

بِسْمِ اللَّهِ الرَّحْمَنِ الرَّحِيمِ



The
H.M. King Abdullah II
World Interfaith
Harmony Week Prize
Ceremony 2019



PROGRAM

WEDNESDAY, 17th APRIL 2019

Recitation from the Holy Qur'an

Remarks by H.R.H. Prince Ghazi bin Muhammad, Chief Advisor to His Majesty the King for Religious and Cultural Affairs, Personal Envoy of His Majesty the King

Remarks by the first-prize winner

H.M. King Abdullah II presents medals and certificates to the winners

Group photo with the winners and judges

WORLD INTERFAITH HARMONY WEEK



The Official UN Observance in the 1st Week of February

*Love of God and Love of the Neighbour, or
Love of the Good and Love of the Neighbour*

www.WorldInterfaithHarmonyWeek.com



The Royal Aal al-Bayt
Institute for Islamic
Thought

Qur'anic calligraphy courtesy of
www.FreeIslamicCalligraphy.com

Qur'anic translation from
www.altafsir.com

CONTENTS

Welcome	2
<i>UN World Interfaith Harmony Week Resolution Initiative</i>	2
<i>The H.M. King Abdullah II World Interfaith Harmony Week Prize</i>	3
The Winners	5
First Prize: Cape Town Interfaith Initiative	6
Second Prize: Tavolo Interreligioso di Roma	8
Third Prize: URI Cooperation Circle Brasilia	10
Third Prize: Sri Lanka United Nations Friendship Organisation	12
Appendices	15
Appendix I: <i>The World Interfaith Harmony Week Resolution UNGA Resolution A/65/PV.34</i>	16
Appendix II: <i>His Majesty King Abdullah's address at the Plenary Session of the 65th General Assembly of the UN in NY on Thursday September 26, 2010, in which he proposed the World Interfaith Harmony Week</i>	18
Appendix III: <i>H.R.H. Prince Ghazi bin Muhammad, Personal Envoy of and Special Advisor to H.M. King Abdullah II, delivers H.M. King Abdullah II's World Interfaith Harmony Week proposal at UN on October 20, 2010</i>	21
Winners' Map	26 - 27

WELCOME

Welcome to the H.M. King Abdullah II World Interfaith Harmony Week Prize ceremony! We have now celebrated nine years of the U.N. World Interfaith Harmony Week, and each year has seen the range and quality of events improve. We congratulate all those who have managed to support an event during the U.N. World Interfaith Harmony Week, and thus have helped make it firmly established on the international peace calendar.

The number of events held since the World Interfaith Harmony Week was first celebrated is:

2011 - 213 events	2012 - 290 events
2013 - 363 events	2014 - 409 events
2015 - 1009 events	2016 - 816 events
2017 - 1054 events	2018 - 1232 events
2019 - 1454 events	

The events have been held in over 90 countries and have been arranged by groups as diverse as government agencies, various social groups, schools, private individuals and of course the numerous interfaith organizations that exist worldwide.

UN World Interfaith Harmony Week Resolution Initiative

In September 2010, His Majesty King Abdullah II of Jordan proposed a World Interfaith Harmony Week at the Plenary session of the 65th United Nations General

Assembly in New York. This was a call to establish a week every year where people of all faiths, and those of no faith, would promote the message of ‘Love of God, and Love of the Neighbour’, or ‘Love of the Good, and Love of the Neighbour’. The Draft Resolution for the World Interfaith Harmony Week was later written and presented by H.R.H. Prince Ghazi bin Muhammad, Chief Advisor to King Abdullah II for Religious and Cultural Affairs and Personal Envoy of King Abdullah II, before the United Nations General Assembly where it was unanimously adopted on 20 October 2010.

