

## *Islamabad and Rawalpindi URI Cooperation Circles Coordinators Meeting with Regional Staff of URI Pakistan*

*URI Cooperation Circles (Cooperation Circles) Coordinators meeting with the CCs of Islamabad, Rawalpindi, Azad Kashmir, and Peshawar held in Hayet –e-Nou CC office at Chatta Buhktawar Chak Shahzad Islamabad on 9<sup>th</sup> November, 2017. Meeting chaired by Fr.James Channan OP Regional Coordinator URI Asia – Pakistan. In this meeting URI Pakistan Regional staff Mr.Asher Nazir Executive Secretary URI Pakistan, Sr.Sabina Rifat Women Wing Coordinator URI Pakistan, Ms.Asmara Daud Youth Trainer URI Pakistan, Ms.Neelam Nisari Program Manager URI were also present with Fr.James Channan OP.*

*CCs Coordinators Mr.Ahmad Hussian Intercultural Youth Council Islamabad, Mrs. Khurshid Malik, Coordinator Hayat-e-Nou CC Islamabad, Allama Abu - Al Fateh G.R Chishti coordinator MCC Islamabad, Mr.Ummar Ahmad, President Inter-Cultural Youth Council, and Mr. Ghulam Kibria, Coordinator Ibteda Foundation, Rawalpindi – Islamabad participated in this meeting.*



*This was the agenda of the meeting:*

- *Prayer*
- *Welcome to new CCs Coordinators Mr.Ahmad Hussian and Dr.Osman Saduldeen*
- *Introduction*
- *Sharing and Reflection*
- *Future Plan 2018*
- *Suggestions*

*Due to a strike in Islamabad by Islamic religious groups, it was very difficult to reach Islamabad, because this city was blocked at Faizabad and different places by the religious activists. Some CCs Coordinators from Peshawar, Muzaffarabad and even from Islamabad were not attended this meeting. Some CCs Coordinators attended this meeting and they were Allama G.R. Chishti, MCC Coordinator, Islamabad MCC, Mr. Ahmad Hussain, Coordinator, Inter-Cultural Youth Council Islamabad, Mr. Ummar Ahmad, President Inter-Cultural Youth Council, Mr. Ghulam Kibria, Coordinator Ibteda Foundation, and Rawalpindi – Islamabad. Allama Abu- Al Fateh G.R Chishti was gone to another program after taking his presence but he shared the activities as URI Coordinator MCC Islamabad.*



*He said that we have organized many programs as like World Interfaith harmony Week, International Day of Peace, URI Charter signing, Opening Ceremony of URI MCC Islamabad office. Recently Universal Interfaith Peace Mission (UIPM) organized a seminar in Islamabad hotel on the 10<sup>th</sup> anniversary of Common Word Movement (CWM) with the collaboration of United Religions Initiative Pakistan and URI MCC Islamabad. Many participants were present with these honorable guests Mr.Usman Saduldeen Coordinator Sudanese Community Pakistan CC, Dr.Fr.James Channan OP Regional Coordinator URI Pakistan, Mumtaz Ahmad Tarar Minister Human Rights, Pir*

*Azamat ullah Sultan, Allama Ehsan Siddiqui Chairman Human Rights Commission and Mr.Raza Abid Mustafa Chief Reporter Roze Newa Channel and members of the civil societies and minority groups attended the 10<sup>th</sup> anniversary of Common Word. UIPM has been spreading the message of Peace and Interfaith harmony since 2011 in fulfillment of “Common Word” and Amman Message. Allama Chishti said that dialogue among cultures and civilizations is an inevitable demand, as we are all different and have different beliefs, religions and cultures but our distinctive and unique characteristics shouldn't prevent us from taking part in dialogue and resorting to understanding. Dialogue and missing among diverse cultures and civilization can be used as a start point to reach a common background common language to achieve peace*

*After the interfaith prayer Fr. James Channan OP welcomed to all CCs Coordinators to attending CCs Coordinators meeting. He introduced himself as URI Regional Coordinator Asia - Pakistan and Director, Peace Centre, Lahore. He invited to everyone to introduce himself and shared latest CCs activities and achievement with impacts.*

*Mr.Ummar Ahmad, President, Inter-Cultural Youth Council, Islamabad CC was asked by Fr. James Channan OP, to introduce himself and shared about CC activities. He shared that Inter Cultural Youth Council, is working for Peace, Environment, Health and Education. Fr. James Channan OP further asked him when you came to know about URI. He was very happy to answer that after completion of my Diploma in Information Technology; he joined Ibtada Foundation as a Volunteer and worked with Syed Hasnain Gillani. He informed the Chair that all computer work and reports of Ibtada Foundation were made by him. He is well conversant with the URI work. He told the participants that now he is appointed as President, Inter-Cultural Youth Council and working with Coordinator, Mr. Ahmad Hussain from January 2016. All reports of Inter-cultural Youth Council were composed by him and this is my main responsibility to compose all its activities and reports etc.*

*Mr. Ghulam Kibria, as Vice-President, Ibtada Foundation, operating the affairs of Ibtada Foundation, Rawalpindi under the kind direction of Syed Hasnain Gillani. Fr. James Channan OP asked him to introduce about him and shared the activities of Ibtada Foundation cc. He said that we are working with Ibtada Foundation CC for the last 15 years. First of all Allama G.R. Chashti introduced URI and told us that this organization is working for interfaith harmony and Peace among the different religions. He shared with the URI Regional Coordinator about the ongoing programs, activities and events of Ibtada Foundation CC. These programs are giving good result and impacts with successfully and it is functional till now. Fr. James was very happy to know about him and he welcomed Mr. Ghulam Kibria and advised to continue it.*

