitation.
Exhibits for the Touring Exhibition
„Defined Resistance“
The Initial Step

The first practical step towards the realization of the project is the constitution of a group of experts who will visit the object in order to elaborate a plan for the execution of the project. The organization of a touring exhibition of some infrastructure objects (“Defined Resistance”) is part of this as well as the development of the area for visitors.

The group of experts should be represented by:
- The initiator of the project
- His /her assistant
- Artists
- Jurists (International Law)
- Radiation protection experts
- Structural engineers /engineering geologists
- Business experts
- Economic geographers
- Ecologists.

This group of experts will visit the testing ground itself as well as all the decision-making institutions connected with the project in the course of a two or three weeks journey.
Projekt „Polygon“ Conception

Preamble

The nuclear weapon test site in Kazakhstan, better known as Semipalatinsk, appears as to be an abstract location, being anchored in the human consciousness as an important test site for military atomic research. In contrast to the Nevada test site, cleaned up in large parts, the steppe of Kazakhstan contains lots of witnesses of the atomic history of humanity. This area has to be conserved as unique example of human spirit of development and scientific mind. The project "Polygon" aims at preserving the core area of the test site as a monument for future generations.

Ideal and material value conditions

The substantial aim of the project is to create and maintain an infrastructure, allowing the continued existence of “Opytnoe Pole” terrain under custody of UNESCO (creating a sustainable safety zone around the terrain), and as well reclamation of the object “water reservoir”, which includes the “atomic lake”, further construction of a ring fence. The culturally and socially aspect is a challenge with positive perspectives for the competent part of society. Such is aiming at the evolvement of a new philosophy of life (a congruent approach to life) and, based on this, the initiation of a new world order devoid of nuclear weapons.

Phase 1 – project development

Germany: Compilation of an applicable, artistic-architectural project documentation, including: ring fence construction, site reclamation, and visualization of the “nuclear altar” on-site; development and implementation of a touring exhibition in Germany and Europe, respectively; “Opytnoe Pole” radioactive field visualization, real-time embedded in the exhibition “defined resistance” in Germany and Europe, respectively.

Kazakhstan, field work: object selection and preparation for the touring exhibition “defined resistance”; installation of measurement and transfer sensors for the real-time visualization system of the fluctuating “Opytnoe Pole” radioactive field.

Phase 2 – implementation

Germany and Europe, respectively: installation and implementation of the touring exhibition “defined resistance”; hence, the proposal of a congruent philosophy of life may be submitted to the general public in the European society, while conserving the “Opytnoe Pole” site as a tangible-emotional component (“nuclear altar”). Touring exhibition objects (“definded resistance”) restoration to Kazakhstan at the end of the project.

Kazakhstan, field work: realisation of the “nuclear altar” monument based on the tangible and physical structure of the “Opytnoe Pole” site; reclamation of the surroundings, ring fence construction and reclamation of the object “water reservoir atomic lake” based on the artistic-architectural concepts. Monument commissioning – aspired for UNESCO patronage.
Touring Exhibiton „Defined Resistance"
On the Red Place, Moscow

On the Salzgrafenplatz, Halle (Saale) Germany

View (photo composition)
Exposition and project „POLYGON“

Invitation to discussion

This is just one point of view and expression of the ambition for answers. Evolution doesn’t end and our human world is no exception. This is a vision, which is free of emotions and rationally seen as an intentional action, where the concepts of belief and art coalesce. Content and results of this vision can be predicted only to a limited extent and of course can’t get ruled by one person or one group.

This is an invitation to an absolute discussion, which therefore can only be candid and only this conclusions have the chance to become accepted. Belief doesn’t know any compromises. The items „tolerance“, „respect“ and „mercy“ don’t belong to its vocabulary, they belong to fantasy and myth. This is about reality and responsibility. About responsibility, which could be duty and biggest credit of human as a social being.

This means, emotionally complete and intentional adaptation of the phenomena of human existence are outlines of the project. The boundless belief is impregnable cause.

Juni 2004
Juri Buchantschenko
Monument „Nuclear Altar“

Conception

I) Ideas

„Nuclear Altar“* – as a materialistic-emotional component of a new worldview – plays a special part in the realization of the project. The function of the monument as a Nuclear Altar shall be used to practice the existing conjunction of nuclear energy and the energy of life. The emotional experience of a visit to a Nuclear Altar (of an area with increased fluctuating radioactivity which the visitor perceives as a fresh wind)** leaves no doubt that there is no option for nuclear weapons in the post-multi-ideological world. The existing infrastructure of the “Opytnoe Pole” area – it is in itself a perfect monument of the release of nuclear energy – is in its epicentre completed with a cube consisting of curved mirrors made of stainless steel (each about five metres long) that are orientated to the four points of the compass.

The curved mirror glass reveals new dimensions of the presently mirrored world – the new post-nuclear, post-multi-ideological world. A new world in which the secret of the fine structure of the universe is similar to the secret of the energy of life. A world in which the human soul is boundless as the fine structure of the universe and as immortal and inconceivable as the limits of the universe.

II) Material

Infrastructure of the “Opytnoe Pole” area

A cube of mirrors made of stainless steel the sides of which are five metres long

*The Altar (Latin: alta ara – the high sacrificial place) has the function of a mediator between heaven and earth, between god and man. In most religions, sacrificial offerings are made on the altar.

