



URI InterfaithNews.Net - January 2005

Welcome to the e-zine InterfaithNews.Net sponsored by **United Religions Initiative** (URI) and **s.a.f net**.

Reacting to religious fanaticism and the challenges of advancing and sustaining a more equitable civilization, a global interfaith movement has sprung from the grassroots of religion and spirituality. InterfaithNews.Net (INN) seeks to chronicle this movement by focusing primarily on positive interfaith and religious news, events, and resources.

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Peace Pole Planting in Lahore, Pakistan

Amidst tensions surrounding the days-old murder of a Shiite religious leader in this multi-religious, but Sunni-dominated nation, a peace pole was planted in Pakistan's

second largest city, Lahore, on January 15th. Planted near the Pakistan Day Memorial, it was a small but hopefully significant further step in efforts to bring the religions of Pakistan into greater harmony and goodwill. May peace prevail in Pakistan, may peace prevail on Earth.

Read the article

Where is God? Tsunami Relief Efforts

Editorial response to the common questions of "where was God?" and "how could God allows this?" in reference to the devastation of December 26th's earthquake and tsunamis.

Read the article

Virtual Interview: Paul Chaffee of the Interfaith Center at the Presidio

This is the first in a series of virtual interviews with interfaith leaders from around the world. We anticipate hearing stories of inspiration, heartfelt action, and inter-religious cooperation.

Read the article

An Environmental Pilgrimage

"... if the information of the environmentalists needed a framework of values and beliefs to make it useful, then where better to turn for allies than to the original multinationals, the largest international grouping? and networks of people? Why not turn to the major religions or the world?" These words from Martin Palmer of the Alliance of Religion and Conservation resonate with this editor's own thoughts. What more can we collectively do in this interfaith movement to promote conservation and sustainability?

Read the article

Love your neighbor as yourself — 12th Israeli-Palestinian Interfaith Retreat

Yehuda Stolov of the Interfaith Encounter Association in Israel reports on the end of their planned Israeli-Palestinian Interfaith Retreats. The 12th session focused on Christian, Jewish, and Muslim perspectives on Christ's injunction to "love your

neighbor as yourself."

Read the article

Scotland to Host International Festival on Middle Eastern Spirituality and Peace

"From Monday 14 February - Sunday 6 March 2005 the 2nd Annual Edinburgh Festival of Middle Eastern Spirituality and Peace will bring together artists, scholars, grassroots spiritual activists, and speakers from the Sufi, Druze, Baha'i, Ismaili, Zoroastrian and other lesser known spiritual traditions, in addition to representatives of Judaism, Christianity, and Islam."

Read the article

Reconciling the Secular / Religious Divide: *Spirit Matters*, a review

Review of Spirit Matters, Rabbi Michael Lerner's book (2000) on restoring spirituality to our intellectual and public lives, "[weaving] together the head and heart."

Read the article

Unlearning Intolerance: Secretary-General Opens Seminar On Confronting Islamophobia

News of a December seminar at the United Nations Headquarters in New York on Confronting Islamophobia: Education for Tolerance and Understanding, with the aim of "to examine different manifestations of intolerance and explore ways to promote respect and understanding among peoples."

Read the article

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