*Mr.Ahmad Hussian Coordinator Inter-cultural Youth Council Islamabad briefly said that when he was taken the Charge of Private Secretary to Minister of State for National Council of Social Welfare Col. Retd. S.K. Tressler. Allama G.R. Chashti came to see the Minister for Social Welfare. When P.S. asked about the purpose of his visit to see the Minister, Allama introduced the program of Universal Interfaith Peace Mission, and URI which are working together for Inter-religious peace. From that time he is working for peace with URI, its program of Peace Poll which was first time installed at Minar – e- Pakistan, Lahore by Sardar Rais Jahangir Ahmad, Chairman NCSW along with other. He is also Secretary General of Ibtada Foundation. At present he was assigned the affairs as Coordinator Inter-cultural Youth Council, Islamabad – Pakistan, and appointed its whole time Chairman, its main function are Peace, Environment, health and education.*

*The undersigned (Ahmad Hussain) Coordinator, Intercultural Youth Council, Islamabad – Pakistan, has received a call from URI Head Office Lahore – Pakistan regarding Youth Training Workshop with Islamabad CCs youth members to arrange on 31<sup>st</sup> December, 2017. The theme of this Training is **“INTER-FAITH YOUTH IN PEACE BUILDING; CHALLENGES AND OPPORTUNITIES”**.*

*Mr. Asher Nazir was introduced himself as Executive Secretary, Regional office URI Pakistan. He briefly introduced about the affairs of URI. He told that he looked after all affairs of URI in Pakistan and coordinates the CCs/MCCs coordinators. All events, Trainings and program we arrange in Peace Center for interfaith communities for the promotion of Peace and Interfaith harmony in Pakistan. We collect different activities news and reports from all CCs and publish them quarterly in URI Newsletter UMANG.*

*Sr. Sabina Rifat, URI Coordinator for Women Wing in Pakistan introduced herself and highlighted the activities of Women Wing working for the development of Women. She expressed the role of women in promoting peace and interfaith harmony in Pakistan. She said that if we supported and educated the rural women then they can become useful citizen of Pakistan. She said that in URI Newsletter UMANG we published the CCs activities news so please shared us and send us activities news to publish in UMANG for the more projection of your CC and URI Pakistan.*



*Ms. Asmara Daud, URI Youth Trainer introduced herself. She said that recently I joined as URI Youth Trainer and this is her first tour to Islamabad as a Youth Trainer. Youth training we will organize with Inter-Cultural Youth Council, Islamabad for Islamabad and Rawalpindi CCs youth members by URI Pakistan in the month of December, 2017.*

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*Ms. Neelam Nisari shared that as Program Manager I am working with URI Pakistan and Peace Center Lahore. All program and events I manage with the team of URI and Peace Center Lahore and Fr. James Channan OP is satisfied from my work and with appreciation I am doing my best for URI and Peace Center. She said that from the beginning I am working with Peace Center and URI for the promotion of Peace and Interfaith harmony.*

*Mrs. Khurshid Malik, Coordinator, Hayat-e-Nou (New Life) CC was the host of this Meeting, introduced herself and she welcomed all the CCs Coordinators in her CC office. She shared the Hayat –e-Nou CC activities and impacts with URI Regional staff and CCs Coordinators. She said that we are working with unskilled and uneducated women and through skill and education we are empowering the women. She said that our cc office is well equipped and we have computer lab for universities students they come for research and knowledge sharing. She said that there was no need at all to change the leadership of MCC. She suggested changing the office of MCC at present is not approachable and need to be changed. She said to Fr. James Channan OP about the provision of peace poll, as requested by her some time back. Fr. James Channan said that if you are ready to do so and get permission from CDA, we will send the peace poll within three working days. As soon as you will get permission from CDA tell us and the peace poll will be handed over to you well in time.*

*She also expressed Mr. Gillani work as a MCC Coordinator, he was well engaged with all the CCs of Islamabad, Rawalpindi and well behaved all the Coordinators, and have rich relations with all the CCs Coordinators. He did a lot for the betterment of humanity. This point of view was also endorsed by the Undersigned and appreciated the work of Ibteda Foundation CC.*

*Fr. James Channan expressed his thanks to all participating CCs members and advised them to work hard for the peace and harmony among the religions and mandate of URI. He was very happy to learn about the work of CCs working in Islamabad and Rawalpindi. He said that two new CCs Inter-Cultural Youth Council Islamabad and Sudanese Community Pakistan CC from Islamabad have been approved and Mr.Ahmad Hussian and Mr.Osman Saduldeen are the CCs Coordinator of URI Pakistan.*

*Further Fr. James Channan appreciated the work of newly approved CC i.e. Inter-Cultural Youth Council Islamabad – Pakistan. He expressed although its age only 6 months but the work and coordination with the URI Regional office is appreciable and tremendous work done by its members regarding plantation of 1300 saplings during the month of September, 2017.*

*A very delicious lunch was served and all CCs Coordinators were very happy from this sharing and gathering.*

*The meeting was ended with a prayer and vote of thanks by Fr.James Channan OP URI Regional Coordinator Asia Pakistan*

**Mr.Asher Nazir**  
**Executive Secretary**  
**URI Pakistan**