

Intercultural Day in Reykjavik; Spritual world and life on earth



Usually one will associate the Scandinavian countries as liberal, humanistic and not so religious but there is a different side to this as well: The most religious country in Europe is found here too, an attitude of humility towards each other is practised (Jante Law) and reliability is common here as well.

In Iceland the Unification Church has gained the status of registered religion and is part of the religious council in Reykjavik. Our church here is still small, but the status is excellent. It is like a ten million Euro house that is quiet.

On the 10th of May we could exhibit our church among other religions, countries and NGO's in the town hall in Reykjavik. This event was sponsored by the city and we did not need to pay a single Krona, instead we fundraised for an event that took place two weeks later in the church meeting hall of the free Lutheran church. It was

a colourful event in which Father Moon's autobiography was introduced as well as the various activities in the field of culture and relief projects. It was a wonderful opportunity to witness, because the way we did it in Germany which used to be by approaching people at the door or on the street is generally viewed as intrusion here. Shyness is widespread and the respect of each others privacy that extends into daily life is part of the culture. Therefore it is not that easy to meet people. It is socially acceptable to approach by selling door to door, casual talks in the hot pots of the swimming pools or by getting drunk during the weekend no later until Sunday afternoon. We met most our contacts through invitations, going to restaurants or participating in events such as this one.



The hall of the Frikirkjan is managed by our peace ambassador and therefore we can use it for free and take advantage of this once a month. This time however we had to use it on a Saturday, because the next day a confirmation was to take place. Therefore we only could bring around 10 guests. The subject we used was evidence of the afterlife, introducing to the more important issue of spiritual growth by using the best seller author Eben Alexanders experience as a door opener. Atheism is an issue here as well as in the whole of Europe, but because lacking a common ideology as under communism those representatives today are more like toothless lions, compared to the age before 1989. If one has one natural scientist at a podium who is a believer Atheists hardly emphasize Science to be their ally. However the problem of theodicy is sometimes dug out again which in my opinion only can be answered in depth through the divine principle, which was done during this presentation. A documentary showing the heart and efforts of Mother Moon for the Philippines after the Taifunn disaster was shown to the Philippine consul as well. Especially among the young people who were brought by 2 Gens the attention was high, also because the school education and the physical life in relation to eternal life were compared and brought into relation which contains a persuasive power.

The event was a success and hopefully will result in new membership soon.

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