

Fra mandag den 1. februar 2016 til søndag den 7. februar 2016

Kom og vær med til at bygge bro mellem mennesker

Tro i Harmoni kan nu offentliggøre et spændende og mangfoldigt program for FN World Interfaith Harmony Week 2016, som denne gang er lavet i samarbejde med andre organisationer.

Interesserede i alle aldre og hudfarver, fra alle kulturer og religioner – er hjerteligt velkomne!

Alle arrangementer er gratis – med undtagelse af fællesspisningen i Mødestedet den 4. februar.

Se alle arrangementerne på www.troihammoni.dk

 TRO I HARMONI

UN World Interfaith Harmony Week Copenhagen 2016

Interfaith has been celebrated in Copenhagen since 2011 and since 2012 by the organization Tro i Harmoni/Faiths in Harmony. Drawing from our experience, this year we wanted to create a more integrating, more collaborating celebration.

So instead of Tro i Harmoni/Faiths in Harmony organizing one or more events, we invited a number of organizations and congregations to join us in creating collaborative events, sparring with each other and partnering up.

This resulted on one hand in great meetings with people across the religious and interreligious Copenhagen, getting to know each other or know each other better. And on the other hand it resulted in an extensive Interfaith calendar with 12 events during the Interfaith week, taking place all over Copenhagen and involving all kinds of activities, one example being Songs of the heart, a concert arranged by Buddhist nun Bishuni Tenzin Drolkar, with meditative music from Buddhist, Sikh, Christian and Jewish traditions, taking place in the hall of a Christian Church.

We wanted to test this approach, because we know from our own experience that *being a part* is a much more constructive and powerful experience than being a spectator. In this way the organizers became participants and made events that also made people participants – singing together, talking together, eating together, building tables together, lighting candles together etc.

After a busy Interfaith week, we rested in a feeling of – all of us - having joined in true meetings and new friendships.

Our role

As the board of Tro i Harmoni/Faiths in Harmony counts five religions, and as we have made interreligious events since 2012, we have a rather extensive network. Knowing many fine people, we wanted *them* to meet each other.

To in the late summer we invited everybody we knew to a meeting to tell about our idea and to introduce people to each other. We had a great meeting, eating together, getting to know each other, talking, brainstorming, planning. In the autumn we had another meeting, getting together again and making sure that there were no loose ends, but with the participating organizations as responsible for the events.

Apart from this role as coordinator and host, Tro i Harmoni/Faiths in Harmony made PR: Making an event calendar and distributing this together with a press release and footage to relevant media. We took on us these roles in order to make it possible for the participating organizations to concentrate on their own events.

This way of celebrating Interfaith, involving the religious and interreligious communities in Copenhagen has been including and dialogue oriented and a great experience. We plan to continue this approach the following years, hopefully expanding the week, both in number of events, awareness and participants.

Interfaith Copenhagen events

Monday February 1st

Interreligious evening: The praying practice of different faiths

7-9 pm

Phendeling, Center for Tibetan Buddhism

Believers from different religious traditions tell about their faith and praying practice:

Jair Melchior, rabbi from The Jewish Society

Jonna Dalsgaard, minister in Anna Church

Sami Küçükakin, Chairman, *The Muslim Council of Denmark*

Ani Tenzin, Buddhist nun from Phendeling

Interreligious dialogue and eating

5.30-9 pm

Islamic Christian Study Center

Islamic Christian Study Center and the interreligious joint eating project Faith & Food welcome you to a dialogue about religious texts and after that a joint meal.

Islamic Christian Study Center has been working with interreligious dialogue and diapactice for the past 20 years. Faith & Food provides a free space for young believers and non-believers to meet across religion, culture and philosophy.

Tuesday February 2nd

Dialogue coffee with Özlem Cekic in Vartov,

4.30 – 6.30 pm

Come and talk with Özlem Cekic and other fellow citizens of different faiths and political views about the things that unite us and the things that separate us! And hear what you can do to reach out to people with whom you might think you have nothing in common. It all happens while drinking coffee.

Lecture on Noah's pudding

7-9 pm

Dialog Forum

Lecture on Noah's last meal before Noah and the others on the ark via a dove got news that the water had sunk and land had risen. This event is celebrated by Sunni Muslims in e.g. Dialog Forum. Come and hear the story about Noah and the celebration of the last meal aboard the ark!

Wednesday February 3rd

Interreligious peace painting for children

4,30-6.30 pm.

Anna Church

All children are welcome to come and paint a paint together. The goal is to give children an opportunity to give creative suggestions on how to live together in peace across culture and religion and makel a painting together.

Thursday February 4th:

Songs of the Heart – meditative concert

7.00-9.00 pm

Stefan's Church parish hall

Meditative concert with spiritual songs and spiritual music from different religious traditions: Buddhism, Islam, Christianity, Judaism and Sikhism.

Within all religions beyond dogma we find spiritual traditions where contemplation and unity experience play a central role. The musical expression is based on prayers and mantras, endlessly repeated to bring the practitioner in a meditative state, where conventional thinking rests for a time.

Eating together and talking together

8-9 pm

The Meeting Place

Do you want to know more about how people who believe in another God than you think? Do you want to have a dialogue instead of building fences or just look from afar?

Join our evening in The Meeting Place and hear presentations from Muslims and Christians and be a part of small groups to discuss and have a great time!

