ICASSI 1988, Chios, Greece

ICASSI in the summer of 1988 was held on the fascinating and historical island of Chios, Greece. Most of the participants and faculty stayed at either the Chios Chandris Hotel or the Hotel Kyma, both of which were located between the harbour and the beach, right on the ocean. Breakfast was eaten separately, but a communal meal occurred at lunch in a tavern or indoors in an elegant dining room.

In the evening, after the ICASSI evening program, dining out of doors with friends, both old and new, provided unforgettable pleasures. It was fun to try out local dishes that were inexpensive and tasty and set in charming restaurants or tavernas. Lively Greek music was everywhere, as was friendly atmosphere, gentle breezes, cloudless skies and the beautiful sea. At first no one could sleep at night because of the thundering of motorbikes whizzing by, but by the end of the first week the sounds seemed to abate and people got used to the way of life on the island.

The theme of ICASSI 1988 was Equality. Ten lectures were given during the large general sessions which took place in the courtyard of the Ionic Center in the early morning sun. The lectures dealt with equality in marriage, family, school and the work place.



These lectures were given by Achi Yotam (Israel), on social equality; Claire Hawes (Canada), on the couple relationship; Oscar Christensen (USA), on parenting; Edna Nash (Canada), on increasing cooperation in the school and classroom; Roy Kern (USA), on increasing cooperation in the work place; George (Bill) Linden (USA), on the relevance of

Greek Philosophy to Adlerian ideas (how appropriate to our setting); Erik Blumenthal (Germany), on the search for meaning in life; Danai Papadatou (Greece), on the meaning of death; Hans Joseph Tymister (Germany), on the process of encouragement; and Eva Dreikurs Ferguson (USA), on the danger of being right.

The lectures re-connected everyone as well as gave a refreshed approach to Adlerian theory as each day brought new adventures of learning.

Days were filled with classes, and each class focused on an aspect and application of Adlerian theory to such subjects as Dreams, Marriage Counselling, Education, Death, Using Art in the Counselling Process, and Self-growth.

In Chios, the Ionic Center invited ICASSI to a lecture on Greek Ionian poetry and philosophy which took place at "Homer's Rock". A beach night was another adventure at sandy Karfas. Additional new experiences were lessons in Greek language and folk dancing; and excursion to Nea Moni (an eleventh century Byzantine Monastery famous for its mosaics); and a trip to the ancient castle villages of Pyrgi and Mesta. Some people travelled to Turkey on the weekend to admire the glories of art and architecture in the ancient cities.

At the end of the two weeks everyone left ICASSI a little wiser, a little closer to fellow Adlerians around the world, and more committed than ever to help bring peace and harmony, good will and courage to self and others.