

## IAPD Korea: Interfaith Prayer Vigil and Donations for Türkiye and Syria

Binod Paudel  
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*On February 16, the Korea Religions Association and the Inter-religious Association for Peace and Development (IAPD) held an interfaith prayer service and donation ceremony via Zoom for Türkiye and Syria. The event was organized by Binod Paudel, President of the Family Federation, who leads the IAPD in Türkiye, along with other Korean religious leaders.*

IAPD President Binod Paudel, who is involved in local relief efforts in the Hatay-Antakya province, expressed his concern for the survivors of the earthquakes in Türkiye and Syria; saying: *"Survivors of the earthquakes in Türkiye and Syria are fleeing their devastated homes, sometimes living in vehicles or tents, without knowing whether their family members and neighbors are alive or not, and are facing shortages of electricity, water, and food. Many are living in poor housing conditions, exposed to the cold and snow, with nothing but their bare bodies, and require a great deal of help to recover spiritually from the devastation they have suffered."*



The ceremony included a prayer by Monk Jahwang of Gwangbosa Temple in Haenam and a donation handover ceremony by Secretary-General Moon Sang-pil for earthquake recovery and relief for the victims in Türkiye and Syria. Secretary-General Moon Sang-pil expressed his deepest condolences and sympathies to the brothers and sisters in Türkiye who lost their lives overnight after the tragedy. *"We hope that our prayers and thoughts will be of great help to our brothers and sisters in Türkiye and Syria."*

Although it has been more than a month since a series of earthquakes claimed the lives of at least 51,000 people in the earthquake-hit areas of Türkiye and Syria, the recovery effort will continue to be time-consuming and costly. The interfaith prayer vigil and donations ceremony serve as a reminder that the international community stands in solidarity with those affected and will continue to provide support in their time of need.