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Would Consciousness Still Exist After Death?

Would You Like to Know the Frontier of Scientific Research?

Don't Miss This Great Opportunity to Attend the Most Authoritative Keynote Speeches
Ever to be Given in Hong Kong History

Series of Talks on 'Science, Life and Death, Reincarnation' (2) & (3)

**Due to Limited Seats Available,
Don't Miss This Rare Opportunity &
Reserve Your Seats A.S.A.P. !**

Series of Talks on 'Science, Life and Death, Reincarnation' (2): Near-Death Experiences

Date: 9th October, 2011 (Sunday)

Time: 2:00PM - 6:00PM

Keynote Speakers & Topics:

- 1. Dr. Peter B C Fenwick** – Are Mind and Brain the Same? Can the Near-Death Experiences Help Us to Resolve this Question?
- 2. Dr. Pim van Lommel** – Nonlocal Consciousness: A Concept Based on Scientific Studies on Near-Death Experiences
- 3. Professor Erlendur Haraldsson** – Belief in "Life after Death" and Reincarnation, with Arguments For and Against Such an Afterlife

Venue: Meeting Room N101 (Expo Drive Entrance), Hong Kong Convention and Exhibition Centre, 1 Expo Drive, Wanchai, Hong Kong.

Fees: HK\$50; An additional fee of HK\$30 for those requiring professional simultaneous interpretation services with headphones (services available for English to be translated into Cantonese and Putonghua)

Series of Talks on 'Science, Life and Death, Reincarnation' (3) : Scientific Research in Spirituality

Date: 15th October, 2011 (Sunday)

Time: 7:00PM - 10:30PM

Keynote Speakers & Topics:

1. **Dr. Peter B C Fenwick** – End of Life Experiences – A Spiritual Perspective
2. **Dr. Pim van Lommel** – Implications of Nonlocal Consciousness for Survivors of Cardiac Arrest: How Recent Research on the Continuity of Consciousness Could Affect the Treatment of Patients Reporting Near-Death Experiences?

3. **Professor Erlendur Haraldsson** – Deathbed Visions: Visionary/ Hallucinatory Experiences Close to the Time of Death

Venue: Auditorium, 3/F, Hong Kong International Trade and Exhibition Centre, 1 Trademart Drive, Kowloon Bay, Hong Kong.

Fees: HK\$50; An additional fee of HK\$30 for those requiring professional simultaneous interpretation services with headphones (services available for English to be translated into Cantonese and Putonghua)

Application Form:

Name _____ Tel: _____ Email: _____

Address: _____

I would like to order tickets for the following dates:

1st Session : 9th October, 2011 (Sunday)

_____ ticket(s) at HK\$50 each, and/or _____ ticket(s) at HK\$80 each (HK\$80 ticket includes professional simultaneous interpretation service with headphone);

2nd Session : 15th October, 2011 (Saturday)

_____ ticket(s) at HK\$50 each, and/or _____ ticket(s) at HK\$80 each (HK\$80 ticket includes professional simultaneous interpretation service with headphone);

Total amount in HK\$ _____, Directly Deposit / Cash / Cheque _____

For Official Use Only

Registration No.: _____ Ticket No.A _____, B _____

Payment Methods:

- 1) **Cheque Mailing:** Please fill in the application form with the total amount in a crossed cheque payable to "Dudjom Buddhist Association International Limited", and send them directly to our address at: **4/F, Federal Centre, 77 Sheung On Street, Chaiwan, Hong Kong;** OR
- 2) **Direct Deposit:** Directly deposit the total amount to the bank account of "Dudjom Buddhist Association International Limited" at Hong Kong Bank: Hong Kong Dollar Saving A/C No: 579-2-006529. After which, please send the deposit slip together with the filled-in application form by post to our address, or fax them to (852) 3157-1144.

Ticket(s) and receipt(s) will be sent back to you (via your full address) by post.