U.N. Resolution A/65/PV.34; the World Interfaith Harmony Week, as it is called, recognizes the first week of February of every year as a time when people of all faiths, and those of no faith, work together to promote and celebrate religious and cultural understanding and cooperation, to address each other in favourable terms drawn from their own traditions and to accept and respect ‘the other’ based on the foundations of ‘Love of God, and Love of the Neighbour’, or ‘Love of the Good and Love of the Neighbour’. Remarkably the World Interfaith Harmony Week excludes no one and includes and unites everyone.

The H.M. King Abdullah II World Interfaith Harmony Week Prize

The Royal Aal Al-Bayt Institute for Islamic Thought in Jordan established the World Interfaith Harmony Week Prize in 2013 to recognize the three best events or texts organized during the U.N. World Interfaith Harmony Week (first week of February) which best promote the goals of the World Interfaith Harmony Week. Prizes are awarded to each event or text that is judged to have been most successful in promoting interfaith harmony and impacting religious understanding. Since 2014, this prize has been known as the King Abdullah II World Interfaith Harmony Week Prize.

The prizes are:

First	\$25,000 and a gold medal
Second	\$15,000 and a silver medal
Third	\$5,000 and a bronze medal

The Judges for the 2019 The King Abdullah II World Interfaith Harmony Week Prize were:

- H.R.H. Princess Areej Ghazi
- H.B. Patriarch Theophilus III – Patriarch of the Holy City, Palestine and Jordan
- H.E. Sheikh Dr Ali Gomaa – former Grand Mufti of the Arab Republic of Egypt
- H.E. Bishop Munib Yunan – Bishop of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in Jordan and the Holy Land, and President of the World Federation of Evangelical Lutheran Churches
- Sheikh Usama al-Sayyid Al-Azhari – Professor at Al-Azhar University
- Father Nabil Haddad – Founder and Executive Director of the Jordanian Interfaith Coexistence Research Centre
- Dr. Minwer Al-Meheid – Director of the Royal Aal Al-Bayt Institute for Islamic Thought

THE WINNERS



First Prize

Love of Neighbour - Our Prayers for Our City

Submitted by

Cape Town Interfaith Initiative

Cape Town, South Africa

Dr Berys Behr Gargan and Dr James Ellman will collect the award on behalf of Cape Town Interfaith Initiative.

Cape Town Interfaith Initiative started in 2000 after the organizers of the Cape Town Parliament of the World's Religions (1999) saw the impact and potential of interfaith and created CTII as a vehicle to take the work further. Our most successful project to date is the Marlene Silbert Youth Interfaith Intercultural Programme, which brings together teenagers from diverse religious and cultural backgrounds over a two-year project-driven period.

Prayers for the City is an annual event hosted by Cape Town Interfaith Initiative (CTII), the co-ordinating body for the interfaith movement in the Western Cape. About 5 years ago, when CTII joined the international grassroots network United Religions Initiative (URI) as a co-operation circle, Prayers for the City was moved to the first Sunday in February in alignment with World Interfaith Harmony Week. Usually, it was held in the city centre.

This year, in collaboration with Faith Hope Love Communities of Elsie's River led by former CTII Director James Ellman, the prayers were taken to the people to encourage an economically challenged community

suffering under the heavy burden of daily exposure to drugs, gangsterism and violent crime.



About 50 people of all ages and religions, and from all parts of the city, gathered at the Siddique Mosque in Elsie's River on Sunday 3 February, where the beautiful call to prayer announced the beginning of the sacred ceremony. Buddhists, Baha'i, Muslims, Christians, Hare Krishna, Unitarians, Brahma Kumaris and the unaffiliated – all walked together in contemplative silence to the vacant ground recently reclaimed by the community from criminals. The rain may have kept some people away, but the group was enthusiastic for the mission as they walked and prayed, then shared their different expressions of Love for Neighbour, Love for each other, Love of Good and Love of God. The Baha'i children sang, the Christians prayed, the Buddhists read sacred texts, the Brahma Kumaris meditated and the Muslims surprised us with a generous table of refreshments carried from the mosque. One Elsie's River resident spoke of the hope and the light that this interfaith event brought to the community, and hoped it would be the first of many.

