

## UPF Lebanon's IAPD Launch in Bhamdoun, Lebanon

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We are very pleased that we could launch IAPD in Lebanon, Thursday 10th Dec. in Bhamdoun, a historic town, near Beirut. Close to 30 Religious leaders and Clergy attended the Interreligious Leadership Conference, representing the main denominations, Sunna Shia, Maronite, Catholic, Orthodox, Protestant, Coptic Church (Egypt and Syrian), and Druze.

UPF Lebanon President, Mr. Thomas Schellen as MC of the conference, welcomed all the participants and gave a brief introduction about UPF activities, after the opening prayer, by a Muslim and a Christian representative.

Next, our Regional President Mr. Umberto Angelucci, gave a powerful message about the Purpose and aim of IAPD as well as the International Summit in Korea and the launch of IAPD. Then the Religious leaders were invited to give a short speech.

They were very eager to share their convictions and beliefs at the same time they all agree that, to have collaboration and Interreligious harmony is the way to build a peaceful prosperous nation. In other words, the IAPD vision and goals truly resonated with their own beliefs.

Also, Mrs. Marylin Angelucci gave an inspiring presentation, about the Sunhak Peace Prize.

After the Conference, several leaders expressed their appreciation and their willingness to collaborate with IAPD. For example, Sheikh Qassem sends this message: "I am blessed for your efforts in spreading thought and dialogue and to more brilliance, creativity and attendance. We are pleased to communicate with you constantly"

Our IAPD Launch concluded with a beautiful Prayer by Mr. Jong In Park and a great lunch. Overall the IAPD Launch was truly a great success and opened a path for a much better Collaboration with the Clergy leaders.