

ANNUAL REPORT 2004

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GUERRAND-HERMÈS FOUNDATION FOR PEACE

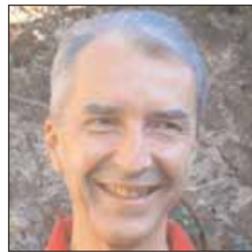
OUR MISSION

The mission of the GHFP is to promote the development of qualities that are needed for ensuring peace and a humane society.

In order to initiate and facilitate processes that bring people towards understanding, compassion and personal growth, the Foundation aims to create quiet, safe and open spaces for dialogue, education and communication. This contributes strategically to the resolution of problems, and to the development of people's full potential and talents, in a spirit of optimism and realism.



Simon Xavier
Guerrand-Hermès
Chairman of the Board



Sharif István Horthy
President



Hubert
Guerrand-Hermès

TRUSTEES

Simon Xavier Guerrand-Hermès
Hubert Guerrand-Hermès
Sharif István Horthy

EXECUTIVE BOARD

Alexandra Asseily
Dr Patrice Brodeur
Isni Astuti Horthy
Rosanne Le Roy
Muhammad Ridwan
Prof Garrett Thomson
Hardin Tibbs

EXECUTIVE SECRETARY

Dr Scherto Gill



YEAR IN BRIEF

Following the consolidation achieved last year, 2004 was a time of continued progress in all areas of engagement for the GHFP.

As well as ongoing research and the developing of our understanding in the key areas of our engagement, we also provided support to a number of projects, to the benefit of both our own learning and for those ventures.

2004 saw active involvement and participation by GHFP board members in various international events concerning inter-religious dialogue, interfaith awareness and spirituality. Our direct participation in these events provided opportunities for us to observe and learn how to create space for genuine dialogues and authentic communication. This affirmed our belief in the efficacy of what can be achieved through these approaches, and reinforced our resolve for ongoing involvement in and financial support towards a number of international events.

We also made further development in our research into alternative educational pedagogies. This has prepared a solid ground on both a theoretical and practical basis for proposing challenging questions for an International conference for educators in 2005.

In addition, we continued our investigation into various issues concerning livelihood, including developing an existing briefing paper about poverty and development into an in-depth research paper.

In accordance with our objective as a think-tank for encouraging human interaction from a spiritual principle, the GHFP sees as part of its role the promotion of ideas that can help transform perceptions and understanding. One of the ways we have chosen to contribute towards expanding people's understanding is by writing position papers on issues that GHFP members have investigated and explored. We call these position papers 'white papers'. They are intended to address both current and longer-term topics of public importance, where the GHFP can make a contribution to public awareness and debates, as well as to policy and strategy decisions by government, business and the civil sector.

As an organisation we have reconfirmed the purpose of the GHFP: to work together to effect positive changes in the world.

INTERFAITH UNDERSTANDING AND PEACE

Through GHFP's work in many aspects of interfaith and peace, we recognise that it is important to deepen our own understanding of current issues; for example, how to apply the study of religions to different areas of human dialogue. This year the GHFP has sponsored various initiatives towards interfaith understanding, and members of the GHFP board were involved in the preparation and organisation of a number of important international interfaith events.

One hundred Muslim and Jewish religious leaders will come together for dialogue and communication about peace.

The translation of literature on spirituality

At the centre of all the Foundation's endeavours is the wish to bring people closer to an awareness of God's grace, leading to personal growth as well as to responsibility, compassion and understanding towards others. To this end, from the time of its creation in 1996, the Foundation has supported the translation into English of the works of M. Subuh Sumohadiwidjojo.

Believing that it is most important that 'knowledge should not be locked up just in English', this year the Foundation continued its commitment to the Portuguese and Russian translations of these works. In addition, we also sponsored the translation of a video about M. Subuh Sumohadiwidjojo's life entitled *A gift from God*. With our support, the video was produced in English, French, Russian and Spanish editions.



