

ABRAHAMIC REUNION

איחוד מורשת אברהם

اتحاد تراث إبراهيم

"Religion As A Force For Peace In The Holy Land"

Peacemakers Of The Holy Land

us Speaking Tour Oct 11-13 and 21-27, 2015

The Abrahamic Reunion (AR) is a team of religious and spiritual leaders – men & women, Muslim, Jewish, Christian, & Druze - dedicated to uplifting human consciousness and building peace in the Holy Land.

Founded in 2004, The Abrahamic Reunion has been to two Parliaments Of The Worlds' Religions as featured presenters, and has convened inter-religious peacemaking dinners every year since 2004. During the 50-Day Gaza War of 2014, AR leaders decided to begin organizing one event every month to bring more people together to fuel the causes of tolerance, amity, understanding, and harmonious coexistence.

The Abrahamic Reunion seeks to be a living example of our values and beliefs; to find and support other spiritual peace makers and organizations; to provide training for those interested in spiritual peacemaking; and to create and implement interfaith programs, celebrations, youth activities and other educational initiatives.



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NORTH AMERICAN SPEAKING TOUR

October 11 – 13; October 21 – 27

As we prepare for the journey to Salt Lake City to bring the message of Peace, Salaam, Shalom to the [Parliament of the Worlds' Religions](#), the Peacemakers are looking forward to visiting different cities around the country for public talks, workshops, dialogues, and panel discussions.

If you are interested in hosting an event with Abrahamic Reunion peacemakers

(2-4 peacemakers of different faiths per city)

Contact: CHRIS MILLER,

chris@abrahamicreunion.org , 941-993-9994

Peace, Salaam, Shalom



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Oct 15-19, 2015: Parliament Of The World's Religions

Salt Lake City, US

Abrahamic Reunion Programs at the Parliament Of Religions:

Interfaith Women's Peace Walk

Led by AR Peacemaker Elana Rozenman with Grassroots Women from the Frontlines

October 15th, 12-1pm (As part of the Women's Parliament)

Contact: Elana Rozenman, erozenman@bezeqint.net

The Abrahamic Reunion: 15 Peacemakers From The Holy Land – Jewish, Muslim, Christian & Druze, Men & Women

Date & Time TBA

Contact: Chris Miller, chris@abrahamicrounion.org

Women as Peacebuilders in the Holy Land: Women's Faith-based Techniques and Tools for Trust-Building

October 18th, 1:45 – 3:15pm, Room 355 BC

Contact: Elana Rozenman, erozenman@bezeqint.net

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Peacemakers



Sheikh Ghassan Manasra is one of the Abrahamic Reunion's Co-Coordinator (With Eliyahu McLean) in the Holy Land. He is an ordained Sheikh in the Qadiri Sufi Order in the Holy Land, and son of Sheikh Abdel Salaam Manasra – head of the Qadiri Sufi Order in the Holy Land. He is the founder of Anwar-Il-Salaam, the Lights of Peace Center in Nazareth, and is Director, Islamic Cultural Center in Nazareth. Ghassan is an expert and lectures in Islam, Islamic history, Sufism, and contemporary Muslim issues in the Middle East, Europe, and the USA. He is married to daughter of late Sheikh Baghdadi, renowned Muslim leader, and Holy Land facilitator in interfaith dialogue projects.

Ghassan has received multiple awards and accolades for his peacemaking, including most recently the 2014 "Outstanding Leader in Interreligious Dialogue Award" from the renowned Dialogue Institute at Temple University. His CV is attached.

Press Coverage/ Mentions

<http://fulbright.org.il/en/?p=5423>

<http://blogs.timesofisrael.com/it-is-hard-to-be-alone-here-without-you/>

<http://www.jpost.com/Opinion/Can-religion-be-a-source-of-peace-382201>

<http://www.haaretz.com/weekend/anglo-file/1.665345>

http://www.jewishjournal.com/los_angeles/article/holy_land_interfaith_peacemakers_offer_jerusalem_hug_20111214

<http://njewishnews.com/article/15138/mission-possible#.VdcmDINViko>



Sheikh Hussein Abu Rukun is an elder and recognized spokesperson for the Druze faith. He often represents his religion at national and international peace talks and meetings with religious leaders. Sheikh Abu Rukun is frequently called upon to help resolve conflicts in his hometown of Issifya in Northern Israel as well as in surrounding communities. Sheikh Abu Rukun led a delegation of Druze leaders to India to meet with Hindu, Sikh and Buddhist leaders for an encounter with the Eastern religions.

