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12 December



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- France/Arc-en-ciel

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## Footsteps for peace bloomed in Fiji

An example presented to achieve peace amid chaos in every corner of the globe



People gathered for Peace Walk are laughing brightly.

On November 16th, the 550th birth anniversary of Guru Nanak, the founder of Sikhism, was celebrated in Suva, the capital of Fiji. Sikh believers in Suva held a Peace Walk together with the International Peace Youth Group (IPYG), which is an affiliate of Heavenly Culture, World Peace, Restoration of Light (HWPL), to increase awareness of the Declaration of Peace and Cessation of War (DPCW).

The declaration has been garnering support globally as it holds a concrete answer for peace and shares the spirit of peace Guru Nanak carried which called for equality and peace while opposing discrimination based on social class and ethnicity. Fiji is a country where Fijian natives, Indians, and Chinese immigrants live together, and where different languages, religions, and cultures exist. Hence, the Peace Walk held was not only a celebration of Sikhs but also a meaningful event at the country-level in Fiji.





Young people are posing in IPYG T-shirts.



People walking for peace

The Peace Walk was successfully held with approximately 370 peace-loving participants including followers of Sikhism, civilians of Fiji, various religious people, and members of the IPYG.

The Head Priest Preetam Singh Shokar of Sikhism devoted his time and effort to host the event and he stated that “HWPL Peace Walk in conjunction with SGPC (Shiromani Gurdwara Parbandhak Committee) Suva Fiji is a meaningful event for Fiji for setting examples of peace to the regions of chaos and conflicts such as Hongkong, Syria, Turkey, Kashmir, and others.”

The Head Priest had also given his remarks on the event that, “Message of peace and love by Guru Nanak Dev Ji is beyond faith, background, wealth and gender. Therefore, partnering with HWPL and DPCW initiatives for peace is very timely and meaningful.”

Jone Etuate, who is a member of the IPYG that joined the walk, expressed his joy by saying that, “The Peace Walk was such a surreal experience. Being able to be there and be part of a cause towards a bigger goal really helped build up a sense of community partnership and cooperation.”

Through this successful event, numerous youth and civilians gathered as one with the heart to establish peace, and they plan to spearhead the efforts to realize peace by engaging in activities such as making peace mural paintings and planting peace trees.

The world continues to witness big and small conflicts taking place. Even in Fiji, there were disputes deriving from ethnic and religious issues, but through this Peace Walk, it was shown that they can overcome these problems and become one. We hope that this case of peace becomes a seed of hope which blossoms to into the flower of peace in many troubled areas of the world.





## Youth contemplates the meaning of the Taegeukgi and Peace

North and South, Let's Be "Us" Again 2 - Let's be Friends with Taegeukgi



Lecture on the meaning of the Korean flag and its history

The Incheon branch of the International Peace Youth Group(IPYG) held an event titled, "North and South, Let's Be 'Us' Again 2 - Let's be Friends with Taegeukgi" on 16 November 16<sup>th</sup> to remember and awaken the value and pride Koreans take in their flag, Taegeukgi.

The event, attended by over 50 high school students from IPYG Supporters, offered a special lecture on the history of the Taegeukgi for people to learn about Korean history and the set of values Koreans have been pursuing and to rethink the value of peace and loving the nation. There were also recreational activities and events where participants made keychains or acrostic poems with the word Taegeukgi

The first part of the event was a special lecture from Mr. Hwang Sun-ki, the Chairman of the Central Movement Association for the Exaltation of the Taegeukgi Corp., with the theme of 'Finding Peace and Unification in the Taegeukgi.'

Chairman Hwang explained, "During the Japanese colonialism, patriotic martyrs fought for the freedom to freely wave the hand-made Korean flags Taegeukgis.