Photo: Hommes de Parole

The First Congress of Imams and Rabbis for Peace

The First World Congress of Imams and Rabbis for Peace was initially planned to be held in Fez Marrakech in December 2004, but has been postponed to January 2005 in Brussels. The four-day meeting is being organized by the Fondation Hommes de Parole, under the patronage of King Mohammed VI of Morocco and King Albert II of Belgium. The goals for the congress include:

- to condemn** all form of destructive violence perpetrated in the name of God or while invoking religious motives
- to create** a dialogue and a far-reaching, durable partnership between Islam and Judaism
- to allow** the religious leaders to contribute to discovering peaceful solutions to the conflicts through their influence, and foster the development of concrete actions in the field
- to gather** before the world's media the leaders of both religions, allowing them to express a position of peace and unity

The commitment from representatives of Jewish and Muslim communities in thirty-four countries in Africa, Asia, Europe, the Middle East and America affirmed the determination from both faith communities to develop dialogue and co-operation between Islam and Judaism.

This Congress will be a historical event; one hundred Muslim and Jewish religious leaders will come together for dialogue and communication about peace. Dr

Patrice Brodeur, member of the GHFP and a scholar of Religious Studies, sees it as being particularly significant in creating 'hopes for peace and for a return to the appreciation of the rich Judeo-Muslim heritage'. Both Dr Brodeur and Mr Simon Xavier Guerrand-Hermès have been actively involved in the planning and organizing of the event, and the GHFP is amongst a number of international organizations that have provided financial sponsorship and advisory services to the event.

The GHFP has also sponsored the publication of the book entitled *Vision of Abraham*, about which a workshop has been planned at the Congress. The book narrates the historical, religious and cultural links between Islam and Judaism. It is the product of a dozen Muslims and Jews: Israelis and Palestinians, scholars and religious leaders who, according to the book's editor Mr Ed Miller, are 'working together to find a better story than the one we have been teaching our children and each other for the past century'. Some of the contributors to the book will attend the Congress. Mr Miller sees the purpose of this simply written and extensively illustrated book as being to create and widely distribute a joint narrative which can be understood, appreciated and enjoyed by Jews and Muslims everywhere.

INTERFAITH UNDERSTANDING AND PEACE

Parliament of the World Religions

The GHFP recognises the vital importance of encouraging dialogue and understanding between religions. Five members of the GHFP therefore participated in the remarkable event that was the fourth Parliament of the World's Religions, held in July 2004 in Barcelona. Our members engaged in several different events at the Parliament, including two of the major symposia, which were co-sponsored by the GHFP.



The first was the successful symposium 'Crisis of the Holy', which was initiated and organised by an inter-religious think-tank, the Elijah Interfaith Institute in Israel. The symposium received positive feedback from the audience, participants from all religions and faith backgrounds. The symposium took the format of a series of seminars. According to the Elijah Interfaith Institute, the aim of these seminars was to discuss both the concept of 'the holy' as is particular to each of the five traditions represented – Judaism, Christianity, Islam, Hinduism and Buddhism – and the ways in which contemporary life undermines a notion of holiness, thereby creating what they term 'the crisis of the holy'. The symposium encompassed sharing reflections, strategies and assessments, with regard to how different religions understand and confront this crisis.

The Chairman of GHFP Mr Simon Xavier Guerrand-Hermès participated in two seminars of the 'Crisis of the Holy' symposium and found them to be 'insightful and inspirational'.

The second symposium the GHFP sponsored for the Parliament was 'On Religions and International Institutions'. This session was led by Dr Josef Boehle, from the Department of Theology, University of Birmingham, UK. Dr Boehle explained that the aim of the symposium was to increase understanding and cooperation between religious communities/organizations and international institutions. His expectation was for the symposium to raise awareness in mainstream academic work and public related issues, and to contribute to improved relations between international institutions, religious communities/organizations, inter-religious organizations and indigenous communities. Dr Patrice Brodeur of the GHFP advisory board was a speaker and one of the panellists at this event.

The GHFP's involvement in the various aspects of the Parliament provided many opportunities for us to further explore the relationships amongst international communities, religious groups, political leaders and the civil society. It also served to further inform our own approach to organizing international conferences in the future.

Harvard Divinity School

GHFP is convinced that, at a time when the issues of religion, faith and spirituality loom large across all sectors of society, it requires many organizations, agencies, institutions, as well as individuals to step forward and participate in important conversations at local, national and international levels. Harvard Divinity School (HDS) is one of the key

institutions that are pioneering in this field. The GHFP has a strong link with HDS. Being a former graduate and a key member of HDS international alumni, Chairman of the GHFP Mr Guerrand-Hermès has been playing a key role in helping build a strong leadership platform for the HDS at this critical time in history.

