



ANNUAL REPORT, 2022



PEACE CENTER

125-B, Pak Arab Housing Scheme, Ferozpur Road, Lahore 54760 Pakistan

1: Message from Fr. James Channan OP

Director, Peace Center

I am pleased to present this annual report of the activities of Peace Center from 1st January, 2022 to 31st December, 2022. The year had been full of activities in the Peace Center, at the national level as well as international levels. All of these seminars, conferences and workshops along with visits to various groups and government officials of Pakistan and in Qatar, United States of America and Guatemala were focused on the importance of dialogue among religions and cultures, religious freedom of belief and practices, human rights, equality of all, and safeguarding and promoting peace and harmony among people of all beliefs and religions. There was great involvement of the Dominican community; priests and student brothers in making all these activities possible to become a reality. Throughout the year there had been a good interaction with the government officials in Pakistan, including; Governor of the Punjab, Mr. Baligh Ur Rehman, Prime Minister of Pakistan, Mr. Shahbaz Sharif, Chairman, Pakistan Council of Islamic Ideologue, Mr. Qiba Ayaz, several religious leaders including Maulana Abdul Khabir Azad, Grand Imam of the Badshahi Mosque, Lahore. We also organized National Peace Conference at our Peace Center in which His Grace, Christophe Z. Al- Kassis, Apostolic Nuncio in Pakistan was the Chief Guest and Catholic Bishops, Archbishop and Bishops of the Church of Pakistan as well Muslim, Hindu and Sikh leaders participated and delivered speeches.

In our activities a large number of youths, women, children and families, people from grass-roots levels also participated with our focus to give them Christian Faith Formation and that how can they can live in harmony, respond to the questions which Muslims ask them and well on how to remain faithful Christians. There was a good number of Muslim and Christian lawyers, promoters of Muslim-Christian dialogue as well. There women from various walks of lives; nurses, doctors, schools and university students, professors and research scholars who part of our programs in Peace Center. Research scholars made use of library as well. The Director and Staff members of Peace Center were invited in the University of the Punjab, Governor House as well as in the Prime Minister's Office at the interfaith programs. We regularly update our website www.peacecenter.org and publish "Peace and Theological Journal"

Kindly find the details our activities in this report. I am sure you will get in depth information about our programs of the dialogue mission of the Church in Pakistan, Qatar, Guatemala and United States.

We can see many positive results of our much-needed activities in the society which is often confronted with several acts of religious persecutions, discrimination, forced conversions and forced marriages as well as false accusation under the blasphemy laws. But in such circumstances, we keep on playing our role to resolve issues through peaceful means.

During this year of 2022 our country was faced with the worst devastating heavy rains and floods in the 75 years of Pakistan. These devastating floods left over 33 million people of Pakistan homeless, 1,700 people dead and one third of our country became under water

and damage done to the crops, infrastructure was in measurable. Above all humanitarian crises where the worst as 33 million people were left without food, shelter, clothes and medicine. In such times of crises our Peace Center also got involved and thus we were able to offer food packages, quilts, bedsheets, and hygiene kits to about 3,000 families in the Provinces of Punjab and Sindh. Thanks to our donors!

A lot more needs to be done in our difficult and challenging realities we are living in Pakistan. However, the message of reconciliation, peace, forgiveness and love preached by our Lord Jesus Christ must reach in everywhere in our country and it is possible only with your financial and moral support.

I am extremely grateful to MISSIO, Munchen, and Aid to the Church in Need, Germany who are our major donors in this very import project of interreligious and Christian-Muslim dialogue as well as activities of Christian Faith Formation carried by our Peace Center! God bless MISSIO and Aid to the Church in Need!

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18 April, 2023

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3: Introduction of Peace Center

Peace Center is a project of the Dominican Order, Ibn-e-Mariam, Vice Province Pakistan. It was inaugurated & blessed by His Eminence, Cardinal Jean-Louis Tauran, President, Pontifical Council for Interreligious Dialogue, Vatican, on 28th of November, 2010. It was a dream which became a reality to have a place for dialogue among various religions, especially Muslims and Christians. At the blessing ceremony the entire Catholic and Church of Pakistan (Protestant) leadership along with Muslim, Hindu, Sikh and Baha'i religious leaders were present to witness this event.

AIMS AND OBJECTIVES

1. **To build bridges of trust and respect and demolish the walls of hatred and mistrust among people of various religions, especially Christians and Muslims.**
2. **To provide a forum where Muslims and Christians and believers of other religions come under one roof and share their problems and challenges and seek their possible solutions for better of humanity.**
3. **To discuss and concentrate on those things which unite us rather than which divide us.**
4. **To work jointly for the betterment of our society and thus create an atmosphere of respect, tolerance and acceptance of each other and our society.**



4: National Interfaith Harmony & Peace Conference



Apostolic Nuncio lauds the role of Peace Center in promoting Christian-Muslim and Interfaith

Fr. Younas Shahzad OP, Fr. James Channan OP, Fr. Patrick Peter OP, Fr. Pascal Paulus OP and Dominican brothers warmly welcomed to Archbishops Christophe Z. Al-Kassis, Apostolic Nuncio in Pakistan



A grand “National Interfaith Harmony and Peace Conference” was organized by the Dominicans on 14th of February, 2022 in the beautiful premises of Peace Center in Lahore. In this conference over one hundreds thirty-five (135) prominent Christian, Muslim, Hindu, Sikh and Baha’i leaders gathered to share and celebrate the achievement of interfaith dialogue and also to highlight the challenges we are faced with in promoting this important

mission of dialogue among religions to make Pakistan peaceful and humane.

His Grace, Archbishops Christophe Z. Al-Kassis, Apostolic Nuncio in Pakistan was the Chief Guest. While addressing this auspicious gathering under one roof the Apostolic Nuncio, highly appreciated and lauded the role of Peace Center in promoting interfaith harmony and peace through dialogue programs and conferences which are held in this Center which is established by the Dominican Oder in Pakistan with Fr James Channan OP, as it’s Executive Director.



Fr. Tufique Younas OP
 Assistant Director
 Peace Center, Mr.
 Asher Nazir Executive
 Secretary Peace and
 Madam Neelam Nisari
 Program Manager
 Peace Center presented
 a bouquet to the
 honourable chief guest.

His Grace, Archbishop Christophe Z. Al-Kassis, Apostolic Nuncio

Apostolic Nuncio, Archbishop Christophe Z. Al-Kassis said that it is with immense joy I am the part of this National Interfaith Harmony and Peace Conference, conducted by Peace



Centre Lahore. Interfaith dialogue is part of the mission of the Universal Church. The leaders of different religions are called to promote peace and harmony but not violence. He further said that Pope Francis says, that peace makers are the children of God but not who promote violence. People have to think more and move forward to promote harmony, peace and justice. To live in peace, it requires much patience and tolerance. Leaders from different religions must work for peace. First of all, we all need to understand what is peace and should work for it which will last. Be courageous, and feel courage to promote peace and justice in the society.

In the Gospel, of St. Matthew: 5.9 Peacemakers are called children of God. God created human beings. If

God gives life, then who we are to respect lives of others. God does not need us to defend him, he can defend himself, because he is creator of the universe. Don't manipulate the work of God. To promote peace and harmony in the world Pope Francis is working untiringly. For this purpose, he met the Muslims leader Sheikh Ahmed Tayyab, Grand Imam of Al-Azhar University in Abu Dhabi and he also visited Shia leader in Iraq. Be cause he is worried about the peace of the World. He requested and invited all religious leaders of the world to promote harmony and peace because we are brothers and sisters.



His Grace, Sebastian Shaw, Archbishop of Lahore

His Grace, Sebastian Shaw, Archbishop of Lahore highly praised the role of Dominicans in promoting dialogue among Christians and Muslims and he was extremely happy for the national conference which was organized at Peace Center. He said that today the whole world is speaking about interfaith dialogue and peace. wherever we go we talk about interfaith dialogue and harmony.

I congratulate all the Dominicans, who are serving in the field of interfaith dialogue because it is one of the apostolates of the Church and Dominicans as well. We are working for harmonious society. His Grace further said that I feel very privileged that I am participating in this conference. Peace becomes reality when justice is being done, and peace is result of justice. It could be seen in the families, when one or two children are favoured and others have negative or ill feelings. If everybody is treated equally then it is justice. Same we have to apply in our society. So, when there is justice in the society, there is peace in the society.



Fr. Younas Shahzad OP Prior Vice Provincial, Ibn-e-Mariam, Dominican Order, Pakistan

Fr Younas Shahzad OP, Prior Vice Provincial, Ibn-e-Mariam Dominican Order, Pakistan expressed his great joy at the great success of this conference and to see how several decades of interfaith and Christian-Muslim dialogue done by the Dominicans has brought plenty of fruit as we see many prominent leaders of different religions in the Peace Center.

Fr Younas Shahzad OP quoted Cardinal Francis Arinze saying that interfaith dialogue is fundamentally respect for the human person and respect for God. It is a positive opening of believers to others to listen, to respect, to grow and to look for the greater truth. Interfaith dialogue is an encounter among the followers of the different religions. In present era where the pluralism is a reality and at peak level, so it is the need of the time to sit together and address the issues. Interfaith Dialogue is the only way where believers of different religions come to gather without conflicts. Christians and Muslims are the major religions of the world having ideological setting and committed to the unity of the humankind and the world peace on the ideological plan. These two religions can work together to make this concept a living reality by developing tolerance, understanding and cooperation towards each other amongst their adherents. Interfaith dialogue doesn't aim to convert people from one religion to another. Dialogue among Christians and Muslims is not a development of present world. If we look back in the history, we find that Christians and Muslims have been in contact with each other from the emergence of Islam. According to recent statistics population of

Muslims is 1.8 billion and Christians are 2.3 billion Muslims in the world, making Islam 2nd largest religion in the

World with the population of 24% whereas Christian is the largest in the world are 34%.

Fr Younas further said that now the time is gone when wars were the only solution, but in present era when we see pluralism in the society and because of pluralism

dialogue is the need of the time. In wars there is only bloodshed nothing else, humankind didn't gain anything from the wars. Since there is much tension, division and disharmony in the world, it is the time to consider seriously how we can promote harmony, tolerance and peace among the believers of different religions and societies. Interfaith dialogue is to accept the reality that other exists.