The spirit and the value of Taegeukgi carries are being put on the back burner as old-fashioned compared to the media overflowing with information and interesting things." He also added "The Korean flag and patriotism, protected with the tears and blood of the patriots who gave up their lives for the country, are the key values that the youth, who are the leaders of the future, must keep in mind." Mr. Hwang's lecture, spoken from the perspective of the martyrs, reminded the attending youths of Korea's history and the love for the country.



Korean independence fighters

In the 2nd part of the event, there was a talk concert held under the theme of “Peace and Unification Achieved Through Youth.” At the venue, Coordinator Jeong Bong-geun from the Incheon branch of the IPYG spoke on what peace is to him as a youth living in Korea, the only country that remains divided. He also explained what kind of mindset we need as we carry on our lives, and the pride and set of values we should be equipped with as Koreans. In particular, he highlighted that we need to empower ourselves to contemplate on and achieve peaceful unification together as youths.



Making keychains with Taegeukgi

Ms. Jin Hye-Jeong, one of the IPYG Supporters at the event, said in an interview, “I thought I knew well how to draw Taegeukgi since I learned about it when I was young. I was embarrassed to find out that I didn’t know the meaning of the colors of the flag as well as the four black trigrams, geon, ri, gam, and gon.” She gave further comments saying, “I should first understand the spirit and the value of Taegeukgi and think about its meaning when hoisting it so that I can call myself a true Korean who can explain these to young children later on.”

The event was held as a celebration of the “North and South, Let’s Be ‘US’ Again 2,” which was a campaign for peaceful unification of the Korean Peninsula launched in February 2019. The campaign’s purpose was to help youth, who will be the leaders of the future and the Korean Peninsula, grow a decent mindset, love for the nation, and the strength to achieve harmony and peaceful unification between the North and the South. The campaign exhibited a wide range of themes such as peaceful unification, growing a love for our nation, etc. The Incheon branch of the IPYG will continue to collaborate with the Central Movement Association for the Exaltation of the Taegeukgi Corp. in the future to have youth contemplate on the meaning of the Korean flag, and understand the value of loving our nation and achieving peace.



Youth shouting hooray while holding Taegeukgi

# Feature Article 2



## Puzzles of Peace Come Together until a Beautiful World Is Achieved

### The puzzles of peace were put together in Hong Kong

Even in the chaotic atmosphere caused by the Hong Kong Protest with the Fugitive Offenders Amendment Bill that began early this year, a Peace Puzzle Design Workshop was held in a seminar room of St. Barnabas Society and Home, Hong Kong. St. Barnabas Society and Home, one of the well-known non-profit organizations in Hong Kong, is devoted to the welfare and protection of the poor and homeless. At this event, 38 elementary school students who live in Hong Kong participated. There was a cultural activity where each student wrote a phrase about peace on each piece of puzzle, and they completed the puzzles together.

A graduate student who volunteered for this event, Ms. Mengxia Gao said, “I thought this event was a creative method to spread a message of peace. I kept my eyes on the children during the workshop and they were really having fun at the event.” Ms. Mengxia Gao wanted to plan additional programs with the IPYG that can be done with the students. Also, they are planning to organize a peace event together in December.

The participants evaluated this workshop by saying, “This event was meaningful in that it created an opportunity to instill the value of peace to the children in Hong Kong while the political confrontation in Hong Kong society is growing sharp.” We expect to see this peace movement initiated by St. Barnabas Society and Home together with the IPYG bring peace to the family and society in Hong Kong in the near future.



Children and volunteers working on puzzles



Children in Hong Kong gathered at St. Barnabas Home and Society to listen to their explanations.



Photos after the Peace Puzzle Design Workshop



# Feature Article 3

## IPYG Spreads a Culture of Peace in Romania



Heavenly Culture, World Peace, Restoration of Light (HWPL) organized an event “HWPL Korean Culture Exhibition” in Romania for 10 days from October 14th to 24th, 2019. This event was planned to introduce Korean culture to the citizens as well as to spread peace in Tirgu Mures City

In the booths, the reality of the division of the Korean peninsula was introduced, and it raised awareness on the necessity of achieving peaceful unification of the Korean Peninsula and world peace.

