



• • • ☸ ✡ ☾ 儒 ☪ ✨ ✚ ☯ ♀ ॐ ☼ ☩ • • •

HWPL WORLD ALLIANCE OF RELIGIONS' PEACE OFFICE JOURNAL

FEBRUARY 2016 ISSUE







Table of Contents

4	Fruit of Peace, "HWPL WARP Office in Manila, Philippines"
6	February 2016 WARP Office Status
8	Introduction of February WARP Offices <ul style="list-style-type: none">- GOTHENBURG, SWEDEN- NAIROBI, KENYA (Online)- TIANJIN, CHINA- BERLIN, GERMANY
22	World Alliance of Religions' Peace Office Photo Gallery
26	Newly Appointed HWPL Publicity Ambassador
27	Big Smile Campaign



Fruit of Peace, “HWPL WARP Office in Manila, Philippines”

On January 28, 2016, the 11th HWPL WARP Office Meeting was held at the Bible Society in Manila, Philippines. Mr. Man Hee Lee, Chairman of HWPL, and Ms. Nam Hee Kim, Chairwoman of IWPG, attended in the midst of their 24th World Peace Tour in the Philippines. The visit to the Philippines of Chairman Lee and Chairwoman Kim, who work tirelessly for peace, was very special as it was their 7th visit to the country already. The Peace Tour had many memorable moments that will be remembered in history: peace talks with officials of the judicial circles, signing of the MOA to designate a Philippine university as a HWPL Peace Academy, opening a HWPL Peace Exhibition at City Museum and Library, as well as the establishment of a 2nd HWPL Peace Monument in the Philippines this time located in the Moro Islamic Liberation Front (MILF) camp in the Mindanao Islands. Amidst this wave of peace, religious leaders were spurred to participate in the peace movement.

As this event was a meeting for the participants of the HWPL WARP Office in Manila, religious leaders from Prot-

estantism, Catholicism, Islam, and Hinduism gathered together. The Manila WARP Office has had a total of 10 meetings so far and is a place that has actively engaged in the religious scripture comparison activities.

Mr. Archarya Prem Shankaranand Tirth, a Maharaj, shared his thoughts about the HWPL WARP Office. “When I first met the HWPL Philippine team, I was introduced to the WARP Dialogue and I was very much motivated by their works and especially when I saw the video clips of HWPL given to me. I felt that I must go with these people. I believe that they are really working hard in their mission for peace. When I started joining the WARP Dialogue of Scriptures, I realized that God motivated that the life of faith should be based on Scriptures. We should find all the common things with scriptures, which is the words of God as a standard for the humanity, and that we should practice the Alliance of Religions.”

Sister Beatrice Sanang Nanga, a participant from the Catholic Church, mentioned the significance of the WARP



Office. “We speak about peace, but what do we need to do to have peace? First, we need to accept that all religions are corrupted. If all religions are corrupted, ‘what do we need to do,’ is the question. We need to repent. All of us believe that we have one God and God has given us one teaching. God does not give us many teachings. All of us, we have one teaching, but why are we all different? It is because religion is corrupted. Secondly, we all need to become one through the truth. This is to become one before the one and only God of truth. This is the true meaning of religion. I am here as a representative of Catholics, but it does not mean that all religions should be one in Catholicism. But, it means all religions should be one in the truth. Therefore, together, we must find this truth. For that reason, there is the World Alliance of Religions’ Peace Dialogue of Scriptures. This is where we do not speak about how truthful our religion is, but this is where we find truth, putting down all of our own teachings and perspectives.”

Chairman Lee emphasized during his speech, “Which religious scripture has the most trustworthy evidence? The reason for having the religious scriptures comparison meeting is so that religions can become one. Even if the promise was made in front of God and all the people of the world, if religious scriptures do not become one, then religions cannot become one. If religions do not become

one, then conflicts will continue to arise that may ultimately lead to wars. Would there be peace if only the international law is enacted? No. That is not the case. When religions also become one, quarrels and conflicts will be ceased.”

Chairwoman Kim addressed that, following Chairman Lee’s speech, “Everyone, please lay down the religions you are currently holding on to and gather with sincerity at the WARP Offices as God will surely lead everyone to the path of fulfillment according to the prophecies. Since the unity of religions will be the most powerful weapon to fulfill world peace, I dearly hope and ask of you to constantly compare and examine the scriptures to become one in the truth under one God, so that we can spread this good news to all the religious leaders around the world.”

All leaders who participated in the event made a pledge to actively join in the movement of peace by establishing the future development of WARP Offices throughout the Philippines. Since the Dialogue Scriptures in the HWPL WARP Office is a wide-spread peace project, the world awaits more.

