



RELIGION AND PEACE



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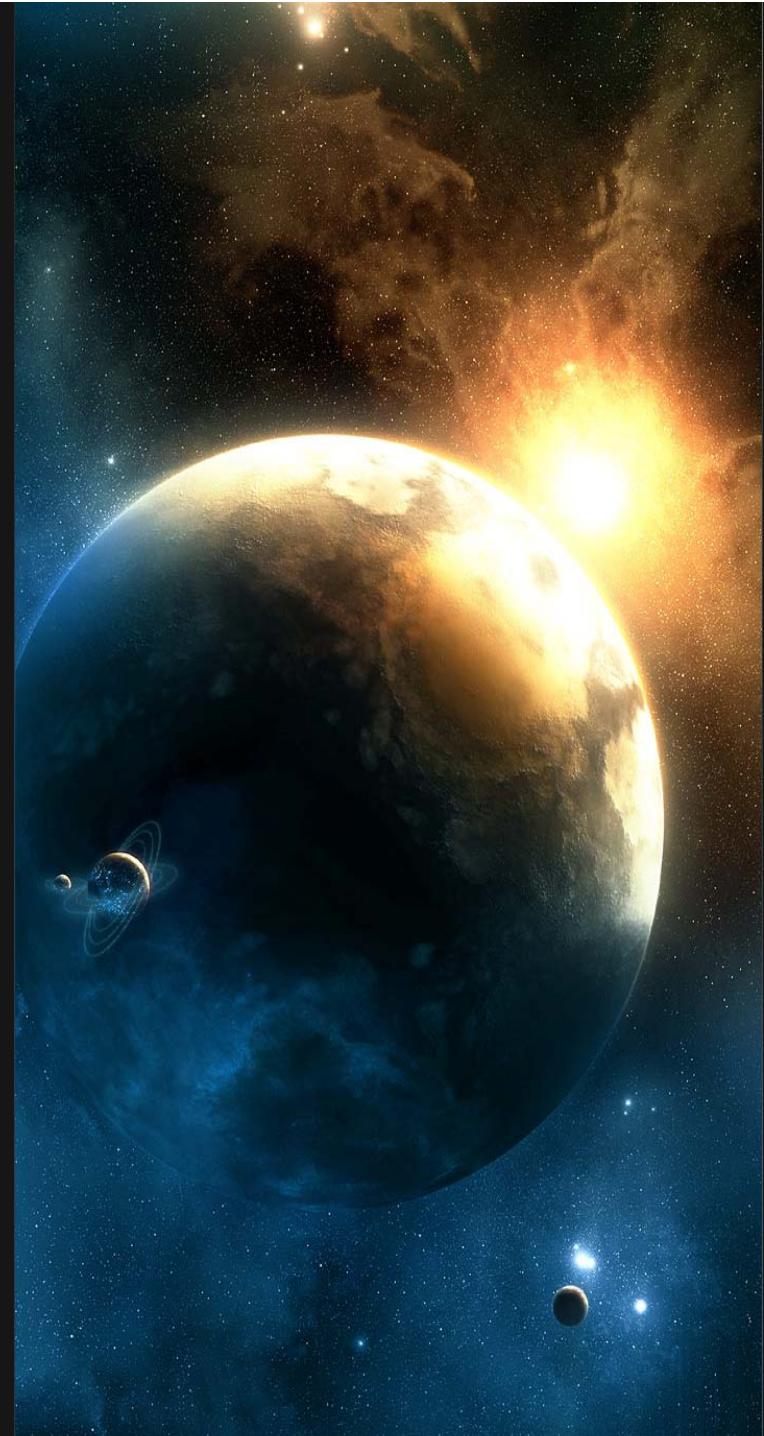