In addition to The Chairman's ongoing personal involvement in the activities of the Harvard Divinity School, this year the GHFP also provided a grant to sponsor HDS academic research into interfaith understanding. It is hoped that both institutions will benefit from the new knowledge and key findings that arise from this investigation.



Photo: Harvard Divinity School

'Textes et Mythes Fondateurs' Conference

On October 7 – 9, 2004, an international conference was held in Marrakech, Morocco under the title of 'Textes et Mythes Fondateurs: Traductions et Circulation autour du Bassin Méditerranéen'. The GHFP gave a grant towards the cost of the conference and sponsored Dr Patrice Brodeur's participation in the event. The purpose of this three-day international conference was to inaugurate the 'Riad Denise Masson'. Denise chose to spend her last forty years living in a 'Riad', a traditional Moroccan home in the heart of Marrakech. She devoted her life to the comparative study of the three monotheistic religions and was the only woman to have ever translated the Quran. In her will, she bequeathed the Riad to the French government. It is now a guest house with conference space used by the Institut Français de Marrakech.

The conference 'Textes et Mythes Fondateurs' was organised under the leadership of the director of the Institute, Mrs Soune Wade. Its success was due to the collaboration amongst Moroccan and French institutions, academics, NGOs and governments.

Participants agreed that the conference balanced French and Moroccan voices in such a way as to foster discourse among the highest levels of academic expertise around the broad theme of translation, thus enabling interdisciplinarity at its best.

Dr Brodeur presented a paper on the concept of 'pouvoir-traduire', which paradoxically is an untranslatable word-play on the notion of the interdependence of power and translation. This concept emerged from his study of English translations made of the Quran over the last four centuries.

In addition to the GHFP sponsorship to the conference, our Chairman Mr Guerrand-Hermès hosted in absentia, at his house in Marrakech, a day of meetings for all the speakers and organisers, including a musical concert that mixed traditional Sufi melodies with local poems.

INTERFAITH UNDERSTANDING AND PEACE

European Mediterranean Forum

On 14 May 2004, the first workshop on 'Islam and Democracy in the Mediterranean' was held at Maison de la Méditerranée in Naples. Among those present were many scholars, including Antonio Bassolino, Michele Capasso, Massimo Galluppi and Fabio Petito. Professor John L. Esposito from Georgetown University gave a lecture on 'Islam and Democracy in the Mediterranean'. Mr Simon Xavier Guerrand-Hermès attended this event. He observed that the workshop was very successful, and that there was a genuine feeling of hope for a space to be created for real dialogue.

Publishing *Building the Interfaith Youth Movement*

The Interfaith Youth Core (IFYC) is an independent organization based in Chicago, USA. It has been created by and for young people, from a profound belief in the power of youth to change the world. This year, several members of the GHFP met with IFYC's director Dr Eboo Patel during the Parliament for World Religions in Barcelona. We found the IFYC's work inspiring and empowering and were impressed by the commitment of Dr Patel and his team to strengthen relationships between young people and their faith communities.

As well as initiating a series of successful programmes, including the major model based on 'shared values', Dr Patel collaborated with Dr Brodeur of the GHFP board to co-edit a book entitled *Building the Interfaith Youth Movement*. The book draws on the experience of a number of youth leaders, academics, religious leaders and others, who have been pioneering in the interfaith youth movement.

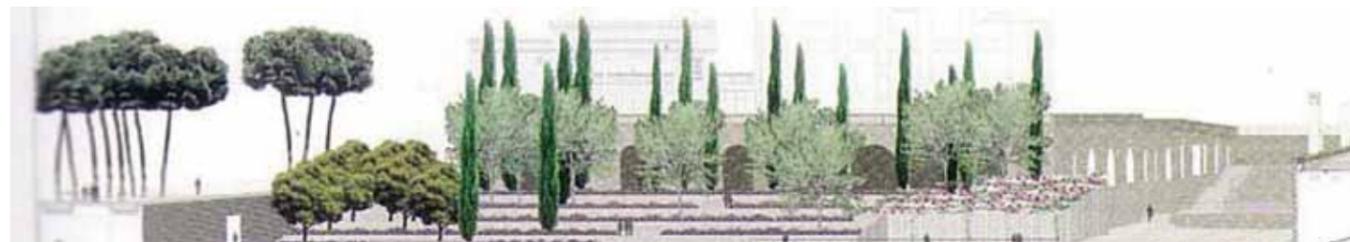
The GHFP gave a grant to enable the publication of this book.

