



Report of Celebration

ACW 10th Anniversary held on Wednesday Islamabad Hotel Civic Centre Islamabad 8 November 2017 by UIPM with Coordination of URI MCC Islamabad



Allama Dr G R Chishti, while presenting Invitation to Hon`ble Mister of Human Rights Mr Mumtaz Ahmed Tarar at his Good Offices in Islamabad, at the 10th Anniversary celebration of ACW 2017. The celebration also was mentioned in the Program Rose Roshan on Roze News TV Channel, Pakistan. The video was played before the audience of the Common Word Seminar on 8 November 2017



Dr G R Chishti and Mr Muhammad Umar Adeel Office Secretary URI MCC Islamabad receiving Hon`ble Mr Mumtaz Ahmed Tatar Minister for Human Rights the Chief Guest at the Common Word Seminar

Story of ACW Celebration

On Wednesday 8 November 2017 AD at 2:00 pm, the doors of Kehkshan Hall of Islaamabad Hotel Melody Food Market Civic Centre Islamabad were opened to the participants despite adverse circumstances, as there were sectarian rallies on the roads so all roads to Islamabad were blocked by the police. They came by using back streets and some service roads. Anyway, the hall was full, showing deep interest in “A Common Word.” This is a Muslim initiative of international interfaith dialogue movement. Workers hung the banner of the celebration program and hotel workers prepared the stage. The first session started to train the students from the UIPM free school system, during which the video of Rose Roshan was played as part of the training.



The banner bearing pictures of the creators of A Common Word, from left: HM King Abdullah II of Hashemite Kingdom of Jordan, HRH Ghazi bin Muhammad bin Talal the prime mover and originator of A Common Word, HH Pope Francis of Vatican City Italy, Excellency Mr Anthony Guterus Secretary General of UN and Hon`ble Mr Shahid Khaqan Abbasi Prime Mister of Pakistan



On the stage from left Mr Muhammad Usman Sadudine Coordinator Sodani community Pakistan URI CC Islamabad, Fr Dr James Channan OP, Honorable Mr Mumtaz Ahmed Tarar Minister Human Rights, Pir Azmatullah, Professor Mehrdad Baha'i Faith, and Allama Ihsan Siddiqui are seen.



Hon'ble Minister addressing the Seminar Mr Raza Abid Mustafa Chief Reporter Roze News Channel is sitting on the stage later he convey the message of Mr SK Niazi Sahib for his good wishes for Common Word who could not reach due to Traffic



The training session ended at 03:00 pm. Although the audience was there, the distinguished guests were stuck in the absurd traffic due to rallies. Thank God that our chief guest hon'ble Mr Mumtaz Ahmed Tarar Minister for Human Rights and Freedoms Government of Pakistan had arrived at 4:00 pm and immediately the second session was started, as the stage secretary Dr Tahir Hashemi also could not reach the venue. Many other dignitaries could not come due to unexpected situations, so Allama Dr G R Chishti doubled his efforts and the Chief Guest and other guest speakers were invited to the stage. As soon they sat on the stage, Allama Dr Chishti announced that the proceedings of the final session

may commence with recitation from Holy Quran and prayers from various religions participants also young students from UIPM Free school system may present some poems, Na`at and or Hymns it was done.



- 1) Young students trained in AWC and interfaith harmony from Free Schgol for boys run by UIPM in New Sohan Islamabad 2) Free Girls school students reciting Na`at Shreef 3) Interfaith Industrial Home run under UIPM in New Sohan Islamabad the samples of the handiworks are sat on the table and the trainees are posing with Hon'ble Mister the Chief Guest after Allma Dr G R Chishti delivered his welcome sermon the text of his speech will be found in the Speech section speakers gave the benefit of their erudition in their turn,



Minister Human Rights Mr Mumtaz Tarar, Dr Fr James Channan OP URI Coordinator Asia DR AGR Chishti, Pir Azmatullah and Allama Ihsan Siddiqui addressing the Seminar to mark the 10 Anniversary of ACW.

Awards Giving Program

After the golden words of the Chief Guest and guest of honor, there were some Ladies and Gents who deserved to be rewarded in the form of awards for the excellence of performance for the Common Word Wisdom and interfaith harmony so the Honorable Minister was requested to award them and it was done. Pictures below.



Audiences listening to the wisdom word of A Common Word



It was a great thing that Rev Fr Dr James Channan OP Coordinator of URI Asia has very kindly accepted the invitation, and he came with all Office Bearers Mr Asher Nazeer Executive Secretary, Ms Sister Sabinaditor URI magazine `UMang`, Ms Asmara Dawud URI youth Traner and other they were welcomed by the URI MCC Islamabad. Also, Fr Dr James Channan visited Hayate Nou URI CC in Islamabad and he listened to the coordinators and answered their questions



The pictures of URI Asia Office visiting Islamabad and group with Ms Kursheed Malik Coordinator Hayat e Nou URI CC Islamabad, Member of URI MCC Islamabad

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Speakers call for spreading message of CWM

Islamabad

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Minister for Human Rights Muntaz Ahmad Tarar was the chief guest at the seminar organised by Universal Interfaith Peace Mission (UIPM) in collaboration with United Religions Initiative Multi CC Islamabad (URI MCCI) on the 10th anniversary of the Common Word Movement (CWM). Dr Father James Chanan, OP Coordinator of United Religions Initiative Asia, Allama Ehsan Siddiqui, Chairman Human Rights Commission Karachi, Tahir Bhatti, Coordinator United Religions Initiative MCC Karachi, Sadduddin Usman, President Sudan Community in Pakistan Pir Azmatullah Sultan and members of the civil society and minorities groups attended the anniversary.