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Church is very much focusing on the interfaith dialogue. Vatican II makes a strong appeal to Christians all over the world to foster a new attitude towards the people of other religions. The Church rejects nothing of the truth and holiness found in them (NA.# 2), it respects their doctrines even if they differ from its own, for they often contain

a ray of the eternal truth. The same Council documents also affirm that Christians must be open to all forms of dialogue and collaboration and must encounter with the people of other faiths, and they must oppose and reject every form of discrimination among people based on status, creed or race. Respect for all with discrimination towards none. (NA. # 5). Dialogue among Muslims and Christians is practiced all over the world through different ways. He said that

Dominican Order in Pakistan has taken interfaith dialogue and especially Christian-Muslim dialogue very seriously and has made it one of the top priorities



Maulana Abdul Khabir Azad, Grand Imam of the Badshahi Mosque and Chairman of the Central Ruet-e-Hilal Committee Pakistan.

A very famous Muslim religious leader and promoter of interfaith harmony, Maulana Abdul Khabir Azad, Grand Imam of the Badshahi Mosque and Chairman of the Central Ruet-e-Hilal Committee Pakistan said, it gives me immense joy to participate in this National

Interfaith Harmony and Peace conference. He said I have committed myself to promote interfaith harmony and peace and make our society home of peace. He strongly condemned the acts and mentality of extremists and militants. He said, unfortunately a small number of people with their evil intentions are spreading violence in our country. We will not let them sabotage our agenda of peace and harmony. We will keep on promoting interfaith harmony and peace at all levels of lives, especially at grass roots levels. Islam, Christianity and other religious teach peace and harmony. The teachings of Islam are based on love for humanity. I want to convey this message to the Apostolic Nuncio and to the world that we will make every effort in making Pakistan a peaceful nation. Maulana Azad thanked and highly praised the splendid role of Pope Francis in speaking for justice, religious freedom of all and manifesting his sympathies with the suffering people and especially for the Muslims in Iraq, Palestine, Syria and Kashmir. Maulana further said that Pope Francis always manifests his solidarity with the persecuted people. Maulana Azad also expressed his joy and admiration in working with Fr James Channan at different levels to promote Christian-Muslim dialogue and for going together in many international seminars and conference around the world, including Vatican City, Germany and USA, Brazil, South Korea, Japan, Qatar, Jordan and UAE.

Mr. Ejaz Alam Augustine, Minister of Interfaith Harmony, Human Rights and Minorities Affairs, Government of Punjab said dialogue among religions was never so important as it is today. All participants of these conference are ambassadors of peace. These are people who are taking message of harmony and peace at all levels of lives. However, we lament that a small number of extremist terrorist activities we feel discouraged. The incidents such as of lynching of Priyantha Kumara, a Sri Lanka citizen in Sialkot on the accusation of throwing down an Islamic slogan from the wall, disturb us very deeply and make us cry. He



further said I highly condemn this barbaric act of terrorism. Such incidents make us feel as all of efforts have gone in vain. However, we should never loose heart. The national conference of today is a manifestation that we are for peace and will keep on working for this noble cause. The Government of Pakistan is committed to interfaith dialogue. There is a grave need to bring and motivate young people for interfaith dialogue and peace. Each of us has a great role to play in this regard. Mr Augustine thanked the Apostolic Nuncio, Archbishop. Christophe Al-Kassis, Fr Younas Shahzad OP and Fr James Channan OP in organizing this very impressive conference and expressed his great joy to participate in conference

on behalf of Government of Pakistan

Fr James Channan OP, Director of Peace, expressed his joy for this National Interfaith Harmony and Peace Conference. He said that I am grateful to God that important



apostolate of Christian-Muslim dialogue and interfaith harmony has brought forth many positive results. Now we see many interfaith dialogue and harmony groups working in Pakistan. That is a matter of great jubilation. He thanked Apostolic Nuncio, all Bishops, Fr Younas Shahzad OP and all Christian, Muslims, Hindu, Sikh and Baha'i leaders and believers who had come for this historic conference. He said that although we as Christian are small in number in Pakistan, we are like a "salt of earth and light of the world" as Jesus has said. At times we find this mission extremely difficult and challenging we never give up. He admired the Dominican Order in Pakistan which has made Christian-Muslim and

interfaith dialogue a priority as well as Fr Younas Shahzad OP, Prior Vice Provincial who always supports and give full collaboration for such encounters. Fr James Channan said with coming of the Apostolic Nuncio, Archbishop Christophe Z. Al-Kassis a Chief Guest in this conference has made a history as when construction of this Peace Center was ready, His Eminence Cardinal, Jean-Louis Tauran, President of the Pontifical Council for Interreligious Dialogue came to this Peace Center on 28th of November, 2010 and inaugurated and blessed this, Peace Center. He expressed his thanks to Archbishop Sebastian Shaw, other Church of Pakistan (Protestant) Bishops, Grand Imam as well as all Christian, Muslim, Hindu, Sikh and Baha'i leaders and promoters of interfaith harmony and peace. This national conference will bring forth many good fruits and results in the coming years and all of us will play our role as Pope Francis has said to build bridges of trust, respect, acceptance and love and break the walls of hatred, violence and non-acceptance



Bishop Irfan Jamil, Bishop of Lahore, Church of Pakistan

Bishop Irfan Jamil of Lahore Diocese said that Pakistan is the land of equal opportunities for the followers of all religions where the people of all religions have the same rights and opportunities. We should live with tolerance, acceptance, love and tolerance because every religion in the world gives the lesson of love and peace. He called for the promotion of respect for religions among people for durable peace in society. He said dialogue among the religions were of prime importance. He said that the presence of the people from all faiths in the event showed that they are united and would

join hands to promote peace, tolerance and love for each other. Religious minorities reflect the beauty of our country. Such interfaith encounters offer opportunities to build bridges of respect tolerance, compassion and acceptance among religions. Such encounters help to break the walls of violence, discrimination and non-acceptance of the other.



Sardar Bishan Singh. A prominent Sikh leader and promoter of interfaith dialogue, said I congratulate all honorable guests in this National Interfaith Harmony Conference who are participating from different religions. Like always today also Fr. James Channan OP invited and gathered us from different religions; Christianity, Islam, Hinduism, Sikhism and Baha'ism in this beautiful Peace Center and gave the message of peace and interfaith harmony to the world. We are people from different religions but as a nation we are Pakistani and in Pakistan we are living with complete religious freedom and we have all fundamental rights according to the constitution of Pakistan. Together we celebrate our religious festivals such as Christmas, Holi, Eids, Jahn-e-Nau rose and Wasakhi and with one another we share our love and

gifts. We meet with joy and eat together and give acceptance and respect like brothers and sisters. The Peace Center gave the message of tolerance, Peace, love one another to the nations and worked for the promotion of peace and Interfaith harmony among different religions of Pakistan. I thank God that we have great personality – Fr James Channan OP who has devoted his life for building bridges among believers of different religions. Pakistan is the land of love, blessing, the land of five rivers and this is the land of tolerance and Peace. No one has the right that he murdered a person by the name of religion. Some negative forces are working against peace and interfaith harmony and through different negative incidents and they play the role to divide the people of

Dr. Munawar Chand. A famous Hindu Leader shared that Lord Krishna said in holy book of



Gita that "I am dwelling in their hearts, destroy with the shining lamp of knowledge the darkness born of ignorance." Thus, the Gita is essentially a revelation of divine love for humanity as well as a love call for humanity's reciprocal love for divine. He said we should promote love and break the walls of hatred among the people of different religions and we should work for the betterment of humanity without any discrimination. He shared that Quaid -e – Azam Muhammad Ali Jannah founder of Pakistan said in his speech on 11th August 1947 the spoke of an inclusive and impartial government, religious freedom, rule of law and equality for all the people of Pakistan. With freedom you can go in your religious places for worship and you can

celebrate your religious festivals with one another. We are people from different religions and faiths but as nation we are Pakistan and we should work together for the prosperity of Pakistan. Dr. Munawar Chand said that I am very thankful to Fr. James Channan OP who



invited to me for this interfaith conference and from my Hindu community I congratulated to Fr. James Channan OP for to organize this successful conference.

At the end of the conference, various religious leaders were presented with Peace Awards including; Mohi-ud-Din Qadri, Rev. Bishop Azad Marshal, Provincial Minister Ejaz Alam Augustine, Bishop Sebastian F.

Shaw, Bishop Irfan Jamil, Fr. Younas Shahzad OP, Fr. James Channan OP, Bishop Abraham Daniel, Dr. Ruhiyeh Mufdi, Dr. Marqus Fida, Sardar Sikandar Singh, Allama Muhammad Zubair Abid, Allama Shafqat Rasool, Rev. Dr. Marcos, Dr. Munawar Chand, Allama Dr. Badr Munir, Sohail Ahmad Raza, Pir Syed Nau Bihar Shaw, Rev. Shahid Mehraj, Special Adviser to the Human Rights Afzal Chaudhry, Father Iftikhar Moon, Father Jamshed Albert, Father James Channan, Sardar Bishan Singh, Mufti Ashiq Hussain. Here is the list of recipients of Peace Awards in the conference.

Beautiful book *Basharat Batoor Mukalama* (Good News Through Dialogue) paying tribute to Fr Chrys McVey OP, was launched by the Apostolic Nuncio, Archbishop, Christophe Z. El-Kassis and Fr Younas Shahzad OP. Fr Chrys McVey OP was a Dominican priest from USA and served in Pakistan for about 40 years as a very dedicated missionary.

5: Seminar on Fundamental Human Rights of Religious Minorities in Pakistan and Christian Youth Faith Formation

Group photo of Christian youth with resource persons at Peace Center Lahore, Pakistan



On 21st March, 2022 Peace Center organized a seminar on the topic of Fundamental Human Rights of Religious Minorities in Pakistan and Christian Youth Faith Formation. Fr. James Channan OP, Director Peace Center organized this seminar with the partnership of Dr. Marqus Fida

Chairman, International Gospel Mission, Rev. Emmanuel S. Khokhar Dean Raiwind Diocese, Church of Pakistan, Gee Sungbae the PASC President Seventh- Day Adventist Church and Mr. Tanveer Yaqoob, Chairman Christian Care Foundation. Fifty male and female youth members participated in this

seminar from different churches and denominations. Bishop Patrick P. Augustine Bishop of Sudan, Rev. Emmanuel S. Khokhar, Dr. Marqus Fida and Mr. Tanveer Yaqoob were speakers and they shared beautiful thoughts and information with youth for Christian Faith Formation. In this seminar on the behalf of Fr. James Channan OP Director Peace Center Mr. Asher Nazir Executive Secretary Peace Center welcomed to all participants and panelists. After the prayer of Dr. Marqus Fida Mr. Asher Nazir invited everyone for brief introduction. In the beginning of the seminar all participants sang together a beautiful religious song. Mr. Asher Nazir shared the objectives of fundamental human rights of religious minorities in Pakistan and Christian youth faith formation with the participants.



