

CONCEPT NOTE

2026 MILLENNIUM GLOBAL PEACE SUBMIT KOCHI, KERALA, INDIA

(FOR RELIGIOUS & SPIRITUAL LEADERS)

Silver Jubilee Celebrations

Together for Peace in Action, Through Meditation, Mediation and Celebration

PROJECT : ECO-SPIRITUAL PEACE TOURISM

1. **Happiness** can be achieved only when there is Peace & Prosperity
2. Peace & Prosperity can be achieved only through **Unity**
3. Unity can be achieved only through **Selfless Love, Sacrifice & Service**

Religions and Spiritual Leaders have a special responsibility for the well being of the human family and peace on earth

Introduction

Humanity stands at a critical juncture in history, one that calls for strong leadership to help set a new direction for society. Humanity today is going through a very critical stage in history. Wars, small and big are being fought by many countries all over the world. A third world war that can annihilate entire human race is a distant possibility. Out of the 193 Nations (UN member states), 121 Nations are at war and in conflicts, both external and internal.

The bewildered eyes of mankind are searching desperately for a NEW HOPE at the distant horizon. A civilization of love and culture of peace needs to be created.

The spiritually - inclined, environmentally conscious and peace-loving people of goodwill from all countries and religions have to unite to save the world from impending disasters. A RE-DISCOVERY AND A CONSCIOUS RETURN to the grace and truth as well as power and wisdom of God is the crying need of the era to save humanity from the impending disaster.

THE WORLD NEEDS A NEW VISION & MISSION FOR THE THIRD MILLENIUM (2000-3000)

The mission ahead of us today is not a political or economic task, but a religious and spiritual mission in which all religiously committed people of the world will have to join hands whole heartedly and prayerful with love, faith and joy.

RELIGIONS

In spite of many inadequacies and failures, religions have an Important role to play in helping humanity to grow in the path of truth, righteousness and peace.

However, most religions in the world today have lost their spiritual vitality and moral strength. A death and resurrection has become an imperative to the era for most of the religious traditions of humankind today.

INDIA

India is an ancient land of religions that has sought after God and Truth incessantly from the beginning of history. India has given birth to four world religions. (Hinduism Buddhism, Jainism and Sikhism) and has accepted all religious traditions of the world into her loving fold. India needs today more than ever before, the healing touch of the living spirit of God in the world to save humanity.

India is the only country in human history to win its political freedom following the path of non violence and self sacrificing love that was taught by Sadguru Jesus Christ and implemented by Mahatma Gandhi, the father of the nation.

Every nation, every religion as well as every community and every individual have a specific mission to fulfil in the divine providence.

Everything and everyone has a place and role in God's eternal plan. We are called to be united to one another with abiding love, guided by the Holy spirit of God. What is required today is a holistic vision followed up by a dedicated mission. This summit is for those how want to see a better tomorrow for Kerala, India and the World.

Nations of the world, especially the 'Advanced Nations' need to re-alien the modes of development. They need to respect the interdependent organic nature of the earth family. (Vasudhaiva Kutumbakam) - One Earth, One Family, One Future ! Only then can the nations of the world achieve their own peace and sustainable development.

THEME

Together, We form the Garden !

Together, Into the Future !

Together, For God, Man & Nations !

THE FIRST UN MILLENIUM WORLD PEACE SUMMIT

AUGUST 28 – 31, 2000, NEW YORK, USA

WHO ATTENDED?

One thousand of the world's leading religious and spiritual figures. Apart from His Holiness Pope John Paul II and The Most Reverend Dr. George Carey, Archbishop of Canterbury, religious leaders who have been approached include Sheikh Ahmed Keftaro, the Grand Mufti of Syria, the Grand Sheikh of Al-Alazar from Cairo, the imams of the mosques of Mecca and Medina, Dr. Abdullah Salehal-Obaid, the secretary of the World Muslim League, Israel's Chief Rabbi, Israel Meir Lau, the Ecumenical Patriarch of the Orthodox Church, the Most Rev Bartholomew, the Russian Patriarch, His Holiness Alexii II, Archbishop Desmond Tutu and Bishop Carlos Belo, the 1996 Nobel Peace Prize winner from East Timor.

WHY THEN?

