

## “Day of Tolerance”

Hamburg, Germany, 12. November 2013



Around twenty people of different faiths and cultures gathered for the "Day of Tolerance " to address this issue. In 1995 UNESCO declared this day to replace the culture of war by a culture of peace. The program was initiated with some pieces by Mozart, played on violin and piano. This created a nice atmosphere for the speech of the Peace Ambassador from Nigeria, Bishop Salem. He made an impassioned plea for selfless, divine love, which is the vehicle for tolerance. In Nigeria, there are over 200 languages, and therefore it is particularly important to overcome intolerance by a love that is rooted in God. A music teacher from Iran played Persian pieces on a dombra and the piano, which enabled us to enjoy an oriental atmosphere. This was followed by a presentation on "Pursuit of Happiness" . It is about a program that had triggered a positive change in society in many countries of the third world. It describes rational oriented life rules as

conditions for more tolerance.

Then followed an appointment as Ambassador of Peace for a native of India, Mr. Laxmi Saha . Mr. Laxmi Saha comes from Hinduism, but visited the different religious communities to show them his respect. In his acceptance speech, Mr. Laxmi Saha stressed how important it was to live a life of constant connection and devotion to God. Especially for people in an affluent society, this is an important message. With guitar sounds and songs from the peace movement of the 1960s , brought us Reinhold Merta to sing along , so we concluded the evening in a happy and confident mood . Although we came from different cultures such as Asia, Africa and the West, everyone had contributed to the success of this evening.

Ulrich Ganz