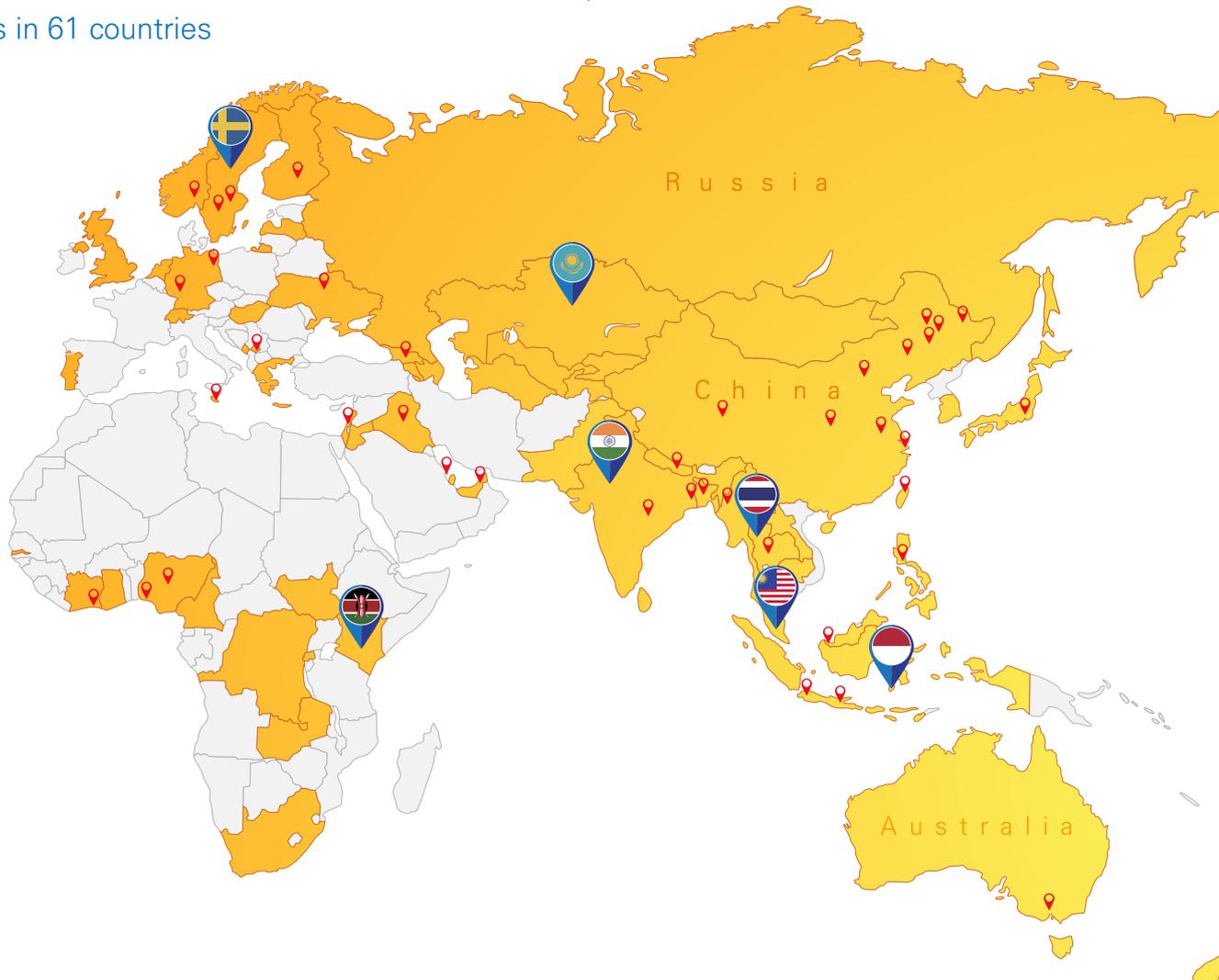
53 WARP Offices spread over 32 countries held meetings between 26 December ~ 25 January

CIS 2	Asia 10	Europe 8	Oceania 2	Africa 3	North and South Americas 2
Kazakhstan	Nepal	Norway	Australia	Nigeria	
Ukraine	Taiwan	Germany	Fiji	Republic of Cote d'Ivoire	USA
	Malaysia	Malta		Kenya	Canada
	Myanmar	Sweden			
Middle East 5	Bangladesh	Georgia			
	India	Kosovo			
Iraq	Indonesia	Portugal			
Israel	Japan	Finland			
Bahrain	China				
UAE	Thailand				
Jordan					

FEBRUARY 2016 WARP Office Status

Current Status of HWPL WARP Office (as of 25 January 2016)

