

Ambassadors for Peace *A Global Network of Peacemakers and Peace Builders*



History

The Ambassador for Peace Initiative was inaugurated at the IIFWP Convocation on ***Dialogue and Harmony Among Civilizations: The Family, Universal Values and World Peace***, which was part of the 7th World Culture and Sports Festival held in New York City, January 2001.

At the close of the Convocation, a declaration was presented which included several key themes:

1. The acknowledgement of the importance and significance of the family as the key to the development and improvement of society
2. The awareness and recognition of common universal values that are shared regardless of nationality, race, religion, culture or civilization.
3. The need for dialogue, particularly interreligious dialogue as an important component to the establishment of peace.
4. The need to establish and promote an ethic of "living for the sake of others."

On this foundation, the **Ambassadors for Peace** initiative was created. Several participants were appointed as Ambassadors for Peace, pledging to affirm and practice these principles. Two subsequent leadership seminars were held in Washington D.C. where Ambassadors for Peace were also appointed, followed by eight IIFWP Regional International Leadership Seminars: Miami, Florida USA for North America; Prague, Czech Republic for Europe; Moscow, Russia for Eurasia, Montevideo, Uruguay for South and Central America; Sydney, Australia for Oceania; Bangkok, Thailand for Asia; Nairobi, Kenya for Africa; and Istanbul, Turkey for the Middle East.

Since then, the Ambassadors for Peace movement has grown steadily. To date, over 50,000 Ambassadors for Peace have been appointed in over 185 nations.

What is an Ambassador for Peace?

One receives the Ambassador for Peace certificate, not fundamentally as an award, but rather as an appointment or a commission. The certificate both honors an individual for past achievements, and installs or appoints a person to a position that carries new and on-going responsibilities aimed at creating a world of peace.

Ambassadors for Peace are committed to working beyond race, religion and nationality and accept a global mission, the scope of which extends beyond the interest of a particular nation.

Ambassadors for Peace, represent a global consciousness and their activities reflect a global assignment serving the common good.

Ambassadors for Peace dedicate themselves, affirm and put into practice the following principles:

1. *Living for the sake of others:* This central principle transforms a 'self-serving' or 'nation serving' perspective into one of 'selfless service' and living for the sake of the whole. This is an essential ingredient in building a world community and a core principle of IIFWP.
2. *Going beyond barriers that divide people:* Barriers such as race, religion, nationality, status, class, culture, personality, etc traditionally separate people. To enable differences to "enhance" rather than separate requires dialogue, cooperation and respect among all religions, races, cultures and nationalities.

3. *A commitment to the renewal and health of the family:* The most fundamental unit of society of society, the first “school” for human relationships, is the family. Each person’s sacred duty to create a peaceful world can be realized through our personal investment in creating healthy families that then go on to form healthy societies and world.

Ambassadors for Peace seek not only to affirm these ideals but to put them into practice beginning within their own families and expanding into their communities, nations and thus the world.

What do Ambassadors for Peace Do?

The activities of the Ambassadors for Peace vary to the degree that individuals and their interests vary. However, all activities are imbued with the ethic of service, thus exemplifying “living for the sake of others.” Many Ambassadors for Peace concentrate their efforts within their particular areas of specialization, while also working with IIFWP initiatives and chapters worldwide.

Ambassadors for Peace have organized, supported or participated in service and relief projects such as building schools, digging wells or renovating communities in conflict torn areas. They participate in and provide leadership in the areas of interreligious dialogue, and they foster practices, which contribute to conflict prevention.

Many Ambassadors for Peace have participated in the IIFWP HIV/AIDS prevention and education program, Zero Transmission Lifestyle, that is currently being used with great success throughout Africa – going village to village, one community at a time.

Ambassadors for Peace who have been Awarded the Leadership and Good Governance Award

The IIFWP Leadership and Good Governance Award is presented on behalf of the Founders, Rev. and Mrs. Sun Myung Moon, to individuals who manifest the highest standards of excellence in leadership, integrating professional excellence and practical wisdom with moral and spiritual principles.

Candidates from all fields and realms of governance are considered, including leaders from religion, government, non-governmental organizations, corporations, and educational institutions.

Past recipients include current and former heads of state and government, parliamentarians, and significant religious leaders from throughout the world.

At a time when self-interest and even corruption undermine the core values and public purpose of basic human institutions, the Leadership and Good Governance Award recognizes persons who exemplify the core values and action principles of the IIFWP and IIPC.

These are to:

1. live for the sake of others;
2. promote harmony and cooperation beyond barriers of race, religion, nationality and culture;
3. contribute to interreligious and international cooperation;
4. strengthen marriages and the family as the school of love;
5. affirm the centrality of God and universal spiritual values.

Notable Ambassadors for Peace and Recipients of the Leadership and Good Governance Award

Hon. Tuilaepa Aiono Sailele
Malielegaoi
Prime Minister of Samoa

Hon. Sir Alan Kemakeza
Prime Minister of the Solomon Islands

Rt. Honorable Hamilton Green
Mayor of Georgetown, Guyana; Former Prime Minister, Guyana

Sir James Mancham
Founding President, Republic of the Seychelles

H.E. Stanislaw Shuskevich
Former President, Belarus

H.E. Abdurrahman Wahid
Former President, Indonesia

H.E. Abd-Elaziz Hegazy
Former Prime Minister, Egypt

Hon. Rev. Walter E. Fauntroy
Pastor Bethel Baptist Church, Washington DC; US Congressman of 20 years; Civil Rights Activist with Martin Luther King, Jr.

Prof. Oleg Mironov
Human Rights Commissioner of the Russian Federation

Chief Rabbi Izhak Bar-Dea
Ramat-Gan, Israel

Dr. Shuki Yariv Ben-Ami
Israel

Mrs. Mohini Giri
Guild of Service, India

Dr. Eliezer Glaubach-Gal
Chair, Seminars on Peace Education, the I. Forder Institute for Liberal Studies, Israel

Dr. Eva Latham
President, Human Rights Teaching International, The Netherlands

Imam Muhammad Maqsood Ahmad Qadri
Dept. of Religious Affairs, Punjab, Pakistan

Sheikh Dr. Shaheed Satardien
President, Muslim Council of Ireland

Chief Reuben Silverbird
Nedni Apache, Cherokee, Navajo

Dr. Manjit Singh Jathedar
Anand Pur Sahib, India

Archbishop George A. Stallings
Imani Temple, Washington DC

Reverend Junsei Terasawa
Nipponjan Myohoft, Russia and Ukraine