Please call us for enquiry at (852) 2558-3680, or email to info@dudjomba.org.hk

You can also download the Application Form from our website at <http://www.dudjomba.org.hk>, or call us to fax you the Application Form. After you have filled in the form, please send it back to us, together with the necessary amount, by either fax or mail. Thank you very much!

Dudjom Buddhist Association International Limited
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Would “Consciousness” Still Exist After Death?

Series of Talks on ‘Science, Life and Death, Reincarnation’ (2): Near-Death Experiences

Series of Talks on ‘Science, Life and Death, Reincarnation’ (3): Scientific Research in Spirituality

SYNOPSIS

Our Association has held the first session on the Series of Talks on ‘Science, Life and Death, Reincarnation’- (1) in 2010 which was very popular and well received, resulting in many people having difficulties in trying to get tickets. This year we are most glad and thankful to have received the sponsorship from **the Love Ideas ♥ HK Campaign of The Li Ka Shing Foundation**, and thus we are now able to invite three world-renowned professionals and scholars to come to Hong Kong in sharing their top-notch frontier medical and scientific research findings, by exploring the key areas on the relationship between the human brain and the “consciousness”, as well as by investigating into **whether or not the “consciousness” still continues to exist after death**, and so on. In this way, it is hoped that these authoritative keynote speeches will enlighten us, those who are living in this modern world, to have a better understanding and analysis of the interrelationships between ‘Science, Life and Death, Reincarnation’.

These authoritative keynote speeches will cover such major topics as **“Near-Death Experiences, Out-of-Body Experiences and Death-bed Visions”** which may scientifically point out the possibility of ‘life after death’. Information concerning those various topics is now quite readily available in various media for those who are interested; yet, it is quite difficult for one to judge upon the correctness and authoritativeness of those information. It is, indeed, a rare opportunity for one to be able to listen in person to such authoritative keynote speeches on these topics that will be presented by **three top-notch scientific and medical experts and authorities** in their respective fields. Such an event is believed to be the **first of its kind ever to be held in the history of Hong Kong**; as such, it will be even rarer for the general public to be able to listen to such distinguished guests and their speeches in an open forum. Hence, we sincerely hope that you can take this great opportunity and do not miss this rare occasion!

The speeches will discuss the following issues:

- **When the function of the brain stops, is it possible that the “consciousness” still continues to be active? If so, what does it mean?**
- **While the “consciousness” remains active even when the function of the brain stops, then what is it that is being active? Is this what common people usually called it as the “Soul”?**
- **Is the Eastern folklore of “An Apparition Coming Out of a Living Person” having a similar meaning to the Western definition of the “Out-of-Body Experience” ? Is it real? And if so, what does it mean?**
- **“Death-bed Vision” are some kind of visions that dying patients may see, and normally these are the scenes when they see their passed away relatives. Are those visions of relatives simply “Apparitions”? Or whether they are just hallucinations of those dying patients?**

All these related questions and their puzzling issues will be introduced and answered by these **three experienced researchers and experts who are of the highest caliber of international standing and authority**, together with professional **simultaneous interpretation services** to be available from English to both Cantonese and Putonghua for the general audience.

- **Can science unveil the profound mystery of “Life and Death”?**
- **What kind of evidence does the scientific community have in reference to the issue of “Life and Death”?**
- **Can scientific research on “consciousness” at the moment of “clinical death” prove the existence of “life after death”?**

- **Other such topics as: Among the different research findings and analyses on such topics as “Near-Death Experiences”, “Out-of-Body Experiences”, and “Death-bed Visions”, do they have enough evidence for the proof?**
- **As for the various case studies on “Reincarnations” and “Past Life Memories”, can these be used as part of the scientific evidence for the proof on the existence of “life after death”?**
- **If you are interested to know more about the answers to these questions, then you should not miss this rare occasion!**

Our association have already invited three world-renowned and authoritative professionals and scholars to come to Hong Kong and deliver important keynote speeches on those areas of concern.