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Haj Ibrahim Abu El-Hawa is an Arab Muslim who has been involved in peace and reconciliation efforts for more than 30 years. He is known as the "ambassador of goodwill" from the Mount of Olives, where he and his wife Naima welcome international peace activists of all faiths throughout the year to their home, "Ibrahim's Peace House". He comes from a long line of community elders who have lived on the Mount of Olives since the days of the (7th Century).

He travels widely sharing the message that peace is possible between Israelis and Palestinians. Melting people's hearts and dissolving any reservations with sheer generosity of

spirit. Haj Ibrahim represents Islam at events at the Jerusalem Municipality.

<http://peaceforibrahim.org/about/>

<http://www.voiceofisrael.com/house-peace-home-battle-zone/>

<http://www.albawaba.com/editorchoice/israelis-and-palestinians-pray-solidarity-against-hate-crimes-726156>

<http://www.gettyimages.com/detail/news-photo/palestinian-peace-activist-haj-ibrahim-abu-el-hawa-and-news-photo/482769284>

<http://www.algemeiner.com/2014/07/18/hundreds-of-israelis-and-palestinians-break-respective-fasts-together/#>

http://suprememastertv.com/bbs/board.php?bo_table=ee&wr_id=639



Imam Khalil Albaz is the Imam of the central mosque and spokesperson for the Bedouin town, and regional council of Tel Sheva. He is a frequent commentator on Bedouin and Islamic affairs in the Israeli and the Arab media. His commitment to peace and justice have led him to participate in regular interfaith meetings throughout the Holy Land. Imam Albaz took part in the annual Bearing Witness retreat in Auschwitz.

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Elias Jabbour (Unconfirmed for US Tour) is an Arab Christian and founder of the House of Hope Peace Center in Shefar'Am (Shefer Amer) in northern Israel. The House of Hope has been conducting programs in coexistence and tolerance for over forty years. Elias is widely known as an expert in 'Sulha,' the traditional Palestinian/Arab form of mediation and conflict resolution. Elias is the co-founder of the Sulha Peace Project.

In 1993 he received the International Courage of Conscience Award and in 1995 he received the Mount Zion Award for promoting interfaith

dialogue. Elias is author of: *Sulha: Palestinian Traditional Peacemaking Process* (Montreat, N.C.: House of Hope, 1996)

<http://www.middleeastproject.org/house-of-hope-international-pe/>
<http://hiddensolution.com/israel-and-palestine-the-search-for-peace/>
<http://www.indisputably.org/?p=6861>



Ibtisam Mahameed has a degree in Social Science and works as Consultant for Women for the Regional Authority. She is a Coordinator of the TRUST WIN, and coordinates the Women Reborn project to empower Arab women to start businesses and advance economically. She is a Founding Member of the Abrahamic Reunion and co-directs their Women's Program. She founded and directs the Center for Hagar and Sarah bringing together Arab and Jewish women to learn about each other's cultures and religions. She received the Unsung Heroes of Compassion Award from the Dalai Lama in San Francisco.

<http://theinterfaithobserver.org/journal-articles/2012/3/15/ibtisam-mahameed-not-afraid-to-speak-out.html>
<http://www.justvision.org/portrait/827/interview>

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Deacon Jiries Mansur is a Christian Arab, deacon in the Greek Catholic Church, and principal of the middle school in the town of Rama (Rame) in the Galilee. Under Jiries' leadership, a new school has been developed in Rama promoting interfaith tolerance. He has also organized numerous youth interfaith projects and events. Jiries is currently finishing his doctorate on the role of Christians in peace in the Middle East.



Rodef Shalom Eliyahu McLean, a husband and father of three girls, is an Orthodox Jew, originally from the USA now living in Jerusalem.

Eliyahu is the coordinator of the Abrahamic Reunion group of religious leaders and director of the Jerusalem Peacemakers.

Eliyahu organizes cross-border events that bring Israelis and Palestinians from Hebron, Bethlehem, and Ramallah together to events in Israel and the West Bank. Eliyahu also leads twice weekly dual-narrative tours to Hebron.

Eliyahu was initiated as a 'Rodef Shalom', 'Peace Pursuer' by Reb Zalman Schachter-Shalomi.

