

International Symposium on Reimagining Education From a Gross National Happiness (GNH) Perspective June 1- 6, 2024, Paro, Bhutan



Newsletter No 01

Now that we have successfully obtained visas for all the delegates, we are hoping that all have made your travel arrangements accordingly. If there are any issues with your travel plans, please contact Tshering Choden @ tchoden100846@gmail.com

As you prepare for your exciting and adventurous journey to Bhutan, please take note of the following important information.

Arriva and Departure Date/Time: If you have purchased your flight tickets independently and not through our agent, (Ms. Tshering Choden), please send us your arrival and departure time and date.

Currency Exchange in Bhutan: The national currency of Bhutan is the Bhutanese Ngultrum (BTN), and it is the primary form of currency used in the country. However, it is important to note that the Bhutanese *Ngultrum* is not readily available for exchange outside of Bhutan. Therefore, it is advisable to carry a widely accepted international currency for your personal use (such as the US Dollar or the Euro or Australian Dollar for exchange). In order to avoid any hassle for our delegates, we have decided to provide an exchange facility at the symposium venue.

Credit and debit cards are accepted in resorts/some hotels and local handicraft shops. You can also withdraw cash from the Bhutan ATM using your card. However, your card has to be VISA enabled by your bank.

Accommodation: All the delegates will be accommodated in different resorts/hotels in Paro. Our reception team will accordingly escort you to your hotels.

Weather: Paro has been getting warmer now (up to 21 degrees Celsius during day). However, it can get little chilly in the mornings and evenings. So we advise you to carry light jackets.



Arrival Reception: After claiming your baggage at the Paro Airport, please look out for a reception counter with the 'Reimagining Education Symposium' banner. Our reception team will be there to welcome you, and our student volunteers will escort you to your respective hotels.

For local delegates, we will email you your hotel information. If you need support or any additional information please contact Dr. Bijoy K Rai @ 17490199.

Dress code: Some of our delegates have been asking about the dress code for the symposium. So, we just want to let everyone know that there is no dress code as such for the International delegates. Delegates can wear anything that appears formal (decent) for the symposium. Of course, for our local delegates, we have our national dress.

Vaccine Certificate: A vaccine certificate is not required to enter into Bhutan.

Taktshang Hike: If you choose to take a three-hour hike to *Taktshang/Tiger's nest* (3120 meters above the sea level) on day 5, you will have to bring your hiking attires. Hopefully all will be well acclimatised to the Paro air by then.



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Power/Electricity: The power plug sockets in Bhutan are of type D, F and G. The standard voltage is 230 V and the frequency is 50 Hz. You need to carry power adapter that will fit the power socket shown here. However, extension cords such as the one shown below are available that could fit the flat pins. If you have any questions about the power/electricity system in Bhutan or if you wonder whether you need to carry power adapter or not, please visit the following website- (<https://www.power-plugs-sockets.com/bhutan/>).

For any inquiries, please contact us at
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Kezang Sherab and Kezang Choden

HoloTracker App:

How to login to our Symposium Reflection Tool,



HoloTracker

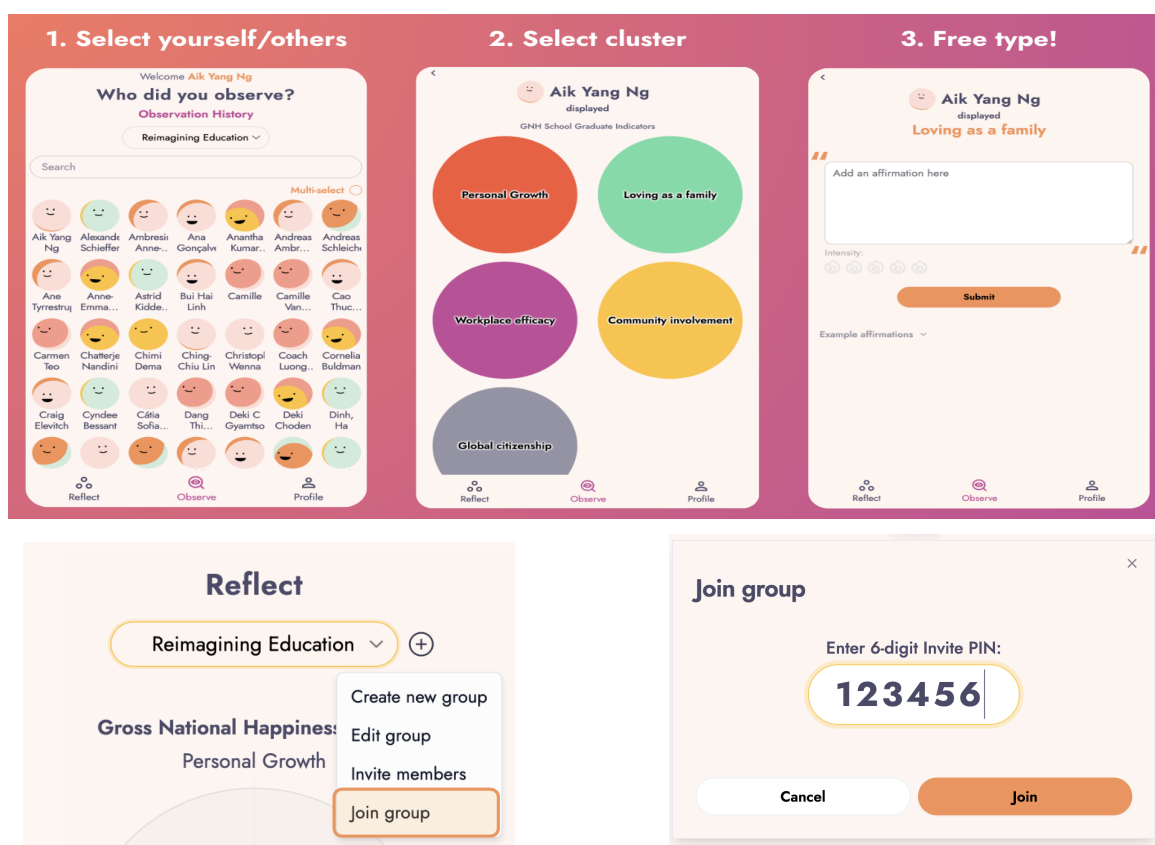



1. On your browser, go to app.holotracker.org or scan the QR code above with your phone.

Use the following credentials to login:

- Username: *email you registered for the symposium* (Some of the delegates who have registered in groups have not provided your email id. We would like to request those who have not shared their email id to kindly send us, otherwise you will not be able to access the HoloTracker).
- Password: **reimaginededu@paro**
- You can use any web device - your phone, laptop, or tablet!

2. You're in! Add your reflections or make affirmations for others at any point during the conference. HoloTracker is your 'backchannel' - the place for you to share and browse reflections we are making as a symposium.



For parallel keynotes and parallel workshop sessions, we will **join groups** via the  button on the Reflect page, and insert the assigned 6-digit invite code (refer to codes on our booklet).

HoloTracker supports schools in building connection and visibility in learning. For more information, visit <https://holotracker.org/> or reach out to Aik and Wayne at the conference!