Fr. Tufique Younas OP, Assistant Director Peace Center and Mr. Asher Nazir Executive Secretary Peace Center gave very comprehensive lectures that how our Christian Youth can practice

our Christian Faith while facing many challenges as minority in Pakistan. After this they facilitated workshop “Why Christian youth is away from the Church? And what are challenges of Christian youth and practicing Faith”. More than 50 Christian boys and girls participated in this seminar and they shared their bitter experiences and learnings with other participants.

6: International Women’s Day,2022

International Women's Day,2022 conference held with the theme of [#BreakTheBias](#)

“Gender equality today for a sustainable tomorrow” on 8th March,2022 with the partnership of Peace Centre, Christian Care Foundation and Ministry of Human Right



Government of Pakistan at Peace Centre Lahore, Pakistan. Fr. James Channan OP Director, Peace Center, Lahore and Mr. Tanveer Yaqoob, President Christian Care Foundation were the hosts. There were about 100 participants, mostly women from different walks of life and they were belonging from the religions of Muslims and Christian. His Excellency, Muhammad Ali Khan



Mazari Deputy Director Ministry of Human Rights Pakistan was Chief Guest and Ms. Amna Mufti Novelist, screen writer, columnist, drama writer and women rights activist presided over the program.

Program started with interfaith prayers from Christianity and Islam. Fr. James Channan OP welcomed all honorable guests and participants and with it he shared the objectives and introduced the theme of International Women's Day its history and significance. He said that I am happy to see that today many women and girls are participating in this program from different religions and they are happy and enjoying this international day. Today we can see that many women are working in every field they are doctor, advocate, teacher, farmer, pilot, political leader, banker, and trader. We have many successful women and they are ideal for other women in the World.

He said that every year United Nation celebrate this day with different theme and this



year we are celebrate this day with the theme of International Women's Day is "Gender Equality today for a sustainable tomorrow" recognizing the contribution of women and girls around the world, who are leading the charge on climate change adaptation, mitigation and response, to build a more sustainable future for all. Women and girls are effective and powerful leaders and change-makers for climate adaptation and mitigation. They are involved in sustainability initiatives around the world, and their participation and leadership results in more effective climate action. Continuing to examine the opportunities, as well as the constraints, to empower women and girls to have a voice and be equal players in decision-making related to climate change and sustainability is

essential for sustainable development and greater gender equality. Without gender equality today, a sustainable future, and an equal future, remains beyond our reach. He said that God created them male and female and he blessed them and named them

on the day when they were created. God blessed them and said to them, "Be fruitful and multiply, and fill the earth and subdue it; rule over the fish of the sea and the birds of the air and every creature that crawls upon the earth." Without women no one can



be born and God created equal to male and female. To celebrate the international women's day objective is that in our society we should give equal rights and opportunities to women. In society we should give respect to woman because they are facing domestic violence and discrimination in her family and society. We see that in all the world women are in difficult situation. International women's day celebrated by United Nations is to raise the voice for women's right in the world. There are 193 countries who are members of United Nations and on 10th of 1948 UN Declaration of Human Rights. In this declaration we read that male and female are equal and they have equal rights. In 1975 UN declared that on 8th March will be the day for International Women's Day in the world. The number of females in Pakistan is 49.2% its means about 50 % are female and 50% and male. In the National Assembly Parliament of Pakistan percentage of women are 33% and this is very positive sign that women are participating in politics of Pakistan and they are aware about their rights. Today we are happy that representatives of Pakistan government are present in this program and they are working for the rights of women in Pakistan. I welcome and congratulate to all women because they have ability to do everything and we have examples of successful women as Malala Yousafzai, Hina Rabbani Khar, Sharmeen Obaid, Arfa Abdul Karim, Noor Jahan and Benazir Bhutto. Education is very important for women and they should get education and their families should support them and appreciate them. If they get education then they can become a doctor, teacher, Banker, scientist, advocate, judge, pilot etc. Today without of education a better life is not possible. We see that in this society when a baby girl born, she fired and murdered.



My name is **Young Moon Kim** and I am from South Korea and I am happy and thankful to organizers that they invited to me for the program of International Women Day,2022. I am so much impressed with the people of Pakistan and they are very loving and caring. Today with the United Nations we are celebrating International Women Day,2022 all over the World with the theme of [#BreakTheBias](#). Advancing gender equality in the context of the climate crisis and disaster risk reduction is one of the greatest global challenges of the 21st century. The issues of climate change and sustainability have had and will continue to have, severe and lasting impacts on our environment, economic and social development. Those who are amongst the most vulnerable and marginalized experience the deepest impacts.

We all together put a step forward and promised that we will give the rights to women



because the human rights are the rights of women. Malala Yousafzai says that when all the world is be silence when a small voice has a big power so we can recognize his voice when we are in silence. Now all the world in the shape of a family and when a country in difficult all the people of the world feel the pain and they thing about it. All together we can work for our better future. Congratulate to all of you International Women’s Day.

Maulana Abdul Khabir Azad Grand Imam Badshahi Mosque Lahore gave his online video message in this International Women’s Day conference. In his speech he said that Islam give lesson to equal right and equal importance for women. International women day remind us that we should accept the ability of women and women are very important part of our society. We should give equal right to women in every field of life.



Ms.Sumaria Shafique said that and I am very happy to see you that together you are celebrating this international Women’s Day. I want to congratulate international woman day to all of you because you are very brave and brilliant and in the all field of life you are playing an affective role for the betterment of society. First of all, I want to appreciate

women and girls because this day is only for you and you are celebrating this day with joy and pride. I am Advocate and as a woman I choose this profession because I am fighting in the court for the rights of women and I am a role model for other women.

Ms. Noreen Haroon: Today I am feeling so happy and proud that today, women and male celebrating International Women’s Day,2022 at Peace Center Lahore, Pakistan. Every year on



8th of March because United Nations celebrates International Women’s Day for all the world. In Pakistan and like Pakistan in many countries women are facing problems to get basic rights as a woman. In Pakistan still 40% girls marry before the age of 18 years and in this society, we are looking for the dream of equality. If we give women a chance to get education then we can see a positive change in this society and in all fields of life women can play a vital role for the improvement of this society. If you educate a woman, it means you educate a family. Every religion teaches the lesson of equal rights for women and equal opportunities for women and in real life and in action this is like a dream. We should

give equal opportunities for women, we should give the right of education, we should give the right of good health, we should give the right of equality, we should give the right of job. Today we should promise that we will give respect and importance to women, that they are human beings and we should give equal rights to them. At the same time, women and girls are effective and powerful leaders and change-makers for the bright future of women. They are involved in sustainability initiatives around the world, and their participation and leadership results are more effective. Continuing to examine the opportunities, as well as the constraints, to empower women and girls to have a voice and be equal players in decision-making related to climate change and sustainability is essential for sustainable development and greater gender equality. Without gender equality today, a sustainable future, and an equal future, remains beyond our reach. The United Nations Observance of International Women’s Day under the theme, “Gender equality today for a sustainable tomorrow”, be marked. With great pleasure I congratulate to all of you International Women’s Day,2022

7: Interfaith *Iftar* (breaking of the fast) Dinner



On 13 April 2022 Peace Center Lahore and Christian Care Foundation jointly organized a program in Ramadan-Muslim’s month of fasting - with the theme of *Iftar* dinner Interfaith Prayers and Fasting for end of War between Ukraine and Russia at Pak Arab Housing Society, Lahore. Over 80 persons participated from different religions and they offered special interfaith prayers for peace and prosperity in Pakistan, and especially end of war between Russia and Ukraine. Muslim,

Christian and Hindu leaders attended the ceremony. Fr. James Channan OP welcomed all guests and he shared that we are a beautiful creation of the Lord and we should live together, we should respect others,

we should promote peace not war and fights with others. There is a war going on between Russia and Ukraine and over one million people have migrated from Ukraine because they were living in war torn area in great fear. More than twenty thousand people have died in the city of Mario Polo. We are people from different religions and today we strongly condemned the war between Russia and Ukraine. We have strong faith that our interfaith prayers this war will be stopped. This is the month of Ramadan and Muslims are fasting here. I want to share that as Christian we are also fasting because this is our Lenten. These days Christians are fasting and we remember the days when Jesus Christ was crucified. On 17th April,2022 we will celebrate Easter and this is our big religious festival. In all religions we see the concept of fasting and in fasting people give donations and help to needy people in different kinds and they pray and remember to God. Fr. James Channan said to the participants that Pope Francis has said to all Christians at the international level, especially to fast and pray for a ceasefire between Russia and Ukraine, as the situation between the two countries is getting worse. As all of us, the pandemic caused by COVID-19 has taken away the lives of millions of persons around the world, including members of our families. Others fell sick and were healed, yet they experienced much long-lasting pain and suffering from the consequences of the virus. As you celebrate the month of Ramadan that concludes with Eid ul Fitr our thoughts turn in gratitude to Almighty God who has protected all of us in His Providence. We also pray for the dead and the sick with sorrow and hope.

Our hope, dear Muslim brothers and sisters, is that we continue sharing the joys and sorrows of all our neighbors and friends, because God's love embraces every person and the entire universe. As a sign of our shared humanity and the fraternity that flows from it, we wish you a peaceful and fruitful Ramadan and joyful celebrations of Eid ul Fitr.

