



# INTER-CULTURAL YOUTH COUNCIL ISLAMABAD



Inter-Cultural Youth activities, Peace, health, education and environment

## INTERFAITH CHRISTMAS CELEBRATION ON 21-12-2017 AT PEACE CENTRE LAHORE.

The undersigned, Coordinator Inter-Cultural Youth Council Islamabad – Pakistan, received an invitation from URI Head Office Lahore – Pakistan regarding Inter-Faith Christmas Celebration on 21-12-2017 at 05:00 p.m. to 10:00 p.m. The undersigned proceeded to Lahore on 21<sup>st</sup> December, 2017 and reached at about 06:00 p.m. a bit late.

The URI Headquarter Lahore – Pakistan has arranged this religious celebration in Peace Centre Lahore. Honourable Fr. James Channan OP was the host in this Celebration. While Maulana Abdul Khabir Azad, Imam Grand Mosque (*Padshahi Masjid*) of Lahore was the Chief Guest in this Inter-Faith Christmas Celebration. Archbishop Sebastian Shaw OFM was preside over this Celebration. The other guest of honours were Allama Muhammad Zubair Abid, Chairman, Peace and Harmony Network Pakistan, Mr. Sohail Ahmad Raza, Minhajul Quran University, Dominican Vice-Provincial Fr. Pascal Paulus OP, Madam Asifa President Aman Pukar, Madam Tehmina Peace Activists & Journalist, Patras Dewan, Director Global Healing Pakistan, Hafiz Nauman Ahmad, Executive Director World Council of Religions, Mr. Muhammad Zubair, Deputy Attorney General, Lahore were also present and witnessed this religious celebration.

Due to heavy engagement of Maulana Abdul Khabir Azad, Imam Grand Mosque, Lahore was invited first to address this celebration. He was very happy to express his feelings and given reference from the Holy Qur'an regarding birth of Hazrat Jesus Christ (AS) and Hazrat Maryam (AS). During the course of his speech the audience were hearing him very calm. When he said that we are not equal to the Shoes Thread of Hazrat Jesus Christ, (*Hum to Hazrat Jesus Christ kay Jutoon ka Tasmoon kay brabar be nahin hyn*)



the audience spiritually claps this great feeling of a great Imam of Grand Mosque standing out from their seats. He thanked Fr. James Channan and other organizer of Peace Centre for organizing this useful, meaningful, religious and spiritual Interfaith Christmas



Celebration. A Happy Christmas Cake was cut by him and other guests of honour because he was invited some other function. He proceeded after this.



He and Fr. James Channan OP, were very busy during the month of December and jointly invited to celebrate so many functions regarding Christmas. He said that Fr. James Channan told him that he attended 6 function till that time but I have attended more than 8 function uptill now. The other guest expressed their views with great religious and paid Salam to Hazrat Jesus Christ (AS) and prayed for citizen of Pakistan, May Peace prevail on Pakistan and on earth.

In this Celebration number of local Cooperation Circles from all walk of life were participated and make this religious celebration a success. The undersigned Coordinator, Intercultural Youth Council Islamabad, specially attended this Interfaith Christmas Celebration from Islamabad. Honourable Fr. James Channan OP, welcome the undersigned to attend this celebration specially came from Islamabad. Mr. Ashar Nazir, Executive Secretary, URI HQ Lahore also expressed his joys and happiness to see me there and welcome.

### **PEACE MAKER AWARD – 2017**

In recognition of meritorious services rendered by a great peace maker, peace dreamer and a most practical personality H.E. Fr. James Channan OP, Regional Coordinator, URI, Pakistan and Director Peace Centre, Lahore, a very cooperative, remain in contact, a smiling face personality, most punctual in contact Mr. Ashar Nazir, Executive Secretary, URI Headquarter Lahore, were presented the awards, awarded by the Global Prosperity and Peace Initiative USA, “**PEACE MAKER AWARD – 2017**” to both the personalities by Mr. Patras Dewan, Director, Global Healing Pakistan. They are receiving their awards from Moulana



Allama Abdul Khabir Azad, Imam Grand Mosque of Lahore.

Fr. James Channan OP, thanked all the participants by name and a religious song by the students was presented. The audience like this and they were happy and congratulated Fr. James Channan OP, his team Sister Sabina Rifat, Mr. Asher Nazir Mr. Faisal and Ms. Asmarah Daud, and other workers. The celebration was ended by thank giving prayer to Almighty God. A delicious dinner (*Langhar*) on the birth day celebration was served.