Cape Town Interfaith Initiative

www.capeinterfaith.org.za

ctii.capetown@gmail.com

Second Prize

Interreligious Manifesto of The Rights In End of Life Path

Submitted by

Tavolo Interreligioso di Roma

Rome, Italy

*Dr Alessandro Bazzoni and Prof Maria Angela Falà
will collect the award on behalf of the Interreligious Com-
mittee of Rome.*

Tavolo Interreligioso di Roma was constituted in 1998 with the mission of promoting educational projects in the intercultural dimension and sustaining the recognition of the role of religions in building an inclusive and peaceful society. Over time it has expanded its activities to support social inclusion, education, arts and health management in an intercultural and interreligious dimension.

THE INTERRELIGIOUS MANIFESTO OF RIGHTS IN END-OF-LIFE PATH is the result of long work and commitment of a group of people involved in the humanization of medical care. The promoting committee formed by ASL (Local Health Agency) Roma 1, Gemelli Medical Center - Catholic University of the Sacred Heart and Tavolo Interreligioso di Roma shared this proposal with religious leaders and obtained an enthusiastic agreement.

After a preparatory meeting held in a spirit of dialogue and mutual attention, the promoting committee, the religious leaders - representing the Islamic Cultural

Center of Italy, the Federation of Evangelical Churches in Italy, the Romanian Orthodox Diocese of Italy, the Italian Buddhist Institute Soka Gakkai, the Italian Buddhist Union, the Italian Jewish Communities Union, the Italian Hindu Union, the Italian Union of 7th Day Adventist Christian Churches, the Vicariate of Rome - the Representatives of Public Administration and Volunteers Associations signed the Manifesto to ensure religious and spiritual support to sick and dying people in health structures like hospitals, hospices or at home during their final phase of life.

The aims of the Manifesto are to promote the possibility:

- to have the support of their own faiths in the critical moments of illness and dying,
- to make sure the presence of a spiritual guide, a priest, a rabbi or an imam is close to dying people,
- to have the right to perform all religious practices related to death and the time after death.



The Manifesto will bring benefit to all believers in a spirit of brotherhood, harmony and mutual support facing illness and death that make all of us equal.

Tavolo Interreligioso di Roma

www.tavolointerreligioso.org

info@tavolointerreligioso.org

Third Prize

Public Audience in the Legislative Chamber of the Federal District of Brazil

Submitted by

Círculo de Cooperação
Iniciativa das Religiões Unidas
Brasília

Brasilia, Brazil

Elianildo da Silva Nascimento and Deivid Gomes da Silva will collect the award on behalf of URI Cooperation Circle Brasilia.

URI Brasília CC has been working since 2004 on the joint construction with the Federal Government of the national policy of human rights for religious diversity, as well as in combating religious intolerance and the defense of a secular state. Throughout this time, various publications have been produced for the promotion of religious freedom, realization and support for major events such as the Meetings of the New Consciousness, the World Spiritual Forum and the Movement for Life, among other initiatives, all aimed at fostering interreligious respect. It has also acted incisively in the National Congress, along with the Human Rights Commissions of the Senate and the Federal Chamber, especially fighting projects that seek to impose dominant religious views as laws for all.

The URI Brasilia Cooperation Circle, Brazil, member of the United Religions Initiative - URI, on the occasion of the 2019 World Interfaith Harmony Week, proposed to the Legislative Chamber of the Federal District, in its Human Rights Commission, the creation of the Parliamentary Front for Religious Diversity.



The Public Audience held for this purpose took place on February 7th, and was attended by authorities such as the President of the Commission on Human Rights, Deputy Fábio Félix; the former interim Minister of Human Rights and current Secretary of the Government, Juvenal Araújo; the Undersecretary of Racial Equality of the Federal District, Diego Moreno; the URI Global Council Trustee, Salette Aquino; the representative of the District Committee on Religious Diversity, Hoeck Miranda; and the representative of the National Committee for Respect to Religious Diversity, Elianildo Nascimento, among others.

