

UPF Seychelles sponsored UN Peace Day 2019 in Victoria and Anse Royale

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Victoria and Anse Royale, Seychelles -- UPF-Seychelles, in conjunction with the Seychelles International Day of Peace Organizing Committee, sponsored Peace Day Events in Victoria and Anse Royale on September 21, 2019.

The Peace Day Events started with two Peace Marches with about 150 participants each. Everyone wore white. The North Peace March started at Belombre, Mahé, at 9 am and finished at the Peace Park in Victoria at around 11:30 am. After that, Kelsy Gill read aloud the Peace Day Message from UPF-International with the theme for the 2019 UN International Day of Peace, "Climate Action for Peace." This was followed by a Peace Show featuring speeches, poems, and a peace song performed by young people. At the finish, refreshments were provided for all participants.



Simultaneously, the South Peace March started at Anse Aux Pins playground, Mahé, at 9 am and finished at the University of Seychelles, Anse Royale campus at around 11:15 am. The emcee, Natasha Charlette, welcomed the participants. The Peace Day Message was read by Alichia Ernesta. This venue's Peace Show, which was officially launched by Roger Alphonse, chairperson of UPF-Seychelles, contained a sketch by secondary students; poems by primary students; a Peace Declaration Message that was read by a senior citizen, and ended with a song and dance performance by members of the Youth Peace Club, which has been set up by the James R. Mancham Peace and Diplomacy Research Institute. The event came to a close with an expression of thanks by Diana Benoit, chairperson of the International Day of

Peace Committee.

Before the participants went back to their respective districts, a group of students from the Anse Royale and Pointe Larue schools planted some trees on the University of Seychelles campus. This was led by Terence Vel, from the University Centre for Environmental Education and the Wildlife Club of Seychelles.



At the Peace Park in Victoria in the afternoon, there was a Climate Action Fair where various NGOs displayed their exhibits in regard to What can you do about climate change? The participants learned more about what climate change is and how to help mitigate it through interactive activities, recycling ideas, reusing and much more!

We had in total more than 300 participants in attendance for the Peace Day events in Seychelles. Among the notable participants was the speaker of the National Assembly of Seychelles, Mr. Nicholas Prea.

UPF-International's representative in Seychelles, Rosemary Elizabeth, reminded everyone present that peace is vital to the world. She also encouraged the youth to cultivate peace and nurture positive actions to combat climate change and promote sustainable development. In her closing remarks, she emphasized the important role of women in creating peace and sustaining the environment.

As the guest of honor, Patrick Berlouis, who represented the International Day of Peace Organizing Committee in Seychelles, thanked the organizers and encouraged them to continue with the spirit of promoting peace. He further urged participants to cultivate dignity in our country through peace initiatives.

The International Day of Peace Organizing Committee in Seychelles comprised the following organizations: University of Seychelles, Citizens Engagement Platform Seychelles, Seychelles National Youth Council, Seychelles Police, Ministry of Education and Human Resource Development, Ministry of Environment, Energy and Climate Change, National Council for Children, Universal Peace Federation-Seychelles, Anse Royale Youth Hostel, Senior Citizens Group, The Ocean Project Seychelles, Plant Conservation Action Group, and the Youth Peace Club.

The event was covered and aired by our main reporting media, Seychelles Broadcasting Corporation (SBC).