Introduction of Keynote Speakers & Topics:

1. Dr. Peter B C Fenwick

BA (Cantab), MBBChir (Cantab), FRCPsych



Dr. Fenwick has a wide area of professional expertise which covers psychiatry, neuropsychiatry, neurology and neurosurgery, head, brain and spinal cord disease and injury, sleep disorder and especially epilepsy. He has had a special interest in the relationship between brain function and the mind, and **with longstanding and intensive research in this area.**

Dr. Fenwick had held many key positions in several medical and academic institutions. He had been Consultant Neuropsychiatrist at the Maudsley Hospital which he ran for 20 years, Senior Lecturer at the Institute of Psychiatry, Consultant Neuropsychiatrist at the Radcliffe Infirmary, Oxford and Senior Lecturer at the Institute of Psychiatry, Kings College, London.

Currently, his is the Honorary Clinical Consultant neurophysiologist at Broadmoor Hospital, UK and Honorary

Senior Lecturer at the Institute of Psychiatry, University of Southampton, UK. In the past ten years, he has spent several months per year in a research laboratory for the study of Magnetoencephalography in Japan. He also involves in large hospice projects in UK, Holland and Japan. **He is the Chairman of the Scientific and Medical Network, as well as the Chairman of the Research Committee, Integral Medical Foundation.**

Dr. Fenwick has longstanding research in the areas of “near-death experiences and the dying process”. He has **studied over 300 cases** and has strong expertise knowledge in this special area. He has **published over 240 academic papers and 6 books of special topics.** He is considered as the major authority in clinical research on “Near-Death Experiences” (NDEs) in the United Kingdom.

Topic of Talk on 9th October, 2011 (Sunday): **Are Mind and Brain the Same? Can the Near-Death Experiences Help Us to Resolve this Question?**

Anecdotal accounts suggest that during **Near-Death Experiences** (NDEs), many experiencers say they leave their body and become aware of what is going on around them, or even ‘travel’ to other rooms in the hospital, and report other events there. A number of studies have set out to investigate this using cards or numbers placed in such a position that they could be seen by someone leaving their body. These studies will be described. In order to take this further, the **AWARE project** was launched at the UN in 2008 by **Dr. Sam Parnia** and his team. The aim of the project is to understand what happens at the onset of death and to see if there is evidence for mind and brain being separate. It is now well known that 10% of people with cardiac arrest have NDE experiences, and a third of these may have **Out-of-Body Experiences** (OBEs).

During cardiac arrest OBEs, the brain is non-functional, so it is important to verify that these experiences do occur at that time. If this is true, then it **suggests that our mind is independent of the brain** and this **would have widespread implications for neuroscience.** The **AWARE project** sets out to test whether these reported experiences are indeed veridical.

Cards containing information have been put up near the ceiling in resuscitation areas in hospitals in the UK, France, Austria and in the USA. Over 60 cards are put up in each hospital, so it is hoped that a cardiac arrest out of body experience will occur in one of the areas where

there are cards. Each subject with a cardiac arrest will be interviewed to find out whether they had an OBE and if they did, to describe what happened. Each subject will be given a questionnaire to decide on the nature of their NDE and they will be asked about their OBE, particularly in relation to anything they may have seen. Data from this will be analyzed. Because of the importance of the program, information about the results will not be given until the study is complete. However, **the study has necessitated a reformulation of the way that we measure cerebral activity during cardiac arrest, and an examination of cerebral processes during the acute cerebral anoxia of the arrest. This study raises questions about the nature of consciousness and examples of wider states of consciousness** will be given. Brain mechanisms which may be involved, and how these lead to **different models of consciousness** which go beyond those of purely mechanistic brain function will be explored.

Many individuals report that after having an NDE they either become healers or are themselves healed. The evidence for this will also be reviewed.