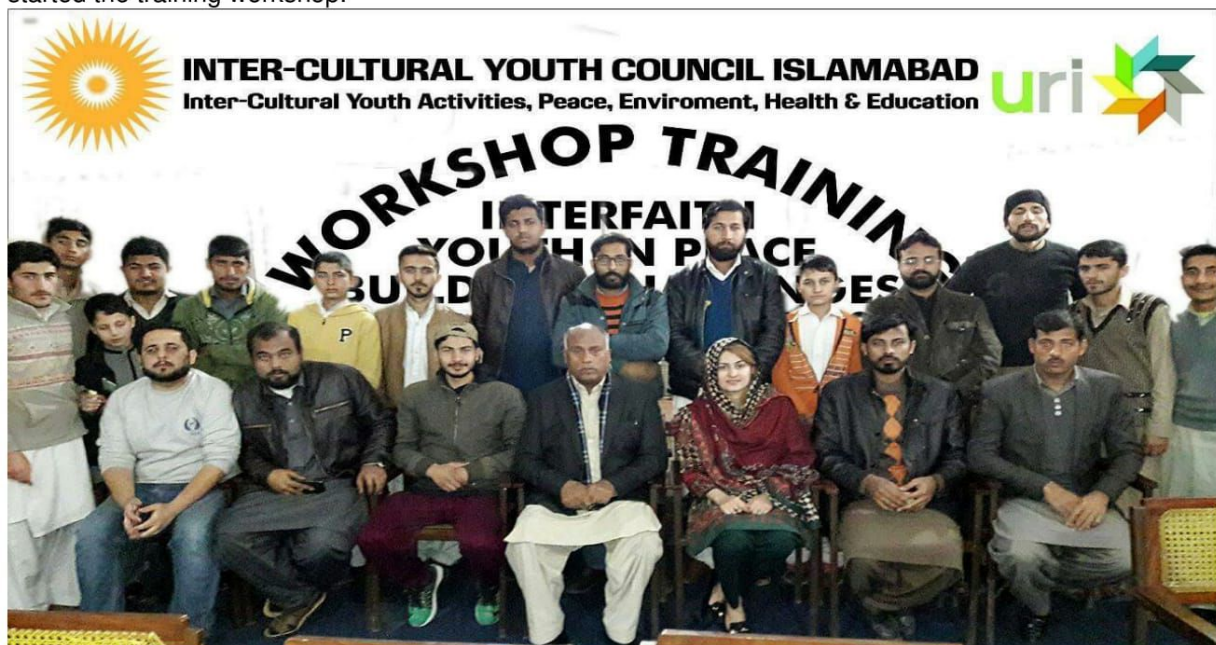
## YOUTH TRAINING WORKSHOP 29<sup>th</sup> DECEMBER, 2017.

The most Honourable Fr. James Channan OP, URI Regional Coordinator and Director Peace Centre, Lahore, directed the Inter-Cultural Youth Council, Islamabad – Pakistan, to arrange a Training Workshop of its youth members and a date was fixed to arrange the said Training Workshop on **29<sup>th</sup> December, 2017, Friday at 03:30 p.m. 2017.** The theme of this Training Work was **“INTER-FAITH YOUTH IN PEACE BUILDING; CHALLENGES AND OPPORTUNITIES”**. This training workshop was sponsored by URI Pakistan, Head Office Lahore.

Ms. Asmarah Daud, who came from Lahore reached right time at 03:00 p.m. in the Conference Room of Anjuman Faiz-ul-Islam (Faizabad) Rawalpindi and set an example of her punctuality and responsibility. She was warm welcomed by the undersigned (Ahmad Hussain) Coordinator and Chairman, Inter-Cultural Youth Council at the doorstep of Conference Room and presented her Bouquet. When reached in the Conference room She was received by the Senior Vice-President and presented a Mala and all participants welcomed her with standing on their seats with clapping.

The Training Workshop was timely started at 03:30 p.m. with the recitation of the Holy Quran by Mr. Rizwan, a young scholar. After recitation of Holy Quran, the undersigned welcomed the youth.

The undersigned briefly introduced the program of Inter-Cultural Youth Council – Islamabad and purpose of this Training Program peace building, challenges and opportunities. The youth were asked to introduced themselves one by one and they did it. After introductory session the honorable Trainer Ms. Asmarah Daud started the training workshop.