115 offices in 61 countries



Newly Established Offices in February



Thailand, Chiang Mai



Kazakhstan, Almaty



Malaysia, Kuching



Sweden, Gothenburg



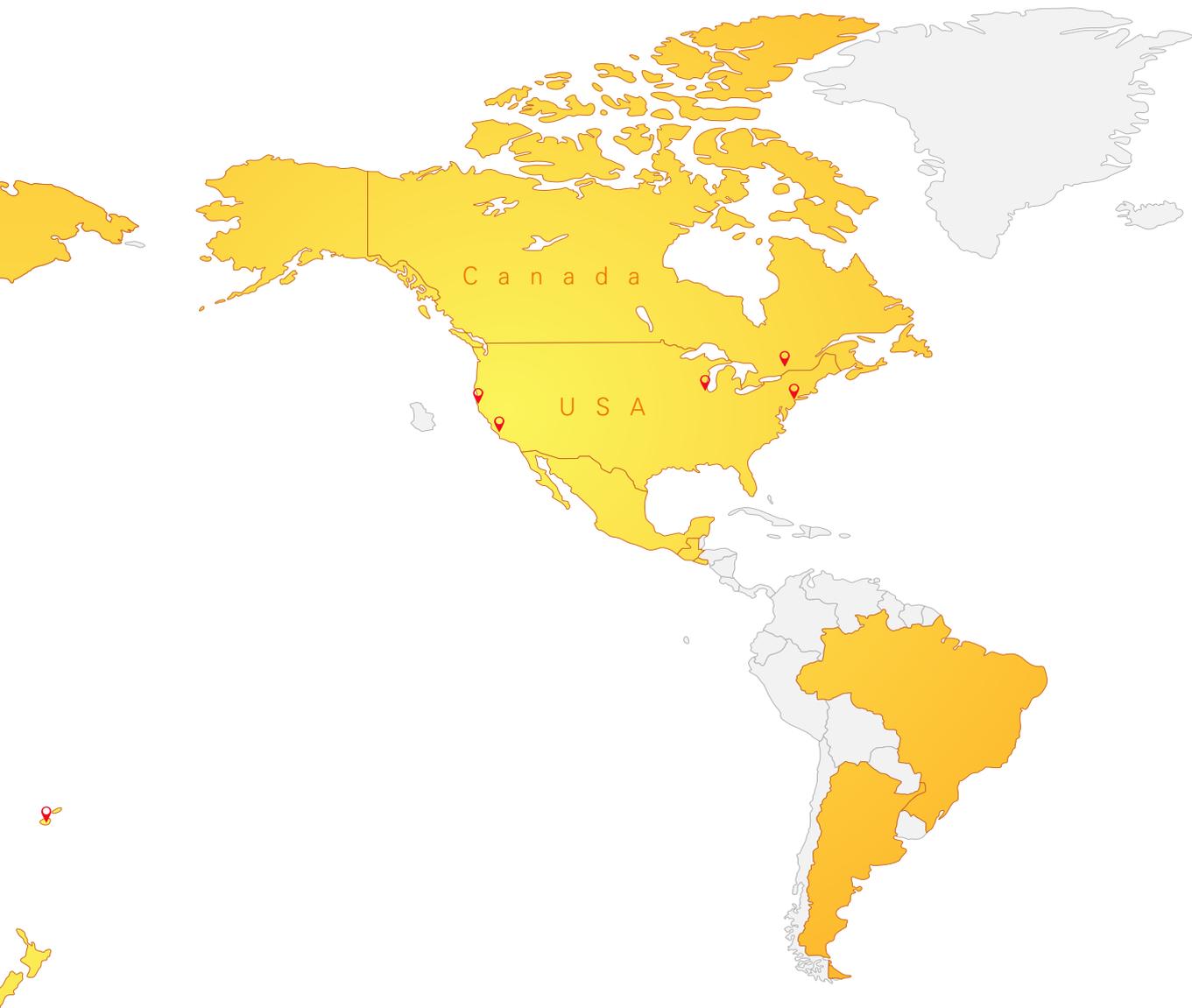
India, Delhi

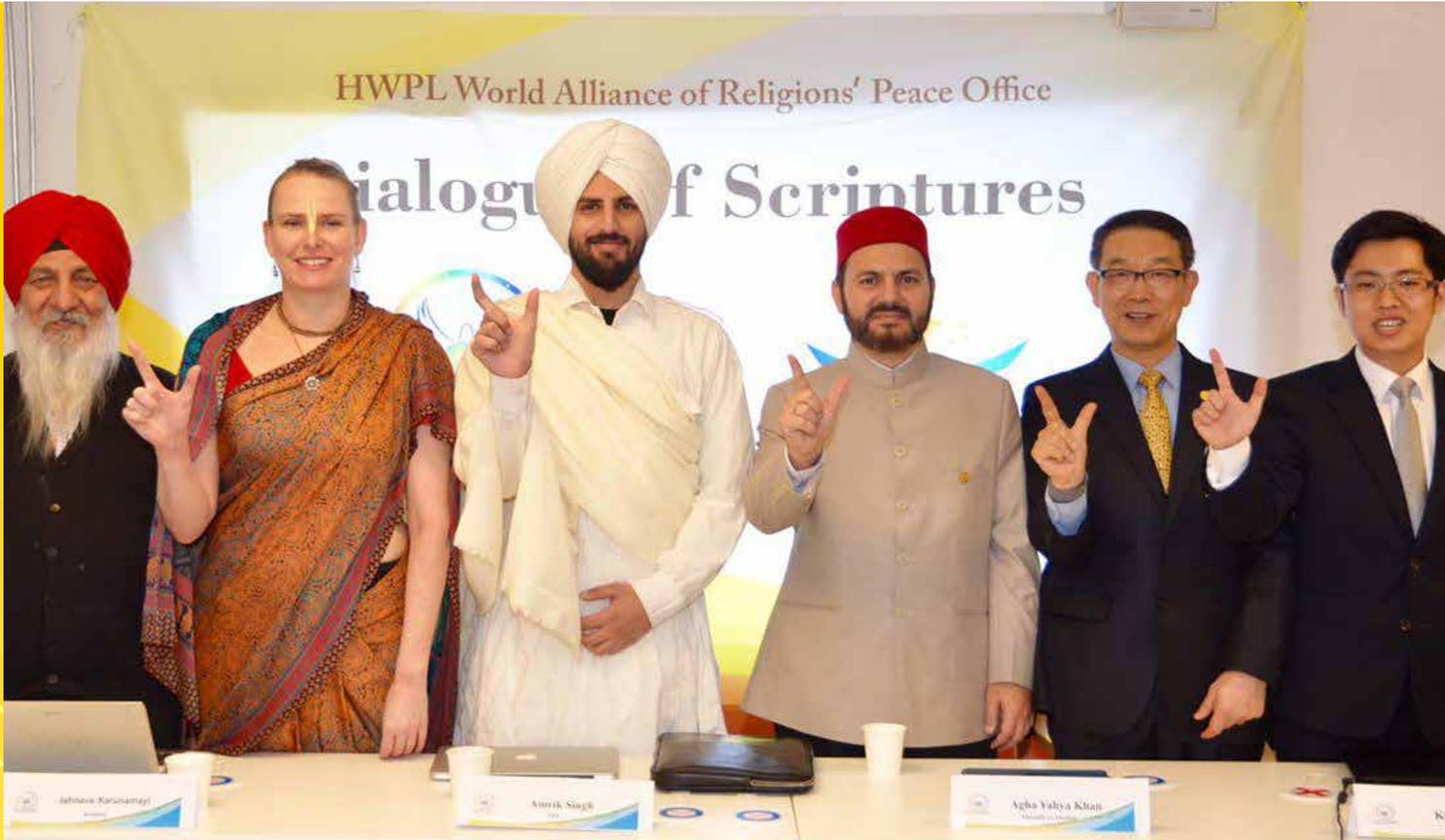


Kenya, Nairobi



Indonesia, Makasar





01

1ST HWPL SWEDEN GOTHENBURG WARP Office

Participants



Agha Yahya Khan

Islam
The Ahmadiyya Muslim
Community Chief Imam



Amrik Singh

Sikhism
Gothenburg Sikh Teacher



Jahnava Karunamayi

Krishna
Gothenburg Krishna Monk



Kevin Sung

Religious study
HWPL WARP Office Research
Specialist



Kingdom of Sweden

⟨Source: Republic of Korea Ministry of Foreign Affairs (2015)⟩

Capital	Stockholm
Population	9,490,000 (2014 est.)
Language	Swedish, English
Religion	Evangelical Lutheran, Catholic

The Sweden Branch of HWPL delivered great news from the Scandinavian Peninsula. On January 23, the first WARP Office meeting in Gothenburg was held, making it a great start to the new year. While participants actively discussed and held scripture dialogues in Stockholm and Malmo WARP Offices in 2015, words of mouth quickly spread to religious leaders in Gothenburg to start their own WARP Office meeting in 2016. Just as news for peace starts to disseminate in Sweden, we anticipate world peace is not merely a remote goal. Religious leaders, who have earnest hearts for peace, gathered at the 1st Sweden Gothenburg WARP Office and discussed on the topic of 'Peace According to the Scriptures.' Let's explore the responses to various questions from each representative of Islam, Krishna and Sikhism.

Does Your Scripture Have Records of When and How a Peaceful Nation Will Come?

Agha Yahya Khan

(Islam/ The Ahmadiyya Muslim Community Chief Imam)

"The Quran states that the peaceful nation will come when we achieve one nation, and accepting a common belief. And Quran calls upon all religion who have one belief, and that is the belief of God. All people come between us and upon Allah. The main conflict between religions is God, and it is a common ground to join hands. Second this is achieved only through absolute justice in every moment of life. And we should act according to the justice and have righteousness and share the things of Allah. These two points demonstrate how there is a peaceful nation."

