

GLOBAL PEACE INITIATIVE OF WOMEN

Statement of the Third Sufi-Yogi Forum

Kyoto, Japan November 2010

The Vision of the Sufi-Yogi Forum

The Sufi-Yogi Forum is a community of Sufis and Yogis who have come together

- to acknowledge their many shared ideals, principles and values;
- to contemplate ways to contribute to the elevation of spiritual consciousness in the world;
- to foster peace and encourage resolution of the many critical issues facing the global community; and,
- to take part in contemplative practices as a group as an active means of service.

Initially conceived by a small group of Sufis and Yogis from Pakistan and India at the request of the Global Peace Initiative of Women, delegates have come together now three times to share the principles and practices of their traditions. In the dialogue of this Forum we find an appreciation of our commonalities of approaches as well as our diversity of formulations and an enriching of our shared aims.

The Sufi and Yogi paths within Islam and Hinduism embody the heart and essence of these two religious traditions. Historically there has been much deep and rich interchange between these two. The Sufi-Yogi Forum seeks to nurture a wider public understanding of that which is shared, that which brings peace, and that which can benefit all.

The goal of the Sufi-Yogi Forum is to build on the deeper, shared mystical and spiritual experiences to help cultivate greater human unity. The deepening of our human unity is essential now as we strive to meet the challenges facing our world.

We agree that to seek the truth is our aim and that the highest truth is one, expressed in many forms. Both traditions aim at deep experiences and realizations of the truth, and the deeper we go, the closer we come to the oneness of truth.

We commit to making this gathering an ongoing forum for as long as it provides benefit.

We agree to meet in different parts of the world in order to draw nourishment from the richness of sacred places, sacred art, and sacred Nature.

We commit to making this work of Sufis and Yogis known through appropriate media.



The third Sufi-Yogi Dialogue was hosted by Shinnyo-en, an international Buddhist community based in Japan, and held at Shinnyo-en's retreat center, Ryukyo-in, in the city of Kyoto, one of the most important spiritual centers of Japanese Buddhist traditions. Sincere thanks are offered for the kind and generous hospitality of Shinnyo-en.

To reach the Sufi-Yogi Forum via the Global Peace Initiative of Women, please contact Marianne Marstrand, marstrandm@ruderfinn.com, +1 212 593 6438 (New York).

About the Global Peace Initiative of Women

The Global Peace Initiative of Women (GPIW) is a non-profit inter-religious organization that emerged from the summit of religious leaders held at the United Nations in 2000 – the Millennium World Peace Summit of Religious and Spiritual Leaders. For the past decade it has been organizing inter-religious gatherings around the world, often in places of conflict and tension, with a focus on the contemplative traditions.

For further information, see: www.gpiw.org

About Shinnyo-en

Shinnyo-en is practiced by around one million practitioners worldwide and has 168 temples in sixteen countries. Shinnyo-en has been involved in philanthropic causes since its creation, working closely with organisations such as the Red Cross and the UN. Under Her Holiness Shinso Ito's leadership, Shinnyo-en has established and supported a number of foundations that promote education, health, the arts, economic empowerment for the underprivileged, environmental awareness, and interfaith dialogue.

For further information, see: www.Shinnyoen.org