



Religious Communities Observe the United Nations
International Day of Peace, 21 September

*The time has come for people of faith to honor our own heritage by stepping forward in a living demonstration of a global culture of peace. Let us adopt this International Day of Peace, offered by the General Assembly of the United Nations, as a neutral focus belonging not to one group but to all humanity. Inspired by our scriptures and the wisdom of our teachers, the prayers of every faith will unite us in service to peace.
May peace prevail on Earth.*

_____,
a Cooperation Circle of the United Religions Initiative, invites

_____,
located at _____,

to observe the UN International Day of Peace on or around 21 September.

You are invited to observe the International Day of Peace, designated by unanimous vote of all UN Member States according to UN General Assembly resolution 55/282 in 2001. The resolution calls for governments, organizations and individuals to honor a day of ceasefire and nonviolence. Religious and spiritual communities of all beliefs are taking the International Day of Peace as an opportunity to stand up for world peace with our prayers and our actions.

Your place of worship is welcome to join in this global expression of solidarity in the name of peace by observing the International Day of Peace in whatever way is most appropriate to your tradition. Many people take a Minute of Silence at 12 noon for prayer or meditation. Your religious service may include a special theme of peace, perhaps with music.

21 September 2008 falls on a Sunday, which could encourage the ringing of church bells at noon. It is also during Ramadan, perhaps inviting Peace Iftars. Other faiths may wish to hold pujas or indigenous ceremonies. However you choose to celebrate the International Day of Peace, please let us know that you are taking part of this global call for peace. You can contact us at _____.

Thank you for your contribution to peace on Earth.