**No JUSTICE,
No PEACE**

***'There will be no peace
among the nations
without peace
among the religions.***

***'There will be no peace
among the religions
without dialogue
among the religions'***

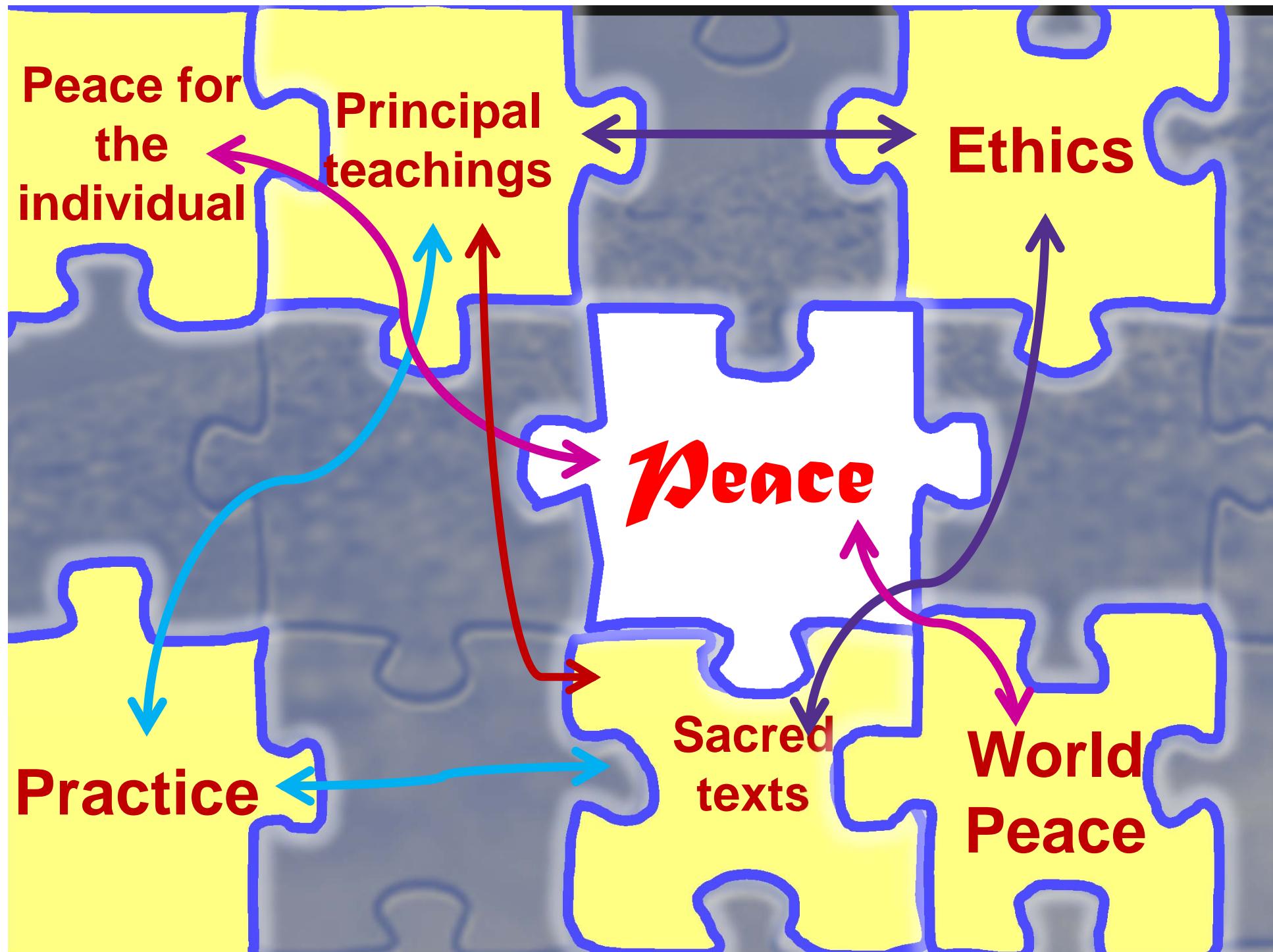
Hans Kung, Christian Theologian



Aim for today

- Review syllabus requirements
- Provide some guidelines on content
- Focus on Christianity, Islam, Judaism
- Explore some of the ‘harder’ concepts
- Consider possibilities for Trial and HSC

Ultimately peace is concerned with right relationship



The Syllabus

Investigate the understanding of peace and how it is informed through **significant writings** within sacred texts for TWO religious traditions drawn from:

