

Report on International Day of Peace

Tirana – Albania, September 21st, 2103

Gani Rroshi

On the occasion of the International Day of Peace we organized a beautiful event in Tirana, Albania on September 21st, 2103. The event took place at the Tirana International Hotel where 120 people attended. The newly appointed Minister of Education and AfP Mrs. Lindita Nikolla was the key speaker of the event.

It has become a tradition already for our movement in Albania to celebrate in such a way the International Day of Peace, where the volunteer members of Family Federation decide to dedicate one month during summer time to raise funds and support orphan children. Each year, Family Federation in cooperation with UPF and National Institute of Integration of Albanian Orphans, provide educational materials and tools to 100 orphan children who have difficulties to secure such items for their school year.



The event was moderated by Mr. Gani Rroshi, President of FFWPU who welcomed everybody and thanked all those young members who did FR throughout the country and the owner of the Hotel as well who gave the hall free of charge after knowing that it was an event to help orphan children.

Mrs. Lavdie Ruci, the Chairman of National peace Council of UPF greeted the participants and explained the meaning of International Day of Peace. She mentioned that in such meaningful days declared by UN, we should all be reminded to work harder for Peace and invest more especially on Education for Peace as UPF is earnestly working and has it as one of its core principles.



Next speaker was Mr. Bajram Ibraj, the Chairman of Presiding Council of UPF, who after greeting and wishing for this event to give a clear message to the public society, quoted Father Moon's autobiography where Father talks about the legacy we should leave behind: *"There are two things we should leave to our*

descendants when we die; one is the tradition and the other is education. A nation is doomed to fail if he doesn't educate its people. Because of Education people gain wisdom to live. Education helps us understand the principles on which the world works. Tradition and education are both important and is difficult to differ which one is more important, but the wisdom to combine them comes from education."



Afterwards, Mr. Ilir Cumani, the Director of the National Institute for Integration of Albanian Orphans thanked the volunteers of FFWPU and asked for more attention from the governmental institutions and civil society to be paid to this fragile category of society. Mr. Cumani coordinated his work together with the NGO of Mothers with Orphan Children who gathered 60 children including 6 children of killed policemen and in cooperation with National Committee of Reconciliation selected 40 isolated children from Shkodra who cannot go to school because of the *Blood Feud* phenomena.

He also thanked the Minister of Education Mrs. Lindita Nikolla expressing that she being an Ambassador for Peace and member of UPF – an important organization for our nation, will help her become a model of good leadership and governance.



On her key address, the Minister of Education and Sports, Hon. Lindita Nikolla expressed her special appreciation to the organizers of this meaningful event and especially to those young volunteer members of the Family Federation who, during their summer holidays, had decided to become part of this special humanitarian initiative to help orphan children. She mentioned that such models are very much needed for our young generation in Albania. She promised that she will dedicate herself and do everything she can so that the government she is part of and the Ministry she leads to make it possible that every child in Albania will not lack education and especially the orphan children and those children who are isolated because of '*blood feud*' mostly in northern Albania.

(Mrs. Lindita Nikolla is an AfP since 2006. In 2007 she became part of National Peace Council and from 2009 – 2011 she served as Vice Chairman of UPF. From 2011 till present she is Member of the Presiding Council of UPF, Albania).



Lastly, on behalf of 40 isolated children in Shkodra province, Mrs. Liljana Luana – the teacher of those children, greeted tearfully the audience and expressed that the government, public society and all of us have to do everything possible so that our children can be educated and not lack the basic rights.

At the end, the Minister of Education and leaders of partner organizations delivered the packages with school education materials and tools to those 60 children who were in attendance together with their mothers, while the other 40 packages will be delivered to Shkodra region on September 24th.



Reported by the Albanian HQ!