Dr. Faraz belongs from the Baha'i community and by profession he is a doctor. In his views he shared that our Lenten season finished on 21st March,2022. He said that fasting is a very important action and with fasting we pray and be thankful to God that he gives us a beautiful life and blessing. Today Russia and Ukraine are fighting with each other for our benefits and people are dying by dangerous weapons. This is a very sadful and sorrowful situation. Today the world has become a global village and science and technology cannot change human ignorance. The people should understand that wars always give destruction and war takes the lives of humans. We should change the thought of hate with the thought of love. Ms. Fouzia Ameer shared in her views that if we are in fasting then we should care for others who are needy and hungry. If you give food to hungry and needy people in Ramadan then your God will be happy with you. Ramadan teaches patience, caring, donating, praying and giving food to hungry people and we should do these actions in Ramadan. We hope that in Ramadan through our interfaith prayers war will be stop between Russia and Ukraine

8: Activate the Divine Spark in the Hearts of Humanity

The Fuji Declaration 7th Anniversary Celebration

Symphony of Peace Prayers,2022

Peace Center Lahore, Pakistan organized the program of Symphony of Peace Prayers, 2022 to celebrate The Fuji Declaration which was launched in May 2015 during a grand inauguration ceremony at Fuji Sanctuary in Japan. Since then, it has become a tradition to celebrate the anniversaries of The Fuji Declaration at the Symphony of Peace Prayers event which is held annually at the foot of Mt. Fuji in Japan. This month of May the 7th anniversary of The Fuji Declaration and the occasion celebrated in the World. Fr. James Channan OP, Director Peace, Center and Maulana Abdul Khabir Azad, Grand Imam of Badshahi Mosque, Lahore were the signatories of Fuji Declaration and in May,2015 as they were invited when the Fuji Declaration was Launched in Japan. The Fuji Declaration enjoys the continued support of over 60 partner organizations and 200 honorary signatories from around the world including pioneering scientists, artists, authors, educators and peace advocates who share a



common vision for one peaceful and thriving world. The three co-initiators of the Fuji Declaration, Ervin Laszlo, Hiroo and Masami Saionji, extend their heartfelt invitation for us to join the 7th anniversary celebration. The founding principles of The Fuji Declaration highlights the spirit of oneness and diversity which are values that are ever so needed in the world today. We

are invited to witness the 7th anniversary to ignite together the Divine Spark which rests within every human heart for a more harmonious, compassionate and sustainable life for all.

Every year Peace Center Lahore, organizes the event of Symphony of Peace Prayers and celebrate with the people of different religions in Pakistan. On 21 May, 2022 Peace Center Lahore, Pakistan celebrated symphony of Peace Prayers with the theme of Activate the Divine Spark in the Heart of Humanity on the 7th Anniversary of Fuji Declaration. More than 100 people from different religions participated in the program and through interfaith prayers and positive peace wave peace will remain in this beautiful World.



Interfaith leaders included Dr. Zubair Abid, Ishtiaq Chaudhry Advocate Supreme Court President, Allama Arif Asgar Chisti Muslim Religious Leader, Allama Dr.Badar Munir Muslim Religious Leader, Dr. Marqus Fida Chairman 7Star TV, Dr.Manawar Chand Hindu Leader, Mufti Ashiq Hussain Muslim Religious Leader, Madam Fouzia Ameer Chairperson Saleem Mehmooda Welfare Foundation, Prof. Mehmood Guznavi Muslim Religious Leader, Sardar Skindar Singh a Sikh Leader, Dr. Patras Bahadur Director Global Center for Adventist Muslim Relations, Ms. Lubna Mansoor Regional Director Ministry of Human Right Government of Pakistan participated in the program of Symphony of Peace Prayers,2022 .

9: Role of Interfaith leaders in Drug Abuse Prevention



Regional Directorate Anti-Narcotics Force Punjab organized a meeting with the title of Role of Interfaith Leaders in Drug Abuse Prevention at Lahore Cantt. Mr. Asher Nazir, participated as Executive Secretary of Peace Center Lahore in this meeting and they discussed the current drug

scenario in our society and preventative measures. 30 religious leaders participated in this meeting and during the meeting Regional Directorate Anti-Narcotics Force shared that about the new trends and it is need of the time to impart important role of interfaith leaders for the eradication of this menace. He shared that how Religious Leaders Can Help in The Fight Against Drug Abuse in colleges and universities in Punjab, Pakistan. Fr. James Samuel OP and Fr. Joseph representatives from Christian community and they shared in their views in the light of Bible. From Hindu community Dr. Munawar Chand Chairman of Pakistan Hindu Council was also present and he participated in this meeting. Sardar Sikandar Sing appreciated the initiative of Regional Directorate Anti-Narcotics Force Punjab that they invited to interfaith leaders and shared these things with us



10: Meeting with World Bank Regional Safeguards Coordinators for Environment and Social Development



On 18 May, 2022 Mr. Asher Nazir, Executive Secretary, Peace Center was invited a meeting by Provincial Disaster Management Authority, Punjab that the World Bank has scheduled with South Asia Regional Safeguard Advisor (RSA) team and E&S Regional Safeguards Coordinators (RSCs) to consider standard safeguards for Environment and Social development for the

implementation of development project named; PUNJAB URBAN LAND SYSTEMS ENHANCEMENT PROJECT – PULSE. The core objective of the project is to provide beneficiaries in Punjab province with; Development of cadastral mapping including digital land records of Urban and rural areas of the entire Punjab along with the determination of land titles; Up-gradation of the existing digital land records of rural areas with cadastral maps; and Improved access to State land for development including housing programs.

Eighteen (18) civil societies organizations heads and representatives participated in this provincial level meeting as Kashf Foundation, Aurat Foundation, Skirkatgah, Human



Rights Commission of Pakistan, Community Organization for People Empowerment COPE Pakistan, South Asia Partnership Pakistan, Action Against Poverty, Sojhla for Social Change, Christian Farmer's Development Organization, Caritas Multan, Al Sadiq Desert Welfare, organization, Bahawalpur, Christian Study Center, Punjab Urban Resource Center, Akhuwat Foundation, Democratic Commission for Human Development and Indus law at the head office Provincial Disaster Management Authority, Punjab. Some civil society organizations representatives participated through online video zoom meeting

11: International Conference on Interfaith Dialogue in Doha, Qatar



The 14th Doha Conference on Interfaith Dialogue, held over two days under the patronage of HE the Prime Minister and Minister of Interior Sheikh Khalid bin Khalifa bin Abdul Aziz al-Thani, concluded Wednesday. Fr. James Channan OP Director Peace Center and Maulana Abdul Khabir Azad Grand Imam Badshahi Mosque Lahore were invited in this conference from Pakistan. Conference began on Tuesday at the Sheraton Doha Hotel with more than 300 attendees from 87 countries. Religious scholars from three monotheistic religions; Islam, Christianity and Judaism, former civil servants, academics, heads of institutions, students, charitable institutions, civil society organizations, and representatives from the countries most affected by hate speech are attending in the conference. Sultan bin Saad Al Muraikhi, Minister of State Foreign Affairs, inaugurated the exhibition accompanying the 14th Doha Conference on Interfaith Dialogue with the topic 'Religions and Hate Speech, Scriptures and Practice.' The event was organized by the Doha International Centre for Interfaith Dialogue (DICID). During the serious dialogue and in-depth studies between the religious leaders and intellectual scholars present the conference came up with realistic proposals and initiatives, including efforts to confront all forms of hate speech, and achieve the lofty goal of meeting people of faith and specialists to open up horizons of dialogue and visions of understanding. Participants wished that peace and love may prevail among human beings of different religions, races and cultures. Two dangers are facing our world today the first is the unmistakable threat of terrorism: which people across the world have agreed upon to confront, and the second, which is not any lesser, is the escalation of the hate speech, grounded in exclusion and discriminatory behaviors, that classify people by their religions, gender or color. We need to admit that religious fanaticism is the main cause of conflicts facing our world today. Among other factors, they continue to erroneously understand the purpose of religions and God's supreme objectives of creation, and so they use this mis-conceptualization to support their authoritarian outlook embedded in nationalism and religious hatred. Such doings have generated extremist

models that fuel hate speech and reject intercultural and Inter-religious dialogue and consequently peaceful coexistence.

The Doha International Center for Interfaith Dialogue has so often called on for, through its conferences, to adopt an effective strategy to counter this phenomenon through religious and moral values and legal means, as the stability we desire in the world depends on the extent individuals and institutional consolidate these beliefs of peace and tolerance. We believe that the only way to combat hate speech is by eradicating its roots, and adopting the intellectual debate to recognize inherent appeals for sectarianism and racism and their rejections of others. Hence, the 14th Doha International Conference for Interfaith Dialogue discussed the theme “Religions and Hate Speech.

Over the two days of the conference, three plenary sessions were held after the opening sessions, nine simultaneous side sessions, and a closing session during which research papers were presented.

Theme of three plenary sessions;
Plenary Sessions 1.

1. Hate Speech: Causes, Drivers, and Risks

Title Speech: Hate speech and the misinterpretation and the misrepresentation of religious beliefs and concepts.

2. Hate Speech: Causes, Drivers and Risks

Title Speech: Hate Speech Versus Abrahamic Scriptures and sound Theology

3. Hate Speech: Causes, Drivers and Risks

Title Speech: How should society respond when some religious extremists, often self-appointed leaders, spread hate and radicalism?

Guided by the contents of the papers and research presented, and the dialogues, interventions and discussions that took place during the conference sessions; the conference reached a number of recommendations, and issued a final statement. DICID chairperson Dr Ibrahim Saleh al-Nuaimi read out the following final statement:

First: Emphasizing that the heavenly religions call in their origins and legislations to love and peace, and reject all forms of hate speech, extremism, racism and discrimination based on religion, gender or race. Second; Emphasizing that confronting extremist ideology and hate speech is a humanitarian goal, and all efforts must be combined to counter this resulting extremist discourse at the level of individuals, institutions, and religious, intellectual and political leaders; by creating a peaceful and loving human and religious spirit, to build a peaceful civilized world.

Third: Condemning all forms and types of hate speech, and repudiating the practices of extremist groups that attribute themselves to religion amidst a lack of its essence and what it calls for. Fourth: The necessity of taking all legislative means to set up a professional and ethical media strategy. To limit the use of media platforms and social media as platforms to spread hate speech, and to impose legal procedures on those platforms.