Garden of Forgiveness

Mrs Alexandra Asseily is a member of the GHFP board. Her vision for peace has inspired the 'Garden of Forgiveness' in Beirut. Mrs Asseily's present work, including her continued support for the project in Beirut, mainly focuses on developing the concept of forgiveness as the key to conflict resolution and peace.

This work has also provided opportunities for many people around the world to rethink forgiveness and its implication in reconstructing long-term peace, especially in post-conflict areas.

This year, Mrs Asseily has been invited to share her vision and insight with a team who are planning a 'Garden of Forgiveness' at Ground Zero in New York.



International Student Conference of Jews, Christians and Muslims

Early this year the Foundation once again contributed to the cost of organizing the annual International Student Conference of Jews, Christians and Muslims (JCM), co-ordinated by the Leo Baeck College. This is the fourth time that the Foundation has assisted with the funding of the Conference. Over 90 Jewish, Christian and Muslim students from Western and Eastern Europe, USA, Israel and Palestine, as well as from various African and Asian countries, attended this conference.



ENGAGEMENT IN EDUCATION

This year, our educational research has been aimed at deepening our understanding of educational practices within institutions and projects that embrace alternative values to those of conventional education.

Our goal remains to investigate the strengths of both approaches and facilitate an exchange between them. Above all we aspire to encourage governments to accept and implement those educational ideals and practices that are recognised as being successful, into mainstream education.

Research into education for violently displaced children in Colombia

To further this initiative, our own educational researcher Scherto Gill has made a single-case study about the educational ideals and pedagogical practices at Colegio Amor, a shanty town school in Bogotá, Colombia. The school is managed by Fundación Educativa Amor (FEA), which is a project GHFP has sponsored and supported for over eight years. The purpose of this paper was to explore to what extent a human-centred educational approach can achieve transformation in the lives of displaced children, and also achieve reconstruction and revitalisation of their community. This paper also aims at generating a discussion concerning the role of education in transforming individual lives and the community at large.

The paper was presented in Cuba at the 12th Congress of Comparative Education Societies, under the theme of 'Education in Conflict and Reconstruction Settings'. The GHFP sponsored Mr Sebastian De Los Rios, the Director of the FEA, to participate in the congress. We also provided an opportunity for Sebastian to present his project and to engage in further discussions about issues related to the education of children who are displaced or in areas of violence and conflict.



Translation of *Relatos De La Violencia* (Stories of violence)

As part of the initiative to promote the good practices by FEA, the GHFP sponsored the English translation of the book *Relatos De La Violencia: Impactos Del Desplazamiento Forzado En la Niñez y la Juventud* (Stories of Violence: The Impact of the Displacement in Youth). According to the authors, this book represents an attempt to understand the phenomenon of displacement as experienced by its victims.

For several years FEA, in cooperation with the Colombian Ministry of Health, undertook a project to develop a psychosocial adaptation model for displaced people residing within the Municipality of Soacha, Cundinamarca. This work coincided with that of the Department of Social Work of the Faculty of Human Sciences in the Universidad Nacional de Colombia, Bogotá. The two institutions decided to collaborate to carry out this research. The purpose of the collaboration was to evaluate FEA methodology.

Relatos De La Violencia is the result of that collaborative effort. It is a collection of narratives by young people who were violently displaced by war in Colombia. The book provides a glimpse into similar situations experienced by a million or more young people in Colombia. The voices constitute a vivid manifestation of the urgent need to analyse the consequences of forced displacement, in all of its dimensions.

The book confirms the effectiveness of the pedagogical approaches undertaken by FEA in Colegio Amor. By sponsoring the English translation of the book, the GHFP intends to enable the FEA approaches and experiences to be shared by other educators in similar situations.



Fundación Educativa Amor and Colegio Amor, Columbia

As one of the patrons and major donors and sponsors of Fundación Educativa Amor (FEA) and its work at Colegio Amor, this year the GHFP gave a grant to enable the FEA to cover its end of year deficit in 2003. In addition, the Foundation contributed to an endowment fund that aims at the project's long-term financial independence. It is hoped that the fund will, in a time of political and economic instability, allow the FEA to continue its work for these children, their families and their communities.

