

UPF Denmark marked World Interfaith Harmony Week 2021

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February 4th UPF Denmark marked World Interfaith Harmony Week 2021 with a webinar on the theme "Building Bridges Across Boundaries". There were 25 connections participating in the webinar.

After readings from the World Scriptures, a video about the Middle East Peace Initiative was shown as an example of interfaith dialogue and harmony.



Pastor Lene Skovmark moderated the 1½ hour session with presentations, debate, questions and answers. The panel consisted of a Lutheran pastor, the imam from the Albanian faith community, chairman of Minhaj Youth in Denmark and a Religious Historian.



The panelists discussed best practices of interfaith cooperation and bridge building. They said, borders do exist, but people can communicate across borders. It is important to remember, it is not religions that meet, it is people with a religion who meet.

One panelist said it is important to separate the inner - e.g., peoples search and longing for God and true love - and the outer form. People fight in the garment of their religion, while their longing for God basically is the same. Everyone has right in his own right or faith, but it is important that we learn and understand each other's culture and religion.

Imam Basri Kurtis mentioned that Albania has shown a good example of protecting and reaching out to religious minorities; fx in a village the Muslim majority would build a church for the Christian minority.

In the end one participant asked: "Should we not pay more attention to what God feels in his heart rather than to what people think?" The moderator then asked the panelists, "What do you think God feels in His heart?" All panelists answered this question with the word: Love!

