

UPF-France's The 20th Dialogue and Alliance Considers the Feminine God

Jean-Francois Moulinet
December 11, 2022



Paris, France -- The 20th Dialogue and Alliance meeting to read and discuss the scriptures of various faiths focused on the theme "God in the Feminine."

A unique feature of the meeting on December 11, 2022, was that it was held in several locations simultaneously, notably in Geneva, Switzerland (eight participants); Loos (four participants) and Orsay (nine participants) in France; Bamako, Mali (five participants); and Kinshasa, Democratic Republic of the Congo (13 participants). In addition, participants from 22 countries connected to the meeting online.



The meeting organizers were honored by the online presence of **Dr. Eileen Barker**, a professor of sociology and a distinguished fellow of the London School of Economics, and **Morgana Sythove**, a trustee of the World Council of the United Religions Initiative.

The moderator of the meeting was **Chantal Komagata**, the UPF coordinator for Europe and also the UPF secretary general for Switzerland.

The first reading brought a view of Judaism: **Don Aristide De-Carli**, a Jewish theologian and the president of the Swiss Society for Spiritual Assistance, commented on an adaptation of the text *Sepher ha-Zohar (the Book of Splendor): Esoteric Doctrine of the Israelites*.

Professor Olivier Bauer, a Protestant theologian and professor of practical theology at the Faculty of Theology and Religious Studies of the University of Lausanne, Switzerland, then explained why he

advocates a more inclusive version of Jesus' prayer, beginning with "Our Mother and Father who art in heaven."

As a short musical break, a video was shown of the young Cameroonian gospel singer Stetchie performing the French version of "You Raise Me Up."

The third reading, Quran VII.156, was commented on by **Professor Eric Geoffroy**, a specialist in Islamic thought and spirituality, professor emeritus at the University of Strasbourg, France, and author of *Allah au féminin*.



The fourth reading, extracted from the book *Mother of Peace*, the memoir of UPF co-founder Dr. Hak Ja Han Moon, was commented on by **Brigitte Wada**, president of the French chapter of Women's Federation for World Peace, an organization that is affiliated with UPF.

After a question-and-answer session, the Islamologist **Dr. Mouslim Fidahoussen** gave a review of the year 2022.

The **Venerable Michel Thao Chan**, the founder of the Circle of Reflection of Nations, and **Professor Boumédiène Benyahia**, the founder of the Kalima Institute, also intervened spontaneously.

Finally **Jean-François Moulinet**, the coordinator of Dialogue and Alliance, spoke about the theme of the meetings for 2023, "Cultivating Peace Daily."

Recording of the event: www.youtube.com/watch?v=eDFfDn_4ssw

