

## **Religions for Understanding**

AN UNPRECEDENTED DIALOGUE AT THE UNITED NATIONS, ORGANIZED AND MODERATED BY MRS.(SALWA) KADER (US FEDERATION FOR MIDDLE EAST PEACE), FREELY AND UNILATERALLY PROMOTED SOLIDARITY BETWEEN MUSLIM AND JEWISH MEN AND WOMEN OF GOD FROM 13 EUROPEAN COUNTRIES.

A PRESTIGIOUS MEMBER OF THE INTEFAITH DELEGATION WAS QUOTED TO SAY, "THIS WAS THE MOST PHENOMANALLY SUCCESSFUL INTERFAITH DIALOGUE BETWEEN MUSLIMS AND JEWS THAT I HAVE SEEN IN THIS DECADE". THE ORGANIZERS WERE ADVISED THAT THE US FEDERATION FOR MIDDLE EAST PEACE EVENT WAS THE HIGHLIGHT OF THEIR TRIP TO THE UNITED STATES.

MODESTLY PUBLICIZED, THE MEETING OF MORE THAN 30 RABBIS AND IMAMS AFFECTED PACTS OF HUMANITARIANISM AND SPIRITUAL ONENESS. OVERCOMING LACK OF ETHICS AMONG THE PERIPHERY, SO HIGHLIGHTED BY THE MEDIA, THESE RABBIS AND IMAMS REMAINED ON TRACK WITH THEIR SEARCH FOR THE COMMON GOOD AND THEIR COMMON BOND OF FAITH IN GOD.

WITH THE ONSET OF RAMADAN FORTHCOMING AND ROSHASHONA (DAY OF ATONEMENT), THESE MEN BROKE BREAD AND OPENED THEIR HEARTS TO A FORTHRIGHT DIALOGUE IN CONNECTION WITH THE NEIGHBORLY BROTHERHOOD THAT THEY ALL FEEL COMPELLED TO ANNOUNCE AMIDST THE BACKDROP OF HORRORS COMMITTED BY THE FANATICAL FRINGE.

MRS. KADER WAS CONGRATULATED BY THE SECRETARY GENERAL'S REPRESENTATIVE (MICHAEL MYERS) WHO, PARTICIPATED IN THE DIALOGUE, WELCOMING RABBIS AND IMAMS AND THANKING MRS. KADER PROFUSELY FOR HER PEACE INITIATIVES AND FOR BRINGING THE HISTORICALLY OPPOSED GROUPS TO THE TABLE FOR THE COMMON GOAL OF PEACE.

THIS WAS STRONGLY REITERATED BY THE VERY POPULAR NEWLY APPOINTED HUMAN RIGHTS ADVOCATE, RUSSEL SIMMONS WHO SPOKE DIRECTLY TO THE INHERIT BROTHERHOOD OF MAN AND THE SPIRITUAL ONENESS OF THESE TWO ABRAHAMIC MONOTHEISTIC FAITHS WHOSE TENANTS OF BELIEF ARE SO CLOSELY IDENTICAL. MR. SIMMONS SAID HOW IMPOSSIBLE IT SEEMINGLY SHOULD BE NOT TO AGREE. SEEDS WERE PLANTED SOTHAT ALL THAT SHOULD BE NEEDED IS TO JOIN HEARTS, INTENTIONS AND PRAYERS.

THE IMAM SHAMSI ALI CALLED FOR GOD'S BLESSING AND VOICED THE SHARED VISION TO PROMOTE UNITY BETWEEN MUSLIMS AND JEWS.

BOTH SIDES SPOKE CLEARLY THAT GOD OPPOSES KILLING AND THAT GOD WANTS PEACE ESTABLISHED HERE AND NOW. THE MUSLIM IMAM SAID THAT WITH DESIRE, COOPERATION, AND GOD'S INTERVENTION, NOTHING IS IMPOSSIBLE.

Rabbi Schneier, President and Founder of The Foundation for Ethnic Understanding (FFEU) SPOKE OF ANTI-SEMITISM AND ANTI-ISLAMIC SENTIMENT BEING THE TWO EVILS THAT NEED TO BE

ELIMINATED. HE ASSERTED THAT DIALOGUE IS THE ONLY WAY TO PLANT SEEDS OF FRIENDSHIP, UNITY AND PEACE. HE TALKED OF HIS INITIATIVES AND SUCCESSES ALONG THOSE LINES.

ALL EMPHASIZED HOW WE NEED TO PRAY TOGETHER AND HOW WE ADMIT THAT WE NEED GOD'S HELP. WE NEED OPTIMISM.....THE SUN RISES EVERY DAY. WE NEED TO STAND BEHIND OUR WORDS AND OUR DEEDS AND COME TOGETHER IN A STATE OF COOPERATION.

MRS. KADER WAS RECOGIZED AND PRAISED FOR AN OPPORTUNITY TO ALLOW FOR THE VOICE OF MODERATION, COOPERATION AND PEACE TO RESOUND AT HER 7/20 UN INTERFAITH SESSION AND WITHIN THE WALLS OF THE UNITED NATIONS..