

# FREUD CONFERENCE, 21<sup>st</sup> MAY, 2005

## **Blind Trust: In Whom Do We Trust?**

### **A day with Dr. Vamik Volkan**

0830 – 0850      **Registration & coffee**

0850 – 0900      **Introduction & welcome**

0900 – 1030      **A “serial killer” of animals:  
Transgenerational transmission of  
trauma**

The clinical foundation for my psycho-political ideas will be established in this paper. It discusses the total analysis of a man who carried the traumatized image of his stepfather within his self-representation. During World War II, his stepfather participated in the Bataan Death March and was in a Japanese prison in the Phillipines. My aim is to illustrate how the transmission of trauma occurs.

1030 – 1100      *Morning Tea*

1100 – 1230      **Killing in the name of Identity**

This paper will illustrate what is “large-group identity”. An example will illustrate the reactivation of a chosen trauma, which led to malignant developments

1230 – 1400      *LUNCH*

1400 – 1530      **When enemies meet**

I will illustrate what happens when influential representatives of “enemy” groups (Arabs-Israelis, Russians-Estonians, Turks-Greeks, Georgians-South Ossetians) meet regularly for several years for unofficial diplomatic negotiations. The paper will also address how working with borderline patients may tell us a great deal about international negotiations.

1530 – 1600      *Afternoon tea*

1600 – 1730      **Reparative and destructive leaders with  
narcissistic personality organization**

1730 - 1830      *Drinks and nibbles*

## Keynote Speaker

Dr. Vamik D. Volkan, M.D., is Emeritus Professor of psychiatry, training and supervising analyst at the Washington Psychoanalytic Institute, and founder of the Centre for the Study of Mind and Human Interaction (CSMHI) at the University of Virginia School of Medicine, Charlottesville, VA. He is a former President of the International Society of Political Psychology and a former member of The Carter Centre's International Negotiation Network; has served on numerous international boards; was an Inaugural Rabin Fellow at the Rabin Centre for Israeli Studies in Tel Aviv, Israel, and currently is the Senior Erik Erikson Scholar at The Austen Riggs Centre in Stockbridge, MA.

Vamik's clinical work has focused on the theory and technique of the treatment of "difficult" patients. He has also studied individuals and societies traumatized due to mass violence or wars. His psycho-political studies focus on large-group (ethnic) identity, large-group rituals, large-group regression and political leaders' influence on taming or inflaming large-group processes.

The recipient of numerous awards Vamik has been keynote speaker in several countries. His clinical and psycho-political contributions appear in over 300 scientific papers and book chapters, and for this work he has just been nominated for the Nobel Peace Prize, 2005. In his latest book "Blind Trust: Large Groups and their Leaders in Times of Crisis and Terror", 2004, Vamik applies his knowledge of depth psychology to the turbulent and destructive human experiences in the current cauldrons of the greatest unrest and disaster throughout Europe, Asia and the Middle East. This book is considered the most significant expansion of psychoanalytic group psychology since Freud's original breakthrough.