Buddhism – Sutta Pitaka, Dhammapada

Christianity – the New Testament

Hinduism – Bhagavad Gita

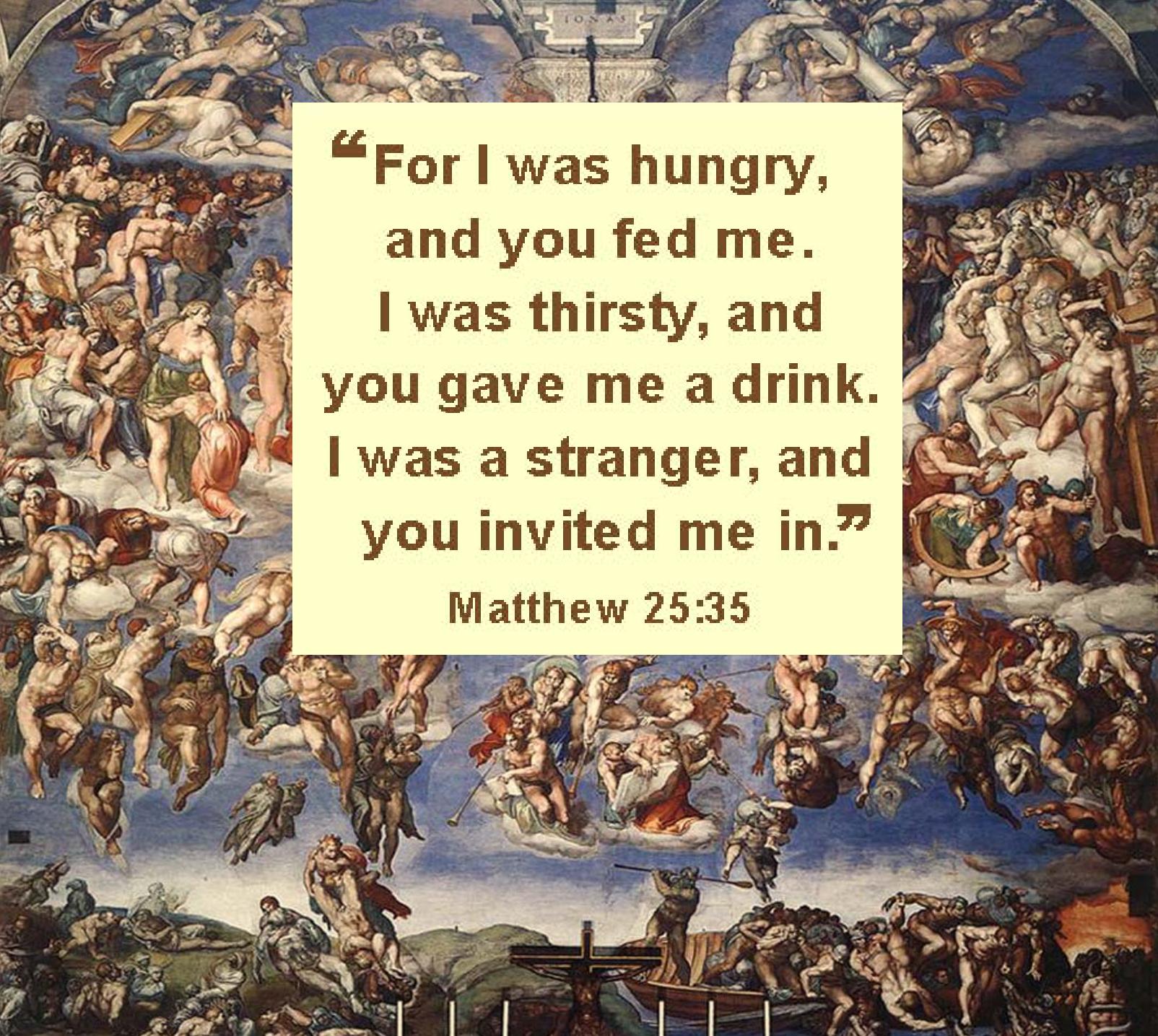
Islam – Qur'an and Hadith

Judaism – the Prophetic vision of peace on Earth

*'The Spirit of the Lord is
upon me,
for God has anointed me.
He has sent me to bring
good news to the poor,
to proclaim liberty
to captives
new sight to the blind
and freedom to prisoners.
To announce a year of
favour from the Lord.'*

Luke 4:18-19



The background image is a reproduction of Michelangelo's fresco 'The Last Judgment' from the Sistine Chapel. It depicts a chaotic scene of the final judgment where the dead rise from their graves. In the center, Christ sits enthroned, surrounded by angels and saints. The damned are being punished with fire and various torments, while the saved are being welcomed into heaven. The scene is filled with muscular figures in various states of torment or salvation.

**“For I was hungry,
and you fed me.
I was thirsty, and
you gave me a drink.
I was a stranger, and
you invited me in.”**

Matthew 25:35

BLESSED ARE THEM THAT

BLESSED ARE THOSE WHO INHERIT THE KINGDOM OF HEAVEN.

BLESSED ARE THOSE WHO ARE MERCIFUL.

BLESSED ARE THOSE WHO PEACEKEEPERS.

BLESSED ARE THOSE WHO ARE HUNGRY AND THIRSTY FOR RIGHTEOUSNESS.

BLESSED ARE THOSE WHO ARE MOURNING.

BLESSED ARE THOSE WHO ARE PERSECUTED.

BLESSED ARE THOSE WHO ARE MERCIFUL.

BLESSED ARE THOSE WHO PEACEKEEPERS.

BLESSED ARE THOSE WHO ARE HUNGRY AND THIRSTY FOR RIGHTEOUSNESS.

BLESSED ARE THOSE WHO ARE MOURNING.

BLESSED ARE THOSE WHO ARE PERSECUTED.

Peter came to Jesus and asked, ‘Lord, how many times shall I forgive those who sin against me? Up to seven times?’

Jesus replied, ‘I tell you, not seven times, but seventy-seven times.’

Matthew 18:21-22



Archbishop Desmond Tutu

Christianity: Text ↔ Belief

The New Testament	Link to principal beliefs
<p>Aim for perfection, listen to my appeal, be of one mind, live in peace. And the God of love and peace will be with you.</p> <p>2 Corinthians 13:11</p> <p>http://www.tniv.info/bible/</p>	<p>Christians are required to seek reconciliation over retaliation. The death of Jesus was the ultimate symbol of this belief.</p> <p><i>Redemption - Salvation</i></p>

Islam
Salaam ~ Peace



Ar-Rahim ~
The All-Merciful

'In the name of Allah,
most Gracious,
most Compassionate'
Bismillah

'And the servants of the Beneficent God
are they who walk on the earth in
humbleness, and when the ignorant
address them, they say, 'Peace'

Surah 25:63



**'Have you seen the one who denies the Recompense?
For that is the one who drives away the orphan
And does not encourage the feeding of the poor.**

**So woe to those who pray
but who are heedless of their prayer –
those who make show of their deeds
and withhold simple assistance.'** Surah 107:1-7



Islam : Text ↔ Belief

Qur'an and Hadith	Link to principal beliefs
<p>'O mankind! We created you from a single pair of a male and a female, and made you into nations and tribes, so that you may know each other. Verily the most honored of you in the sight of Allah is one who is the most righteous of you...'</p> <p style="text-align: right;">Surah 49:13</p>	<p>This text combines two points that are essential to an understanding of peace within Islam:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Allah is the one and only Creator who made all humankind.• As a result of a common origin in Adam and Eve there is an inherent unity existing between all people. This unity is to be expressed in harmonious and respectful relationships.
<p>'None of you truly believes until he wishes for his brother what he wishes for himself.'</p> <p style="text-align: right;">Imam Al-Nawawi's Forty Hadiths, No. 13</p>	<p>The ethic of reciprocity is central to this text. A Muslim cannot be faithful to Allah without taking into consideration the needs of others. Only when each cares for the other can true peace be attained. The Pillar of Zakat highlights the centrality of this teaching as it is a requirement to provide just assistance to those in need.</p>



And they shall beat their swords into plowshares, and their spears into pruning hooks; nation shall not lift up sword against nation, neither shall they learn war anymore.

Isaiah 2:4 and Micah 4:3



"Peace, peace to the distant and the close"
Isaiah 57:19

Pirkei Avot

Ethics of the Fathers



פרק אבות

Hillel says: “Be among the disciples of Aaron, loving peace and pursuing peace...”