For this, citizens must support and urge for the implementation of the DPCW, and this was also introduced to them. In response to this, 103 citizens of Romania participated in the signature campaign of the DPCW saying,

“Romania also supports the peaceful unification of the Korean Peninsula, and will take the lead in achieving world peace.”

Mr. Dorin Florea, the mayor of Tirgu Mures City, participated in the event and said,

“This exhibition is the result of the partnership between South Korea and Tirgu Mures City, and we would like to have more cultural exchange with South Korea.”

In May last year, Tirgu Mures City signed an MOU with HWPL and established a firm partnership, and the mayor of Tirgu Mures City was appointed as the HWPL Publicity Ambassador. In the future,

Tirgu Mures City plans to do various activities such as cultural exchange, drawing contest, peace education, and more with HWPL to create Tirgu Mures City into a city of peace.





# Romanian Youth Support the DPCW for World Peace



Youth in Tirgu Mures City Signing in Support of the DPCW



Youth in Tirgu Mures City Taking a Commemorative Photo with the DPCW Props



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# Amanullah Hotak

Organization of Local Services and  
Future Generations (OLSFG) Executive Director



## **Q1. What activities are taking place in Afghanistan for peace?**

I am collaborating with youth who will lead the future to bring about peace and development within Afghanistan. I worked with the youth in the Kapisa province in order to help them learn peace-building skills such as dialogue, negotiation, mediation, and conflict resolution, and apply them in daily life. There are many internal conflicts taking place in other regions including Tagab, Alasa, and Nijrab; so I am working with the youth in Khogyani, Shirzard, Behsood, and Surkhurd districts in the Nangarhar province to teach them peace-building skills, as well as management and leadership.

Students from different education centers and universities, including Nangarhar University, are learning how to mitigate corruption, and how regional communities and the government can negotiate and collaborate together. In universities, we are teaching students from conflict-ridden regions on how to love peace and turn their back against conflict.