The importance of this initiative was justified by the fact that, since 2015, the Federal District has been the scene of several episodes of violence against religious groups, with occurrences of criminal fires of temples of religions of African matrices and of the Orixás Square, invasion and depredation of an Islamic mosque, a Spiritist temple and of the Church of Santo Daime, among other situations of extreme religious intolerance.

The work of the Parliamentary Front for Religious Diversity will contribute to the strengthening of joint actions of state and society institutions in the prevention and resolution of these demands, thus fulfilling a necessary role of civilizing construction.

Third Prize

Campaign for Interfaith Harmony in Sri Lanka

Submitted by

Sri Lanka United Nations
Friendship Organisation
Sri Lanka

Dr Warnakula Arachchiralalage Deshapriya Sam Wijetunge and Mr Ramesh Eranda Peiris will collect the award on behalf of Sri Lanka United Nations Friendship Organisation.

Dr WA Deshapriya S Wijetunge is a social leader in Sri Lanka. He has been involved in peace initiatives, peace missions and social services for more than 20 years. He is a founding member of the Sri Lanka United Nations Friendship Organisation (SUNFO), which was inaugurated on 22 May 1999 under the patronage of Hon Speaker of the Parliament of Sri Lanka and blessings of United Nations Resident Coordinator. He serves as Director General of SUNFO.

In the year 2019 Dr Wijetunge led a special initiative of introducing “World Interfaith Harmony Week” UN Declaration to Sri Lanka. Initiatives were taken to introduce the WIHW UN Resolution to four ministers in charge of four main religious affairs in Sri Lanka, to key religious leaders, to society leaders in Sri Lanka, to public, students and youth in Sri Lanka. He got the

blessings from the His Excellency Maithreepala Sirisena, President of Sri Lanka, Hon Ranil Wickramasinghe, Prime Minister of Sri Lanka, and Hon Karu Jayasuriya, Speaker of the Parliament of Sri Lanka.



Some of the events included:

- Interfaith Harmony Mobile Phone Torch Meditation-Prayer island wide. Over 60,000 people across the country joined this action to commemorate the WIHW
- Interfaith Harmony Walks
- National & Religious Harmony Towards Sustainability Symposium
- World Interfaith Harmony week Assembly in Colombo
- Collective Meditation and Prayer for All Religions
- Inter-religious Social and community activities in Sri Lanka
- A gathering of 2000 participants, including many diverse religious leaders, gathered at BMICH Main Convention Center, Colombo Sri Lanka on 27 February 2019
- Kite Festival - Promote of Message of Unity through Social Integration
- Hate Drug Campaign
- Various Environmental Cleaning Programmes by Interfaith Team

**Sri Lanka United Nations Friendship Organisation
(SUNFO)**

sunfomobile@yahoo.com

يَا أَيُّهَا النَّاسُ إِنَّا خَلَقْنَاكُمْ مِنْ ذَكَرٍ وَأُنْثَىٰ وَجَعَلْنَاكُمْ شُعُوبًا وَقَبَائِلَ لِتَعَارَفُوا

إِنَّ أَكْرَمَكُمْ عِنْدَ اللَّهِ أَتْقَاهُ ۚ إِنَّ اللَّهَ عَلِيمٌ خَبِيرٌ

O mankind! Lo! We have created you male and female,
and have made you nations and tribes that ye may know
one another. Lo! the noblest of you, in the sight of Allah,
is the best in conduct. Lo! Allah is Knower, Aware.