Ethics of the Fathers 1:12

Outline the principal teachings about peace in TWO religious traditions

Christianity: the divinity and humanity of Jesus Christ, the death and resurrection of Jesus Christ, the nature of God and the Trinity, Revelation, Salvation

Islam: the articles of faith explained in the Aqida as: Tawhid, Angels, Books of Allah, Rusul, Akhira Qadar

Judaism: one God – creator of the universe, Covenant, divinely inspired moral law,

Christianity

Peace ... is rightly and appropriately called "an enterprise of justice" (Is 32:7). Peace results from that harmony built into human society by its divine founder, and actualized by people as they thirst after ever greater justice.

Gaudiem et spes, n 78

War is a defeat for humanity

Pope John Paul II

www.catholicsforanend.org

'War as a method of settling international disputes is incompatible with the teaching and example of Our Lord Jesus Christ'

Lambeth Conference of Anglican Bishops



Tawhid

The Governing Principle of Islam

Tawhid is the oneness and greatness of Allah over all creation expressed in the central prayer and statement of faith of Islam, the ***Shahada***:

*La ilaha ila illah;
Muhammadun rasul allah*
There is no god but Allah
and Muhammad is His
Prophet

There is no difference between the sacred and secular realms of life. All of life is worship and service of the one and only God, the creator and ruler of the universe.

Allah is not only great, but compassionate and merciful. It is the duty of all followers to give thanks and obedience for all that Allah has provided.

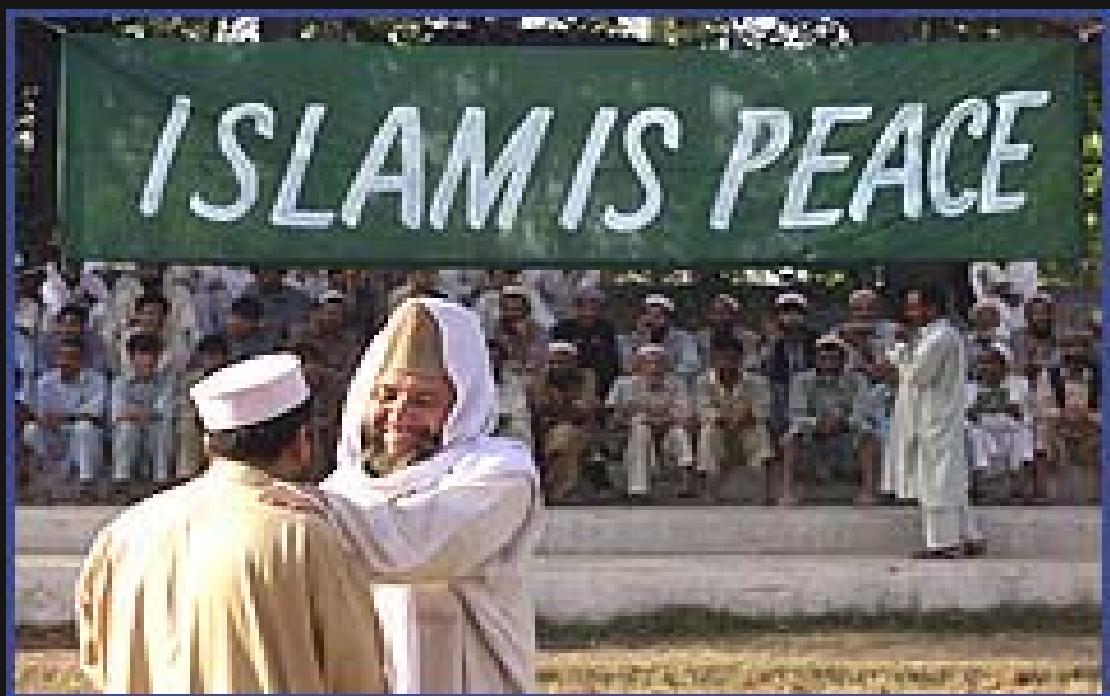
Qadar “to measure” or “amount”.

- In the Islamic terminology, **qadar** means that God, through His infinite knowledge, knows and specifies all beings and events together with their states and attributes, all the powers & abilities they possess and the times and places they all enter into existence.
- The word **qada'**, means that having been determined in pre-eternity, everything emerges into the present realm of existence through the creative power of God Almighty.

