

# Spirituality Workshop

## Interreligious lectures series

UPF Espacio Ronda, Madrid, Spain, May 2016

Twice a month from 7:30 to 9:00 PM on each Tuesday

These talks are part of a larger lecture series under the theme of exemplary lives in different spiritual sources. Twice a month we invite a speaker to share about a leading figure in their own tradition that personally inspires them. During the last two years we had over 50 lectures, many of which you can see on YouTube in Spanish in [Espacio Ronda's youtube channel](#).

We present here a few of them from this year.



long days they arrived in a safe place called Sian, and when the kids were finally safe, she allows herself then to rest, quite sick, with pneumonia and even hallucinations. She came back to United Kingdom in 1948 as a legend. Her fame increased with the movie "The Inn in the Sixth Happiness" interpreted by Ingrid Bergman.



Rumi:

The bright sun of Sufism

On January 19th, 2016, we had a talk about Yalal ad-Din Muhammad Rumi (1207-1273), given by Sirius Shahnavaz, Sufi Master of the Persian order of Europe. Rumi wrote a large amount of poetic compositions (more than 40,000 verses) that were compiled in six books under the title "Mathnawi" ("The mystical quest"). The great literary quality and profound spirituality of "The Mathnawi" earned the respect of many people around the world. The influence of Rumi in the Sufism was huge, and since his death was venerated like a saint.

**"The heart of the man is a musical instrument; it contains a magnificent music. It sleeps, but is there, waiting for the right moment to be interpreted, expressed, sung, danced. And is because of love that the moment arrives."** Yalal ad-Din Muhammad Rumi.

Gladys Aylward: the small woman that impacted a nation

On February 2nd, 2016, Sergio Rosell Nebreda, professor of the Evangelic Seminar of theology from Madrid talked about Gladys Aylward (1902-1970).

Gladys Aylward, born in Edmonton (North London), inspired to become a missionary when she was a teenager caused an article about China. In 1930 she starts the difficult journey to China with almost no money, with many hardships. She worked with Jeannie Lawson (An elder missionary) where she taught the evangelium and gave shelter to the homeless. Gladys ended up learning Chinese and earning the affection of the people, later she started to embrace the orphans and adopt them. In 1938 the Japanese army invaded China, and many children were in danger, then Gladys decided to take care and guide a hundred kids, by walking through the mountains on constant danger. After 27

Mother Teresa of Calcutta

Talk given by José María Calderón Castro, (Diocesan Missions Delegate since 1995 chaplain of the Missionaries of Charity founded by Mother Teresa of Calcutta) on the 1st of March 2016

Mother Teresa of Calcutta (Agnes Gonxha Bojaxhiu; Born in Skopje, modern Macedonia, 1910-1997) joined the Sisters of Loreto at Loreto Abbey in Rathfarnham in Ireland. She became in 1944 headmistress of the Loreto convent school in Entally, eastern Calcutta,

where the presence of poverty in the streets make her ask for giving up the position and since 1948 start taking care of the sick people. Mother Teresa soon opened a home for those suffering and called the hospice Shanti Nagar (City of Peace).

As the Missionaries of Charity took in increasing numbers of lost children, Mother Teresa felt the need to create a home for them. In 1955 she opened the Nirmala Shishu Bhavan, the Children's Home of the Immaculate Heart, as a haven for orphans and homeless youth.

**It's members apart of the** three basic vows of poverty, chastity and obedience to be accepted, they should take a fourth vow to promise to serve the poors, who Teresa describes as incarnations of Christ.

Teresa of Calcutta died on the 5th of september of 1997, letting Nirmala sister as successor of the Missionaries.

"By blood, I am Albanian. By citizenship, an Indian. By faith, I am a Catholic nun. As to my calling, I belong to the world. As to my heart, I belong entirely to the Heart of Jesus." Mother Teresa of Calcutta



### Mornha Simeone and healing through **Ho'oponopono**

On 3rd of May, 2016 María José Cabanillas (Author of the spanish book "**Ho'oponopono, conéctate con los milagros**" and a Psychologist) talked about Mornha Nalamaku Simeone

(1913-1992) who created the auto-identity through Ho'oponopono, that means "amend" or "fix a mistake", an antique Hawaiian art of problem solving. According to this philosophy, everything that comes up in our lives as a thought, or memory, represents an opportunity to let go, clean, delete.

**"Divine Creator, Father, Mother, Sons and Daughters, Everyone, One... If I, my family, relatives and ancestors offended you, your family, relatives and ancestors, in thoughts, words, facts and actions, since the beginning of our creation until the present, we ask forgiveness. Allow that this cleans, purifies, sets us free, cut all the negative memories, barriers, energies, vibrations and transmit those energies in pure light. So be it."** Prayer of Mornha Simeone..