The Rooms, 13

APPENDICES



APPENDIX I

The World Interfaith Harmony Week Resolution UNGA Resolution A/65/PV.34

The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolutions 53/243 of 13 September 1999 on the declaration and programme of action relating to a culture of peace, 57/6 of 4 November 2002 concerning the promotion of a culture of peace and non-violence, 58/128 of 19 December 2003 on the promotion of religious and cultural understanding, harmony and cooperation, 60/4 of 20 October 2005 on a global agenda for dialogue among civilizations, 64/14 of 10 November 2009 on the Alliance of Civilizations, 64/81 of 7 December 2009 on the promotion of interreligious and intercultural dialogue, understanding and cooperation for peace and 64/164 of 18 December 2009 on the elimination of all forms of intolerance and discrimination based on religion or belief,

Recognizing the imperative need for dialogue among different faiths and religions in enhancing mutual understanding, harmony and cooperation among people,

Recalling with appreciation various global, regional and subregional initiatives on mutual understanding and interfaith harmony including the Tripartite Forum on Interfaith Cooperation for Peace, and the initiative 'A Common Word',

Recognizing that the moral imperatives of all religions, convictions and beliefs call for peace, tolerance and mutual understanding,

1. Reaffirms that mutual understanding and inter-religious dialogue constitute important dimensions of a culture of peace;
2. Proclaims the first week of February of every year the World Interfaith Harmony Week between all religions, faiths and beliefs;
3. Encourages all States to support, on a voluntary basis, the spread of the message of interfaith harmony and goodwill in the world's churches, mosques, synagogues, temples and other places of worship during that week, based on love of God and love of one's neighbour or on love of the good and love of one's neighbour, each according to their own religious traditions or convictions;
4. Requests the Secretary-General to keep the General Assembly informed of the implementation of the present resolution.

APPENDIX II



**His Majesty King Abdullah's address at
the Plenary Session of the 65th General
Assembly of the UN in NY on Thursday
September 26, 2010, in which he proposed
the World Interfaith Harmony Week**

Bism Illah Al-Rahman Al-Raheem

President Deiss,
Mr Secretary General,
Your Excellencies,

More than ever before, our world is confronting multiple global crises, which cannot be effectively addressed, without a coordinated, multilateral action. No country

can face these crises and provide for its future in isolation. The threats are global, and so are the solutions. A strong, central role for the United Nations is essential.

It is also essential to resist forces of division that spread misunderstanding and mistrust, especially among peoples of different religions. The fact is, humanity everywhere is bound together, not only by mutual interests, but by shared commandments, to love God and neighbour; to love the good and neighbour. This week, my delegation, with the support of our friends on every continent, will introduce a draft resolution for an annual World Interfaith Harmony Week. What we are proposing is a special week, during which the world's people, in their own places of worship, could express the teachings of their own faith about tolerance, respect for the other and peace. I hope this resolution will have your support.

My friends,

Another critical area for UN leadership is peace, and one peace hangs in the balance today. With direct negotiations between the Palestinians and the Israelis, a door opens to a final, two-state settlement of the Palestinian-Israeli conflict, and the establishment of an independent, viable and sovereign Palestinian state, living side by side with Israel, will pave the way for a comprehensive regional peace.

An end to this conflict is long overdue. No regional crisis has had a longer or broader impact on global security and stability. No such crisis has been longer on the UN agenda or has frustrated peacemakers more. Every resource spent in this conflict is a resource lost for investing in progress and prosperity. Every day spent is a day lost to forces of violence and extremism that threaten all of us in the region and beyond.

People are wary of disappointment, and spoilers are doing everything they can to make us fail. We cannot underestimate the importance of success, or the painful cost of failure. All of us need to support swift action, hard choices and real results. The alternative is more suffering

deeper frustrations with spreading, more vicious warfare. Such a catastrophic scenario will continue to drag in the whole world, threatening security and stability far beyond the borders of the Middle East.

To prevent that, the talks must be approached with commitment, sincerity and courage. There should be no provocative or unilateral actions that can derail the negotiations. Instead, the parties must work hard to produce results, and quickly. That means addressing all final-status issues, with a view to ending the occupation and reaching the two-state solution, the only solution that can work, as soon as possible. The status quo is simply unacceptable, Enough injustice, enough bloodshed.