ENGAGEMENT IN LIVELIHOOD

The GHFP research into livelihood has been led by Mr Sharif Horthy, President of the GHFP, and Professor Garrett Thomson. This year, their research activities involved visits to Kalimantan, Indonesia and rural Morocco, near Marrakech.



Visit to Rural Morocco

As part of their research, in March 2004 all members of the GHFP board went to visit Tahanaout, a rural village in the province of Alhaouz, Morocco. Villages in this area suffer from a lack of water resources, the consequences of which seriously affects villagers' quality of life and livelihood.

The provincial Governor had sent requests to the GHFP and to Mr Guerrand-Hermès personally for funding to finance digging deeper wells in three local villages that suffer most from water deprivation. During their visit, the GHFP board members witnessed the hardship of local villagers affected by having to obtain water from a long distance or having no choice but to use water from an unclean supply. The visit gave us further insight into how effective use of aid can enable people in poverty to improve their own livelihood.



Visit to Kalimantan, Indonesia

The GHFP has been interested in the Indonesians' progress towards establishing a democratic society. We set up a regional office in central Kalimantan in 1999 to co-ordinate our support to a number of development projects and facilitate our ongoing research in Indonesia.

In early 2004, Mr Horthy and Prof. Thomson met with Mr Bardolf Paul, an expert in Participatory Rural Appraisal (PRA) approach and a long-term leader of development projects in Southeast Asia. The purpose of this meeting was to exchange ideas on where to focus our respective research in relation to local strategies in promoting a sustainable community in this region.



Briefing paper on poverty

This year, with the help of a research student Alex Higgins from Sussex University, the GHFP produced a briefing paper that is intended to provide a very general introduction to world poverty, including various analyses of its causes, and the typical actions taken to relieve this problem. The paper is a very general and brief orientation, with the aim of illuminating the overall picture of world poverty rather than the individual elements that comprise it.

We hope that through this process, a route of action can be located which makes optimum use of the combined abilities of those both directly involved in the GHFP and also the wide network of groups and individuals associated with it.



OneWorld International
Foundation Endowment
Fund Project

OneWorld is a fast-growing civil society network online, supporting people's media in order to help build a more just global society. OneWorld brings together news and views from over 16,000 organisations, promoting human rights awareness and fighting poverty worldwide.

In order to sustain long-term core funding for the OneWorld International Foundation (OWIF) and support its large international network, since 2002 the GHFP have been financially sponsoring the preparation for the launch of the OWIF Endowment Fund.

Two years on from initiating the project, the OneWorld Sustainability Fund and the International Supporters Network were successfully launched on Wed 11 Feb 2004 in London.



GHFP WHITE PAPERS

During the meeting of the GHFP executive board in March this year, it was agreed that the GHFP could take a role in thought-leadership. One of the ways suggested as a possibility of making a positive contribution to people's understanding was the writing of position papers on issues that GHFP members have investigated and explored. The aim of these White Papers is to provide opportunities for people to look at issues from alternative perspectives and to expand the awareness of policy makers. These papers will be printed in GHFP house style and published in major UN languages: English, French, Spanish, Russian, Chinese and Arabic, for wider circulation.

Mr Hardin Tibbs' White Paper series

Mr Hardin Tibbs, a member of the executive board, converted two pieces of his work into the GHFP white paper format: 'Saving the World Slowly', Mr Tibbs' GHFP sponsored paper after attending the UN World Summit on Sustainable Development during 2002; and 'The Global Situation', edited and revised from the transcript of his presentation to the New Zealand Government's annual Public Sector Senior Management conference in 2001.

In addition, Mr Tibbs completed the first draft of a paper entitled 'Creating a New Culture', which builds on Paul Ray and Sherry Ruth Anderson's ideas in their 2000 book *The Culture Creatives*. This White Paper argues that new creative forces have international cultural significance as well as future implications for establishing new social values.

The three papers will be finalised and published in early 2005.

