

## **Toward Global Sustainability**

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Science and technology have contributed tremendously to the improvement of the well-being of the human society. However, better health care and better nutrition have resulted in exponential growth of the world population which in turn led to sharp increase of demands of natural resources to satisfy the consumption needs of our society. Indeed, humanity's impact on the Earth System has become comparable to geological processes such as ice ages; hence the term Anthropocene has been coined. Most scientists now agree that many Earth-system processes are now dominated by human activities putting our planet under pressure, and the sustainability of our civilization in danger. How can we turn around and move toward global sustainability? Can values and beliefs influence individual and collective behavior towards more sustainable practices of human society? Can we learn from our ancestors, especially in Asian cultures? How can education help? These are some of the questions I would like to put forward in this talk.