Jordan and the rest of the Arab and Muslim worlds are committed. In the Arab Peace Initiative, we reach out to Israel with an unprecedented opportunity for a comprehensive settlement, A settlement that will enable Israel to have normal relations with 57 Arab and Muslim states, one-third of the United Nations.

Now, we reach out to you, our fellow members of this United Nations. All stand to lose if the talks fail; all gain when peace is achieved. Our global and collective influence is key. Together, we must tip the balance towards peace.

Thank you.

APPENDIX III



**H.R.H. Prince Ghazi bin Muhammad,
Personal Envoy of and Special Advisor to
H.M. King Abdullah II, delivers H.M. King
Abdullah II's World Interfaith Harmony
Week proposal at UN on October 20, 2010**

Bism Illah Al-Rahman Al-Raheem

Mr. President, I have the honour to introduce, on behalf of the Hashemite Kingdom of Jordan and the 29 other co-sponsors Albania, Azerbaijan; Bahrain; Bangladesh; Costa Rica; the Dominican Republic; Egypt; El Salvador; Georgia; Guatemala; Guyana; Honduras; Kazakhstan; Kuwait; Liberia; Libya; Mauritius; Morocco; Oman; Paraguay; Qatar; the Russian Federation; Saudi Arabia; Tanzania; Tunisia; Turkey; the United Arab Emirates; Uruguay and Yemen, the draft resolution A/65/L5 entitled the 'World Interfaith Harmony Week'.

Allow me to explain in brief the reasoning behind this resolution which was launched by H.M. King Abdullah II bin Al-Hussein before the United Nations General Assembly on September 23rd 2010.


As this august assembly is well aware, our world is rife with religious tension and, sadly, mistrust, dislike and hatred. These religious tensions can easily erupt into communal violence. They also facilitate the demonizing of the other which in turn predisposes public opinion to support war against peoples of other religions. Thus, for example, according to the results of the 2008 Gallup Poll one of the largest international religious surveys in history 53% of Westerners have 'unfavourable' or 'very unfavourable' opinions of Muslims and 30% of Muslims polled worldwide hold negative views of Christians.

The misuse or abuse of religions can thus be a cause of world strife, whereas religions should be a great foundation for facilitating world peace. The remedy for this problem can only come from the world's religions themselves. Religions must be part of the solution, not part of the problem. Much good work has already been done towards this starting really with the Second Vatican Council from 1962–1965 by hundreds of intra-faith and interfaith groups all over the world and of all religions. Yet the forces inciting inter-religious tensions (notable among them being religious fundamentalisms of various kinds) are better organized, more experienced, better coordinated, more motivated and more ruthless. They have more stratagems, more institutes, more money, more power and garner more publicity such that they by far outweigh all the positive work done by the various interfaith initiatives. The sad proof of this is that religious tensions are on the rise, not on the decline.

Mr. President, Turning now to the text itself, allow me to explain some of its most essential terminology and concepts: 1) In the very title of the resolution and in the second operative paragraph and elsewhere, the word 'harmony' is used in the Chinese sense of the term. We add it to the term 'tolerance' (which we have also used) because

‘tolerance’ can suggest that the other is so negative they have to be ‘tolerated’; we cannot use ‘acceptance’ because it implies that religions accept each other’s doctrines rather than their right to those doctrines and this is not the case; we cannot use the term ‘peace’ alone because it suggests merely the absence of war, and not necessarily the absence of hatred. Only the Confucian concept of ‘harmony’ can rescue us here because it suggests not merely ‘peace’, but also ‘beautiful and dynamic interaction between different elements within a whole’.

