



World Scout Interreligious Symposium
Symposium Interreligieux Scout Mondial
Simposio Interreligioso Scout Mundial
Всемирный Скаутский Межрелигиозный Симпозиум
الملتقى الكشفي العالمي للأديان

Together for Harmony and Peace

Fo Guang Shan Temple, Kaoshiung, Taiwan

5 - 8 May 2006

The second World Scout Interreligious Symposium (WSIS) will be held at the Fo Guang Shan Temple, Kaoshiung, Taiwan, from Friday 5 May to Monday 8 May 2006 (arrivals on Thursday 4 May and departures on Tuesday 9 May). The theme of this symposium is "Together for Harmony and Peace". Bringing together representatives of National Scout Organizations and the Scout Religious Alliances, the WSIS will reinforce the value of Scouting as an institution promoting interreligious dialogue. The WSIS works to further co-operation and understanding of interreligious issues throughout the Scout Movement.

Objectives

Participants at the WSIS will be invited to:

1. Develop better mutual knowledge and understanding of others;
2. Clarify the links between religions (faiths and beliefs) and the social impact of Scouting, especially in Justice, Equality and Peace; how Scouting and religions can help to change the world and to prepare young people to be active members of their communities; and
3. Identify educational and training methods for better spiritual development in Scouting by exchanging experiences, educational and training tools.

Programme

Thursday 4 May - Arrival Day & Registration
- Visit of Fo Guang Shan Temple
- Welcome Dinner

Friday 5 May - Opening Ceremony
- Key note lecture - **Religions vs Fanaticism**
- Jumah prayer (Muslim prayer)
- Presentations on the philosophy and practices of each religion (in small groups)
- Shabat

Saturday 6 May - Jewish prayer
- Key note lecture - **The Social Impact of Scouting on Justice, Equality and Peace**
- Workshops on what Justice/Equality/Peace means for each religion
- Demonstration and participation in educational activities for spiritual development
- Interreligious service

Sunday 7 May - Christian prayer
- Key note lecture - **Scouting and Spiritual Development**
- Study visit (outside of the temple)

Monday 8 May - Buddhist prayer
- Workshops on educational and training tools to prepare leaders to be active educators in spiritual development
- Report and discussions in plenary
- Open forum
- Conclusions
- Closing Ceremony

Tuesday 9 May - Departure

Working methods

Working sessions for the 2nd WSIS will include plenary sessions (lectures, panel discussions and presentations including open floor discussions), and working in small groups. Participants are encouraged to use non-formal methods to continue discussions and to work at all the times of the gathering to consolidate relationships and co-operation between religions, regions, countries and organisations.

Translations services will be provided for all plenary sessions into English, French, Arabic, Spanish and Chinese. Working groups may be arranged around language groups if feasible.

Venue

The symposium will take place at Fo Guang Shan Temple, Kaoshiung, Taiwan.

This temple provides excellent facilities for plenary sessions, workshops, small working groups and discussions room.

All participants will be accommodated at the temple in shared rooms (twin beds).

Meals will also be held at the temple. Only vegetarian food will be served except during off-site visits.

Participants profile

Chief Scouts, International Commissioners, National Programme Commissioners, religious chaplains and advisors and other leaders with an interest in Spiritual and Religious Education as part of the Scout programme and as a priority of the World Organization of the Scout Movement are welcome to join this event.

Visa application

Current visa information for entry into Taiwan can be obtained from the R.O.C. Ministry of Foreign Affairs at the following address: <http://www.boca.gov.tw/>

Registration

200 USD per person includes food, 5 nights accommodation, programme and transport on Thursday 4 May and Tuesday 9 May 2006, from and to Taipei and Kaoshiung airports and train stations. Please send registration forms to the addresses below no later than **Friday 31 March 2006**.

Optional tours

Optional tours may be organised upon request. If you are interested, please contacts the Scouts of China.

Organisers

The WSIS is being organised by the World Scout Interreligious Forum and being hosted by the General Association of the Scouts of China (Taiwan) and Fo Guang Shan Temple. Members of the Planning Committee represent the International Union of Muslim Scouts (IUMS), the International Conference of Catholic Scouts (ICCS), the International Link of Orthodox Christian Scouts (DESMOS), the World Buddhist Scout Brotherhood (WBSB), the Won Buddhism, the International Forum of Jewish Scouts (IFJS), and Council of Protestants in Guiding and Scouting (CPGS).

Contacts

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