**Sacrificial offerings in most ancient rites and customs are meant to connect people or congregations to their saints, sacred objects, or gods. This is realized by offerings of real or symbolic value for the people giving them. The character of the sacrifice is that of a voluntary and redeeming offering.
Monument „Nuclear Altar“
Drafts

Supplemental material for Project Polygon
Section 1

Within the context of civilization, life is a challenge for each member of society, and not everyone is able to take up that challenge, nor to define it. Only few people do so and, in exceptional cases, they reach conclusions they make manifest in a vision. This is the basic rule of the development of the human world. In our time, rationality has got into a—seemingly unsolvable— conflict with the ideological-religious basis of civilization. Regarding the energy and opportunities available, it is necessary to react to the challenge of our days. Today, this is more important than ever.

Section 2

The development of the world does not leave any space for people to discuss, analyze, and define gods and their authority according to convention. There is no longer a point in discussing the question of the authority of the gods. This discussion will only lead to negative preconditions, since the gods in their conventional meaning do not exist anymore. They are no longer authorities for us concerning the development and administration of our world. There is no credible voice speaking from above anymore.
It is up to us to assume responsibility to deliberately and consciously develop our human world, for the modern technology of information production and administration provides us with opportunities we have never had before. This subject is absolutely serious and thrilling. The currently existing global network of stability based on nuclear energy is like something that is at the mercy of the gods. One move of human energy—starting out from suffering—might lead to an apocalypse of the whole human world in favour of other “chosen ones”.

Section 3

The nuclear altar of the new world view in Kazakhstan and the power aspect of the global stability network based on nuclear energy are the components of the new world to come. Those two constitute the characteristics of faith. The emotional experience of a visit to a nuclear altar (an area with increased fluctuating radioactivity) reveals to every human being a combination of nuclear energy and the energy of life in a way that has never been experienced before. This combination is objectively determined by physics. Furthermore, our lack of knowledge on the fine structure of matter leaves space for the secrets of our universe—its idolization in a new, up-to-date way. This secret of the universe is proof and guarantor of the claim of all of us at all
Section 4

Religion / philosophy / faith is an absolutely inextinguishable part of our world—it is its basis. Even the starry sky above us is a figment of our faith, a dynamic imagination.

How could a small sect of the Mediterranean 2,000 years ago convince the majority of the world’s population that life is all suffering and sacrifice and that death is the redemption we hope for? There is no point in analyzing this question—mankind is determined to go on.

This ideology does not fit our technologies and our knowledge anymore. It is no longer of advantage for us. The human soul is boundless and immortal as is the fine structure of the universe, and it is as inconceivable as the limits of the universe. The man-made area of increased fluctuating radioactivity, the manifestation of its characteristics, and the combination of nuclear energy and the energy of life are proof of our maturity. We are ready for a divine world, a world for all and everyone.

Section 5

The space of our multi-ideological world is crowded. GULAG, Auschwitz, September 11, Beslan, Abu Greib, and Guantanamo occupied the last places available. The post-multi-ideological world has started: personal data of all kind (finger prints, eye scans, etc) are recorded and stored in databases. The liberal western world is the last infantile and partly revolting grimace of the multi-ideological world. It is not to be defined any longer. Stuffed and preserved bodies of humans, the presentation and celebration of sexuality in public do not change society for the better. To die for one's convictions and beliefs has become devaluated (not only because of the number of such incidents, but also because of their being broadcasted).

The current intelligent world population is the lucky crew of change. To jointly expand under a new ideology into newly opened up dimensions of the human world—a new post-multi-ideological world—is our intoxicating perspective.
Auserwähltes Volk The Chosen People

Within the course of the millennium, the conception of the Chosen People has caused a lot of misunderstanding, most often to the detriment of those having declared themselves to be the Chosen Ones. Cats are the true Chosen People. Their not being able to make themselves understood by human beings causes distress and sacrifice.

Communication is yet to emerge. Some 230 million years ago, mankind used to be some sort of “funny rats” and thus even less communicative. But the time will come and that dream of all creatures on earth moving into the depth of the universe will become true.

Cats – as is to be expected of a Cosen People – do not need morals, laws, courts of justice and other means of self-restriction. That does not cause any disadvantage for them. Neither do they wage global war or any other kind of highly-organised encounters on other creatures. They do not need to prove their status as a Chosen People by putting up concentration camps and gas or torture chambers.

In private life, cats get unconditioned (as is real emotion) love and caress in excess and, of course, the most delicious morsels.

It remains unknown whether cats have been told to be a Chosen People. What would that be for? If someone is chosen then he is chosen.

What about human beings? How does the idea of being chosen emerge in human beings? What characteristics do they use? Within the course of history, some have heard the thunderous voice from above, others have determined their being chosen themselves, e.g. by their tone of skin, the shape of their skulls, self-control through the only real faith or their attitude towards consumer society.

From a factual point of view, each of those phenomena leading to the conception of being a Chosen People must face severe doubt. The thunderous voice from above Who is hearing it these days? Self-control through the only real faith This argument has proved to bethe
preliminary stage of the cruelest sacrificial offerings of all times. What kind of authority would want that? Only abnormal diligence to prove to be even more chosen than others could lead to this. Tone of skin, shape of skull ... these simple arguments are being prepared for practical use in feasibility studies in top secret biological laboratories.

Do we really want this?

Our attitude towards consumer society makes our planet become a sewage dump. Create programmes for the prevention / for against obesity? Is it worth to insist?

Let us make a compromise in this question that has been controversial for thousands of years: There is no such thing as a Chosen People. But if there is, then it is the cats. Mankind, all peoples, are good and are important. Our ancient gods are good and will support and care for us.