Eliyahu's interfaith work was written about in the books: "At the Entrance to the Garden of Eden: A Jew's Search for God with the Christians and Muslims in the Holy Land" by Yossi Klein Halevi and in the book: "To Make the Earth Whole: The Art of Citizen Diplomacy in an Age of Religious Militancy", by Prof. Marc Gopin

<http://www.justvision.org/portrait/eliyahu-mclean>

<http://www.globalonenessproject.org/people/rodef-shalom-eliyahu-mclean>

<http://www.jerusalemite.net/blog/2962/a-conversation-with-eliyahu-mclean,-peacenik>

<http://www.global1.youth-leader.org/2012/08/eliyahu-mclean-a-jerusalem-peacemaker/>

<http://www.spiritofmaat.com/archive/nov3/prns/together.htm>

<http://velveteenrabbi.blogs.com/blog/2014/04/on-returning-to-hebron.html>

Eliyahu's address to the Scottish Parliament:

<http://www.scottish.parliament.uk/parliamentarybusiness/report.aspx?r=4497&i=32992#ScotParlOR>

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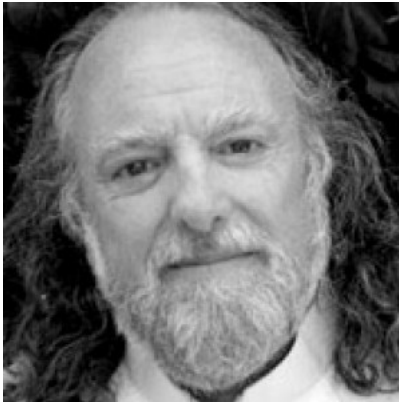
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Elana Rozenman is a Modern Orthodox Jew from Jerusalem, and has been involved in multi-faith work for many years since the recovery of her son from a Palestinian suicide bombing in Jerusalem. She is founder and director of TRUST-Emun, an Israeli non-profit building trust between the Abrahamic religions and between Israelis and Palestinians through women. She has served on the Global Council of the URI, and facilitates WIN MENA as well as the TRUST WIN. She is active in many other organizations locally and globally promoting women and peacebuilding across the globe.



Murshid Shahabuddin David Less is a Senior Teacher and recognized Murshid in the Sufi Order International. He is the International Head of The Universal Worship, and a co-founder of The Abrahamic Reunion. He teaches seminars internationally on meditation, personal & spiritual development, inter-religious harmony, and Sufism. Davidless.com



Sanaa Albaz is a leader among Bedouin Muslim women in Israel. Sanaa has won numerous awards for her work in early childhood education among Bedouin youth. The educational center she founded in her town of Tel Sheva has served as a model for dis-advantaged youth throughout the Bedouin sector in Israel. She was awarded the highest honor by the State of Israel for her work, the first Bedouin woman invited to light the national torch at the annual Independence Day celebration at Mount Herzl, Jerusalem.

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Rabbi Dr. Yakov Nagen is a leading rabbinical figure in interfaith encounters in the Holy Land. Rav Nagen studied Torah at a number of Israeli religious academies including Sha'alvim Yeshiva, Har Etzion Yeshiva, and the Rabbi Isaac Elchanan Theological Seminary (RIETS) at Yeshiva University. He obtained his ordination from Yeshiva University alongside a B.A. and M.S. from Yeshiva University and Ph.D. in Jewish Philosophy from the Hebrew University, Jerusalem. Rav Nagen has published a number of books including *Nishmat HaMishnah: Window to the Inner World of the Mishnah* and *Water, Creation and Divinity: Sukkot in*

the Philosophy of Halacha. He has also published numerous articles on the Talmud, the philosophy of Jewish law, and Jewish spirituality. Rabbi Nagen has organized prayer vigils bringing together Israelis and Palestinians against religiously motivated violence.

<http://www.timesofisrael.com/settlers-gather-for-interfaith-vigil-but-find-few-palestinian-takers/>

https://www.ou.org/torah/author/rabbi_yakov_nagen/#?



Rabbinit Hadassah Froman, is an Orthodox Jewish woman peacemaker, from the West Bank settlement of Tekoa. She is the wife of the late Rabbi Menachem Froman, who was a pioneer in Jewish-Muslim peacemaking in the West Bank settlements.

Today she carries on his legacy of pursuing peace by helping lead Friends Of Roots, a nonprofit in Israel dedicated to seeking peace between settler Jews and West Bank Palestinians. (<http://www.friendsofroots.net/the-people.html>) Hadassah is a regular speaker at peace gatherings across Israel.

Recent News Articles featuring Hadassah Froman:

<https://news.vice.com/article/how-a-brutal-murder-is-changing-jerusalems-lgbt-community>

<http://www.israelnationalnews.com/News/News.aspx/198942#.VdckyVNViko>

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<http://mondoweiss.net/2015/08/progressive-palestinian-toddler>



Rev. Daniel Aqleh is an Arab Palestinian Christian peacemaker from Bethlehem. Daniel is a leader in Israeli-Palestinian initiatives, active with the Jerusalem Hug and Visit Palestine. Daniel works at the Bethlehem Bible College as the Support officer: web manager, tutor, student liaison officer and Arabic/English translator.