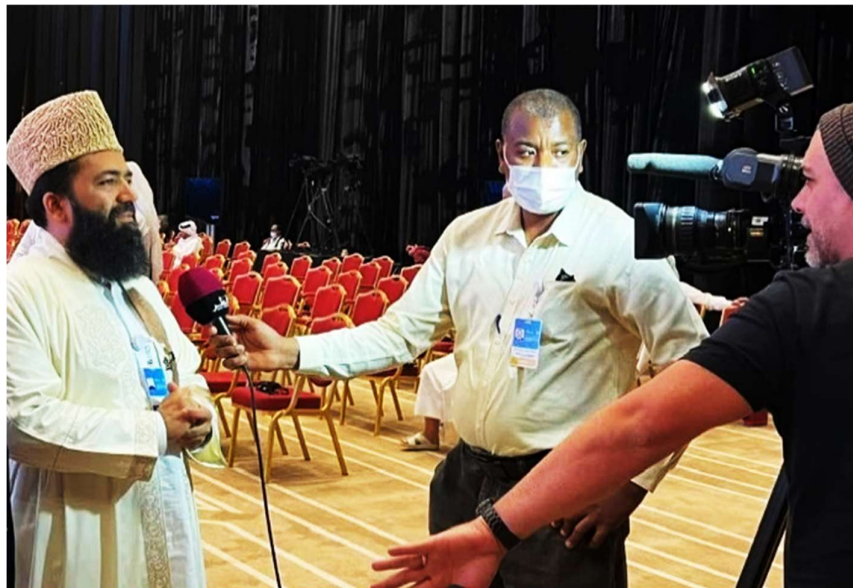
Fifth: Calling for the adoption of a proposal to be submitted to international organizations stipulating the necessity of developing educational curricula (especially in the adolescent stage), in order to instill correct religious values that



call for respect and coexistence with the other, and to eliminate all that incites hatred.

Responsible religious leaders in their countries in particular must assume their responsibilities in that development, as stipulated in religious jurisdictions and teachings of a call to love and dialogue and the rejection of hatred and extremism

Sixth: Warning against the existence of some forms of double discourse between those involved in interfaith dialogue; there should not be a discourse that a person addresses himself in following his religion, and another discourse that he addresses others with. If the speech is not straight, honest and real; it will be one of the most dangerous generators of hatred.



Seventh:

Emphasizing that the phenomenon of Islamophobia and prejudice against Islam is not the approach of the many in the West, but it is rather the approach of the few who ignore the true knowledge of the essence of Islam, and also ignore the tolerant civilized relations between Muslims and other followers of other religions.

12: Meeting with Mr. Ahsan Raza Shah Ambassador of Pakistan in Qatar

At the invitation of His Excellency, Ahsan Raza Shah, Ambassador of Pakistan to Qatar,



Embassy of Pakistan, Maulana Abdul Khabir Azad, Fr James Channan and Allama Ahsan Siddiqui visit him in the Embassy. Situation of the grave need of interfaith dialogue as well as its growth and challenges were shared with the Ambassador. Mt. Raza Shah was very happy to receive this delegation and thanked them for representing Pakistan in the Doha conference. Fr James Channan presented his book "Path of Love" to the Ambassador.

Fr. James Channan OP is presenting his book Path of Love to Mr. Ahsan Raza Shah, Ambassador of Pakistan in Qatar

13: Fr. James Channan OP awarded with International Peace Award by the Government of Guatemala



Fr. James Channan OP officially invited by the Government of Guatemala to and he awarded with Peace Award by the Government of Guatemala. Fr. James Channan OP International personality and he in the World he known by his work of Peace and Interfaith harmony among the religions. He is a model role for peace promoters and peace activists in the world. Every year he invited by many national and international forums, organizations, universities, and Government of different countries.

Guatemala Government appreciated to Fr. James Channan OP for his noble mission to unite the people of different religions in the world. Mr. Mario Maldonado Cultural Heritage, Vice Minister of Guatemala Government said that we are very much inspired with your devotion and commitment for the work of peace and interfaith harmony among the different religions of World. He said that Guatemala Government awarded you with

International Peace award with great honor and respect because you are uniting the people of different religions with the message of Love, tolerance, peace and acceptance of other. This is great work and our world need Love and Peace not war and violence between religions and countries.

Fr. James Channan OP gave a public lecture in Guatemala City on 9th of August, 2022 on the theme of importance of Interreligious dialogue in the modern world and what are difficulties and challenges in promoting Interreligious dialogue. Part of the lecture was also the role of Peace Center in promoting this mission of the Church and the Dominicans in Pakistan in which Christians are a small religious minority of about 2 % and 96 % are Muslims. He received invitation from Ma. Are. Mario Maldonado? Cultural Heritage, Vice Minister. There was a large number of professors and intellectuals who attended the lecture and They asked questions about Christian-Muslim dialogue in Pakistan. At this auspicious and unique occasion, he was also pressed an International Peace Award by Mario Maldonado, o behalf of the Government of Guatemala. Mr Maldonado highly praised the lecture of Fr James Channan OP and thanked him for accepting the invitation to visit Guatemala.

With this Fr. James Channan OP was hosted by Fr. George Pittalis OP, Parish Priest of the Holy Rosary Basilica in Guatemala. There Fr. James Channan OP also met to Archbishop GONZALO DE VILLA Y VASQUEZ, SJ of Guatemala and shared with him the activities of Peace Center and Dominican apostates in Pakistan.

14: Celebration of National Minority Day, on 11 of August,2022

Allama Asghar Arif Chishti President PTI Religious Affairs Wing Lahore organized a program with interfaith leaders on National Minority Day 11 August at PTI Secretariat office Lahore. On the behalf of Fr. James



Channan OP Director Peace Center as staff of Peace Center Fr. Tufique Younas OP Assistant Director Peace Center and Mr. Asher Nazir Executive Secretary Peace Center participated in this program. In this program 35 religious'



leaders, civil society representative and political leaders were present. The Founder of Pakistan, Muhammad Ali Jinnah's vision is contained in his historic speech on this day in 1947 that laid down the foundations of a modern, tolerant and progressive Pakistan guaranteeing every citizen equal rights regardless of creed and gender. Ali Jinnah's vision is embodied in the Constitution of Pakistan that envisioned minorities to freely profess and practice their religion and culture.

Emulating the Quad's vision in letter and spirit the Government of Pakistan observes August, 11 each year as The Minorities Day to reaffirm that Government of Pakistan commitment to all our minority fellow citizens.

15: Celebration of Independence Day of Pakistan on 14th August, 2022

Celebration of Pakistan Independence Day 14th August at Peace Center Lahore, Pakistan. Peace Center organized a beautiful program of Pakistan Independence Day at Peace Center Lahore, Pakistan. Mr., Shabir Ahmad Usmani Coordinator to Prime Minister Pakistan for Ministry of Religious Affairs and Interfaith Harmony Pakistan was Chief guest in this program. Fr. Patrick Peter OP, Mufti Ashiq Hussain, Allama Asghar Arif Chishti, Allama Badar Munir, Dr. Abreea Fatima, Madam Fauzia Ameer, Mr. Rizwan Rotary Club, Mr. Zubair Farooq Ahmad participated as guest of honor.



16: Fr. James Channan OP meets Mr. Shahadat Awan Federal State Minister of Law and Justice Government of Pakistan



On 1st September, 2022 Fr. James Channan OP visited the Federal State Ministry of Law and Justice and met to Mr. Shahadat Awan Federal State Minister of Law and Justice at Islamabad, Pakistan. In this meeting he gave the introduction of Peace Center and shared the activities, national and international event, programs, trainings and workshops for the promotion of peace and interfaith harmony in

Pakistan. In this meeting he shared his national and international exposures, conferences and appreciations from national and international forums. He said that President of Pakistan awarded to me National Peace Award and this is great honor and appreciations for me.

Mr. Shahadat Awan Federal State Ministry of Law and Justice Government of Pakistan thanked to Fr. James Channan OP for this visit in the Ministry of Law and Justice. He appreciated to Fr. James Channan OP for his valuable work for the promotion of interfaith harmony and Christian Muslim dialogue in Pakistan. This prior need of time that all the people of different religions should live in peace and tolerance and should accept each other without of any discrimination.

17: Conference at the International Day of Peace, 2022 at Peace Center Lahore, Pakistan

On 21st September, 2022 Dominican Peace Center organized a conference at the International Day of Peace on the theme of “End Racism: Build Peace” with interfaith peoples from different religions as Hindus, Muslims, Christians and Sikh at Pak Arab Housing Society Lahore, Pakistan. As host Fr. James Channan OP organized this wonderful and beautiful celebration at Peace Center. More than 150 interfaith people participated in this program and together they celebrated International Day of Peace. Maulana Abdul Khabir Azad was the Chief Guest of this grand event and, Ms. Jahan Aara Watto participated as Guest of Honor. With its other interfaith prominent personalities included;

Rev. Dr Marcus Fida, Sardar Bishan Singh, Dr. Munawar Chand, Allama Zubair Abid, Hafiz Kazim Raza Naqvi, Prof. Mehmood Ghaznavi, Dr Majid



Abel, The Rev. Emmanuel Khokhar, Samuel Piara, Jabran Masih Gill, Mufti Ashiq Hussain, Ishtiaq Chaudhry Advocate, Ayaz Chaudhary, Yousaf Khokhar Advocate, Fr. Taufiq Younas OP, Allama Arif Chishti, Dr Badar Munir, Pandit Bhaghat Lal, Imran Athwal, Victor Khan, were present in this



celebration at Peace Center. 10 URI Coordinators of various CCS and members of the following CCs Francis Xavier Coordinator, Women and Children Development Program CC, Ms. Neelam Nisari Coordinator Golden Star CC, Ch. Barkat Masih, Coordinator Bhatta Brick Kiln Labors Welfare Organization CC, Dr. Munawar Chand, Coordinator Anglo Asian Friendship Society CC, Fr. James Channan OP Lahore, CC Pakistan, Yousaf Khokhar, Coordinator National Muslim

Christian Dialogue Gujarat CC, Taswar , Jabran Masih Gill, Coordinator Peace Network Pakistan CC, Younas, Coordinator Star Organization CC, Dr. Marqus Fida, Coordinator Global Mission Awareness CC, Asher Nazir, Coordinator COPE Pakistan CC were invited and they were present in great number and took very active part in this international event on the theme of “End Racism: Build Peace “ The program began with interfaith prayers from Christian, Muslim, Hindu, Sikh and interfaith prayers offered by Mr. Iqbal Sani, Allama Asghar Arif Chishti, Pastor Emmanuel Khokhar, Dr. Munawar Chand and Sardar Sikandar Singh for world peace and love with everyone without of color race and religion. After the interfaith prayers all eminent honorable guest requested to come forward for beaming the peace candle to glow the throughout event and Dominican brother sang beautiful peace song.