Jahnava Karunamayi

(Krishna/ Gothenburg Krishna Monk)

"There are many scriptures, which facilitate the principles. So the religious leaders must know how to facilitate all, and they can work with what they have in their hearts. And religious leaders must make sure they can work with others to make a peaceful society. And it is important for us to change our diet and sacrifice to the world and dedicate to God who is the most powerful. We all belong to him as he has different names of God, but it is the same no matter which religion we belong to."

Amrik Singh

(Sikhism/ Gothenburg Sikh Teacher)

“We have to have peace within ourselves. If in a cup there is no peace then all you can do use it for is as a paper, but if you have peace in it, then you can pour and give it to someone else. Peace is vital and it is always throughout history.”

Kevin Sung

(Religious study/ HWPL WARP Office Research Specialist)

“Peace in Hinduism is that when God is within us, we realize that we are within him, so then peace will come. Buddhism helps people remove the confusion caused as a result of their ego by practicing the Noble Eightfold Path. It describes that when people remove greed, peace and heaven will come, leading to the most peaceful world and heaven. Also, in the Islamic Quran it says that God leads those who follow him to a peaceful way, and from darkness to light. In Matthew chapter 24 and the Book of Revelation of the Christian Bible, there are specific prophecies about the world of peace, which are recorded to be fulfilled at an appointed time. That time will be the last days, when Jesus Christ who shouted peace comes.



All religious scriptures have records about Peace. Both believers and non-believers in the world truly look forward to usher in a peaceful world. If religious leaders are at the forefront of collaborating and calling for peace, we may anticipate to live in that peaceful world, sooner.

Each Religion Is Shouting for Peace but Why Haven't Wars and Conflicts of the World Ended?

Agha Yahya Khan

(Islam/ The Ahmadiyya Muslim Community Chief Imam)

“Religion, and its principles and teachings, is love and there is no religion that teaches conflict. There are these things because there is misinterpretation and misunderstanding and is used only for their own good. And every religious conflict will come to an end because the religious teachings are in concern as they have a strong bond with the Creator. Justice is being the guide and will manifest evil.”

Jahnava Karunamayi

(Krishna/ Gothenburg Krishna Monk)

“If I am an enemy of peace, we also need to transform ourselves in the heart. Almost everybody has souls and they are pure. Enemies, the enemies of God, make us to be exposed to bad things. True love is what we need and that is serving God because we are God's children, and we can only control ourselves when we transform lust to love. God can purify us so we need this. And that is why peace is not achieved because we don't practice it.”

Amrik Singh

(Sikhism/ Gothenburg Sikh Teacher)

“Religions vary, there will always be conflicts. We have to face each and every day, and it is about choice and what you do. So it is a matter of choice.”

Kevin Sung

(Religious study/ HWPL WARP Office Research Specialist)

“Hinduism or Buddhism say that because of people’s desire or anger wars and conflicts will not end. The Christian Bible says that with their lips people are seeking to perceive the will of the scripture and to find God, but their hearts are very far. These people attack and prosecute others, who go against their will, which may lead to conflict and war in society. If religious leaders are like this, then their followers who have been taught under them will also be like them, and so there will be no end to conflicts.”



The responses emphasized the importance of knowing the truth, the one that eradicates evil, within scripture in order to put an end to wars and conflicts. They also underlined that we have to change first if we hope for the world to change, regardless of which religion we belong to. We hope these written responses move the hearts of religious leaders throughout the world to actively pursue the work of peace through participating in WARP Offices.

What Is the Role of Religious Leaders in Achieving Peace?

Agha Yahya Khan

(Islam/ The Ahmadiyya Muslim Community Chief Imam)

“The religious leaders can guide mankind to the beautiful places of peace and love. It is a religion that takes the main role and religion rules over hearts and souls. Leaders should seek differences in opinions to achieve world peace and guide them and the minds of the people. And we should also promote world peace and religious studies.”

Jahnava Karunamayi

(Krishna/ Gothenburg Krishna Monk)

“God is so powerful and religious leaders have to get out of the safe area and start thinking. We don’t understand, but we need to try and try to step forward and this is important, teach others. So we should find ourselves and also do a spiritual diet. We need to save the animals and have spiritual understandings. So I am thankful for this and this is great for peace.”

Amrik Singh

(Sikhism/ Gothenburg Sikh Teacher)

“In Shikism there is choice which you can choose, and it is important for the leader to communicate with people. When the leader tries to communicate it is important to listen.”

Kevin Sung

(Religious study/ HWPL WARP Office Research Specialist)

“The key word in all religious scriptures is ‘knowledge.’ If you don’t know, you cannot believe or put it into action. The most important thing, however, is to know whether it is correct knowledge or wrong knowledge. The standard of knowing whether it is correct or wrong is the religious scriptures. If we realize the will of the scriptures and put it into action then we will try to fill our hearts with the good knowledge. If you don’t know the will of religious scriptures, however, you will have faith that is being led by your own thinking. The role of religious leaders for world peace, firstly, is to always reflect themselves in the scriptures and check whether they are sharing the correct knowledge to their followers.”



A flower of peace will soon blossom in Sweden as religious leaders who participated in the WARP Offices clearly perceive their roles in bringing peace and put them into actions. Participants mutually agreed upon their needs and responsibilities to bring peace, they pledged to further participate in the Scripture dialogue through upcoming WARP Office meetings.

“ HWPL is doing a really wonderful job. We religious leaders, and all leaders in small level or high rank they should sit together. If we will sit together, we will respect each other and their opinions. One thing that is common between us is the Creator. All religious leaders should sit together. And then we can create a heavenly world. ”

Agha Yahya Khan

(Islam/ The Ahmadiyya Muslim Community Chief Imam)



02

1ST HWPL KENYA NAIROBI WARP Office

Participants



Geoffrey Meckenzie
Christianity
Blessed Restoration Church
Bishop



Vaishali Shah
Hinduism
Shrivedant Foundation
Founder, Hindu Council of
Kenya Chairperson, Kisumu
Branch Vice President



Ibrahim Ali
Islam
Muslims Society High Schools
Chairman, Kenya Council of
Imams and Ulama Secretary



Rattan Channa
Sikhism
Sikh Supreme Council of
Kenya Trustee, Global Council
of United Religion Initiative
Trustee



Republic of Kenya

(Source: Republic of Korea Ministry of Foreign Affairs (2015))

Capital	Nairobi
Population	45,010,000
Language	Swahili language (Lingua Franca), English (commonly used)
Religion	Christians, Muslims

On January 5, 2016, four Kenyan religious leaders met through an online video conference and successfully held the 1ST WARP Office to discuss the topic on 'the Creator.' Still, even with the advancement of science, it is difficult to accurately verify the mysteries of the universe and the answers to the origin of the beginning of time. Therefore, let's explore the WARP Office meeting where religious leaders, who believe in the existence of the Creator, discuss the Creator based on their scriptures.