Topic of Talk on 15th October, 2011 (Saturday): **End of Life Experiences – A Spiritual Perspective**

Spiritual awareness is an important part of care for the dying. Our research with a palliative care team, and with the carers in hospices and nursing homes, has confirmed that **end of life experiences, which occur in the last few days of life, have spiritual implications for the dying and their families**, and are not uncommon. Besides our formal research data we have numerous anecdotal accounts following a TV broadcast, a radio broadcast in the USA and articles in the UK press.

These experiences include powerful visions by the dying of dead relatives who they say have come to 'take them on a journey'. **These deathbed visions occur in the last few days and hours before death, usually in the setting of clear consciousness.** The 'visitor' is usually a dead relative or close friend, and appears to be in real space as the dying **direct their gaze and comments at a particular place.** Sometimes the recipient is unable to speak but will often **show facial recognition. Their presence is felt as reassuring and comforting.** Occasionally spiritual beings or angels are seen, but in the UK culture this is rare. Very rarely these visions were seen by others in the room.

Deathbed 'coincidences' are also reported, in which someone close to a dying person reports being 'visited' by

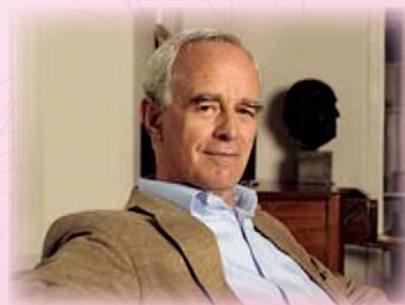
them at the time of their death. The form these coincidences take depends on the mental state of the recipient. If the recipient is awake, they report usually a sense of presence or an overwhelming emotional feeling that compels them to take action. Less commonly they hear a voice or a touch, very rarely a vision. If the recipient is asleep the coincidence takes the form of a dream, which is narrative and complex, with a vision of the dying person and a message conveying that they are alright and the recipient is not to worry.

Carers of the dying also report that at the moment of death they may see the body surrounded by light, mists leaving the body, or an intense feeling of love in the room. Other phenomena reported at the time of death are clocks stopping, mechanical devices malfunctioning, e.g. alarms going off and TVs stopping, and odd animal behaviours. Carers also report the desire which the dying often show for reconciliation with their life and, importantly, other family members.

In our prospective and retrospective studies of experiences related to carers, over 90% rated these as transpersonal experiences, Less than 10% thought they were due to imagination and less than 30% to medication. **Nearly all the reports (85%) suggested that they are profoundly comforting to the dying, and seem to help achieve a peaceful death for the dying** and comfort for their families, whose grieving process seems to be helped if they are fortunate enough to witness these phenomena.

The study has **clear implications for theories about the continuation of consciousness after death.**

2.Dr. Pim van Lommel



Dr. van Lommel graduated from the Medical School of Utrecht University, Netherlands. In 1976, he became a cardiologist and worked in the Rijnstate Hospital for 26 years. He has extensively published many professional papers on cardiology.

Due to his work, he has come across many patients who survived a cardiac arrest informing him about their "near-death experiences". This had taken his attention and so

he became interested in the subject. In 1986, he started studying “near-death experiences” in patients who survived a cardiac arrest. He has studied over 500 cases.

In 1988, he co-founded the Merkawah Foundation, IANDS (the International Association of Near-Death Studies) in the Netherlands. In 2001, Dr. van Lommel and others published their Dutch study in the reputable medical journal “*The Lancet*”. In addition, he has authored chapters in several books about “near-death experiences” and also published articles about the subject. In 2007, he published his book in Dutch ‘*Eindeloos Bewustzijn*’ (*Endless Consciousness*) in the Netherlands. This book was a bestseller, and within one year over 120,000 copies were sold. Thereafter, the book has been translated into English and French.

