

The Dalai Lama Likes Openness In Americans

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About 5,000 spectators turned out on the UCSC campus Tuesday afternoon to hear the Dalai Lama say has gained a favorable impression of Americans during his first visit to the United States.

"I like your attitude— open and straightforward," the Dalai Lama told an enthusiastic audience from a "stage" on the green below the Field House.

Now on a six-week tour of the U.S., the 14th Dalai Lama is the first of a centuries-old succession of Tibetan leaders to visit this country.

The exiled spiritual and political leader of Tibet has been living in Dharmasala, India, since 1959, when he fled his country after Chinese troops invaded the holy city of Lhasa.

Speaking and answering questions outside on a gorgeous afternoon, the Buddhist leader drew laughs from the crowd several times.

"Despite the bright sun in your eyes, I'm happy you came," he told the audience.

The Dalai Lama required the aid of two translators only a few times during his hour-long talk. The theme of his remarks was that mankind

should try to live together in peace and love.

"We are all members of humanity and the human family," the Dalai Lama said. Although people have different faiths and attitudes, "Deep down, there are no differences," he said.

"By nature we want happiness, and by nature we have a right to be happy. But without an inner feeling of love, we can't have inner satisfaction or inner peace.

"Eastern nations tried to copy Western technology, and we thought that once we had Western progress, we would reach happiness. But material progress is not the real answer for human beings.

"But it is only through love, kindness, compassion and helping each other that we can be happy," he said.

The Dalai Lama then addressed the question of peace on an international level. Explaining that many problems are due to natural disasters, but that other problems are caused by people, he perceived a gap in human development.

"In this world we are not lacking in science and technology, we are lacking a human moral principle.

"What we are lacking is real human brotherhood. If we de-

veloped a universal responsibility on the basis of love we could solve many problems.

"Hating each other is useless— it serves no use or purpose," the Dalai Lama reasoned.

The holy man was invited to Santa Cruz by the Vajrapani Institute, a Tibetan Buddhist retreat center in Boulder Creek. The Dalai Lama accepted the invitation, and the institute's members asked for UCSC's cooperation in receiving the Dalai Lama, and providing a facility for him to speak.

The Dalai Lama spent one day in Santa Cruz, between visits in San Francisco and Seattle. He is visiting 24 cities during his tour of the U.S.

He arrived Tuesday morning, going to UCSC Chancellor Robert Sinsheimer's campus residence and receiving the keys to the city from Mayor John Mahaney.

The holy man then met with local civic and religious leaders before giving his public address.

During his exile in India, the 44-year-old holy man has involved himself in political issues concerning Tibet, established institutions for the preservation of Tibetan identity and religion, given teachings and initiations, and encouraged bet-

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-ter understanding among the religions of the world.

The world's major religions are compatible, he said Tuesday, "because the basic principles and goals are the same—the goals are the benefit of humankind."

When an audience member asked him if living a moral life is absolutely necessary for meditation, the Dalai Lama replied, "Yes.

"To develop a stable mind, one must remove even the most subtle distractions. Before you can stop the subtle distractions it is necessary to stop the grosser ones.

"The main way to stop the grosser distractions is moral behavior," the Dalai Lama suggested.