Tarar appreciated efforts of UIPM chairman for promotion of interfaith harmony by organising such a conference and seminars. "We support him and his organization, Universal Interfaith Peace Mission as today we are celebrating 10th anniversary of Common Word Movement. I will try my level best for inclusion of message of Common Word Movement and Amman Message in syllabus of Pakistan," he added.



ISLAMABAD: Participants of the seminar cutting cake to celebrate 10th anniversary of Common Word Movement on Wednesday.

Earlier, in welcome address, Dr Chishti shed light on the history of launch of Common Word Movement, Amman Message and the role played by Hashemite Kingdom of Jordan and His Majesty King Abdullah II and Prince Ghazi bin Mohammad bin Talal behind this noble cause.

Eulogising the message of Common Word Movement, UIPM chairman said that indeed we are in need to such initiatives that help the coming generations to believe and understand that there is still such harmony between all human beings. "In Pakistan we are very proud that we were the first to launch this movement in our beloved

country which has been getting praise all around the world," he added.

UIPM has been spreading the message of peace and harmony since 2011 in fulfilment of "Common Word" and Amman Message.

Dr Chishti said that dialogue among cultures and civilizations is an inevitable demand, as we are all different and have different beliefs, religions and cultures but our distinctive and unique characteristics shouldn't prevent us from taking part in dialogue and resorting to understanding. Dialogue and mixing among diverse cultures and civilizations can be used as a start point to reach a common

background and a common language to achieve peace which is the goal we are all seeking today through celebration of 10th anniversary of Common Word Movement.

Father James Chanan pointed out that peaceful societies can only be built on the foundation of a strong justice system and of a concrete intercultural and interreligious dialogue.

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TwinCities

Thursday November 09, 2017

Pakistan
OBSERVER

Speakers term right of 'freedom of religion' must for peace in society

ZUBAIR QURESHI

Speakers on Wednesday while addressing a seminar on inter-faith ceremony emphasized the individual's Right and Freedom of Religion saying without this alienable right we can neither establish peace nor justice in our society.

Federal Minister for Human Rights Mumtaz Ahmed Tarar was chief guest on the occasion. Addressing the seminar conducted by Universal Interfaith Peace Mission (UIPM) he appreciated UIPM on conducting seminar for the purpose of interfaith harmony in Pakistan. He was of the view

that the sectarian elements must be negated in order to stop serious Human Rights violations.

Federal Minister further stated that the Ministry of Human Rights with the collaboration of Universal Interfaith Peace Mission will make all possible efforts to safeguard the rights of all sects and will be collaborating with each other to take all measures in this regard.

Tarar said the ministry was taking pragmatic solution of present Muslim-Ummah's plight. Many Ulema and scholars from all religions as well as women and young students participated the seminar

THE FORTRESS

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Eulogising the message of Common Word Movement, UIPM chairman said that indeed we are in need to such initiatives that help the coming generations to believe and understand that there is still such harmony between all human beings. “In Pakistan we are very proud that we were the first to launch this movement in our beloved country which has been getting praise all around the world,” he added.

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Dr Chishti said that dialogue among cultures and civilizations is an inevitable demand, as we are all different and have different beliefs, religions and cultures but our distinctive and unique characteristics shouldn't prevent us from taking part in dialogue and resorting to understanding. Dialogue and mixing among diverse cultures and civilizations can be used as a start point to reach a common background and a common language to achieve peace which is the goal we are all seeking today through celebration of 10th anniversary of Common Word Movement.

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[Times of News](#)

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The Text of Allama Dr GR Chishti's opening speech at Common Word Seminar held to mark the 10th anniversary of `A Common Word (AWC) 2017.

Bismillah ir Rahman ir Rahim

The President, Chief Guest Distinguished Guests Ladies and Gentlemen

Assalamu Alaikum and good evening!

I myself and on behalf of my organization UIPM welcome all of you to the Common Word Seminar Actually-

It was King Abdullah II of Hashemite Kingdom of Jordan who being from the progeny of Holy Prophet Hazrat Mohammad (peace be upon him) in the 42nd generation deeply felt that the Muslim Ummah was indulged in sectarian strife and every person and group has been busy in interpretation of the religion in their own manner, which was endangering the unity of the Ummah. Feeling that the strife had already inflicted great loss to the Muslim world, King Abdullah II of Hashemite Kingdom of Jordan issued a decree making it absolutely clear that everybody is a Muslim who has given testimony to two things ; God Is One and Mohammad (peace be upon him) is true prophet of God and whoever refuses to believe in this is a non-Muslim and thirdly forbiddance from pronouncing disbelief (takfir) upon (or excommunicating) others recognized as Muslims and the stipulations placed as preconditions to the issuing of religious edicts, intended to prevent the circulation of illegitimate edicts.