2) In the third operative paragraph, there is mention of ‘Love of God and Love of the Neighbour, or Love of the Good and Love of the Neighbour’. Why is this religious reference necessary in a UN resolution? In answer to this question, it will be noted first that this draft resolution is unique because it is specifically about peace between religions and not about anything else, therefore some religious references in this particular case is only natural. To rigidly maintain the contrary would be to disregard the feelings of 85% of the world’s population which belongs to one or another faith.

Second and more importantly perhaps we include these references because whilst we all agree that it is clearly not the business of the UN to engage in theology, it is nevertheless the primary goal of the UN to make and safeguard peace, and without the specific mention of God and of the Two Commandments of Love [see: Matthew 22:34–40 and Mark 12:28–31] many if not most devout Muslims, Christians and Jews will consider a secular call for an interfaith harmony week a feckless platitude that they cannot fully or sincerely support. For in the Holy Bible Jesus Christ  (echoing the words of Deuteronomy) said: Man shall not live by bread alone, but by every word of God [Luke 4:4 and Matthew 4:4, see also: Deuteronomy 8:2–3] and also that: Hallowed be Thy Name [Matthew, 6:9], and similar meanings are to be found in the Holy Qur’an wherein it is stated that no act is rewarded Save for seeking the Countenance of [the] Lord, the Most High [Al-Layl, 92:19–20] and

that: Verily the Remembrance of God is of all things the greatest [from: Al-Ankabut, 29:45]. In other words, for many Muslims, Christians and Jews who together make up perhaps 55% of the world's population and (I regret to say) are involved in most of the world's conflicts it is necessary to mention the Substance of their faiths. Otherwise, hoping to foster peace between religions by foisting upon them an external and purely secular and bureaucratic language is simply a house divided against itself which shall not stand [Matthew, 12:25]. Third, it will be noted that this language excludes no one, of any religion or of no faith at all: every person of good will, with or without faith can and should commit to Love of the Neighbour and Love of God or Love of the Neighbour and Love of the Good. Loving the neighbour and the good is after all the essence of good will. And referring to 'the Good' obviously does not necessarily imply belief in God or in a particular religion, even though for many believers 'the Good' is God precisely: Jesus Christ ﷺ said: 'No one is Good but God Alone' [Mark, 10:18; Luke 18:19, and Matthew 19:17], and 'the Good' ('Al-Barr') is one of God's Names in the Holy Qur'an [Al-Tur, 52:28]. Thus speaking of 'the Good' is a theologically-correct but inclusive formula in so far as it goes that unites all humanity and leaves out no one. Fourth, there is another reason why it is specifically necessary to mention love of the neighbour: it sets an invaluable practical standard based upon which people can ask themselves and each other if their actions stem from *caritas* (love) towards the neighbour or not. Indeed, as the Prophet Muhammad ﷺ said: 'None of you has faith [in God] until you love for your neighbour what you love for yourself' [Sahih Muslim, Kitab al-Iman, Vol. p.67, Hadith no.45].

3) Also in the third operative paragraph, the phrase 'on a voluntary basis' is used because the entire proposal must be purely voluntary. No place of worship should be forced to observe the World Interfaith Harmony Week; for whilst we hope to encourage interfaith harmony, the last thing we want is for anyone at all to feel that anything is being imposed on his or her faith, beliefs or

