

UPF UK: Principles of Peace Highlight Forgiveness and Reconciliation

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Birmingham Universal Peace Federation UK

Birmingham Universal Peace Federation UK held its third **Principles of Peace evening** on 11 June, bringing together around 70 friends and guests from a wide range of faiths, nationalities, cultures and social backgrounds.



The evening explored the theme of **God's work in history to restore humanity to the original ideal of peace**, with a particular focus on forgiveness and reconciliation. At a time when the world faces many divisions and conflicts, the gathering offered a meaningful opportunity for people of different

communities to come together in a warm and respectful atmosphere.

During the presentation, David shared examples of people who practised forgiveness in their lives and public missions, including **Nelson Mandela, Martin Luther King Jr., and Father and Mother Moon**, who returned to North Korea at great personal risk as an act of reconciliation.



Faith Leaders Share Reflections on Peace

Following the presentation, several participants were invited to respond and share examples of forgiveness and reconciliation from their own faith traditions and life experiences.

These reflections were both inspiring and educational, showing how deeply the values of peace, compassion and reconciliation are rooted across different religious and cultural traditions.

Among those attending were **three Imams, six Christian ministers, one Sikh leader, a City Councillor and a former Lord Mayor**, along with a number of new guests, young people and women. The diversity of those present created a genuine atmosphere of interfaith friendship and shared purpose.

A Warm and Inclusive Atmosphere

After a quiet time of reflection, the evening concluded with an interfaith song. Many participants commented on the warmth, inclusiveness and significance of the gathering.

In a challenging time for our world, Birmingham UPF's Principles of Peace evening demonstrated the value of bringing people together across faiths, cultures and communities to make a shared stand for peace.

David and Patricia Earle expressed sincere thanks to everyone who attended and contributed to such a meaningful evening.