Since the end of World War II, at which time the UN was created to free the world from "the scourge of war," armed conflict has claimed some 27 million lives around the world. Estimates are that 85% of these casualties were civilian, especially children and the elderly. In the last decade alone, there have been over 100 armed conflicts around the world in over 70 different locations and in every region of the world.

Goal of the Summit

The goal of the World Peace Summit of Religious and Spiritual Leaders is to create a forum by which several preeminent leaders of all the world's great religious and faith traditions can come together at the United Nations for the first time in history to pledge a commitment to take concrete actions for the achievement of world peace. This commitment has been embodied in a Declaration for World Peace that participants signed and that has been specified actions to be taken.

The Precedent

Throughout recent conflicts in Rwanda, Bosnia, and Kosovo, private efforts have been made to rally religious leadership for peace. In 1992, Pope John Paul II gathered Christian, Muslim, Jewish, and other religious leaders in Assisi to pray for peace in the Balkans. In 1997, the World Conference on Religion and Peace acted as a facilitator within Bosnia to open a dialogue about leadership among the nation's Muslim, Orthodox, Roman Catholic, and Jewish communities. In 1997 the Interfaith Center and the Temple of Understanding organized the first annual Interfaith Service of Commitment to the work of the United Nations. The Interfaith Service is held immediately preceding the opening of the General Assembly every year.

Such private efforts, often focused on a single conflict, have borne fruit in a single time and place. They have not - indeed cannot - rise to a more global level, and inspire sustained, interfaith advocacy for peace at the highest international levels.

The Establishment of an International Advisory Council of Religious Leaders

A single meeting may motivate leadership, however, motivation must be sustained and leadership must be vigilantly exercised, for its effects to last. The historical momentum of conflict must be met with an equally historical momentum for peace. To ensure that the spirit and declaration of the Summit creates sustained momentum, the participants of the Summit formed an International Advisory Council of Religious Leaders to function as a resource for the Secretary General of the United Nations - the United Nations' efforts to resolve international conflicts.

The creation of an Advisory Council was a first step toward developing a World Academy of Nonviolence and Ethics. It has global branches and provides research, education, and leadership on ethical issues and practical mechanisms for maintaining world peace.

World Peace Centre

A World Peace Centre termed 'Viswa Shanti Peetam' is proposed to be established at a suitable location in India to serve as the Headquarters of DRV and its mission for the kingdom of God in this ancient land of religions as presented above. It will house a 'World Parliament of Religious and Spiritual Leaders' and a 'Global Open University of Reconciliation & Peace' based on the 'Commitment to Global Peace' signed during the *'Millennium World Peace Summit of Religious & Spiritual Leaders'* organised by the United Nations in August 2000 in New York.

Acharyasri, the founder of DRV & DCP, was one of the delegates invited by the UN from India for this Millennium World Peace Summit. He was also a signatory to the 'Commitment to Global Peace' for and on behalf of DRV & DCP. This 'Commitment to Global Peace' is included below for easy reference.

Commitment to Global Peace

"Humanity stands at a critical juncture in history, one that calls for strong moral and spiritual leadership to help set a new direction for society. We, as religious and spiritual leaders, recognize our special responsibility for the well-being of the human family and peace on earth.

Whereas the United Nations and the religions of the world have a common concern for human dignity, justice and peace;

Whereas we accept that men and women are equal partners in all aspects of life and children are the hope of the future;

Whereas our religions have contributed to the peace of the world but have also been used to create division and fuel hostilities;

Whereas our world is plagued by violence, war and destruction, which are sometimes perpetrated in the name of religion;

Whereas armed conflict is dire tragedy for the human lives ruined and lost, for the larger living world, and for the future of our religious and spiritual traditions;

Whereas no individual, group or nation can any longer live as an isolated microcosm in our interdependent world, but rather all must realize that our every action has an impact on others and the emerging global community;

Whereas in an interdependent world peace requires agreement on fundamental ethical values;

Whereas there can be no real peace until all groups and communities acknowledge the cultural and religious diversity of the human family in a spirit of mutual respect and understanding;

Whereas building peace requires an attitude of reverence for life, freedom and justice, the eradication of poverty, and the protection of the environment for present and future generations;

Whereas a true culture of peace must be founded upon the cultivation of the inner dimension of peace,

which is the heritage of the religious and spiritual traditions;