In the past several years, Dr. van Lommel has been invited to give talks on the topics of “near-death experiences” and the relationship between brain function and the mind all over the world. In 2005, he was granted the ‘Bruce Greyson Research Award’ on behalf of the International Association for Near-Death Studies. And in September 2006, the President of India, Dr. A.P.J. Abdul Kalam, awarded him the ‘Life Time Achievement Award’ at the World Congress on Clinical and Preventive Cardiology in New Delhi, for the recognition of his great contributions.

Topic of Talk on 9th October, 2011 (Sunday):
**Nonlocal Consciousness: A Concept
Based on Scientific Studies on Near-Death
Experiences**

*‘To study the abnormal is the best way of
understanding the normal’*

.... by William James

According to our current medical concepts, it is not possible to experience consciousness during a cardiac arrest, when circulation and breathing have ceased. But during the period of unconsciousness due to a life-threatening crisis like cardiac arrest patients may report the paradoxical occurrence of enhanced consciousness during the period of a non-functioning brain.

Recently several theories have been proposed to explain such a so-called Near-Death Experience (NDE). The challenge to find a common explanation for the cause and content of an NDE is complicated by the fact that an NDE can be experienced during various circumstances, such as during severe injury of the brain as in cardiac arrest to continuum when the brain seems to function normally.

In four prospective studies with a total of 562 survivors of cardiac arrest between 11% and 18% of the patients reported an NDE, and in these studies it could not be shown that physiological, psychological, pharmacological or demographic factors could explain the cause and content of these experiences.

Since the publication of several prospective studies on NDE in survivors of cardiac arrest, with strikingly similar results and conclusions, the phenomenon of the NDE can no longer be scientifically ignored. It is an authentic experience which cannot be simply reduced to imagination, fear of death, hallucination, psychosis, the use of drugs, or oxygen deficiency, and people appear to be permanently changed by an NDE during a cardiac arrest of only some minutes duration.

The current materialistic view of the relationship between the brain and consciousness held by most physicians, philosophers and psychologists seems to be too restricted for a proper understanding of this phenomenon. So it is indeed a scientific challenge to discuss new hypotheses that could explain the possibility to have clear and enhanced consciousness with memories, with self-identity, with cognition, with emotion, with the possibility of perception out and above the lifeless body, to explain the reported interconnectedness with the consciousness of other persons and of deceased relatives, to explain the possibility to experience instantaneously and simultaneously (non-locality) a review and a preview of someone’s life in a dimension without our conventional body-linked concept of time and space, where all past, present and future events exist, and even to explain the experience of the conscious return into the body.

Based on these recent prospective NDE studies, as well as on recent new insights in the neurophysiology during cardiac arrest and in a normal functioning brain, and in combination with concepts from quantum mechanics, one has to come to the inevitable conclusion that consciousness can not be localized in a special time nor place. This is called nonlocality. There are good reasons to assume that our consciousness does not always coincide with the functioning of our brain: enhanced consciousness can sometimes be experienced separately from the body. I have come to the conclusion that most likely the brain must have a facilitating, and not a producing, function to experience consciousness. In this view, there is no beginning nor will there ever be an end to our consciousness.

It looks as if a single unusual finding that cannot be explained through widely accepted concepts and ideas is capable

of bringing about a fundamental change in science. By making a scientific case for consciousness as a nonlocal and thus ubiquitous phenomenon, this view can contribute to new ideas about the relationship between consciousness and the brain, because it questions the purely materialistic paradigm in science. Moreover, a near-death experience appears also to be an intimately personal rediscovery of age-old, cross-cultural knowledge, seemingly forgotten by modern society. In other times and places such experiences were often known under different names, such as visions or mystical, religious or enlightenment experiences. Among the diverse understandings of death, one constant across all times and cultures, except our own, has been a sense that the personal essence, commonly called the soul, has an existence independent of the physical body. Recent research on NDE seems to be a source of new insights into the possibility of a continuity of our consciousness after physical death.