Friday February 5th:

Choir workshop for children and grown-ups of every faith

4-9 pm

Stefan's Church

If you like to sing, please join the choir workshop, conducted by Henrik Goldschmidt and Fatma Zidan. Both Henrik and Fatma teach at Goldschmidt's Music Academy, a private music school, offering free song and music training for children and young people.

Come and be a part – it will be great fun! And invite everybody you know to the concert at 8.30 pm!

Saturday February 6th:

Jewish service with guests from other faiths

9.45 am - 12.30 pm

The Copenhagen Synagogue

For security reasons registration is necessary to anna@troiharmoni.dk.

We meet at 9.45 am to get an introduction to Judaism and the Jewish service. Then we enter the Synagogue and are guests at the service. We will see how the Torah is taken out of its cabinet and listen to rabbi Jair Melchior's sermon.

Sunday February 7th:

Build a table for dialogue!

2-4 pm

Brorson's Church

It is a good thing to be in dialogue with people that believe in something else than you. But why not start at another point and together build the table for the dialogues of the future?

People of all ages, colours, cultures and religions are welcome to join us to build a table for dialogue together.

The church has building materials and building experts. We only need you!

Christian light service with guests from others faiths

4-5 pm

Trinity Hall

Diocese of Copenhagen and Committee for Interreligious Dialogue, Diocese of Copenhagen together with Tro i Harmoni/Faiths in Harmony are hosts at a Christian service where guests from other faiths bring greetings from their own religious tradition after the service. Sermon by the Bishop of Copenhagen Peter Skov-Jakobsen. Københavns Stift/Stiftsudvalget for Folkekirke og Religionsmøde i Københavns Stift afholder i samarbejde med den interreligiøse forening Tro i Harmoni en kristen gudstjeneste, hvor repræsentanter fra andre religiøse traditioner bringer en hilsen fra deres egen religiøse tradition i kirkerummet efter gudstjenestens afslutning. Københavns biskop Peter Skov-Jakobsen prædiker. Mads Granum quartet and the organist of the church plays prelude, postlude as well a music for the occasion.

Following the service, we gather for coffee/tea, cake and talking together.

Torchlight procession - let's together turn on the light in the darkness!

5.30-6 pm

From Trinity Hall to Townhall Square

The interreligious organization Tro i Harmoni/Faith in Harmony invite all interested parties to join a torchlight procession to mark the ending of the service and UN Interfaith Harmony Week 2016. Together we mark that faith can be a point to meet and that harmony, openness, respect, dialogue and happiness between faiths is both possible and desirable.

Testimonials

I think the work of Tro i Harmoni/Faith in Harmony is important, as they continually create events where people of different faiths meet, discovering the similarities as well as the differences between us. I participated in three different events. One of these were a service in the synagogue, where we were happy to greet a lot of guests from others faiths

Jair Melchior, Rabbi

Being engaged for many years in interreligious dialogue in a project called Din tro min tro (Your Faith My Faith) where a Jew, a Muslim and a Christian visit schools, I was happy to participate in this year's Inter-faith celebration. I was part of a panel, telling about praying practice within different religious traditions at an event at Phendeling, Center for Tibetan Buddhism. And also my church was hosting an event called Peace painting for children, where a lot of kids painted a beautiful frieze, which now decorates the big hall in our church.

Jonna Dalsgaard, Diocese Minister, Copenhagen

Phendling – Center for Tibetan Buddhism has been a part of the Interfaith celebrations for some years now and I have also participated myself. I am happy to be a part of the tradition, as it leads to more contact and dialogue and people from different faiths getting to know each other better. Also I was happy that this year's concept opened up for new types of events, e.g. a concert with meditative music, which I arranged and a choir workshop which I attended. It was great value to do things together as for instance sing together.

Bishuni Tenzin Drolkar, Buddhist nun at Phendling – Center for Tibetan Buddhism

It is increasingly important for the Muslim organizations to make the good relations to other religious traditions visible. I was happy to be a part of a panel on praying practices at an event at a Buddhist center, telling about Muslim praying traditions and hearing about the other faiths'. I am happy that Tro i Harmoni/Faiths in Harmony makes events aimed – not only at one group – but at the entire civil society. This is where changes take place.

Sami Küçükakin, Chairman, The Muslim Council of Denmark

As chairman of the Diocesan Committee for Inter-religious Dialogue in Copenhagen I have been very pleased in getting to know Tro i Harmoni. I see the will and ability of this small organization to create dialogue events. I really appreciate the informality, the joy and the work of Tro i Harmoni.

Anton Pihl, Committee for Inter-religious Dialogue, Diocese of Copenhagen

During the last decades Denmark has changed and has become a much more diverse country. In order to gain the advantages from the diversity and avoid the problems, it is necessary to be oriented towards openness and dialogue, also religious dialogue. We need to get together with people with other religious horizons than our own, to get to know each other in our diversity. Therefor the work of Tro i Harmoni, bringing people of different faiths together, is very important.

Peter Skov-Jacobsen, Bishop of Copenhagen Diocese

Kind Regards,

Anna Eskelund, Chairwoman

Parvinder Singh

Cömert Küçükakin

Andrea Uzan

Lisbet Rasmussen

Henrik Pundik

Jesper Gisli

Abdullah Bayhan

John Helmersen

Kira Saabye From

Copenhagen, 6th of March 2016

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