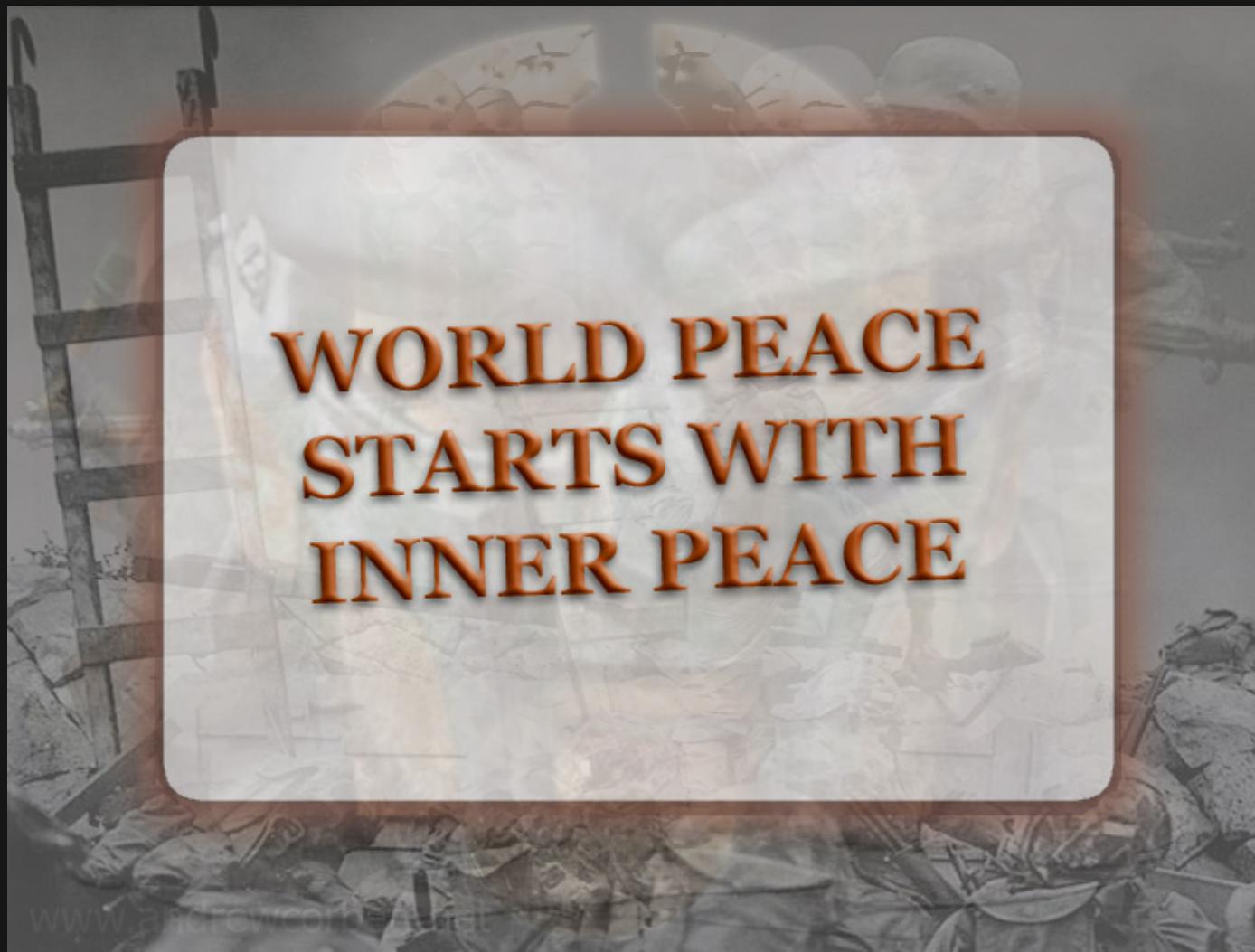
- **‘Ata’** is the concept which means that having been determined in pre-eternity, God may change a particular event or determination in a favourable way for humans as a Divine Favour.
- Free will is God’s gift to humankind. Submission = ‘entering into God’s peace’.
- Humans are challenged to make choices that work in harmony with the Divine determination = work for the common good of humanity.

*Three things cannot be retrieved:
The arrow once sped from the bow.
The word spoken in haste.
The missed opportunity.*

Ali ibn Abi Talib, Caliph



Demonstrate how TWO religious traditions guide the individual in achieving inner peace





**What is this
mysterious
thing called
'inner peace'?**

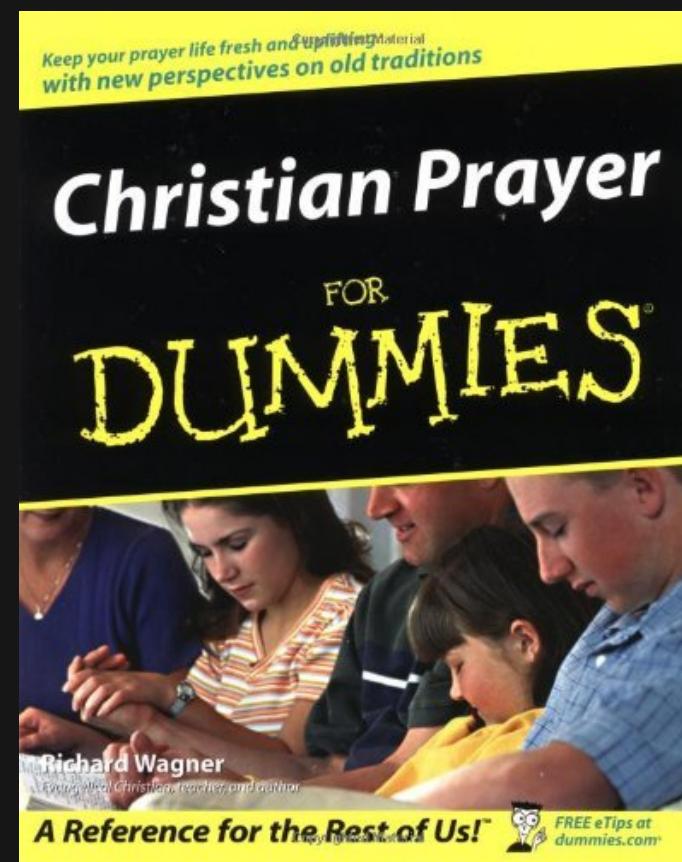
A task for you ...

1. In pairs explain what you understand by the concept of 'inner peace'.
2. For each of the religions you are studying provide one SPECIFIC example of how they assist adherents in attaining inner peace as you understand it.
3. 5 minutes!



The World Community for Christian Meditation

A black iPhone is shown displaying the app's interface. The screen shows a list of items under the heading "Rituale". The items listed are: "Mystica passio in vita secunda", "Mystica lumina in vita certa", "Mystica dulcedo in vita terrena", "Mystica gloria in vita apertae", and "Corona Gloriosa Missericordie". At the bottom of the screen, there is a button labeled "Domi Offerte". To the right of the phone, the text "Prayer iPhoneApp" is displayed, followed by a "Available on the iPhone App Store" button with an icon of an iPhone.