Daniel leads worship and preaches at the Salt And Light Agape Ministries (SALAM), an independent church that provides humanitarian support in a community struggling with high unemployment. SALAM runs the House of Peace guest house in Bethlehem.

Daniel has a BA of Art in Music from Messenger College in Joplin, Missouri and has studied Christian counseling, trauma and interpretation of the Arab Israeli conflict.

http://www.uri.org/the_latest/2015/08/uri_members_from_california_and_palestine_meet

Siham Halabi is a Druze leader and the Director of the Women's Program and Adult Education at the Daliat Al Carmel Community Center providing courses in women's economic empowerment, home management, drivers education, Hebrew and Arabic languages, social activism, and interfaith understanding. She is a Coordinator of the TRUST WIN, a member of the Women's Parliament and various organizations for dialogue and understanding between the cultures, and for the advancement of women and social issues affecting women. She is a Druze spokeswoman representing Druze women in national forums.

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Abrahamic Reunion Founding Precepts

To share the belief in one God by understanding each other's religious customs, spiritual practices, prayers and values.

To turn all religions into a force for peace.

To infuse our efforts with prayer, meditation and spiritual practice.

To relate to all as though they are our own family.

To respond to the needs in the Holy Land by establishing ongoing projects that embody our ideals.

To promote love, peace, communication, cooperation and dialogue among the people of the Holy Land, including men, women, Muslims, Jews, Christians, and Druze, as well as other spiritual traditions.

To develop a world-wide membership and support system.

To convey our message to world leaders.

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Abrahamic Reunion Declaration

Signed November 30th, 2014 at the House of Hope, Shfar'am:

The Abrahamic Reunion, a group of spiritual leaders–Jews, Christians, Muslims, and Druze– have been working together for 10 years promoting inter-religious harmony in the Holy Land.

We are women and men of the faiths of this land – our land – who meet together, walk together, eat together, and pray side by side in mutual respect. We demonstrate by our personal example that we can live together in peace and cooperation.

At this difficult time, we want to reaffirm to the public our heartfelt conviction, that (within) our religions are the pathways of love and peace.

We condemn the violence, hatred, racism, and suffering being inflicted upon our communities in the name of religion. We believe and we teach that the holy places of all the religions in the Holy Land must be respected, and not defaced in any way, for any reason.

We are the Children of Adam and Eve, the Children of Abraham. To our regret, recently we have forgotten that we are from the same family. Arabs and Jews... let us remember that we are one family.

*Religious Leaders signing document at the House of Hope, **November 30, 2014:***

Sheikh Abdel Salaam Manasra, Head of Qadiri Sufi Order of the Holy Land
Sheikh Ghassan Manasra, Lights of Peace Association/Anwar Il Salaam,
Director, Abrahamic Reunion, coordinator
Elana Rozenman, Emun-Trust, Director, Abrahamic Reunion, founding member

Sheikh Abu Amin, Bedouin Mukhtar, Al-Sawaed
Rabbi Yosef Yashar, Chief Rabbi of Acco

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Rabbi Eliyahu Kaufman, journalist and historian, Haifa
Rabbi Mordechai Minzberg, educator, Mea She'arim, Jerusalem
Rabbi Hanan Schlesinger, Project Coordinator, Shorashim/Judur/Roots
Rev. Daniel Aqleh, Evangelical Minister, Bethlehem
Rodef Shalom Eliyahu McLean, Abrahamic Reunion coordinator
Elias Jabbour, Greek Melkite Christian, Hope of Hope, Director, Abrahamic Reunion, founding member

Abrahamic Reunion members co-signing, though not present **November 30** at House of Hope:

Imam Khalil Albaz, Imam of Tel Sheva
Haj Ibrahim Abuelhawa, Mount of Olives
Ibtisam Mahameed, The Tent of Sarah and Hagar, Director
Deacon Jiries Mansour, Greek Melkite Church, St. Anthony's School, principal
Reverend Father Masoud Abu Hatoum, Greek Melkite Church
Rabbi Yosef Hadane, Chief Rabbi of the Ethiopian Jews
Sheikh Hussein Abu Rukkun, Druze from Isafiya, Druze Council
Hadassah Froman, educator, wife of late Rabbi Menachem Froman, z"l

With support from and signing also:

Rabbi David Bigman, Ma'ale Gilboa Yeshiva
Father Nael Abu Rahmoun, Anglican Church, Nazareth
Sheikh Sameer Asi, Imam of Al-Jazzar mosque, Acco
Sister Trudy Nabuurs, Sisters of Zion, Ecce Homo Convent, Via Dolorosa, Jerusalem

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