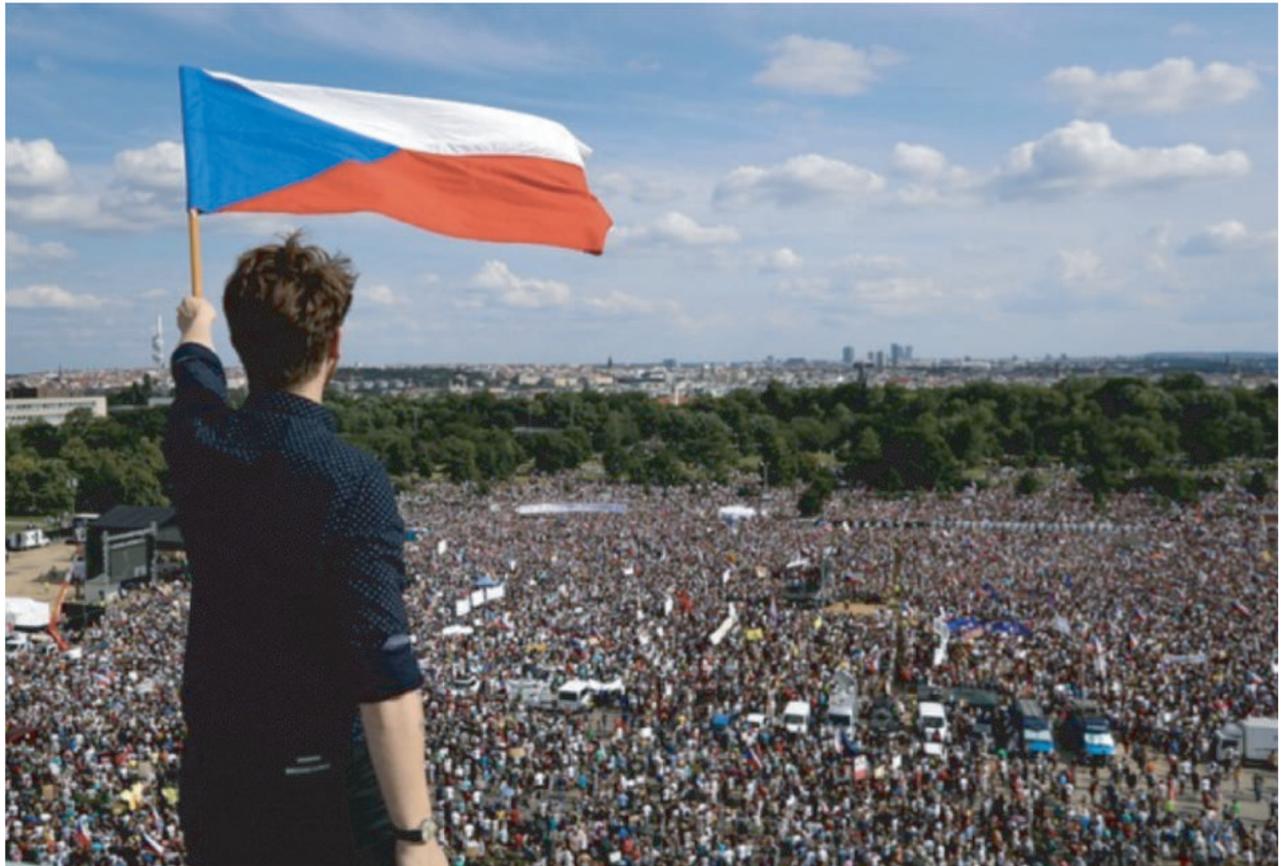
## **Q2. Which IPYG activities have you participated in, and why do you work with the IPYG?**

First, I worked as a member of the Afghanistan Peace House, which is a group of social organization leaders who support HWPL and IPYG, to host the Sneakers of Peace event that wishes for peace with various ethnic groups within Afghanistan. I have also made many efforts to publicize HWPL and IPYG's peace work, such as displaying the True Story of HWPL at public libraries and meeting with the Minister of Information and Culture.

I work with IPYG for peace because IPYG and HWPL have strong international peace-related ties with governments around the world, as well as NGOs. These ties are necessary in restoring peace on a global level, our common goal.

# Affiliates Update

## The DPCW Legislate Peace Signature Campaign as a Part of the 30th Anniversary of the Velvet Revolution Event



An event to commemorate the 30th anniversary of the Velvet Revolution that took place in 1989 was held at Albertov Charles University in Prague, Czech Republic on November 17th, 2019. The Velvet Revolution was a non-violent movement that removed the communist party from power in Czechoslovakia, and it is considered one of the major events in democratizing East Europe.

The event was hosted by Albertov Charles University to commemorate the history of the Czech Republic, and to emphasize the importance of a civic society built on freedom. The IPYG was given an opportunity to publicize the Declaration of Peace and Cessation of War (DPCW) as an organization that works for peace with civic society.



# Spreading a culture of peace at the Velvet Revolution commemoration

Many students attended to celebrate the anniversary of the 1989 Velvet Revolution, and representatives from different schools also gave presentations. The event began with singing Gaudeamus, the Czech national anthem.



IPYG youths promoting DPCW in booths

Once the event began, the IPYG booth explained the DPCW and asked the attendees to join the Legislate Peace Signature campaign. The booth also shared the activities of the IPYG, and many agreed that the IPYG's activities were necessary to bring about peace. Some showed their concerns of whether the president would support it, but they still agreed that the implementation of the DPCW was possible with the support of civic society, just as the Velvet Revolution, and as a result, the booth gathered 71 signatures of support as well as peace letters.

