

Inter-religious Prayer for Peace at the UN International Day of Peace

Munich, Germany, September 22, 2017

By Robert Bentele

At the occasion of the UN International Day of Peace 2017 the UPF-Munich invited to an inter-religious peace prayer meeting, and representatives of different religious communities followed the invitation in total twelve praying persons.

At the introduction the coordinator of UPF-Munich, Robert Bentele, spoke about the UN and about the meaning of this UN Memorial Day. After that he read some excerpts of the address of the Secretary General, Antonio Guterres. And then especially he spent some time on the motto of this day: "Together for Peace: Respect, Safety and Dignity for All."

Because every human being is first of all an expression of God's characteristics, the first duty is that everyone shall be treated as such in a worthy way. And that would be a base for lasting peace.

The Catholic theologian, Gottfried Hutter, spoke about the conflict in the Middle East and urged all participating parties, Christians, Jews and Muslims to admit their respective guilt and to advance the reconciliation process in the spirit of the father of faith Jacob (Israel). As a prayer, he recited the Lord's Prayer especially emphasizing the plea for forgiveness.

Dr. Alfons Wellenhofer, UPF, lectured about the real spiritual power of prayer and that it e.g. demonstrably can be proved that it furthers medical healing processes. Not weak people pray, but strong people know about the power of prayer and use it effectively. He then recited words of Rev. Moon and presented a Christian/Muslim peace prayer.

Michael Rotter, peace and nature therapist, accompanied us into the world of Hinduism and presented a peace meditation that crosses the whole world with people praying and meditating synchronized for world peace. He chanted a Hindu prayer and for some minutes guided us in an Ohm-meditation.



After a few further contributions Siegfried Jensen, the Munich pastor of the Family Federation for World Peace and Unification, reported about his visit to another nearly forgotten hotspot of the world, namely the borderline between the Greek and the Turkish part of Cyprus, where still no lasting peace has been found.

He referred to the way of peace, shown by Rev. Moon, first to reconcile with God and to focus on Him, in order to get the power to create real peace.

He also concluded the meeting with a profound and vivid prayer.

Every participant lighted a candle at the altar after his respective prayer contribution and everyone expressed his support for worldwide prayer movement for change and peace.

Finally, the evening found a harmonious conclusion with butter pretzels and beverages.

