UIPM holds interfaith harmony mela

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Islamabad

Universal Interfaith Peace Mission (UIPM) organised an ‘Interfaith Mela’ on the conclusion of month-long celebrations of World Interfaith Harmony Week (WIHW) 2018, at local hotel here in Islamabad on Wednesday.

Federal Minister for Human Rights Mumtaz Ahmad Tarar, Minister of State and Chairman National Commission for Status of Women in Pakistan Khawar Mumtaz, Prof. Anita from US, Dr. Amineh Hoti, Mr Alain Fortin, Second Secretary of French Embassy, Dr Habib, Dr Naveed Mirza, Dr Ahmed Junaid attended the conference.

UIPM Chairman Allama Dr GR Chishti in his keynote address said that World Interfaith Harmony Week was announced by the United Nations in 2010 and since 2011 Universal Interfaith Peace Mission has been celebrating WIHW. UIPM has duly adopted the ‘Amman Message’ and the ‘Common Word’ since 2008 as an Integral part of it, believing that the first document is antidote to cancer of sectarianism in Islam that invites all schools of thought of Islam to stop issuing ‘fatwas’ (decrees) of infidelity, heresy and apostasy and the second ‘Common Word’ that is a cohesive force to keep all the religions of the world together that includes all and excludes no one.

“It is said that quitters never win and winners never quit. In 2015 we won first prize of King Abdullah II of Jordan for spreading the message of WIHW of UN in the best way. UIPM was awarded certificate, gold medal and cash award and the organisation spent it on promotion of interfaith harmony and never sat back like others. This gift was spend on programmes from 2015 and 2018 in which many conferences, seminar and workshops were organised which were attended by many of you,” he added.

This year, the chairman of UIPM said we used a new strategy to spread the message of WIHW i.e. using of email and social media sources including facebook, Whatsapp messages as well as electronic and print media to convey the message of WIHW of UN i.e. essence of Love of God and Love of Neighbour also we established three Free Medical Capms in minority areas through which we not only check up about 1500 people in Hindu Mander , Church and Mosque equally they were provided with medicines as well this was done by the coordination of our partner Haleema Welfare Trust and to highlight further this message we are today having an interfaith harmony mela in which even Diwali of Hindu faith is being celebrated by all groups. This is to prove that Pakistan is standard bearer of human rights and official religion of Pakistan which is Islam is a religion of peace that can help counter the forces which are against peace and create misperceptions against religions to promote hatred and terrorism.

“I am thankful of Honourable Federal Minister for Human Rights Mumtaz Ahmad Tarar, for kindly accepting the patronage of UIPM with promise that he will make all out efforts to impose the Common Word as an interfaith subject in the syllabus around Pakistan so that our young generation may be able to know the widely rising common platform of world religions for promotion of interfaith harmony,” he added.

Earlier Federal Minister for Human Rights Mumtaz Ahmad Tarar lauded the services of UIPM for promotion of interfaith harmony and announced acceptance of his patronage of UIPM. He said that basis of human rights lies in Hujat ul Widah the last sermon of holy Prophet Hazrat Mohammad (peace be upon him) and we should learn the lesson from the teachings of the holy prophet of Islam in leading our lives.

Minister of State and Chairman National Commission for Status of Women in Pakistan Khawar Mumtaz said that we expect in future UIPM will also work on women rights so that our attitude towards the women improves. “The Holy Quran gives message of gender equality and we hope Dr Chishti will shed light on the subject in near future,” she added.