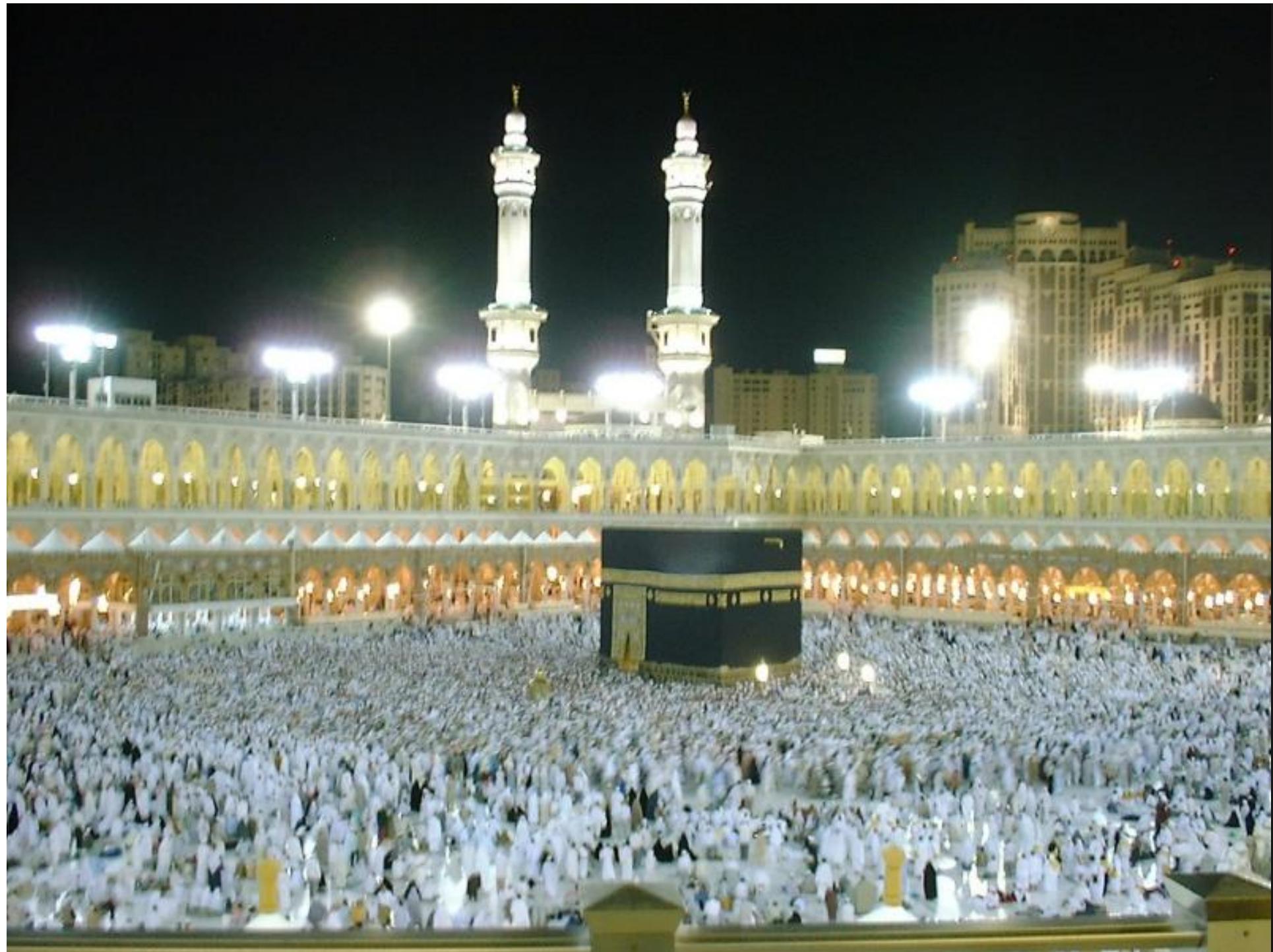
Islam

jihad bil nafs - Striving with the self



'The first and most essential jihad which the Muslim must carry on is within himself in the never-ceasing effort at self-improvement and self-purification.'

Suzanne Haneef







Community

Discuss how TWO religious traditions are contributing to world peace



<http://www.imamsrabbisforpeace.org>

Approaching the concept of 'world' peace

The sacred texts and principal beliefs of religious traditions promote the concept of world peace, however, each does so according to its particular spheres of influence.

As a result no one religion will have total global influence and advocacy. Actions will often be limited to a particular initiative or region.

Students should alert the examiner to their understanding of the complexity of this area of study. They should not talk in generalisations about a universal impact that is generally *not the reality*.



