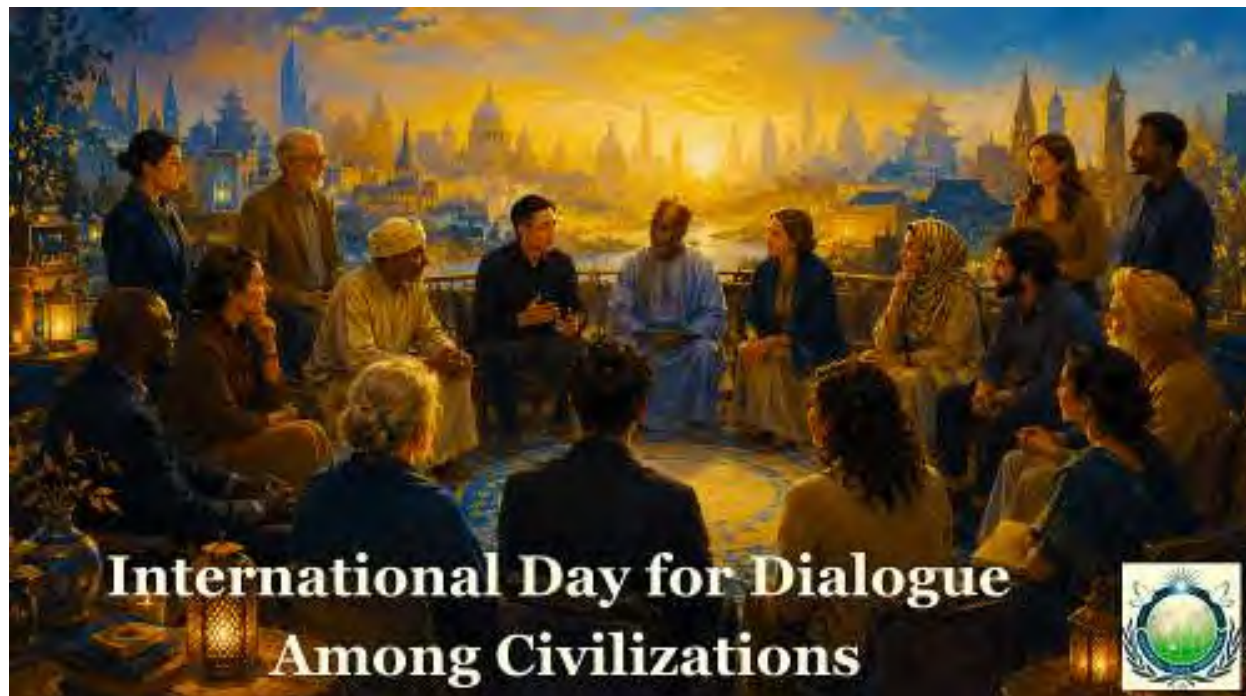


UPF UK: UN Day for Listening - When Civilizations Listen Peace Is Possible

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A reflection for the International Day for Dialogue among Civilizations, 10 June 2026

Key Takeaways

Dialogue begins with listening, inviting people, cultures and faith traditions to meet beyond fear, politics or prejudice.

Civilizations are living memories, carrying wisdom, wounds, beauty and hope into a larger human conversation.

Peace grows through trust, through interreligious dialogue, cultural exchange, service, youth forums and shared responsibility.

A United Nations Day for Listening

The [International Day for Dialogue among Civilizations](#), established by the [United Nations General Assembly resolution A/RES/78/286](#), invites humanity to pause and listen. Not only to speeches, institutions or public declarations, but to the deeper voice of peoples, cultures and spiritual traditions that have shaped the human story.

Civilizations Are Memories of Human Seeking

Civilizations are not walls. They are memories of human seeking. Each civilization has asked how life can be meaningful, how families can endure, how communities can live with justice, how suffering can be healed, and how the human heart can come closer to peace. Their languages are different. Their sacred memories are different. Their histories are not the same. Yet beneath these differences, there is a common longing for dignity, belonging and love.