Is there an Explanation about the Creator in Your Scripture?

Geoffrey Meckenzie

(Christianity/Blessed Restoration Church Bishop)

"God is the word and everything was made by Him."

Ibrahim Ali

(Islam/Muslims Society High Schools Chairman, Kenya Council of Imams and Ulama Secretary)

"Allah! La ilaha illa Huwa (none has the right to be worshipped but He), the Ever Living, the One Who sustains and protects all that exists. Indeed your Lord is Allah, who created the heavens and the earth in six days. He is the First (nothing is before Him) and the Last (nothing is after Him), the Most High and the Most Near. His is the kingdom of the heavens and the earth. He is the Most Beneficent, the Most Merciful."

Vaishali Shah

(Hinduism/Shrivedant Foundation Founder, Hindu Council of Kenya Chairperson, Kisumu Branch Vice President)

"Creator is described as the beginningless Supreme Being who is said to be neither eternal nor temporal. God does not possess a body like an ordinary being. All His senses are transcendental, or out of this world. He is self-knowledge, the object of self-knowledge, and seated in the inner psyche as consciousness. Geeta says that God is inside as well as outside all beings, animate and inanimate. He is undivided, yet appears to exist as if divided in living beings. He is the object of knowledge and appears as

the Creator (Brahma), Sustainer (Vishnu), and Destroyer (Mahesha) of all beings.”

Rattan Channa

(Sikhism/Sikh Supreme Council of Kenya Trustee ,Global Council of United Religion Initiative Trustee)

“He himself created himself, He himself assumed his name. Secondly, He created the creation; seated within the creation. He beholds it with delight. He himself is the Giver and Creator. He is the knower of all; He gives life through the word and takes it away.”



There are records of the Creator in all the scriptures of Christianity, Islam, Hinduism and Sikhism, and we are able to know that the Creator is an entity that transcends time and is all-powerful. Then let's find out about how the Creator created the world through the questions below.

Is there an Explanation about the World that the Creator Created in the Very Beginning in Your Scripture?

Geoffrey Meckenzie

(Christianity/Blessed Restoration Church Bishop)

“In the beginning, God created the heavens and the earth. The earth was formless and empty and darkness was over the surface of the deep. He created this world in seven days with His words. God saw that it was good.”

Ibrahim Ali

(Islam/Muslims Society High Schools Chairman, Kenya Council of Imams and Ulama Secretary)

“He placed firm mountains the earth therein and He blessed it, and measured therein its sustenance or its dwellers in four days equal for all those who ask (about its creation). Then He completed and finished from their creation (as) seven heavens in two days and He made in each heaven its affair. And we adorned the nearest (lowest) heaven as lambs to be an adornment as well as to guard from the devils by using missiles against the devil.”

Vaishali Shah

(Hinduism/Shrivedant Foundation Founder, Hindu Council of Kenya Chairperson, Kisumu Branch Vice President)

“The creation is like a tree that is infinite, ever changing and eternal. This tree has its origin or root in the Supreme Being and this eternal being is an enormous stem. Each leaf and root of the tree brings us different varieties of suffering and a sense of enjoyment. Thus, through this tree, God explains how the world came into existence and what forces helped them to come into being.”

Rattan Channa

(Sikhism/Sikh Supreme Council of Kenya Trustee ,Global Council of United Religion Initiative Trustee)

“There was no earth or sky. There was no day or night, no moon or sun; He sat in primal, profound Samadhi. He created a light and everything was created through this light.”

Does Your Scripture talk about the Prophecy on the Image of the World that the Creator Wants and How it Can Be Fulfilled?

Geoffrey Meckenzie

(Christianity/Blessed Restoration Church Bishop)

“Prophecy about world peace—The Millennium will be a 1,000-year period of world peace and prosperity (Micah 4:1-8). The Lord Jesus Christ will rule the world from the Throne of David in the Temple in Jerusalem, and the Church will rule and reign with Christ. Old Testament saints and martyrs will resurrect and live again on this earth.”

Ibrahim Ali

(Islam/Muslims Society High Schools Chairman, Kenya Council of Imams and Ulama Secretary)

“It is Allah Who has created seven heavens and the earth. His Command descends between them (heavens and earth), that you may know that Allah has power over all things, and that Allah surrounds (comprehends) all things in His Knowledge. He created the things to eat and wear so that you may seek of His Bounty and that you may be grateful. And He has built mountains standing firm on the earth and made rivers and roads that you may guide you.”

Vaishali Shah

(Hinduism/Shrivedant Foundation Founder, Hindu Council of Kenya Chairperson, Kisumu Branch Vice President)

“The image of the world as per the creator is always full of pleasure and inner peace, with the right balance of equanimity. Gita exhorts man to find an inner balance and equanimity to liberate his soul from this world by performing specified duties given to him as described in scriptures. Life is a struggle and we need to battle it out in this school of life right here by doing everything right, by making a right choice. The Gita is a book of action not mere renunciation. So the Gita is a practical document containing gems of wisdom that can be easily practiced.”

Rattan Channa

(Sikhism/Sikh Supreme Council of Kenya Trustee, Global Council of United Religion Initiative Trustee)

“All People were born from one light. We are like children of God and one family. Therefore we have to live together by respecting and loving each



Through this meeting we were able to find out that all scriptures speak about peace. The participants of the 1st Kenya Nairobi WARP Office said that they were so happy to be able to discuss on a topic that they had never discussed before. Kenyan religious representatives, through the HWPL WARP Office, are actively taking part in fulfilling peace and finding the truth. We hope that the 1st Nairobi WARP Office is the beginning of the wave of peace to establish more offices in Kenya.