Whereas religious and spiritual traditions are a core source of the realization of a better life for the human family and all life on Earth;

In the light of the above and with a view to discharging our duty to the human family, we declare our commitment and determination:

1. To collaborate with the United Nations and all men and women of goodwill locally, regionally and globally in the pursuit of peace in all its dimensions;
2. To lead humanity by word and deed in a renewed commitment to ethical and spiritual values, which include a deep sense of respect for all life, for each person's inherent dignity and right to live in a world free of violence;
3. To manage and resolve non-violently the conflicts generated by religious and ethnic differences, and to condemn all violence committed in the name of religion while seeking to remove the roots of the violence;
4. To appeal to all religious communities and ethnic and national groups to respect the right to freedom of religion, to seek reconciliation, and to engage in mutual forgiveness and healing;
5. To awaken in all individuals and communities a sense of shared responsibility for the wellbeing of the human family as a whole and a

recognition that all human beings – regardless of religion, race, gender and ethnic origin – have the right to education, health care, and an opportunity to achieve a secure and sustainable livelihood;

6. To promote the equitable distribution of wealth within and among nations, eradicating poverty and reversing the current trend towards a widening gap between rich and poor;
7. To educate our communities about the urgent need to care for the earth's ecological systems and all forms of life and to support to make environmental protection and restoration integral to all development planning and activity;
8. To develop and promote a global reforestation campaign as a concrete and practical means for environmental restoration, calling upon others to join us in regional tree planting programmes;
9. To join with the United Nations in the call for all nation states to work for the universal abolition of nuclear weapons and other weapons of mass destruction for the safety and security of life of this planet;
10. To combat those commercial practices and applications of technology that degrade the environment and the quality of human life;
11. To practice and promote in our communities the values of the inner dimension of peace, including especially study, prayer, meditation, a

sense of the sacred, humility, love, compassion, tolerance and a spirit of service, which are fundamental to the creation of a peaceful society.

We, as religious and spiritual leaders, pledge our commitment to work together to promote the inner and outer conditions that foster peace and the nonviolent management and resolution of conflict. We appeal to the followers of all religious traditions and to the human community as a whole to cooperate in building peaceful societies, to seek mutual understanding through dialogue where there are differences, to refrain from violence, to practice compassion, and to uphold the dignity of all life.”

Acharyasri founded and registered the Navasrushti International Trust (NIT) in 2005 as a Public Charitable Trust (Reg. No. IV-97/2005) to give practical expression to the ‘Commitment to Global Peace’ signed by him and other religious and spiritual leaders at the UN in August 2000.

The proposed Viswa Shanti Peetam will be established under the legal ownership and accounting authority of NIT.

‘Viswa Shanti Peetam’ will be a living monument to India’s eternal commitment to peace and non-violence on earth.

(NB: Please refer to the book ‘Viswa Shanti Peetam’ authored by Acharyasri and released on 14 October 2021 by Sri. Arif Mohammad Khan, the Hon’ble Governor of Kerala, for more details of this proposed World Peace Centre.)

**UN MILLENIUM WORLD PEACE SUMMIT FOR RELIGIOUS AND SPIRITUAL LEADERS
Kochi, Kerala, India, December 2026**

(Proposed Organizing Committee)

- 1. CHIEF PATRON** : **Acharyasri Dr. Sachidhananda Bharati**

- 2. PATRONS (TEAM A)** : **Dr. Kamlesh Patel (DAAJI)**
Dr. Fr. Roby Kannamchira CMI
Dr. Abraham Joseph (UN)
Mr. Paramjith Singh IRS (Retd.)
Ar. Mayank Bharjatya

- 3. CHAIRMAN** : **(TBF)**

- 4. VICE CHAIRMEN (TEAM B)** : **Mr. Safarali Ismail**
Adv. Salim Mohammad
Er. Ismail Mohammad
Dr. Fazil Haq IAAS (Retd)

- 5. PRESIDENTS (TEAM C)** : **Sr. Adv. Anil Xavier**
Sr. Adv. Dr. K. Anand
Mr. Thomas Varghese (UN)
Dr. George TA
Mr. Abin Tom

- 6. VICE PRESIDENTS** : **Mr. Sennimon C K**
Mr. Nikhil George

- 7. SECRETARY GENERAL** : **Sdk. Anil Joseph Christanand, DCP**