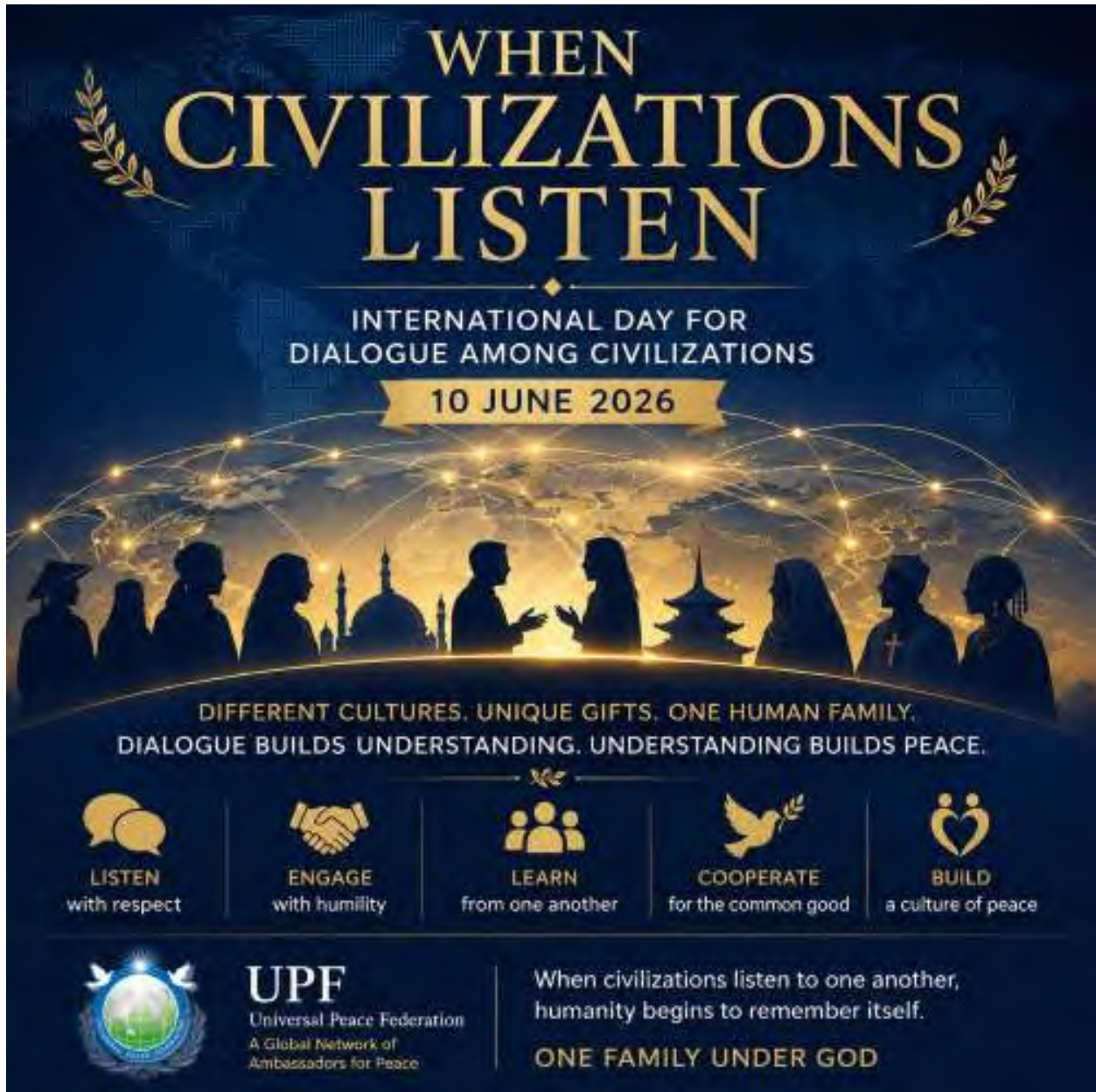
The [Universal Peace Federation](#) (UPF) looks at this day through the conviction that [humanity is one family under God](#). This vision does not make cultures smaller. It gives them room to breathe. It allows each group to bring their wisdom, wounds, beauty and hope into a larger human conversation.

Dialogue as an Act of Respect

Dialogue begins when we stop treating the other as a category. A civilization cannot be understood only through politics, conflict or fear. It has songs, prayers, mothers and fathers, children, elders, memories of loss, and dreams of renewal. When people meet at that level, dialogue is no longer a technique. It becomes an act of respect.

Interreligious and Intercultural Dialogue in UPF's Work

This is why interreligious and intercultural dialogue remain central to the work of UPF. Faith traditions have formed the moral imagination of humanity. They have taught compassion, restraint, forgiveness, service and reverence for life. When religious and spiritual leaders meet with humility, they help civilizations remember their highest calling. When culture, faith and conscience meet in honest conversation, peace gains a human face.



UPF's Vision of Trust Between Peoples

UPF was founded by [Dr. Hak Ja Han](#) and late [Dr. Sun Myung Moon](#) with a vision that peace grows through relationships of trust among leaders and citizens, religions and nations, families and communities. In this sense, dialogue among civilizations is not far from daily life. It begins when a person listens without preparing an accusation, speaks without humiliating another, and recognizes that truth is not served by contempt.