It was absolutely fabulous celebration of the UN International Day of Peace on the theme of “End Racism: Build Peace” with over 150, Muslims, Christians, Hindus and Sikhs at our Dominican’s Peace Center in Lahore. All interfaith leaders and people pledged to End Racism and Build Peace.



Mr. Asher Nazir Executive Secretary Peace Center invited to Fr. James Channan OP for the welcome note and introduction of the theme “End Racism. Build Peace.” of International Day of Peace by United Nations. Fr James Channan OP Director Peace Center said that all the world celebrating International Day of Peace by United Nations and every year Peace Center celebrate this international day with the people of different religions

which are working for peace and promoting peace and interfaith harmony among the religions. This year we are celebrating international day with the theme of “End Racism, Build Peace” by United Nations.

This year the United Nations (UN) decided, “End Racism, Build Peace” will be the theme of the International Day of Peace. From the past few years, cases of racism have been increasing worldwide, so the United Nations (UN) declared “End racism, Build peace” as the theme of International Day of Peace 2022.

The International Day of Peace was established by the UN resolution in 1981. It was the year 1982, when International Day of Peace was celebrated first time. United Nations General Assembly (UNGA) decided to celebrate the International Day of Peace permanently on 21 September. The main focus of declaring 21 September as the International Day of Peace is to encourage people to work in cooperation and to maintain worldwide peace. Therefore, every year on 21st September, the International Day of Peace is celebrated. The International Day of Peace reminds us that the world is our home. World is a better place when there is peace and peace and non-violence should prevail all across the world. We should learn what we can each do individually to make the world a more peaceful and better place. War and violence are never a solution to resolve any conflicts but it only increases

hatred for each other around the world. We should learn from the past that violence and war is no solution. For example, World War 2 created only loss of life and peace and it was not beneficial for anybody.



More than seven billion people are living in the world and they have different religions, different nations, different cultures, races, colors and languages but important thing is that we are human being. We are all created by Lord and we are belonging the generation of

Adam. Today we look in this world that people are facing discrimination by name of religion, race, culture and color.

The message of the Secretary General of the United Nations for the International Day of Peace, 2022

"Peace is a noble and necessary pursuit, and the only practical pathway to a better, fairer world for all people. Yet in too many places, in too many contexts, we are failing the cause of peace.

The theme of this year's International Day of Peace — "End Racism. Build Peace." — reminds us of the many ways racism poisons people's hearts and minds and erodes the peace we all seek.

Racism robs people of their rights and dignity. It inflames inequalities and mistrust. And it pushes people apart, at a time when we should be coming together, as one human family, to repair us

fractured world. Instead of fighting each other, we should be working to defeat our true enemies: racism, poverty, inequality, conflict, the climate crisis and the COVID-19 pandemic. We should tear down structures that sustain racism, and lift up human rights movements everywhere.

António Guterres Secretary General UN

And we should drown out the vicious voices of hate speech with a united and sustained cry for truth, understanding and mutual respect. On this important day, a time to observe 24 hours of non-violence and cease-fire, we renew our call for all people to do more than lay down their weapons. We call on them to re-affirm the bonds of solidarity we share as human beings and get down to the business of building a better, more peaceful world".



18: Grand Celebration of 70th Birthday of Fr. James Channan OP



We present a tribute to Fr. James Channan OP on his 70th birthday for his services to bring global peace and interfaith harmony among the religions.

Fr. James Channan OP is an international personality which is known for his great work of interfaith and Christian – Muslim dialogue in Pakistan and around the world. He enjoys great respect among the people of all religions in Pakistan and around the globe. He is a model role of Interfaith harmony and peace among the religions and cultures. Fr. James Channan OP is playing a positive role to build bridges of respect, tolerance, compassion and acceptance among religions.

President of Pakistan Dr Arif-Ur-Rehman Alawi has presented the National Peace Award to Fr. James Channan OP for his great services to promote peace and interfaith harmony among different religions in Pakistan. President of Pakistan appreciated and congratulated to Fr. James Channan OP that he worked to provide facility to the people of different professions and age groups to come together for dialogue, which helps to remove discrimination, fundamentalism and extremism from our society.

His Grace, Christophe Zakhia El-Kassis Apostolic Nuncio has Presented National Peace and Interfaith harmony Award 2022 to Fr. James Channan OP Director Peace Center Lahore, Pakistan and Coordinator URI Lahore, Pakistan CC. Apostolic Nuncio lauds the role of Fr. James Channan OP to promoting Christian-Muslim and Interfaith Dialogue in Pakistan.

Dear Father James Channan OP

Wish you a very

Happy
70th
Birthday

-Pakistan



President of Pakistan Dr Arif-Ur-Rehman Alawi presented the National Peace Award 2019 to Fr. James Channan OP for his great services to promote peace and interfaith harmony among different religions in Pakistan.

President of Pakistan appreciated and congratulated to Fr. James Channan OP that he worked to provide facility to the people of different professions and age groups to come together for dialogue, which helps to remove discrimination, fundamentalism and extremism from our society.

19: Humanitarian Project in Pakistan for 1,000 Flood Affected Families by Peace Center



Around 33 million have been affected overall - one in seven Pakistanis. Whole villages have been cut off, with rescuers struggling to reach them. People are in dire need of shelter, cooked food, dry food, clean water, toilet facilities, livelihood support and medical support. The local markets are affected, and people can't get hold of essential everyday items. Toilets and tube wells are submerged in large numbers, while sewers are overflowing with rubbish, leading to an acute crisis of clean water and sanitation.

The most affected provinces are Sindh, Punjab and Khyber Pakhtunkhwa, with the highest loss of life in Sindh - a low lying area. It will take months before the water subsides and we know the true humanitarian toll on the people of Pakistan. Relentless, torrential rain, floods and landslides are very difficult to handle, even for the most prepared and resilient communities. More than a million homes have been destroyed or badly damaged, leaving many homeless and exposed to the elements. More than 4m acres of crops and agricultural land has now been destroyed, and 800,000 livestock killed. This means that many people will go hungry and will have lost their livelihoods.

Peace Center Lahore Pakistan is supporting affected people on the ground. The primary focus of the relief effort is to save lives and provide food, medical support, warm cloths and blankets to people who lost their homes and they are living in miserable condition in this winter season without of shelter.

Peace Center Lahore, Pakistan delivered humanitarian support where it's needed the most and to the most vulnerable. These communities include women, girls and children, older people, people with disabilities and the critically ill, as well as disadvantaged communities in rural areas and people who have had to leave their homes.

Before Christmas through this Emergency Relief Response Project 1000 poor and flood affected families received food packages in different locations and different cities in Punjab and Sindh, Pakistan by Peace Center Lahore, Pakistan and Action Verapaz

Fr. James Channan OP Director of the Dominican Peace Center, distributed quilts, grocery items, hygiene kits, warm clothes and shoes to 1000 flood affected families in the different locations in Punjab and Sindh, Pakistan as Bahawalpur, Multan, Rajanpur, Mirpur Khas, Bitshah, Sanghar, Bethlehem and Shahdad Pur.

Peace Center Lahore aim was to distributed food packages among flood affected families before Christmas and we reached to 1,000 flood affected families in the province of Punjab and Sindh during the winter and now Peace Center has helped 1000 households including Christians, Muslims and Hindus with the support of Accion Verapaz, a Spanish NGO linked to the Dominicans.

We have a spirit of love that love to everyone without of any difference, color, race, culture and religions. Jesus Christ is our Lor and it he whom we preach and try our level best to follow his commandment of love of God and love of Neighbor. In serving the people who are hunger, thirsty, poor, sick and naked we help Jesus Christ.



He said when I was hungry you gave me to eat, when I was thirsty you gave me to drink, when I was naked, you clothed me and when I was in prison you came to visit me. In these distributions affected families were from different religions as Hindus, Muslims and Christian and they received food packaged and warm clothes from Dominican Peace Center Lahore, Pakistan. Fr. James Channan OP Director Peace Center, Fr. Shahzad Khokhar OFM, Mr. Asher Nazir Executive Secretary Peace Center, Madam Neelum Nisar Program Manager Peace Center distributed the food packages to the most deserving families in this difficult and miserable situation. People were very happy and thankful after receiving a kind help in the time of need by Peace Center Lahore

Fr. James Channan OP paid gratitude to Accion Verapaz and supports for moral and financial for this Humanitarian

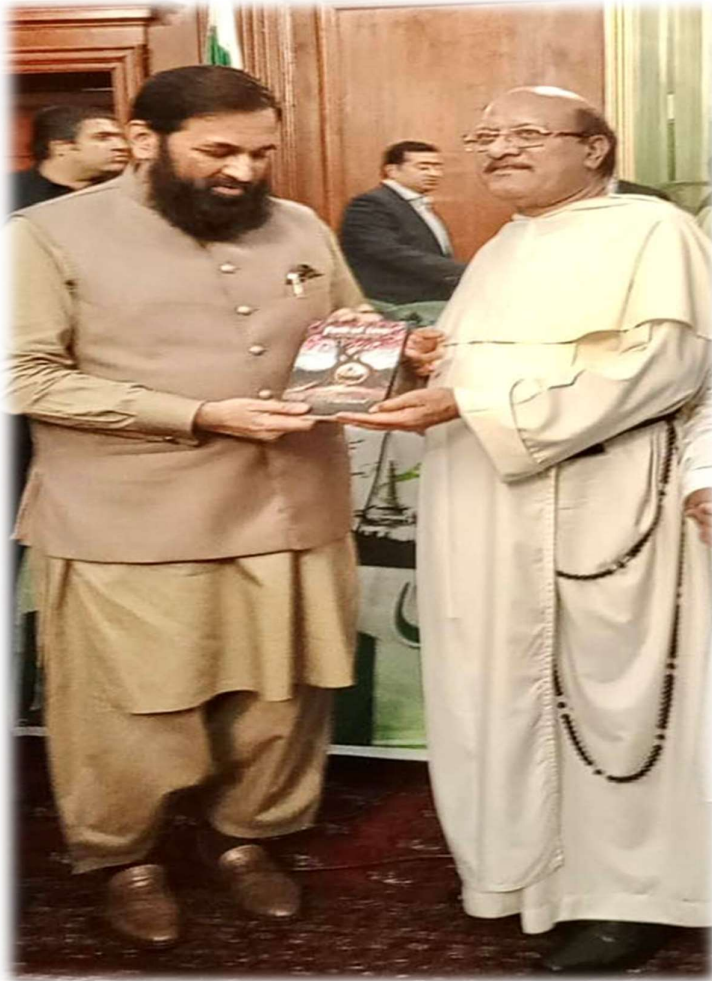


In Bahawalpur Fr. James Channan OP distributed 200 food packages among flood affected families with Dominican Priests Fr. Iftikhar Moon OP, Fr. Yasir Paul OP, Fr. Nasir Emmanuel OP, Deacon Bashir OP, Bro, Irfan OP and Mr. Asher Nazir Executive Secretary Peace Center





20: Meeting with the Governor of Punjab



On 27th October, 2022 Fr. James Channan OP Director Peace Center

Lahore, Pakistan was invited for meeting with Muhammad Baligh

Ur Rehman, Governor of the Punjab at Governor House Punjab,

Pakistan. In his meeting Governor of Punjab appreciated to Fr. James Channan OP for his services and devotion for the promotion of Peace and Interfaith harmony among the religions in Pakistan.