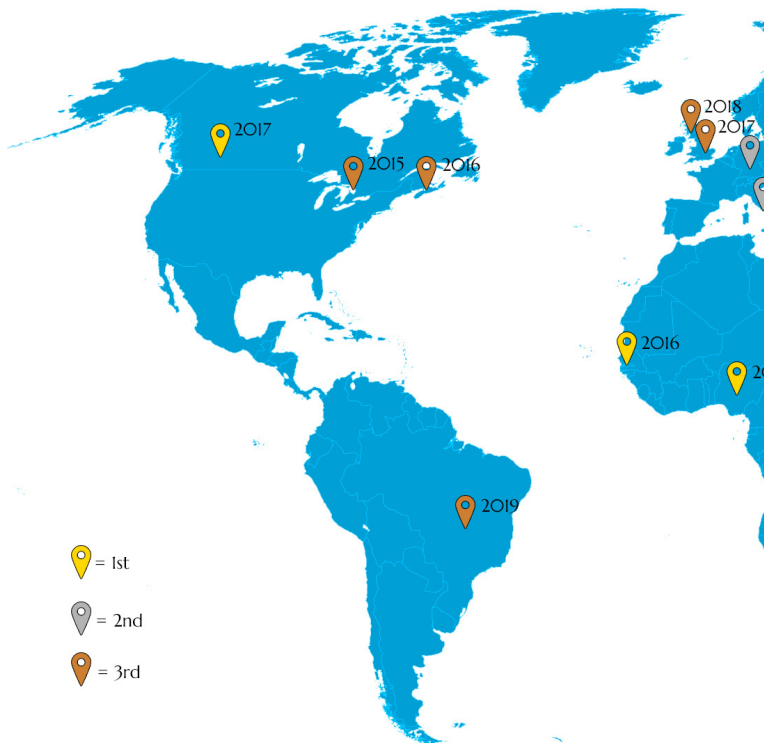
convictions. Nevertheless, one can conceive of positive incentives to encourage and help support and monitor the implementation of this resolution.

4) Finally, also in the third operative paragraph, the phrase 'each according to their own religious traditions or convictions' is vital because the different religions do not necessarily interpret 'Love of God and the Neighbour' in exactly the same way, and do not all want it said that they do. This phrase thus avoids the dangers of syncretism or reductionism and allows for religious differences within the same goal of working towards inter-religious peace and harmony.

In summary, then, I very humbly ask the member states of the United Nations General Assembly to adopt the proposed draft resolution for the World Interfaith Harmony Week, noting that it excludes no individual, compromises no one, commits no one, forces no one, harms no one, costs nothing, and on the contrary includes everyone, celebrates everyone, benefits everyone, unites everyone and has the potential to bring much needed Peace and Harmony to the entire world in sha Allah.

Thank-you Mr. President.

Winners of HM King World Interfaith Harmony



2019

- 1st - Cape Town Interfaith Initiative, South Africa
- 2nd - Interreligious Committee of Rome, Italy
- 3rd - URI Cooperation Circle Brasilia, Brazil
- 3rd - SUNFO, Sri Lanka

2018

- 1st - Interfaith Center of Melbourne, Australia
- 2nd - The Special Envoy of the President of the Republic of Indonesia for Interfaith and Intercivilizational Dialogue and Cooperation
- 3rd - Interfaith Glasgow, United Kingdom

2017

- 1st - Calgary Interfaith Council, Canada
- 2nd - Sarajevo UN World Interfaith Harmony Week, Bosnia and Herzegovina
- 3rd - PL84U Al-SUFFA, Iraq

2016

- 1st - Euclid University, Ohio
- 2nd - UniHarmony Partnership, United Kingdom
- 3rd - Interfaith Harmony Week, United Kingdom

2015

- 1st - Universal Interfaith Council, United Kingdom
- 2nd - Mrs Jahn and Dr Jahn, Germany
- 3rd - Toronto Steering Committee, Canada

King Abdullah II Prize for Interfaith Harmony Week 2013 - 2019



2017
 Council, Canada
 World Interfaith Harmony
 egovina
 , the United Kingdom

2016
 Gambia
 rners, The Philippines
 y Halifax, Canada

2015
 Peace Mission, Pakistan
 akubicka, Germany
 Committee, Canada

2014
 1st - Silsilah Dialogue Movement, The Philippines
 2nd - Saeed Khan Falahi, India
 3rd - Gamal Farghaly Sultan School, Egypt
 3rd - Faiths Together Uganda, Uganda

2013
 1st - Interfaith Mediation Centre, Nigeria
 2nd - Center for Islam and Democracy, The
 Philippines
 3rd - Department of Unity and Integration,
 Malaysia