03

13TH HWPL CHINA TIANJIN WARP Office

Participants



ZUO YUQI
Confucianism
Chinese Confucius Institute
Training Teacher



ZHANG KAIXIN
Christianity
Missionary



WANGXIN
Buddhism
Grhapati



China

⟨Source: Republic of Korea Ministry of Foreign Affairs (2015)⟩

Capital	Beijing
Population	1,367,820,000 (Excluding Taiwan, Hong Kong & Macau)
Language	Chinese (standard language)
Religion	Buddhist, Taoist, Confucianist, Muslim, Catholic, Christians

On January 12, 2016 three religious leaders gathered at HWPL China Tianjin WARP Office to have a discussion on the topic, ‘Good and Evil in the Scriptures.’ Commonly, the standard of ‘good’ is known to be based on upright, kind and moral behavior, while ‘evil’ is what is opposite. However, since the law in every country is different so is every individual’s standard of good and evil, it is not easy to accurately define good and evil. Let’s find out how the scriptures of Buddhism, Confucianism, and Christianity explain the concept of good and evil.

What is Good and Evil according to Your Scripture?

WANGXIN
(Buddhism /Grhapati)

“The 十善业道经 (The discourse on the ten wholesome ways of action) is one of the scriptures of Buddhism that specially recorded about good and evil. It describes about the 10 good things. (Do not murder, do not steal, do not commit adultery, do not lie, do not say words of deception, do not say evil things, do not be double-tongued, do not be greedy, do not be angry, do not be ignorant). When you commit to these ten good things, you are good. Otherwise, you are evil.”

ZUO YUQI
(Confucianism/
Chinese Confucius Institute
Training Teacher)

“benevolence, righteousness, proper manners, wisdom, faith, obedience, and filial duty (仁义礼智信忠孝)” become the standard. If you keep it you are good, if not you are evil.”

ZHANG KAIXIN
(Christianity/Missionary)

“The word of God becomes the standard to define good and evil. If you know the true will of God, you will not commit sin, but if one does not know, no matter how kind the person may be, they commit sin.”

In the scriptures of Buddhism and Confucianism, it explains in detail about the virtues that one must keep as a human being. In the Christian scripture, simply being a kind person does not define what is 'good.' Then, through each scripture, let's find out the origin of 'evil' that must be solved.

Does your Scripture Have Records About the Origin of Evil?

WANGXIN

(Buddhism /Grhapati)

"In Buddhism, the origin of evil is Greed, Anger, and Ignorance. Greed is wanting to have what is someone else's. Anger is envy and jealousy which create a toxin in our body, eliminating wisdom. Ignorance is not believing in the cause and effect. The rule of cause and effect spoken of in the Buddhist scripture is the law of the universe and the rules of nature."

ZUO YUQI

(Confucianism/
Chinese Confucius Institute
Training Teacher)

"There are many records of the origin of evil in the Four Books and Five Classics. (the authoritative books of Confucianism in China) The root cause of sin is due to the increase in people's interest in greed, ignorance and selfishness. Therefore, Confucianism emphasizes to practice the asceticism and self-reflection. For example, in the Analects of Confucius (a collection of sayings and ideas attributed to the Chinese philosopher Confucius and his contemporaries) there is a saying, '吾日三省吾身' (Self-introspection that should be practiced on a daily basis), which means to discipline oneself not to do anything wrong."

ZHANG KAIXIN

(Christianity/Missionary)

"In the Christian Bible, the origin of evil is Satan. Satan was an archangel in the spiritual realm that God created, however, due to his greed of wanting to become like God, he betrayed God. Therefore, sin entered into the spiritual realm. The world that God had initially created was a world of good, but since Satan made man eat from the tree of the knowledge of good and evil, breaking the promise with God, sin came into this world as well."

Is there a Fundamental Method to Solve Evil in Your Scripture?

WANGXIN

(Buddhism /Grhapati)

"If our consciousness and ideologies are within the boundaries of good every day and we examine our inner self constantly, evil will gradually disappear and peace will come to our mind. If we are always conscious about the law of good, it will grow in our hearts and the room for distracting

thoughts will disappear which will ultimately leave no room for evil. Therefore throughout your daily life, you must examine your thoughts and make sure to check whether you practice the ten good things mentioned in the <十善业道经>.”

ZUO YUQI

(Confucianism/
Chinese Confucius Institute
Training Teacher)

“There are many things written in the Confucian scripture. For example, it is 格物致知 (Extending one’s knowledge on perceiving logics of things through deeper investigation). If you train yourself after establishing correct ideas, you will be able to reach the stage 格物致知, and thereby eliminate evil.”

ZHANG KAIJIN

(Christianity/Missionary)

“We must know the will of God and Satan must be captured. The origin of good and evil in the scripture is God and Satan respectively. Since God is spirit, we are able to know about His will through the Bible, which is given by God. In John 1:1, it even states that God is the Word. Also, even though you may know the will of God, if Satan, the source of evil, is not captured, evil will never be solved. In Revelations 20:1~3, it is prophesied that a time will come when God captures Satan, the Devil.”



In Buddhism and Confucianism, the method to solve Evil is eliminating the evil thoughts one by one within your mind through practicing asceticism and self-reflection. In the scripture of Christianity, the origin of good and evil is God and Satan respectively. Therefore one must know the word of God. Evil will be solved when Satan is captured at the End Times. It is a logical fact that when evil is solved, peace will come. All the religious leaders who participated in the 13TH HWPL China Tianjin WARP Office said that problems occur within religion because many believers have blind faith- that is they believe without knowing the true meanings of what is written in the scriptures or they interpret the scriptures with their own thoughts. The participants said therefore people of faith should believe in their religions by accurately understanding their respective scriptures. They also expressed their impressions of the WARP Office meeting and were reminded of the importance of the roles of religious leaders, the ones to understand the truth first, to lead all people. We hope all religious leaders continue to work together until interfaith peace is truly achieved.



04

10TH HWPL GERMANY BERLIN WARP Office

Participants



Ali Alinc

Religion Abraham
Religions Abraham e.V.
Representative



Feizhou Zhu

Protestantism
Mission Church in Shanghai
Pastor



Bernd Zikeli

Hinduism Hare Krishna
Berlin Vedic Community Master



Germany

(Source: Republic of Korea Ministry of Foreign Affairs (2015))

Capital	Berlin
Population	80,620,000
Language	German
Religion	Christian (Roman Catholic, Lutheran) Muslim

On December 30, 2015, three leaders representing different denominations gathered at the HWPL Germany Berlin WARP Office to have a Religious Scripture Comparison meeting on the topic of ‘War and Peace in Religious Scriptures.’ During the 10th WARP Office meeting, participants and audience members communicated back and forth which helped the meeting to progress in a warm and peaceful atmosphere. Through the agreed upon topic, participants were able to find in their scriptures the cause and solution for war, leading the search for the fundamental method to cease conflicts.