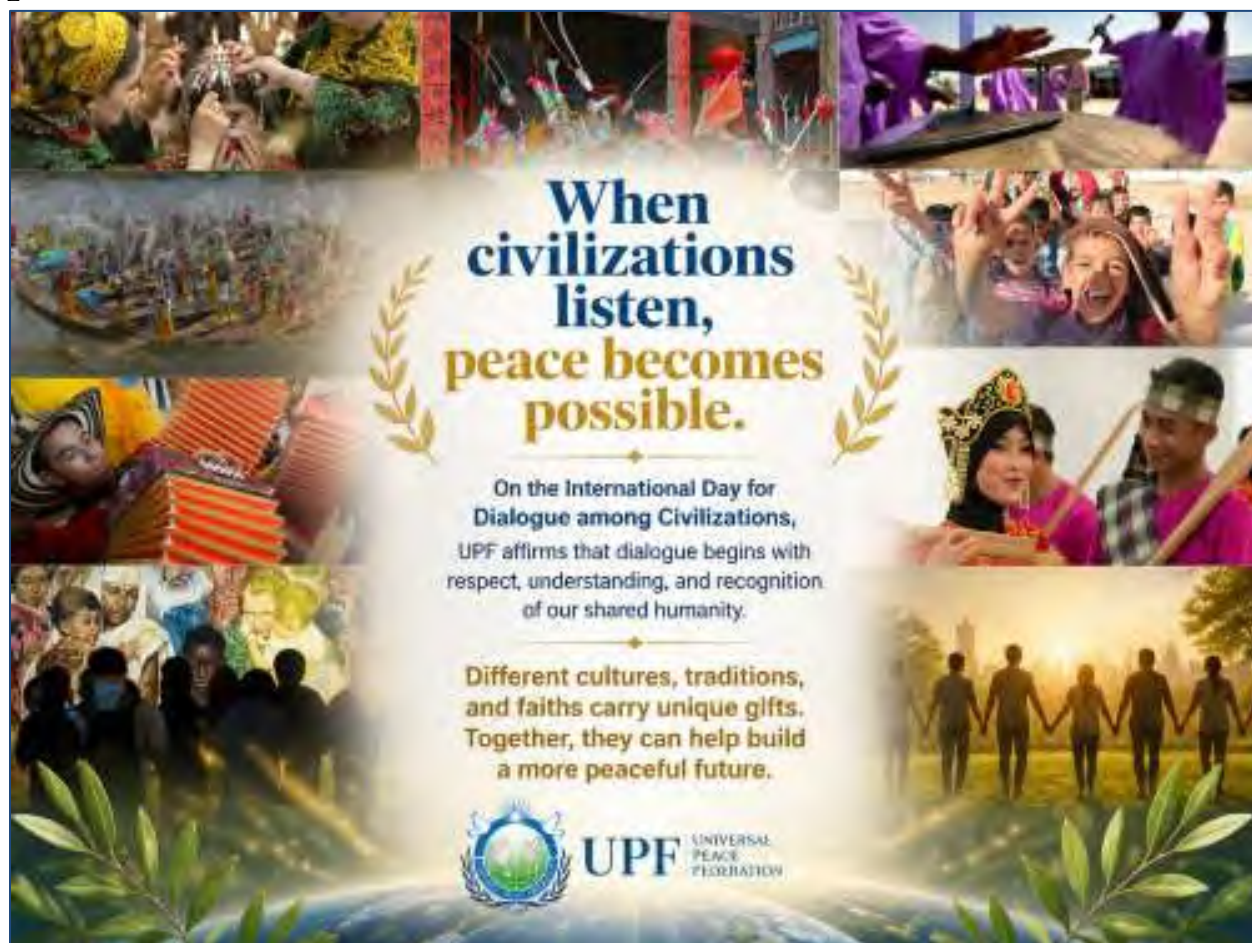
Dialogue Across Geography, History and Responsibility

Long before this United Nations observance was established, the founders of UPF were already exploring dialogue among peoples through a remarkably broad lens. In the 1990s, initiatives such as the Federation of Island Nations for World Peace, the Federation of Peninsular Nations for World Peace and the Federation of Continental Nations for World Peace sought to create spaces where nations could meet not only through ideology or power, but through shared geography, memory and responsibility. Later, the Mongolian Peoples' Federation for World Peace opened another path of reflection on common roots, scattered peoples and the healing of historical distance. These initiatives remind us that civilizations are not only ideas in books. They live through oceans, peninsulas, continents, steppes, borders, migrations, families and inherited dreams.

Shared Responsibilities Across All Civilizations

The world often speaks of division between East and West, North and South, tradition and modernity. Yet the great concerns of our time cross every border. The search for peace, the protection of the family, the care of creation, the dignity of the poor, the future of children and the moral use of power belong to all civilizations. These concerns also stand close to the spirit of the [2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development](#), because lasting development depends not only on systems and resources, but also on trust, conscience and cooperation. No one carries the whole answer alone. No person is without a gift.

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A Sacred Discipline of Peace

On this day, UPF invites [Ambassadors for Peace](#) of the Universal Peace Federation, partners and friends to see dialogue as a sacred discipline of peace. A conversation between communities, a meeting among faith leaders, a cultural gathering, a youth forum, a shared act of service or a quiet moment of prayer can become a small doorway through which civilizations meet.

When Civilizations Listen

The future does not ask civilizations to disappear into sameness. It asks them to meet with a deeper open heart. When civilizations listen to one another, humanity begins to remember itself.

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