GHFP CONFERENCES WORKSHOPS AND TRAINING

V.T. Vittachi International Education Conference

Varindra (Tarzie) Vittachi was a Sri Lankan journalist who served as the deputy executive director of UNICEF. Dr Vittachi's commitment to the world's children and young people, as well as to education, inspired these conferences. In 2001 the GHFP, in collaboration with Blue Sky Associates of the USA, initiated a series of educational conferences named after Dr Vittachi as a way to commemorate him. The first V. T. Vittachi international conference, 'Educating for a Human Future' was held in June 2001 in Indonesia. It involved 200 participants from over twenty-two countries. The second conference 'Learning to Live a Personally Sustainable Life' was held in rural Colorado in August 2003. The GHFP was planning for the third conference 'Creating New Visions for Education' to be held in August 2004 in Nova Scotia, Canada.

The conference attracted great interest, much of which came from Africa, Asia and Eastern Europe. Unfortunately we have had to recognise that, in light of the current world political climate, it would be very difficult for the majority of intending participants – especially young people – from these areas to obtain visas. Our planning committee was therefore confronted with the question of whether to go ahead with the conference. After weighing up various options, it was regrettably decided that we had no choice but to postpone the conference.

The GHFP is now planning for the conference to take place in 2006, possibly in Morocco.



Participatory Leadership Training Programme in Indonesia

Indonesia is seen as undergoing a social transition which provides a real opportunity for positive change. The GHFP recognises the importance of leadership in the move towards autonomy and democracy of civil society at this crucial period. Therefore, we provided a grant for Ms Lorna Dowson-Colins, an experienced trainer and development project manager, who also grew up and worked in Indonesia, to design and facilitate a participatory leadership course.

According to Ms Dowson-Colins, the principle of the Participative Leadership Course is that true leadership starts with the participants becoming accountable and responsible for their own direction and actions. When considered on a larger scale, this micro approach makes up and defines society.

The initial training course was such a success that Ms Dowson-Colins has been invited to work with the World Bank to integrate the training programme into the World Bank's projects in Indonesia.



YES Quest

GHFP has supported the YES Quest over the last four years, and remains a key donor of the project. YES Quest is a wilderness adventure and a personal development programme for young adults, involving experience of trekking in nature locations as well as engaging in self-empowering activities facilitated by professional trainers. The aim of the Quest is to develop young people's personal growth and life direction through encouraging self confidence and creativity, as well as fostering communication, leadership and teamwork skills, all in an atmosphere of trust and fun.

In July 2004, the YES team successfully ran a Quest in the jungle of the Indonesian province of Kalimantan. A group of eleven young people from around the world undertook the Quest, which offered many experiences: the use of a creative story process; a meeting with a project team who are working on mining exploration and community development in the region; a long journey to a remote Dayak village and immersion in the local language and cultural environment.

The Quest was based at and used the facilities of the Eco Village in Kalimantan, a youth eco-sustainable camp that was set up and developed under the sponsorship of the GHFP throughout the late 1990s. According to the Quest organisers and participants, the highlight of the adventure was the visit to the Dayak village, Paruk Curu. Encountering the natural beauty of the area, the welcoming and sharing spirit of the Dayak villagers and witnessing the richness of their rituals, was a most powerful experience. Together with the villagers, young people from the Quest started to explore a possibility of future eco-tourism venture in this area. The YES team felt that there could be future possibilities to continue exploring this potential.

Management Accounts for the year ending December 2004

	€	€
OPENING BALANCE		143,236
INCOME		
Donations received	421,690	
Proceeds on sale of equipment	2,021	
Total Income	423,711	
INVESTMENT		
Investment	88,141	
Total Investment	88,141	
EXPENDITURE		
Entertaining	855	
Travel Cost	1,027	
Communication	1,215	
Internet Services	1,523	
Bank Charges	2,030	
Computer Costs	2,589	
Medical Insurance	3,419	
Accountancy Fees	3,327	
Legal & Professional Fees	7,898	
Office Cost	11,868	
Meeting Cost	12,749	
Office Rent	18,518	
Administration Cost	23,650	
Total Expenditure		90,668
PROJECT FUNDING AND RESEARCH COST		
Conferences	7,076	
White Papers	22,958	
Livelihood Projects and Research	36,873	
Education Projects and Research	57,011	
Interfaith Projects and Research	141,695	
Total Project Funding and Research Costs		265,613
BALANCE CARRIED FORWARD		122,525

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