Christian
Peacemaker
Teams

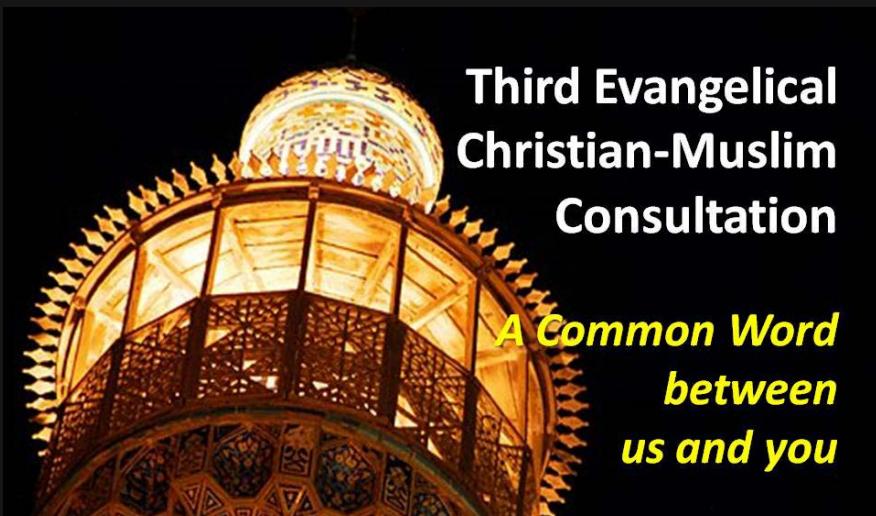
What would happen if Christians devoted the same discipline and self-sacrifice to nonviolent peacemaking that armies devote to war?

Christian Peacemaker Teams

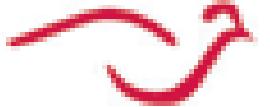
<http://www.cpt.org/>

THE OFFICIAL WEBSITE OF
A COMMON WORD

الموقع الرسمي لـ
أيام مشتركة



**ARMS
DOWN!**

Religions for Peace 
CAMPAIGN FOR SHARED SECURITY

Religions for Peace is the largest international coalition of representatives from the world's great religions dedicated to promoting peace.

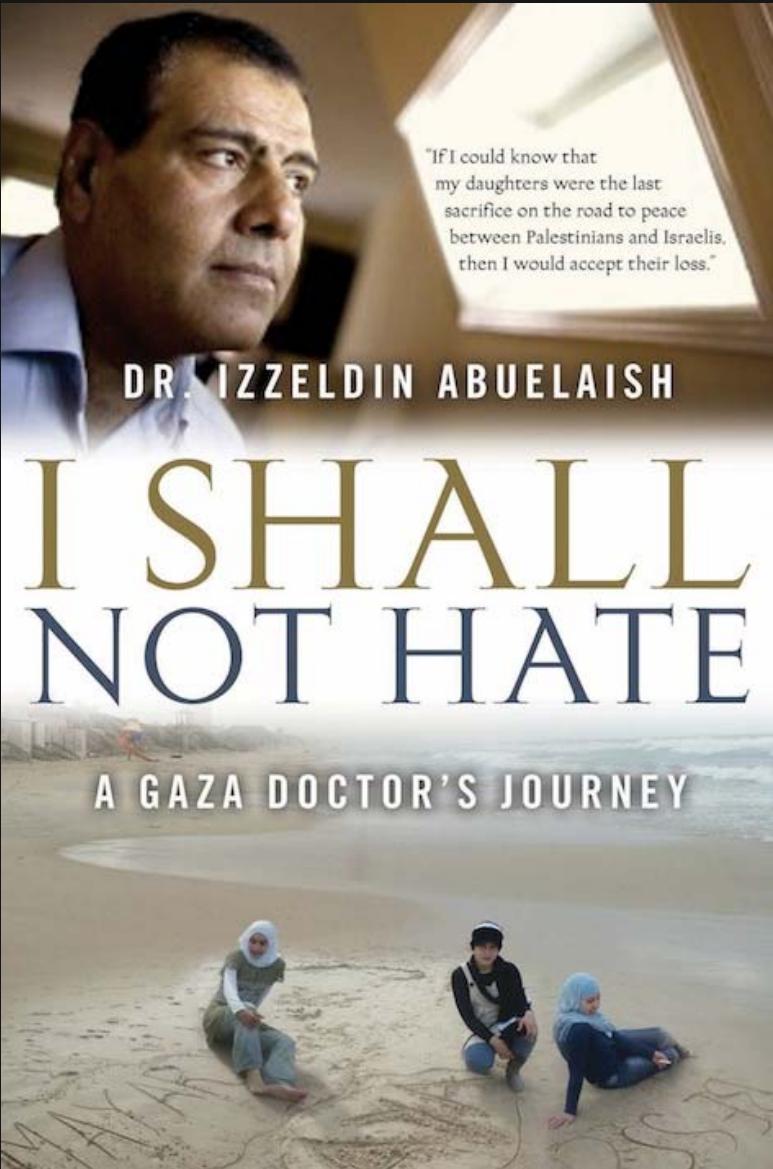
Respecting religious differences while celebrating our common humanity, *Religions for Peace* is active on every continent and in some of the most troubled areas of the world.