This training workshop was conducted by a well-educated, a vast experienced young lady and newly appointed URI Trainer Ms. Asmarah Daud. About 30 young from different walk of life attended this Workshop. List of participants is attached herewith. She first of all introduced herself, about her qualification and experience, purpose of conducting this workshop, about the URI, peace building and its impact on youth. She said that the youth are backbone of the development of a country and responsibilities for creating peace in the world are at their shoulder. Peace is necessary for development of this Planet. Without peace no body, no country can make development in this world.



She introduced the youth about the United Religions Initiative (URI) which was founded by Right Rev. William E. Swing, Chairman, URI Sanfrancisco, USA, in the year 2000. There are more than 900 grassroots interfaith groups, 54 in Pakistan called Cooperation Circles, MCC, RMCC, etc. located in 102 countries. The mission of URI is a global grassroots interfaith network that cultivates peace and justice by engaging people to bridge religious and cultural differences and work together for the good of their communities and the world. URI build the capacity of member groups and organizations to engage in community action such as conflict resolution and reconciliation, environmental sustainability, education, women's and youth programs and advocacy for human rights. Youth Training program for their character building, improvement of their ability and use of experience, education was also highlighted by Ms. Asmarah Daud, URI Trainer in a befitting manner.



Ms. Asmarah Daud also briefed the participants about the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) 2030 set by the United Nations. 17 goals are set by the United Nations, for addressing the root causes end of poverty, hunger, achieve food security, ensure health lives, quality education, equality and empowerment of women and girls, ensure clean water and sanitation, access to affordable modern energy, economic



growth, sustainable industrialization, inequality among countries, combat climate change, environmental change, promote peaceful and inclusive societies for sustainable development, access to justice for all. She also introduced URI preamble, purpose and principles, She informed the youth that URI purpose is to promote enduring, daily interfaith cooperation to end religiously motivated violence and to create cultures of peace, justice and healing for the Earth and all living human beings. Youth are the hope for future of the world. They can combat against the terrorist and terrorism. Join hands to each other and resolve their problems with negotiations.



**ELECTION OF 2018 – 2020 ANJUMAN FAIZUL ISLAM, ( AN ORPHANAGE) RAWALPINDI  
ON 31<sup>ST</sup> DECEMBER, 2017 AT 10:00 AM TO 12:00 NOON.**

The undersigned (Ahmad Hussain) Coordinator, Inter-Cultural Youth Council, who is a member of Anjuman Faiz-ul-Islam Rawalpindi Pakistan a renowned Voluntary Social Welfare Agency (NGO) dealing with Orphanages. This NGO is well reputed and recognized by the all walk of life having its members from Pakistan and abroad.

It was established by the will of Father of Nation Quaid-e-Azam Muhammad Ali Jinnah, in the year 1948. He asked the Muslim League stalwarts of Rawalpindi City to make an Orphanage Home for the 40 Bangali Orphans. Their parents were died due to Cyclone in the year 1948.

From that time it is taking care of the Orphanages. Now it has more than **1000 Orphanages (Apar Ghar)** running their different site 6 projects at present. They are providing boarding, lodging, clothing, giving them education from class-I upto Master and M-Phil and PhD level. All expenditure born by the Anjuman Faiz-ul-Islam. They have also a Technical College DAE level at Mandra Campus and some short courses Technical College at Faizabad, Rawalpindi. They provides Orphans different skills after Matric/FSc student who are not in a position to take further education due to need of their family and they become income generating unit of their family. Some Orphans who are brilliant and desire to get further education are appreciated and allow them to continue their education what they want upto Higher degree Science and Arts. All expenditure involved borne by the Anjuman (NGO) out of its annual budget. This Anjuman is run through the financial assistance by the Philanthropists. Government assistance is totally ignored by the organization.

Election Process according to their Constitution was conducted and a team for further three years have selected by the General body Members. A well educated and God fearing personalities were elected in this Election for further three years period.



**HAPPY CHRISTMAS AND HAPPY NEW YEAR**

Mr. Kamram Kami, General Secretary of Inter-Cultural Youth Council, a Christian friend was on leave and celebrated Happy Christmas along with his family members at Sargodha, came back to Islamabad on 31-12-2017 at evening. The executive body gathered in the office of Inter-Cultural Youth Council Islamabad and celebrated with him along with other



Christian friends, Muslim Friends, Happy Christmas and Happy New Year. A delicious cake was cut along with Chairman / Coordinator, Inter-Cultural Youth Council, in its office on 31-12-2017 at 09:00 p.m. A group photo was taken and prayed for peace and harmony among the human being.