Earlier Fr. James Channan OP had been given National Peace Award by Dr Arif Alvi, President of Pakistan.

Fr. James Channan OP is the author of four books and he presented his book "Path of Love" to His Excellency, Muhammad Baligh Ur Rehman, Governor of the Punjab, Pakistan.

Muhammad Baligh Ur Rehman,

Governor of the Punjab, Pakistan said that I am student of Dominican Convent School, Bahawalpur, and he proudly mentioned that my school Education is from Christian School and from this school I learnt about truth and love for other. He said that I always respect my teachers and during his speech he mentioned with great reverence the name of Sr. Susanne OP and other Dominican Sisters.

He appreciated Fr. James Channan OP for his wonderful services to promoting peace, interfaith harmony and peace in Pakistan. He said that Fr, James Channan OP is a National Christian Hero and he is showing the positive and bright face of Pakistan to the World.

21: Fr. James Channan OP received appreciation Award from Muhammad Baligh Ur Rehman, Governor of the Punjab at Governor House Punjab, Pakistan.

Governor Punjab Muhammad Baligh Ur Rehman gave appreciation awards to human rights activists from across the country on behalf of the Pakistan Christian Council International (PCCI) during a ceremony at the Darbar Hall of the Governor's House.

The human rights awards ceremony was held in connection with the International Human Rights Day which is observed every year on December 10 to commemorate adoption of universal declaration of human rights by the United Nations (UN) General Assembly in 1948.

The 23 nominees from various walks of life were shortlisted by the PCCI for their services to human rights and interfaith harmony in the country. Governor Punjab Muhammad Baligh Ur Rehman, speaking on the occasion, said



establishment of a just society is very important to ensure human rights, adding that the countries that protected human rights in their societies made immense progress. The Governor Punjab said, "We, as a nation, must follow the vision of Quaid-e-Azam Muhammad Ali Jinnah and strive to make Pakistan a role model where every human being, be it a man, a woman or a child belonging to the minority or the majority may live according to one's will within the constitutional limits." He said no person should be oppressed on the basis of his religious affiliation and no person should violate the rights of any weak person. He said, "The day reminds us of all those who lost their lives in mosques, churches, shrines and temples to cleanse this country of the menace of terrorism," adding that the sacrifices of the Kashmiri people in the Indian Illegally Occupied Jammu and Kashmir (IIOJK) cannot be ignored on this day. He said, "We, on this day, must also remember the 80,000 martyrs who became victims of terrorism in



mosques, churches and temples." Governor Muhammad Baligh-Ur-Rehman said, "It is the duty of all of us to thwart evil intentions of a handful of people who want to destroy the country through division." He paid homage to all Pakistani brothers and sisters who are playing a role in highlighting the bright face of the country all over the world. Earlier, Chairman PCCI Senator Kamran Michael underlined the importance of International Human Rights Day and hailed the services of the recipients in the areas of education, religion, journalism, inter-faith harmony and philanthropy. Senator Kamran Michael said, "The day calls upon all of us to rise above our religious, linguistic, geo-graphical and national differences and work for ensuring basic human rights to all."

22: International Human Right Day,2022



Human Right Chair of Punjab University and Christian Care Foundation Pakistan organized a conference on International Human Right Day,2022. Fr. James Channan OP was Chief guest in the conference by Punjab University of Pakistan. In this conference more than 100 university students and the

representatives of civil societies were present. On this International Human Right Day, 2022 Punjab University organized this conference with the collaboration of civil societies with the theme of flood affected families and the present situation of Human in Pakistan. Dr. Abida Ashraf Human Right Chair, Department of Public Relations and Advertising University of Punjab warmly welcomed to all guests and students and she shared the theme and objective of this conference on International Human Right Day, 2022. She said "It is absolutely clear that we need to regain the universality of human rights, the indivisibility of human rights, and we need to find a new energy that motivates young people around the world." Human Rights Day is observed every year on 10 December – the day the United Nations General Assembly adopted, in 1948, the Universal Declaration of Human Rights (UDHR). The UDHR is a milestone document, which proclaims the inalienable rights that everyone is entitled to as a human being - regardless of race, colour, religion, sex, language, political or other opinion, national or social origin, property, birth or other status. In this conference students of Punjab University presented video presentations and showed the real situation of flood affected people in the Province of Sindh and Punjab, Pakistan. In these presentations students showed and they highlighted many issues and violation of human rights in this disaster and miserable situation of affected families like health, food, shelter, and basic needs.

Fr. James Channan OP Director Peace Center Lahore, Pakistan shared in his views that I am happy that today we are celebrating International Human Rights Day,2022 with students of Punjab University. This is very positive sign that we are preparing and teaching our youth for future that we are all equal and we are all important, we are all beautiful creation of Lord and love us and he say that we should love with each other. Today we can see that in all countries people are facing a problem of Human Rights but United Nation working on it and every year in all countries people

celebrate this day with the theme of United Nation and they organize seminars, conferences and rallies and People raise their voices against the violation of Human Rights.

In this conference on International Human Right Day,2022 I received Appreciations Certificate for the working of food relief distributions for flood affected families in Pakistan from However, the promise of the UDHR, of dignity and equality in rights, has been under a sustained assault in recent years. As the world faces challenges new and ongoing – pandemics, conflicts, exploding inequalities, morally bankrupt global financial system, racism, climate change – the values, and rights enshrined in the UDHR provide guideposts for our collective actions that do not leave anyone behind.



Rights violations reverberate across borders and across generations. These can be, must be, collectively overcome.

We need to stand up for our rights and those of others.



The UDHR calls upon everybody to stand up for human rights. We all have a role to play.

Dr. Abida Ashraf Human Right Chair, Department of Public Relations and Advertising University of Punjab said that Fr. James Channan OP is a role of model for us and we much impressed with his devotion and dedication for the promotion of peace and interfaith harmony among the different religions in Pakistan and the World. We feel proud that as Pakistani Fr. James Channan OP showing positive face of Pakistan to the World. With a great pleasure from Punjab University, we are presenting the appreciation award on

International Human Rights Day, 2022 to Fr. James Channan OP

23: Meeting with Dr. Qibla Ayaz Chariman Council of Islamic Ideology Pakistan

The Council of Islamic Ideology is a constitutional body that advises the legislature whether or not a certain law is repugnant to Islam, namely to the Qur'an and Sunna. **Dr. Qibla Ayaz** is the current chairman of the of Council of Islamic Ideology Government of Pakistan.

After his Masters in Islamic Studies from the University of Peshawar in 1975, in which he will serve as vice-chancellor later, he got his PhD from the University of Edinburgh in the field of Islamic and Middle Eastern Studies in 1985, his unpublished thesis being, in 2 volumes, *An unexploited source for the History of the Saljūqs: A translation of and critical commentary on the Akhbār Al-Dawlat Al-Sajūqiyya*, under the supervision of Dr Carole Hillenbrand.

Dr. Qibla Ayaz and Fr. James Channan OP have close friendship and in Pakistan together they are promoting peace and interfaith harmony. Fr. James Channan OP Director Peace Center presented a published document by Japan with the title of Interfaith Harmony in Pakistan. Fr. James Channan said that this is special issue Vol. 29, No. 1, Issue 157 by organization of Byakko Shinko Kai Japan.

Functions of Islamic Council.

(1) The functions of the Islamic Council shall be,

(a) to make recommendations to [246] [Majlis- e- Shoora (Parliament)] and the Provincial Assemblies as to the ways and means of enabling and encouraging the Muslims of Pakistan to order their lives individually and collectively in all respects in accordance with the principles and concepts of Islam as enunciated in the Holy Quran and Sunnah;

(b) to advise a House, a Provincial Assembly, the President or a Governor on any question referred to the Council as to whether a proposed law is or is not repugnant to the Injunctions of Islam;

(c) to make recommendations as to the measures for bringing existing laws into conformity with the Injunctions of Islam and the stages by which such measures should be brought into effect; and

(d) to compile in a suitable form, for the guidance of Majlis-e-Shoora (Parliament) and the Provincial Assemblies, such Injunctions of Islam as can be given legislative effect.



24: PINKRIBBON Women Awareness Seminar on Breast Cancer

Pink Ribbon Women Awareness Seminar on breast cancer was organized On 22nd November, 2022 by Peace Center on International day of PINKRIBBON. In this conference 65 girls and women participated. The Head Nurses and Staff of Hameed Latif Hospital Lahore participated and She gave presentations and addressed the audience about the breast cancer and how to ensure regular check-ups to decrease the risk of getting this disease.

PINKRIBBON Day celebrated for women at Peace Center to awareness to women and girls about the Breast cancer and how to see the symptoms and get timely treat to treat this life-threatening cancer. Doctors and nurses from Hamid Latif Hospital gave presentations on the Celebration of Pink Ribbon Day and Breast Cancer.



