

AWARE CENTER

Report for Interfaith World Harmony Week Activities

FEBRUARY 1-7, 2017



It is an honor to present this report of the AWARE Center's participation and in support of the UN World Interfaith Harmony Week. This Report is aimed to give a brief summary of AWARE Center's mission along with the main events and activities conducted by AWARE staff in an effort to support the Center's mission. This Report covers activities occurring between February 1- 7, 2017. The Report also highlights extraordinary events hosted by AWARE Center to promote the inter-cultural dialogue.

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APPENDIX

<i>TITLE</i>	<i>PAGE NO.</i>
1. What/Who is AWARE?	3
2. Our Mission	3
3. Our Values	3
4. Executive Summary of the Event	4
5. Desired Outcome	4
6. Opening Ceremony Cross Cultural Interfaith Programs	5
7. Abraham our Patriarch	7
8. Cross Culture Interfaith Breakfast	8
9. Walk for Peace	10
10. Expressing our Faith through dialogue	13
11. Sharing something significant from our own faith	14
12. Interfaith Dinner, Cultural Night & Closing Ceremony	16
13. Conclusion	23

WHAT/WHO IS AWARE?

The Advocate for Westerners-Arab Relations (AWARE) center is a non-profit organization working for promoting positive, constructive relationship between the Westerners and Arabs by organizing social activities and orientation services related to Arab and Islamic culture. The AWARE Center was established in 2003 by a group of Arabs and Westerners whose aim was to foster better understanding between the Westerners and the Arabs through communication and friendship. It is through culture and tradition that we preserve our heritage, that we express our creativity and to share our uniqueness with the world. Over the years, AWARE has built a reputation as a consistent, trusted, and reliable resource for westerners in Kuwait.

OUR MISSION

Our mission is to promote positive relations between Westerners and Arabs by organizing social activities and information services related to Arab and Islamic Culture. AWARE is guided by Arab and Islamic humanitarian values which advocate peaceful co-existence between cultures and development. Among key values aware promotes are tolerance, better understanding and mutual respect between the westerners and Arab/Islamic world.

OUR VALUES

- AWARE concentrates its activities among the Westerners irrespective of their citizenship and gender.
- AWARE abides by the Arab Islamic values and ethics, as well as a moderate approach in all its activities.
- AWARE remains as a non-political, non-profit, non-affiliated to any particular school of thought in its nature.
- AWARE ensures quality services and maintains high standards in its business.
- AWARE has adapted English as its official language.

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY OF THE EVENT

In order to commemorate and celebrate the Interfaith World Harmony Week, the AWARE Center hosted a few lectures and tours for the purpose of promoting interfaith dialogue and better understanding between different faiths. The lecturers were experienced in dismissing the gap between the Christians and Muslims across the Gulf. One Lecturer in particular, Dr. Ebrahim Adsani, conducted several lectures and television interviews as well as successful meetings with officials and religious leaders in Kuwait.

DESIRED OUTCOMES

1. Identify and suggest methods to achieve the goal of bridging the gap and formulating a better understanding from both sides; Muslims and Westerners.
2. Identify and establish a course of action which can be taken by all concerned individuals allowing the public to move forward and increase awareness and better understanding between Muslims and Westerners.
3. Promote the importance of interfaith dialogue and activities in order to achieve the desired harmony.