Topic of Talk on 15th October, 2011 (Saturday):

Implications of Nonlocal Consciousness for Survivors of Cardiac Arrest: How Recent Research on the Continuity of Consciousness Could Affect the Treatment of Patients Reporting Near-Death Experiences?

Dr. Pim van Lommel, a renowned European cardiologist, is the first medical practitioner to have undertaken a full and systematic study of near-death experiences. While practicing cardiology, he was struck by the number of heart attack survivors who reported having had near-death experiences during full cardiac arrest. His scientific training and his acceptance of the prevailing wisdom that consciousness is impossible once circulation and breathing have ceased made such reports difficult for him to accept. However, he found it ethically untenable not to investigate the phenomenon under the controlled conditions of a cluster of hospitals with medically trained staff. For more than twenty years, he has systematically studied near-death experiences in a wide variety of patients who had survived a cardiac arrest, encountering consistent reports of full cardiac arrest coincident with clear consciousness with full cognitive functions, emotions, self-identity, and sometimes memories from childhood and even (non-sensory) perception outside their lifeless bodies and beyond the dimensions of physical time and space.

In 2001, he and his fellow researchers published the results of the first scientifically rigorous longitudinal study of near-death experiences in *"The Lancet"*, challenging

the foundations of neurological theory and causing an international sensation in the medical community. In four prospective studies with a total of 562 survivors of cardiac arrest, between 11% and 18% of the patients reported a near-death experience (NDE), and in these studies it could not be shown that physiological, psychological, pharmacological, or demographic factors could account for the cause and contents of these experiences. Based on such research, van Lommel asserts that the prevailing idea of most physicians and neuroscientists that the brain entirely encompasses consciousness does not account for the observed phenomena, because there are good reasons to assume that our consciousness does not always coincide with the functioning of our brain: enhanced consciousness can sometimes be experienced separately from the body.

The conclusions of these scientific studies on NDE may have practical implications for the care for comatose or dying patients, euthanasia, and the removal of organs for transplantation from a person in the dying process with a diagnosis of brain death, yet with a still-beating heart in a warm body. Health care practitioners of all kinds, along with terminal patients and their families, have been shown to benefit from an awareness of the extraordinary experiences that may occur during a period of clinical death, or coma, and even after death.

3. Professor Erlendur Haraldsson



Professor Haraldsson studied philosophy at the University of Edinburgh, Scotland and the University of Freiburg, Germany. He furthered his study in psychology and obtained a Diploma in Psychology from the University of Munich, Germany, and a Ph.D. in psychology from the University of Freiburg respectively. During the interim period, he held an internship in Clinical Psychology at the Department of Psychiatry, University of Virginia, USA.

He had been teaching at the Department of Psychology at the University of Iceland for over a quarter of a century. He has been a visiting professor at the University of Virginia,

Adjunct Research Faculty Member at the Institute of Transpersonal Psychology, California, USA, and Research Professor at the Institut für Grenzgebiete der Psychologie und Psychohygiene, Freiburg, Germany.

Professor Haraldsson has a wide range of research interests, including **psychic experiences** and folk-beliefs, miracle makers, **death-bed visions**, **apparitions**, contacts with the dead, and so on. **His study on reincarnation is especially famous worldwide, and is considered one of the pioneers of western scholars in this special field.** He has been researching in places like Sri Lanka, India and Lebanon for studies of children who claimed that they could recall memories of their previous lives. **The cases studied are over 100 and more than 100 academic papers and five books of special topics have been published.** He is a **world-class authority in contemporary research study on the cases of reincarnation.**

Professor Haraldsson had been in longstanding research collaborations with Professor Ian Stevenson of the Medical School, University of Virginia, USA, and with Dr. Karlis Osis, a world-class leading psychologist. The book **“At the Hour of Death”** (co-authored by Drs. Haraldsson and Osis) is a **rare book on death-bed visions, which has been translated into 12 languages.** Over the years, Professor Haraldsson has been invited across the world to give **over one hundred academic talks and lectures** which are highly appreciated by his fellow colleagues, as well as by the general public.