Madam Neelum Nisari Program Manager of Peace Center shared the information on various risk factors concerning breast cancer to the audience. She said that the incidence of breast cancer in Pakistan has risen alarmingly, with one in nine women in the country suffering from this fatal disease. Every year, 45,000 women die of breast cancer. Timely diagnosis can save 99% of lives. She said that the number of breast cancer cases in women is increasing due to lack of awareness and timely diagnosis. Every woman should have her breasts checked every three months. The respected guests have discussed the importance of identifying, preventing, and treatment of Breast Cancer. The specialists examined and taught the ladies about the disease and provide awareness to achieve a healthy life. Through this Seminar at Peace Center on Pink Ribbon women awareness seminar on breast cancer for

young girls and women. Fr. James Channan OP Direct Peace Center thanked to all the participants and speakers and with he appreciated to the Head Nurses and Staff of Hameed Latif Hospital in Lahore who participated and gave presentations. Thanks to Ms. Uzma Daniel, Head Staff Nurse in this hospital for making such a much-needed awareness seminar possible!



25: "Love Among Religions Can Bring Peace"

Interfaith exposure visits of Peace Center staff in Sindh, Pakistan

Interfaith exposure visits of Peace Center Lahore team in the province of Sindh Pakistan. We visited Hindu Temple, Lal Mandar in Mirpur Khas, Sindh, Shrine of Muslim Sufi Saint, Shah Abdul Latif Bhitai in Sindh and Sikh Gurudawara, Bitshaw city in Sindh, Pakistan.



With great joy we met with Sikh leader, Sardar Parkash Sing in the Gurdwara Bitshah in Sindh. In Lal Mandar Mirpur Khas we were very warmly received by the President of the Temple Committee and given guided tour of Lal Mindar. We were presented Sindhi Culture souvenirs of Cap and Ajrak. We are thankful to Fr. James Channan OP Director Peace Center Lahore, Pakistan for this wonderful opportunity to visit these religious places of different religions in Sindh, Pakistan. With it we are thankful to Fr. Shahzad Khokhar OFM Cap to organizing this beautiful interfaith visit of religious places! This form of exposure is much needed and reaffirms the need for mutual understanding and

interreligious dialogue in Pakistan." We need to work together to promote an environment of inclusion, and dignity without discrimination on any basis.



Fr. James Channan OP Director Peace Center, Fr. Shahzad Khokhar Parish Priest Tando Adam Parish, Madam Neelam Nisari Program Manager Peace Center and Mr. Asher Nazir Executive Secretary Peace Center at Sikh Gurudawara, Bitshaw city in Sindh, Pakitan.



Fr. James Channan OP and Fr. Shahzad Khokhar are in Lal Mindar in Mirpur Khas Sindh, Pakistan. In Lal Mandar Mirpur Khas President of Temple Committee received us with very warmly welcome and they visited us a tour of Lal Mindar. In this temple they have temple of different Gods and many people were present for worship and they were giving offering in temple. Temple Committee members shared their different responsivities and positive progress and achievements with us. President of Temple Committee appreciated to Fr. Shahzad Khokhar that he has networking and has strong connections with the people of different religions in Mirpur Khas and together we are promoting peace

and interfaith harmony among the different religions. Together we celebrate religious festivals and every year on Christmas festival we present Christmas cake and flowers to Christian community and on Holi and Diwali festival the come in Lal Mandar and they share love and joy with us. Today we are very much happy that Fr. James Channan OP and his staff are with us and you visited our Lal Mindar. We are thankful to all of you that you are working among different religions and promoting peace and interfaith harmony in Pakistan.

26: Interfaith Christmas Celebration at Peace Center Lahore, Pakistan

On 20th December, 2022 Peace Center organized a beautiful program with the title of Interfaith Christmas Celebration with the people of different religions at Lahore, Pakistan.



150 people from different religions participated in this program and they shared love, gifts and joy with one another and together they celebrated Christmas celebration. Fr. Younas Shahzad OP Prior Vice-Provincial Ibn-e- Mariam Province Dominican Order Pakistan as Chief guest in the event. Mufti Ashiq Hussain,

Sardar Sikandar Singh, Dr. Maunawar Chand, Pastor Amjad, Chaudhary Zubair Farooq Ahmad, Fr. James Samuel, Allama Asghar Arif Chisti, Syed Nau Bahar Shah, Allama Abid, Fr. Emmanuel Fazal OP, Fr. Joseph, Haji Amir Rashid, Allama Shafaqat Abas, Ishtiaq Chaudhary was honorable guest. Fr. James Channan OP welcomed to all guest and said that today we are happy that a big number of people from different religions are present

and they are celebrating Christmas celebration with us. He said that Christmas is a worldwide festival commemorating the birth of Jesus Christ, observed primarily on the 25th of December as a



religious and cultural celebration among billions of people around the World and Santa Claus the modern representation of Saint Nicholas in European Christian folklore. The Hall was adorned with a Christmas tree and the choir sang carols. Dominican brother sand beautiful songs of Christmas with joy. Mufti Ashiq Hussain shared in his speech “Ibn-e-Maryiam Hua Kare Koi-Mere dukh Kee Dawa Kare Koe” Translation: “Let

someone be the Son of Mary (Jesus), Let someone cure me of my sorrow/grief”. He said, “The festival of Christmas conveys the message of love, peace and brotherhood. It is a celebration of humanity and mankind”. Further he said, “I have been striving to promote interfaith harmony among various faiths and discourage discrimination on the basis of religion”.

27: Grand Interfaith Christmas Program at Prime Minister House Islamabad, Pakistan

Prime Minister Muhammad Shahbaz Sharif addressing a ceremony organized in view of Christmas Celebrations 22nd December, 2022.

There were readings from the Holy Bible, Carols and beautiful and very inspiring messages from Mr.



Shahbaz Sharif, Prime Minister of Pakistan and others. All focused on the message of peace, forgiveness and love preached by Jesus Christ. Prime Minister of Pakistan, Mr. Shahbaz Sharif facilitated Christmas greetings to all Christians around the globe and emphasized on peace, love and forgiveness preached by Jesus Christ. Fr. James Channan OP Director Peace Center was officially invited by the

Government of Pakistan for

this grand Christmas program at Prime Minister House in Islamabad on 22 December, 2022. More than 300 people from different religions were present for this Christmas celebration.



Prime Minister Muhammad Shehbaz Sharif cutting cake during a ceremony organized in view of Christmas Celebrations.

28: Meeting of Canadian High Commissioner with interfaith leaders at Badshahi / Royal Mosque Lahore



Fr. James Channan OP Met with Canadian High Commissioner with Maulana Abdul Khabir Azad and he shared the interfaith activities of Peace Center and with it he presented his book Path of Love to the Canadian High Commissioner.

29: SUMMIT ON INTERNATIONAL RELIGIOUS FREEDOM, 2022 WASHINGTON, DC

Fr James Channan OP
participated on behalf of Peace
Center



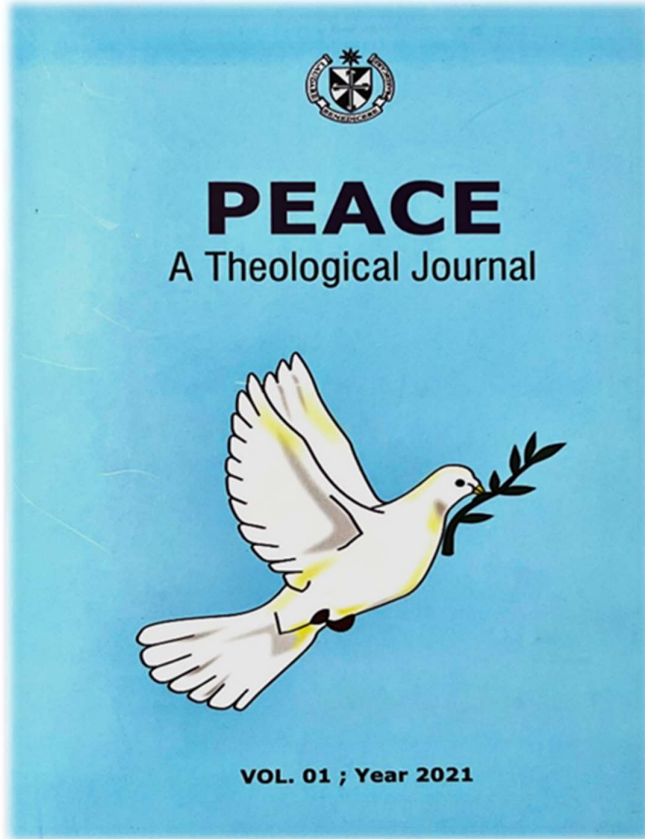
An International Summit on Religious Freedom was organised by several governments and non- Government organisations in Washington, DC, USA from 28-30 June, 2022. International Religious Freedom (IRF) is annual held conference that brings together groups on non-government and government organisations, civil society to discuss religious freedom issues on a non- attribution basis. It is a safe space where patricians gather and speak freely in sharing ideas and information and propose joint, multi faith advocacy to discuss specific religious freedom issues and to promote interfaith harmony and peace and thus to make our world more sustainable and peaceful.



Fr James Channan OP was invited as Director of Peace Center to attend Summit and also to share the problems of religious freedom faced by the people of Pakistan and especially Christian, Hindu and Sikh minorities. Fr James in detail the interfaith dialogue and harmony events which take place here and many programs to address the issues of religious freedom faced by minorities, women and youth. It was a very enriching experience as there were over 1,000 delegates from all over the world. Some world known men and women were also there and they gave testimony of the persecution they faced in their countries. Some of them had spent 10 to 15 years in jails and some on death row on account of false accusations against them.

30: Publication of the first “Peace: A Theological Journal”

It was one of the tasks given to the Peace Center to publish this magazine on behalf of the Ibn-e-Mariam, Dominican Order, Pakistan. The name of this journal is “PEACE – A Theological Journal”.



The publication of this journal is made possible with the hard work of many Dominican friars. I thank all of them especially; Fr Younas Shahzad OP, Prior Vice-Provincial, for urging and guiding us to bring out this journal. Fr Naveed Imran OP, Fr Irfan Jerome OP, Fr Shahzad Barkat OP, Fr Shakeel Michael OP, Fr Alven Mehraj OP and Fr Azhar Lal OP for writing their articles. I have also contributed one article. Thanks to Fr Taufiq Younis OP and other friars for going through this matter and giving their valuable comments of them

Respectfully Submitted by:

Fr James Channan OP

Director
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Lahore, Pakistan
10 April, 2023

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