1. OPENING CEREMONY CROSS CULTURE INTERFAITH LECTURE PROGRAM:



Picture 1.1



Picture 1.2



Picture 1.3



Picture 1.4

2. ABRAHAM OUR PATRIARCH:



Picture 2.1



Picture 2.2



Picture 2.3



Picture 2.4

3. CROSS CULTURE INTERFAITH BREAKFAST:



Picture 3.1



Picture 3.2



Picture 3.3

4. THE WALK FOR PEACE:



Picture 4.1



Picture 4.2



Picture 4.3



Picture 4.4



Picture 4.5



Picture 4.6

5. EXPRESSING OUR FAITH THROUGH DIALOGUE:

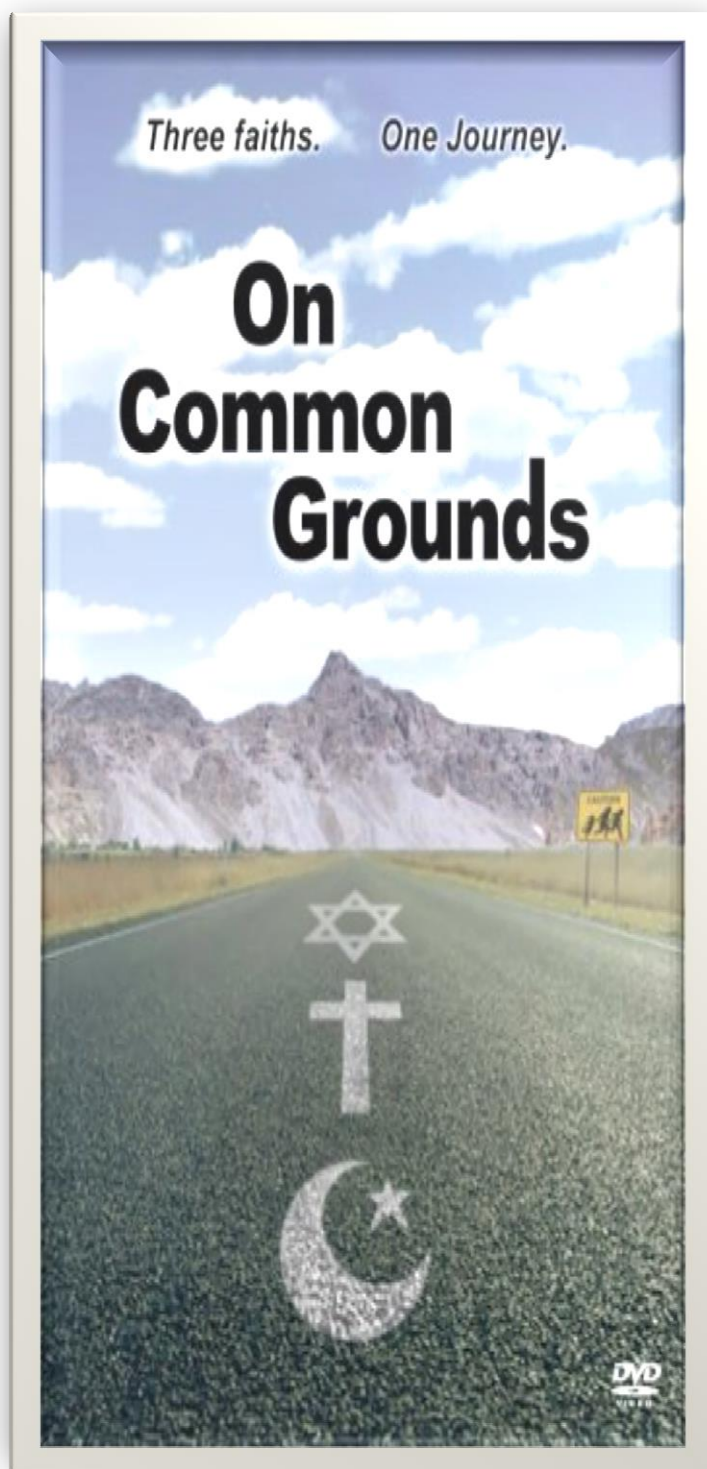


Picture 5.1



Picture 5.2

6. SHARING SOMETHING SIGNIFICANT FROM OUR OWN FAITH:



Picture 6.1



Picture 6.2



Picture 6.3



Picture 6.4

7. INTERFAITH DINNER, CULTURAL NIGHT & CLOSING CEREMONY:



Picture 7.1



Picture 7.2



Picture 7.3



Picture 7.4



Picture 7.5



Picture 7.6



**Mohammed
Met'eb**

Picture 7.7



Lidia Qattan

Picture 7.8



Iman Martin

Picture 7.9



Picture 7.10



Gemat

Picture 7.11



Date sweets

Picture 7.12



Hummus

Picture 7.13



Kababs

Picture 7.14



Picture 7.15



Picture 7.16



Picture 7.17



Picture 7.18

CONCLUSION:

Interfaith dialogue is extremely important, especially now a days. World Interfaith Harmony Week is a way to promote harmony between all people regardless of their faith. Recognizing the imperative need for dialogue among different faiths and religions to enhance mutual understanding, harmony and cooperation among people, the AWARE Center conducted very successful events during that week to the spread the message of interfaith harmony and goodwill. In conclusion, interfaith dialogue proved to be an important way to promote peace and change attitudes and as we move forward and get better at interfaith dialogue and discussing the common issues that we all share, we are certain that attitude change will be even more striking and pronounced.

TESTIMONIALS:

"Brief but very informative. Light hearted & direct. Enjoyable & thank you for this excellent initiative." – W. Kazak

"It was fantastic. The presenters were funny, personable & informative. The food was the best I've had in Kuwait. Thank you for your hospitality." – Daniel Froese

"I enjoyed the entire package programs. It was nice to meet locals & other Westerners. I look forward to the other social outings" – Malcolm Marshall

"Great informative! I really enjoyed learning about the culture from a native." – Teresa Kovach