What are Wars in the Scriptures?

Ali Alinc

(Religion Abraham/Religions Abraham e.V. Representative)

“In the Quran it says that a war refers to the war between God and Satan. When we read from the history of Adam and Eve to Cain and Abel, we can find out that these two types of people belong to two types of group, and fight against each other, having wars in between. People ask ‘why you don’t curse those who curses you?’ However we are here not to curse but to bless. We need to be the ones who can overcome the spiritual war.”

Bernd Zikeli

(Hinduism Hare Krishna/Berlin Vedic Community Master)

“Though wars can occur between secular kings, in the midst of it there is God. And in every war, there are rules, and one of them is not to eradicate others’ culture. The reason why we are praying in the name of God is to overcome our false egos. That is to get over the thoughts on materials, illusions, and persistence.”

Feizhou Zhu

(Protestantism/Mission Church in Shanghai Pastor)

“The Bible, in a macroscopic view, is a history of war between God and Satan. In the history of 6,000 years, Satan has been continuously opposing God’s work in various forms. In the bible, there are mainly two kinds

Feizhou Zhu

(Protestantism/Mission Church
in Shanghai Pastor)

of wars, a physical war which is visible and an invisible spiritual war. In the spiritual realm, an angel that God created committed sin and became Satan. The war that occurred in the spiritual realm eventually appeared in the physical realm. Through Luke 22:3, when Satan entered Judas, one of Jesus' disciples, and led him to betray Jesus, we can understand that Satan, a spirit, works through the flesh in the physical realm to oppose the kingdom of God. Spiritual war is well explained in Ephesians Chapter 6, 'For our struggle is not against flesh and blood, but against the spiritual forces of evil in the heavenly realms.'



All three speeches included how strife and conflict shown on the outside actually have spiritual causes from within. It is obvious that the role of religious leaders all over the world, who seek to find the will of the Creator at the WARP Offices to fulfill peace is significant.

Why do Wars Occur?

Ali Alinc

(Religion Abraham/Religions
Abraham e.V. Representative)

"Religions have fallen away from God and become corrupted."

Bernd Zikeli

(Hinduism Hare Krishna/Berlin
Vedic Community Master)

"Bhagavad Gītā is a part of Mahābhārata. According to Krishna, since people are living in this physical world, they are spending too much of their hearts on materials and wallowed in false philosophies and thoughts. These make people to be fallen from God. In particular, youths are regarding super stars [celebrities] as their gods. War does not come from Satan, but it is a status fighting against illusions. It is a fight in between the materialistic physical world and our souls. A person's body is actually not its physical body but its karma. A world of materials opposes the will of God. God's will is to prevent wars."

Feizhou Zhu

(Protestantism/Mission Church
in Shanghai Pastor)

"Hidden behind the wars that we are confronting, there is a spiritual war and Satan. Satan's original appearance emerged due to his sin. In Isaiah 14:12-15 it says that the betrayed angel, the morning star, the creation of God who was too arrogant to make himself like the Most High, was brought down to the earth. So this sinned angel became Satan who appeared in the spiritual realm and came down to the physical realm. Starting from the Garden of Eden, he began to deceive humanity. From 2Co 11:14, we can see how cunningly Satan works. Satan himself even masquerades as an angel of light, and people believe Satan as an angel. Satan always refers to the word of God to deceive people."

How Is Peace Finally Achieved in Each Religion?

Ali Alinc

(Religion Abraham/Religions
Abraham e.V. Representative)

“First, we need to keep our spirits clean and we need to return to God. This is to return from negative thoughts to positive thoughts, which will eventually lead us to achieve peace. Starting to cleanse our spirits, we need to love others. In order to love others, our spirits need to belong to God. By doing so, we can even ultimately love our enemies. In order to do so, many sacrifices are needed and these sacrifices might be difficult for most of the people. We need to search for a mediator who will achieve peace. God searches those who search for him. Only when our spirits search for God, we can become one with God and also be able to cleanse our spirits (refer to James 5:4). Just like what is written in the Old Testament, New Testament, and the Quran, we cannot cleanse ourselves neither with baptism nor rituals, but this is something that has to be overcome by each individual. We need to win this spiritual war.”

Bernd Zikeli

(Hinduism Hare Krishna/Berlin
Vedic Community Master)

“The solution for peace is to pray and praise in the Holy name of God. There’s a ritual of calling God. It is to break the false ego and keep us from thinking materialistically. The inner war occurs due to materials. Krishna said, “Don’t be afraid, I am your shelter.” Therefore, we need to find out our spiritual shelter. Every religion has various names for God. The name of God is the answer and the way to find peace. If the desire for material fades away, then eventually wars will disappear.”

Feizhou Zhu

(Protestantism/Mission Church
in Shanghai Pastor)

“The entity that instills all kinds of wars, conflicts, and destructions in people’s hearts is Satan. Therefore when Satan, the fundamental cause of wars, disappears then peace will come to us naturally. In Revelation, the last book of the Bible, in Chapter 20 verse 2-3, it is recorded that when Satan is identified and captured in the abyss, it cannot deceive the nations anymore. After then, God can finally dwell among people and there will be no more death. It is promised that an era of life and peace will come. If God promises ten things then ten will be achieved, and if God promises a hundred things, then a hundred will be fulfilled. Therefore, I am certain that this prophecy will also eventually be fulfilled.

In Revelation, not only is the war between Michael and his angels and Satan and his angels that sinned, in the spiritual realm, recorded but also about the pastor and his people who fought against Satan with all their efforts, as much as to fight until death. Then what would be the weapons that they used? Would it be guns? Swords? Or nuclear weapons? When it comes to fighting against the spirit of Satan, those kinds of things would be useless. Only the word of God and testimony could be the weapon. Already all the deeds and works of Satan are recorded in the scriptures, and since they’ve done it according to the prophecy, all these things will become an evidence to seize and finally capture them. (refer to Jr 50:24, Rv 20:2). It would be the same logic as to capture and convict a criminal according to the evidence found at the crime scene and then presented at a trial. Therefore, finally Satan will be captured and ultimately war will cease as well.”



All three religious leaders responded ardently to the question about the cause of war and the method to achieve peace found within their scriptures, while the audience witnessed the scene with excitement. It is hoped that the efforts of the participants in the Germany Berlin WARP Office and their passion for seeking the truth, will become an example amongst other religious leaders and light the way for others.

“

I have thought a lot through this meeting.

Many people are being sacrificed owing to the pain of wars.