The event included a march to remember the Velvet Revolution, along with performances of students from Albertov Charles University, and many media outlets came to cover the event.

Thousands of Czech students attended to commemorate the victory of a new era and many of them realized the necessity of the DPCW. Just as the Velvet Revolution was led by the power of civic society, it seems that peace activities have endless potential if they have with the support of civic society.



Citizens who attended the Velvet Revolution ceremony listening to the description of DPCW.



Citizens Signing for DPCW



DPCW signatures received from citizens



## NEW MEMBERS



I would like to keep peace through our Rwanda Circus Parades. Also, I hope that there would be peace everywhere in our country. Not forgetting that, IPYG could help us to find out who we are and to grow as a peace organization. .

Rwanda\_Rwanda Le Cirque Du Sole

My full name is Giorgi Germesashvili, I am student of Tbilisi state university and I am major at political science I come from Georgia, the country with long history and rich culture My country has always suffered from wars, clash of empires, soviet annexation and occupation Peace and liberty have always been special values for Georgian people(even Georgian toast master starts praising of peace on the feast) so peace and liberty have a special place in my heart too. During my membership of IPYG I'm going to do my best to add few or at least one brick to the building of peace, education and progress of the world. Thank you for trusting me I hope we will cooperate for better and progressive future.



Georgia\_Giorgi Germesashvili



Young Women/Men of Purpose believes that career development, responsible mentorship and guidance are three main aspects to ensuring that youth can provide for themselves and become purposeful. The challenges that we face in our world are always evolving, so YWOP is happy to be partnering with IPYG to do peace programming and to create ways for our youth to become leaders in their communities. Mentorship programming and knowledge sharing programs are activities that YWOP would like to see occur

JAMAICA\_Young Women/Men of Purposee

It's peaceful when you're alone,  
it's peaceful when you're two.  
We are one! It must be peaceful!

Korea\_Goodschoolgn





One Voice Youth Movement is a registered Non-Governmental Organization in Ghana which envision a society were youths are united and empowered to maximize their potentials to enhance positive change. Our organization is very popular and has over 430 members and thousand plus beneficiaries across the country (Ghana).

We are very glad to affiliate with International Peace Youth Group because without peace we cannot achieve our vision. When we read about IPYG, we were impressed to see their mission of uniting youth groups around the world to make the world a peaceful place for the current generation and generations yet unborn. The chairman Man Hee Lee has been an inspiration to us and constant contact with Robert Jeon, Giselle Moon and the North Busan IPYG family keeps us updated with every activity of the HWPL and IPYG. We are proud to be part of the achievements of this big global family. We reiterate our commitment to this lovely family and look forward to working on more partnership in the future.

Yes, we are one!! Long live HWPL! Long live One Voice Youth Movement!

Ghana/One Voice Youth Movement

We are very happy to be with IPYG. I hope peace comes to Syria through the cooperation of two groups. I'll urge Syrian youths to unite as one through IPYG' peace activities.

Syria /Jasmin city



Let's take this words "If you go alone, you will go faster, but if you want to go far, you will have to go together," and join hands with us to move toward a thousand years' future.

Korea\_ General Union of the Korean People for the Establishment of the Unification Foundation

I am please to join in IPYG. I am going to support the DPCW implementation in South Sudan and the world.

South Sudan /Junub Open Space



ELSA is a law student association where we also focus on promoting human rights and good cause. That's why we are happy to cooperate with IPYG which might take us one steo closer ti making the world a better place.

Czech Republic/ELSA Czech Republic



Arc-en-ciel is a student association. It is our duty to fight for peace and to defend the rights of everyone. We look forward to leading this fight with IPYG

France/Arc-en-ciel

Peace is for the good of others.

To fight for the promotion of peace in the world is also to satisfy the common and human desire for tranquillity and well-being. It is a great honour for AIEMEL to be a part of an association promoting peace.

France/AIEMEL