A detailed statement released on the eve of the 27th of Ramadan 1425 AH / 9th November 2004 CE at Jamia Al-Hussain called for tolerance and unity in the Muslim world and subsequently, a three-point ruling was issued by 200 Islamic scholars from all over the world including Jamia Al-Azhar and Ayatullah of Iran, focusing on issues of defining who is a Muslim, excommunication from Islam (takfir) and principles related to delivering religious edicts (fatāwa). Therefore the Amman Message was unanimously passed as it sought to declare what Islam is and what it is not, and what actions represent it and what actions do not. Its goal was to clarify to the modern world the true nature of Islam and the nature of true Islam.

In those days scholars from the Vatican and Muslim world were in touch and both sides were doing their level best to allay the differences between the two religions and trying to create harmony among the two most powerful and major religions of the world which was very imperative for global peace and interfaith harmony.

In the meantime, in 2006, Pope John Paul who could be considered as one of the founding members of this movement died which inflicted unprecedented damage to this movement.

And when Pope John Paul was succeeded by Pope Benedict XVI, the Muslim Christian strife began to increase. Therefore, Hashemite Kingdom of Jordan once again come to the rescue of the world by playing an important role by writing a letter to the Christian religious scholars which was signed by 38 Muslim scholars led by Prince Ghazi Bin Mohammad Bin Talal calling them to join a single platform for addressing all contentious issues through meaningful dialogue.

The letter was written in 2006 which was basically addressed to Pope Benedict XVI but its copies were sent to all Christian religious scholars around the world including Archbishop of Canterbury, Patriarch of Israel and leaders of American Church Council.

Nobody responded to this letter for almost an entire year and Prince Ghazi Bin Mohammad Bin Talal send another reminder to the Christian world signed by 138 religious scholars from the around the world. It called for peace among

Muslims and Christians and tried to work for common ground and understanding between both religions, in line with the Qur'anic commandment to "Say: 'O People of the Scripture! come to a common word as between us and you: that we worship none but God'" and the Biblical commandment to love God, and one's neighbor.

It called upon followers of Islam and Christianity, the two most largest and greatest religions of the world to get united in the greater interest of the world.

In 2007, Muslim world received a reply from the Christian leaders and the revered religious scholars from both religions sat together and held a dialogue; and after thorough deliberations reached a consensus that the Love of God and Love of Humanity are the common points in all three religions -- Islam, Judaism and Christianity -- and these two points could lead to unity between these three religions.

After the consensus, the copies were distributed among Christian and Muslim world which got tremendous support from around the world and on the basis of this letter, United Nations in 2010 approved celebration of World Interfaith Harmony Week from February 1-7 every year through a resolution and since 2011 all member states of the United Nations commemorate this day diligently.

Universal Interfaith Peace Mission which had been in touch with Hashemite Kingdom of Jordan since 2006 established its sub office in Pakistan and has been celebrating the World Interfaith Harmony Week from 2011 till 2017. In the meantime, Universal Interfaith Peace Mission won the prestigious World Interfaith Harmony Week 2015 contest organized by Hashemite Kingdom of Jordan. Besides celebrating World Interfaith Harmony Week, UIPM has adopted Common Word Movement and has been celebrating anniversary of the Common Word Movement every year since then. And today's seminar is also part of the same spirit with which we have been celebrating anniversary of the Common Word Movement.

In the end I would like to say that Common Word Movement has gained unanimous support from followers and scholars of different religions including Vatican from Christianity, and Archbishop of Canterbury, American Church Council, Patriarch of Israel, and from Muslim world religious scholars from Jamia Al-Azhar, Ayatullah of Iran, from Madina and Pakistan Allama Mohammad bin Ghazi (late) former amir of Jamia Ilmia Islamabad and Allama Dr Tahirul Qadri, Allama Justice Mufti Muhammad Taqi Usmani including myself have been signatories to the letter, which could be seen on the official website of the Common Word Movement and it has been made part of curriculum in countries of the European Union. We appeal to the government of Pakistan to make Common Word as part of curriculum taught around the country. We have already written letters to both Federal Minister for Religious Affairs and Interfaith Harmony Sardar Mohammad Yousaf and State Minister for Religious Affairs and Interfaith Harmony Pir Mohammad Aminul Hasnat Shah and today I would take this opportunity to draw attention of our revered chief guest, Mumtaz Ahmad Tarar to play his role in helping us achieve this objective.

Thanks

Allama Dr GR Chishti,

Chairman, Universal Interfaith Peace Mission

& President, Common Word Pakistan

Coordinator: URI MCC Islamabad