**Allama Dr G R Chishti`s Inaugural Speech**

**At WIHW Welcome Conference 17 on thesubject of `Hurdles and Hindrances in the way of World Interfaith Harmony Week`**

Excellency Mr Jean Francois Cautain

Ambassador Delegation of European Union to Pakistan

Dear Excellency, as much as we thank you is never enough for your kind consideration of accepting our humble invitation to “World Interfaith Harmony Week Welcome Conference” and taken trouble to come and encourage the cause of interfaith harmony by your presence at the function. We the members of Universal Interfaith Peace Mission (UIPM) and Common Word Pakistan (CWP) including all the delegations from various religions of Pakistan such as Hindus, Muslims, Christians, Buddhists, Baha’is Sikhs and Messianic congregation whole heartedly and warmly welcome you and salute you for sparing your precious time and making few moments available from your tough schedule of official engagements in service to humanity.

Taking opportunity may we draw your kind and wise attention towards the most persisting hurdles and hindrances in the way of interfaith harmony in the region such as:

1: Cultural clash, as we have Islamic culture in our country of Pakistan and have adopted the Universal Declaration of Human Rights and Freedom 1948 of United Nations. Thus the society is confused to which law it has to abide by; national or international. It is because the international human rights law provides with freedom of thought, conscience and religion while virtually mentioned Islamic Shariah to which all laws are subordinate and have no room for such kind of freedom.

2: There is law of blasphemy, which is always misunderstood by the masses and misused against minority

3: There is a powerful extremist religious group which has imposed its own branded Islamic Shariah that has nothing to do with genuine Islamic Sunnah of Hazrat Mohammad (peace be upon him) and has flooded the world with literature containing abhorrence and hatred, and their so-called Islamic interpretations understood by laymen as follows:- .

**a): Jews are those on whom Allah has wrath**

**b) Christians are those who have gone astray**

**c) Islam has abolished all religions of the world**

**d) All previous Holy Scriptures, Holy Torah, Psalm, Evangels have been abolished with the revelation of Holy Quran and the books those Chirtian Fathers, Pastors and Jewish Rabbis are holding in their lapses today have been interrupted, corrupted, falsified, distorted and changed by their own profane hands.**

**e) Before doomsday there will be great war between Muslims and Christians and Muslims will succeed to finish Christianity from its roots and there is a mention of another war between Muslims and Jews in which Jews would be annihilated completely upto the extent that not a single Jew will remain on earth.**

**f) All non-Muslims are enemies to Muslims and Muslims are not allowed to have friendly relations with non-Muslims otherwise he/she will be considered infidel.**

Excellency, all these ideas are widely spread into the masses not only in Pakistan but into the whole Muslim world as well, created and formed by extremists as suited them, until these ideas are not cured, dispelled and removed, we do not think there can be any scope for interfaith harmony.

Excellency, Chief Guest there is only light to clear this all darkness and that is Common Word Movement started by HM King Abdullah II of Jordan, the member of the family of Holy Prophet (peace be upon him) and the guardian of the three monotheistic religions`, sacred places i.e. Muslims, Jews and Christians equally. The documents of Amman’s Message and Common Word contain cure to the above mentioned diseases. This is the document that gave birth to “World Interfaith Harmony Week of UN”—we are celebrating (WIHW of UN). It would work if the world joins hands to impose these documents officially into the Muslim countries which are members of the UN.

Excellency Chief Guest, Universal Interfaith Peace Mission has officially adopted this Common Word and had requested Ministry of Religious Affairs and Interfaith Harmony to make it part of the national educational curriculum so that culture of interfaith harmony may prevail.

Excellency, Chief Guest we declare that all the above mentioned ideas by extremists are false and they have exploited the words of Holy Quran and Sunnah while these texts used by the extremists for creating hatred have some other meanings, but we need help and support to present it to the masses in its right form to bring positive change and create culture of love, peace and interfaith harmony, mutual understanding, peaceful coexistence as well as culture of dialogue.

In this regard we would be looking forward to Your Excellency for joining us to do the work of your part and deliver the masses from extremism and oblige.

Thank you

Allama Dr GR Chishti,

Chairman UIPM,

Chief Coordinator

Common Word Pakistan

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