

**Cissa Wa Numbe**, a native Congolese, was born in a village of Kivu in the Democratic Republic of Congo where he grew up in a poor family.

Cissa began his education at primary and secondary Catholic and Methodist College in Kivu. Cissa holds a Master degrees in Sociology and Anthropology from University of Lubumbashi, DRC; and a Ph.D. in Peace and Human Rights studies from the University of Bradford, United Kingdom.

Cissa is a visiting lecturer at the Institute of Conflict Resolution in Spain, Woodbrooke Quaker Study Centre in Birmingham, UK, University Catholic of Bukavu, and the University of Goma. Cissa is also a visiting professor at the Institute Pedagogique 'ISP' (Teaching Institute) of Baraka-Fizi in Kivu, Dem. Rep. of Congo.

Cissa has attended and participated as an African representative of civil society and Non Governmental Organisations, including the United Nations General Assembly Hearing in June 2005 in New York, where he contributed as a member of the Freedom From Fear cluster.

Cissa has been a key speaker and facilitator of the International Human Rights seminar jointly organised by United Nations Human Rights Council and the World Federation of United Nations Associations 'WFUNA' in Geneva, July 2007.

Cissa has been as adviser to the the UN Secretary General's special representative to UN-Africa Union led International Conference for Peace, Security and Development for the Great Lakes Region of Africa.

Cissa has served as a panelist during "UN60": A time for Renewal" a gathering of UN advocates at the UN HQ in New York in March 2005. Cissa has also served as a judge at the International Service Human Rights nomination Awards 2004 in London, UK; and as a committee member representing African civil society to UN World Summit on Environment and Development 'UNCED' in Rio de Janeiro, Brasil in 1992.

Cissa won the nationwide Awards for Voluntary Endeavours in UK 2006. Cissa had presented lectures, presentations and speeches at numerous universities and international conference on issues of human rights, peace, conflict prevention and resolution, gender equality, children's rights, and humanitarian situations.

Cissa is an ideal speaker to provide insights into the complexities of human rights, peace, and conflict resolution as he was a Prisoner of Conscience and subsequently imprisoned for over three months during the administrations of both presidents Mobutu and Kabila. Cissa recovered his freedom due to his connections and the interventions of United Nations and other human rights international organisations. Cissa has lived in safety since 2000 as he continues to work relentlessly for human rights, health, and peace for the Dem. Rep of Congo.

Currently Dr. Cissa Wa Numbe is the Secretary General of the United Nations Association of the Democratic Republic of the Congo (UNA-DRC). UNA-DRC has two offices located in the cities of Kinshasa and Bukavu, D.R. Congo.