Topic of Talk on 9th October, 2011 (Sunday):

Belief in “Life after Death” and Reincarnation, with Arguments For and Against Such an Afterlife

Views about life after death and reincarnation vary widely; **“extinctionists”** believe that death is the end of human existence; **“agnostics”** believe that it is impossible to know if life continues after death; **“immortalists”** believe that after death we live in an afterworld forever; **“reincarnationists”** believe that we are born again into a physical body. How widespread are these beliefs? Surveys show inter-national and inter-religious differences but not necessarily in line with the dogmas of the dominant religion of each country.

What are the main empirical arguments for and against survival? **The dominant scientific perspective views**

consciousness as completely dependant on the condition of the brain. Research in some areas indicate that this view needs revision:

- **Death-bed visions** are sometimes observed near the time when people die indicating contact with a post-death reality.
- **Near-death experiences** have been brought into focus with several studies conducted in university hospitals.
- **Encounters with the dead** are reported by every fourth person in Europe.
- **Reincarnation memories.** Many cases by young children have been verified. Some children have phobias and birthmarks which they relate to how they died in the previous life.
- **Mediumistic communications,** particularly in the 19th and early 20th century, revealed highly interesting findings.

Research in these areas, using scientific, empirical methods, have resulted in empirical arguments suggesting “life after death”.

In the latter part of the lecture, a newly researched and well documented case will be presented. It took place in Copenhagen and Reykjavik and has close resemblance to a famous older case from Sweden.

Topic of Talk on 15th October, 2011 (Saturday):

Deathbed Visions: Visionary/Hallucinatory Experiences Close to the Time of Death

It is an old observation that terminally ill patients sometimes have visionary experiences shortly before they die. Karlis Osis and Erlendur Haraldsson conducted a major comparative study in USA and India which confirmed this observation across two countries with different religions and cultures. Over 400 physicians and nurses in each country reported observations of dying patients who told of **visions of deceased relatives or angelic beings shortly before they died.** They told the dying person that they had **come to take them away.** After that, the **dying patients were “ready to go” and they felt much better.** This occurred independent of the medical condition of the patient, and factors which may lead to hallucinations. Were the patients **observing glimpses of a life that was waiting ahead of them?**

Tickets Will Be Available at the "Hong Kong Book Fair" Booth No.3G-F35

Book Signing Ceremony

After the

Series of Talks on 'Science, Life and Death, Reincarnation' (2): Near-Death Experiences

The Dudjom Buddhist Association International ("Association") has held the first session on the Series of Talks on 'Science, Life and Death, Reincarnation'-(1) in 2010 which was very popular and well received, resulting in many people having difficulties in trying to get tickets. This year we are most glad and thankful to have received the [sponsorship from the "Love Ideas ♥ HK" Campaign of the Li Ka Shing Foundation](#), and thus we are now able to invite three world-renowned professionals and scholars to come to Hong Kong in [sharing their top-notch frontier medical and scientific research findings](#), by exploring the key areas on the relationship between the human brain and the "consciousness", as well as by [investigating into whether or not the "consciousness" still continues to exist after death](#), and so on. In this way, it is hoped that these authoritative keynote speeches will enlighten us, those who are living in this modern world, to have a better understanding and

analysis of the interrelationships between 'Science, Life and Death, Reincarnation'.

All three speakers have plenty of publications in articles and books. Their books have either been the bestseller of the year or translated into numerous languages. Two of the speakers have recommended one of their books and so we would like to take this opportunity to hold a [book signing ceremony](#) after the Talk. Copies of the book will be [available in advance](#). Audience can place orders for the book(s) through us when they purchase the tickets for the Talk. The books will be distributed at the lecture venue upon the showing of the "book purchase receipts".

