

THREE FAITHS FORUM



Founders:

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Press Release

Launch of Three Faiths Forum Middle East

24 June 2008: The launch was held at the in conjunction with the Hebrew University's Department for Comparative Religion at the University campus on Mount Scopus. It was attended by representatives of many interfaith organisations, NGOs, and religious councils, including Rabbi David Rosen, Canon Alastair Macdonald–Radcliff Senior Advisor World Economic Forum, Sir Sigmund Sternberg, Stephen Shashoua and Professor Dr Rev. John Pawlikowski. Participants of the International Council of Christians and Jews conference which took place in Jerusalem were also in attendance.

Miriam Feldmann Kaye, project director said, "I am excited to bring this programme to the Middle East region to provide an opportunity for people to come together that otherwise may not have done so. We have seen the success of this programme in the UK, and with careful adaptation, we can help build relationships based not only on sameness, but on otherness as well. This is the current challenge we face, and it is crucial that it is addressed".

The Three Faiths Forum Middle East will be offering educational programmes to complement the work of existing organisations promoting peaceful coexistence. Partnerships have already been formed with the Inter Religious Coordinating Council for Israel, Jerusalem Inter Cultural Centre, TRUST EMUN and Interfaith Association Encounter.

The activities will start in July when a group of teenage girls from the Jewish neighbourhood of Talpiot in Jerusalem and from the Christian and Muslim neighbourhood of Abu Tor, will come together for a series of six sessions to study religious texts connected to theme of 'Beauty, Modesty, Clothing and Attraction'.

Three Faiths Forum Middle East is an initiative from the UK-based Three Faiths Forum, co-founded over ten years ago by Sir Sigmund Sternberg, Revd. Dr Marcus Braybrooke, and the late Sheikh Dr MA Zaki Badawi.

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Baroness Boothroyd of Sandwell
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