There are conflicts between religions as well as within the same religions.

I was not a Hindu during my childhood, but I consciously selected Hinduism. It is all the religions that insist on religious wars, fundamentalism related to tradition.

Theologians make their theories into the complexity too much.

My aim is to find the truth. It is stated that Adam is the first father of humanity in the Holy Bible, but I questioned myself about my faith in believing that.

If we cannot understand a scripture, I think that we, believers, cannot communicate with God but merely confess to God only by mouth.

I hope that we do not analyze the scripture literally but should understand it.”

”

Bernd Zikeli

(Hinduism Hare Krishna/Berlin Vedic Community Master)

World Alliance of Religions' Peace Office Photos

 Malaysia / Kuching



160123 / 1st / Peace of the World, Peace of the Scriptures

 Malaysia / Penang



160125 / 9th / Evil in Scriptures

 Malaysia / Penang



160112 / 10th / The Purpose of Creation

 Indonesia / Makassar



160111 / 1st / Why We Need to Discuss Based on the Scriptures

 Indonesia / Surabaya



160119 / 5th / Life and Death in Scriptures

 Indonesia / Jakarta



151228 / 6th / The Physical and Spiritual Realm in Scriptures

 China / Nanjing



160116 / 5th / Peace Music Exchange Meeting

 China / Beijing



160123 / 7th / Peace Between Religions and the Importance of the Life of Humanity



China / Jilin



160119 / 12th / What Kind of Entity is God and Satan?



China / Shanghai



160107 / 12th / The Beginning of Religion and the Record in Scriptures 1



China / Shanghai



160108 / 13th / Peace in Religion and Our Responsibility



China / Shanghai



160115 / 14th / The Beginning of Religion and the Record in Scriptures 2



Thailand / Bangkok



160120 / 8th / The Reason for Sickness and Aging in Scriptures



Thailand / Bangkok



151228 / 7th / Birth, Aging, Sickness and Death 1 - Where Did Humans Come From?



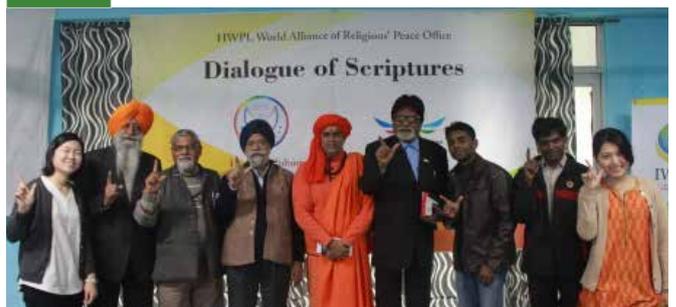
Thailand / Chiang Mai



160106 / 1st / Peace in Religious Scriptures



India / Delhi



160104 / 1st / Roles of Religious Leaders for Peace

World Alliance of Religions' Peace Office Photos

 India / Delhi



160123 / 4th / Birth, Aging, Sickness and Death in Scriptures

 Myanmar / Yangon



160109 / 8th / Where Do Humans Come from and Where Do They Go?

 Kazakstan / Almaty



160125 / 2nd / Peace in Religions

 Jordan / Amman



160116 / 4th / Birth, Aging, Sickness and Death

 Japan / Tokyo



151229 / 9th / Comparison of Religious Scriptures

 United States of America / San Francisco



151229 / 5th / WARP Office Results Briefing Session

 United States of America / San Francisco



160115 / 6th / Religion and the Role of Believers

 United States of America / New York



151229 / 12th / Prophecies from God in Scriptures



United States of America / Chicago



151226 / 13th / What Is the Purpose of God in Your Religious Scripture?



Canada / Ottawa



160109 / 5th / Is There a Method to Prove the Existence of God or of Spiritual Beings in the Scriptures?



Canada / Ottawa



160118 / 6th / What the Scriptures Say About All Living Things



Cote d'Ivoire / Abidjan



160116 / 5th / The Purpose and Start of Religion



Bahrain / Manama



160109 / 7th / Prophecy and Fulfillment



Nigeria / Lagos



160121 / 8th / About Religious Scriptures



Sweden / Stockholm



160109 / 9th / Violence Recorded in Scriptures 2



Australia / Melbourne



160123 / 9th / Prophecy and Fulfillment

Newly Appointed HWPL Publicity Ambassador



Ws. Mulyadi Liang, S. PD. Ing

Head of Education of The Supreme Council of Confucian Religion in Indonesia (MATAKIN)

Nationality: Indonesia

Religion: Confucianism



Sister Beatrice Sanang Nanga

Sister of Donum Dei Missionary Family

Nationality: Republic of Cameroon

Religion: Catholic



Pastor Rodolfo Bautista Jr.

Pastor of The Seventh-day Adventist Church

Nationality: Philippines

Religion: Protestantism



Rev. Acharya Prem Shankaranand Tirth

Maharaj

Nationality: India

Religion: Hinduism



Rev. Rodolfo Alfonso Juan

Bishop of United Methodist Church

Nationality: Philippines

Religion: Protestantism



Dr. Ofelia Osorio

Former Dean of Manila Adventist College

Nationality: Philippines

Religion: Protestantism



Prof. Roberto Ibrahim M. Mata

Director of the Islamic Studies Call and Guidance Center of the Philippines

Nationality: Philippines

Religion: Islam



Rev. Maritez C. Cruz

Administrative Pastor of Kamuning United Methodist Church

Nationality: Philippines

Religion: Protestantism

Big Smile Campaign

A Project to Bring Out More Smiles from Religious Leaders
Participating in HWPL WARP Offices All over the World!

What is the Big Smile Campaign?

It is a campaign to spread the happy virus, sharing happiness and laughter with people across all faiths, our family of peace worldwide, starting from the smiles of the religious leaders who take an active part in HWPL WARP Office meetings.

How to Participate

After each WARP Office meeting, all participants will gather and put their arms around each other's shoulders to take a group photo. Lastly, put on a BIG SMILE !

“ The bigger and brighter smile you put on your face,
the more you will feel peace.
Always greet others with a smile that
embraces differences.
Peace begins with that smile. ”

The photo that has the “Best Smile” will be selected and will be prominently displayed on the HWPL Newsletter and the HWPL WARP Office Journal.

Heavenly Culture, World Peace, Restoration of Light



If you would like to have more information or have any inquiries regarding the HWPL WARP Offices,
please contact us at info@hwpl.kr