Date: 9 October 2011 (Sunday)

Talk: 2:00 PM -- 6:00 PM

Book Signing Ceremony: 6:00 PM

Venue: Meeting Room N101 (Expo Drive Entrance), Hong Kong Convention and Exhibition Centre, 1 Expo Drive, Wanchai, Hong Kong.

Fees for the Talk: HK\$50; Additional fee of HK\$30 for those who require professional services of Simultaneous Interpretation ([available for English to be translated into either Cantonese or Putonghua](#))

Fee for the Book Signing Ceremony: Free; but for those who would like to obtain autographed copies of their books, they should order the book through the Association.

(Only Limited Copies of Books Are Available, So First-Come-First-Served)

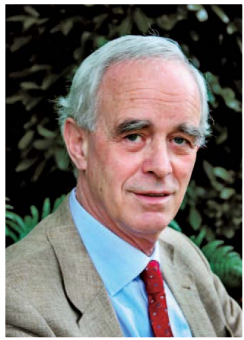


BOOK SIGNING (1)

Consciousness Beyond Life : The Science of the Near Death Experience, Harper Collins, 2011

Author: Dr. Pim van Lommel.

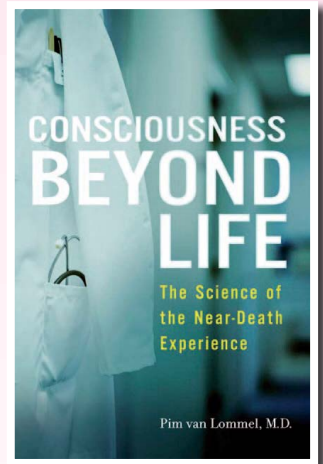
Price: HK\$150.00



As a cardiologist, the author was struck by the number of his patients who claimed to have near-death experiences as a result of their heart attacks. **As a scientist, this was difficult for him to accept: would it be scientifically irresponsible for him to ignore the evidence of these reports?** He then decided to design a research study to investigate into the phenomena under the controlled environment of **a cluster of hospitals with a team of medically trained staff.**

For more than twenty years, he systematically studied such near-death experiences in a large number of patients who survived the cardiac arrest. In 2001, he published the study on near-death experience in the **renowned medical journal "Lancet"**. The article caused an internationally sensation as it was the **first scientifically vigorous study of this phenomena.** This book, now available first time in English, offers an in-depth presentation of the results and theories.

The book provides scientific evidence that the near-death phenomenon is an authentic and profound experience. Most patients' personalities **undergo a permanent change.** In the author's opinion, **the current views** on the relationship between the brain the consciousness held by most physicians, philosophers, and psychologists **are too narrow** for a proper understanding of the phenomenon. The author shows that our consciousness does not always coincide with brain functions and that, significantly, **consciousness can even be experienced separate from the body.** The book was originally published in Dutch that has been sold for over 125,000 copies in Europe.



BOOK SIGNING (2)

At the Hour of Death: A New Look at Evidence for Life After Death, 3rd Edition, Hastings House, 1997

Authors: Dr. K. Osis and Prof. E. Haraldsson

Price: HK\$160.00



"At the Hour of Death" is a book that is different from many others that deal with near-death experiences. It **directly approaches the possibility of life after death on the basis of a scientific evaluation of a substantial quantity of data.**

The authors have convincingly demonstrated the argument that **the support we need when facing death.** As the end draws near, the deceased may **require social warmth and understanding, a spiritual outlook, or pharmaceutical alleviation of pain, and comfort.** **Knowledge** of what happens when one is dying, what to expect, and what we may reasonably hope for **form a vital part of such support.** This book might be handy for those who are facing death,

as well as for those who counsel the terminally ill and bereaved.

The value of this book is its **detailed information,** not philosophy. It carries out the subjective feeling of the experiencers that death is a mystery that is real and unavoidable. The despair and sorrow engendered by the approach of death shake us out of superficialities and may **invigorate the heart to feel its deepest roots of existence.**