<http://www.wcrp.org>

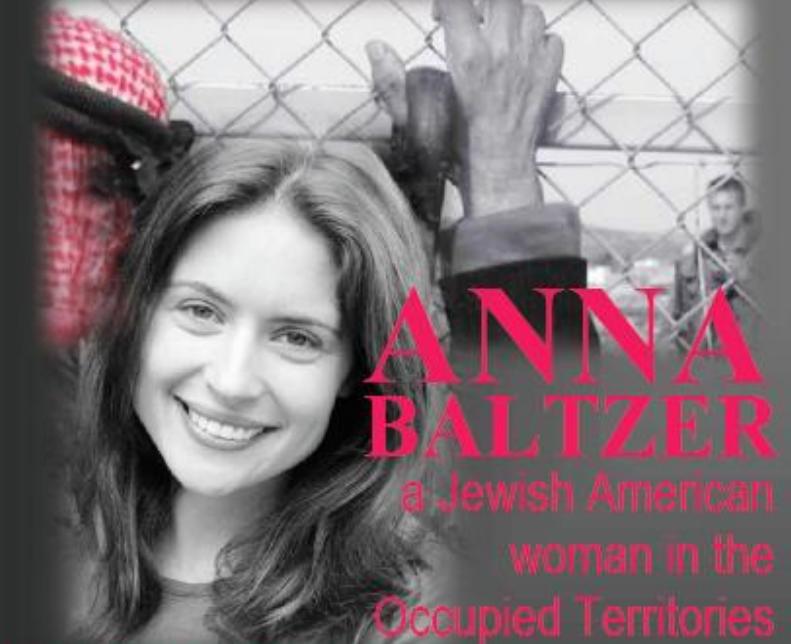


The Jewish Peace Fellowship unites those who believe that Jewish ideals and experience provide inspiration for a nonviolent commitment to life. Drawing upon the traditional roots of Judaism and upon its meaning in the world today, the JPF maintains an active program of draft and peace education, opposition to war and belief in the reconciliation of Israel, Jews and Palestinians. It also aids and supports those who, in a spirit of nonviolence, address themselves to the remaking of a more peaceful society.

Jewish Peace Fellowship



WITNESS IN PALESTINE



COME AND HEAR HER STORIES AND SEE HER PHOTOS

The granddaughter of Holocaust refugees, Anna is a Columbia graduate, former-Fulbright scholar, an award-winning lecturer, author and activist for Palestinian rights.

Thursday 28 October 2010, 7.00pm

VENUE: The Chapel, Melbourne City Conference Centre
333 Swanston Street, Melbourne City (corner Little Lonsdale Street)

ENTRY: \$10 min donation **RSVP:** info@australiansforpalestine.com



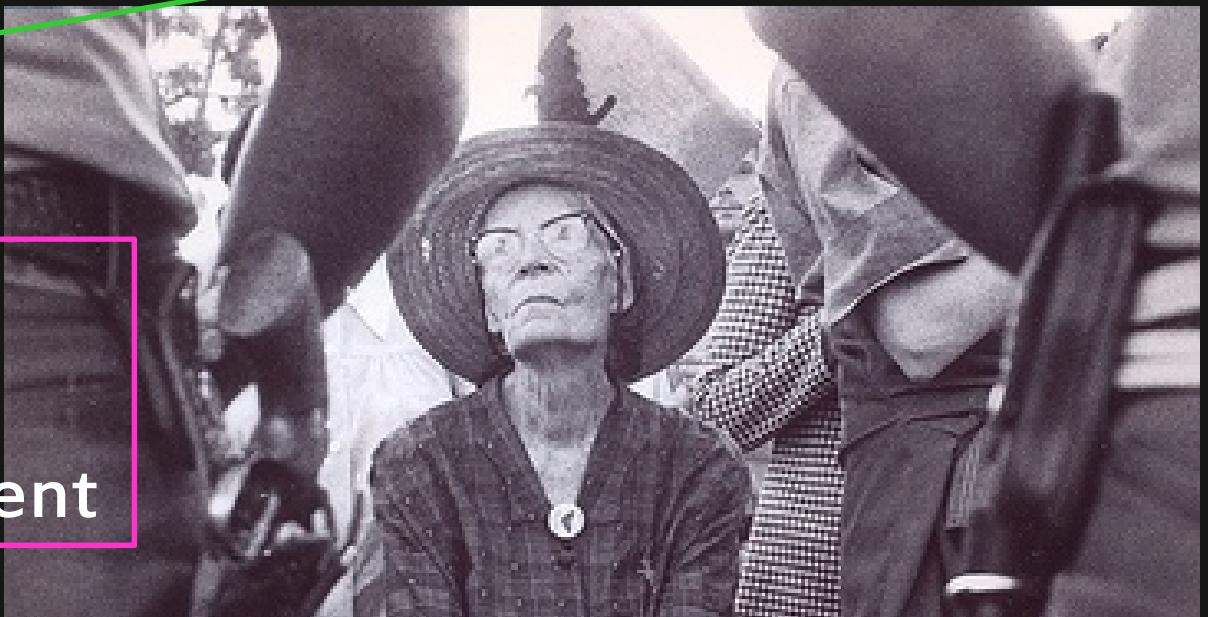
Co-sponsored with STUDENTS FOR PALESTINE
and THE VICTORIAN TRADES HALL COUNCIL
www.australiansforpalestine.com

Archbishop Oscar
Romero

Pope John Paul II

Archbishop Desmond Tutu

Dorothy Day
The Catholic
Worker Movement



The Exam ...

- 2007: Explain how the understanding of peace is expressed through sacred texts in TWO religious traditions.
- 2008: To what extent are the principal teachings about peace in ONE religious tradition reflected in that tradition's contribution to world peace?
- 2009: (Considering Dawkins' claims about the role of religion in conflict and war), evaluate the principal teachings about peace in ONE religious tradition.
- 2010: (With reference to the quotation), critically evaluate the distinctive response of TWO religious traditions to the issue of inner and/or world peace.

■ 2011 Analyse the distinctive response of TWO religious traditions to the issue of peace by linking their relevant sacred texts to their principal teachings.



Bawa Jain
Secretary General of the
World Council of Religious
Leaders

**'Every person can be a diplomat for peace.
Everyone can be a religious leader.
Don't be afraid. We have so much to gain.'**

**Let's educate children to see religion as a
source of harmony, not division.'**

Bawa Jain
Easter Sunday 2012



“It is so much harder for our children growing up in Bradford than it was for me. People call out to them ‘get out Paki, get out Bin Laden’.

99.99% of Muslims just want to live in peace with their neighbours like everybody else. I do everything I can to help my community ... no one is ever going to hear my voice.”



There is no path to peace; peace is the path.

