



Youth Federation for World Peace International

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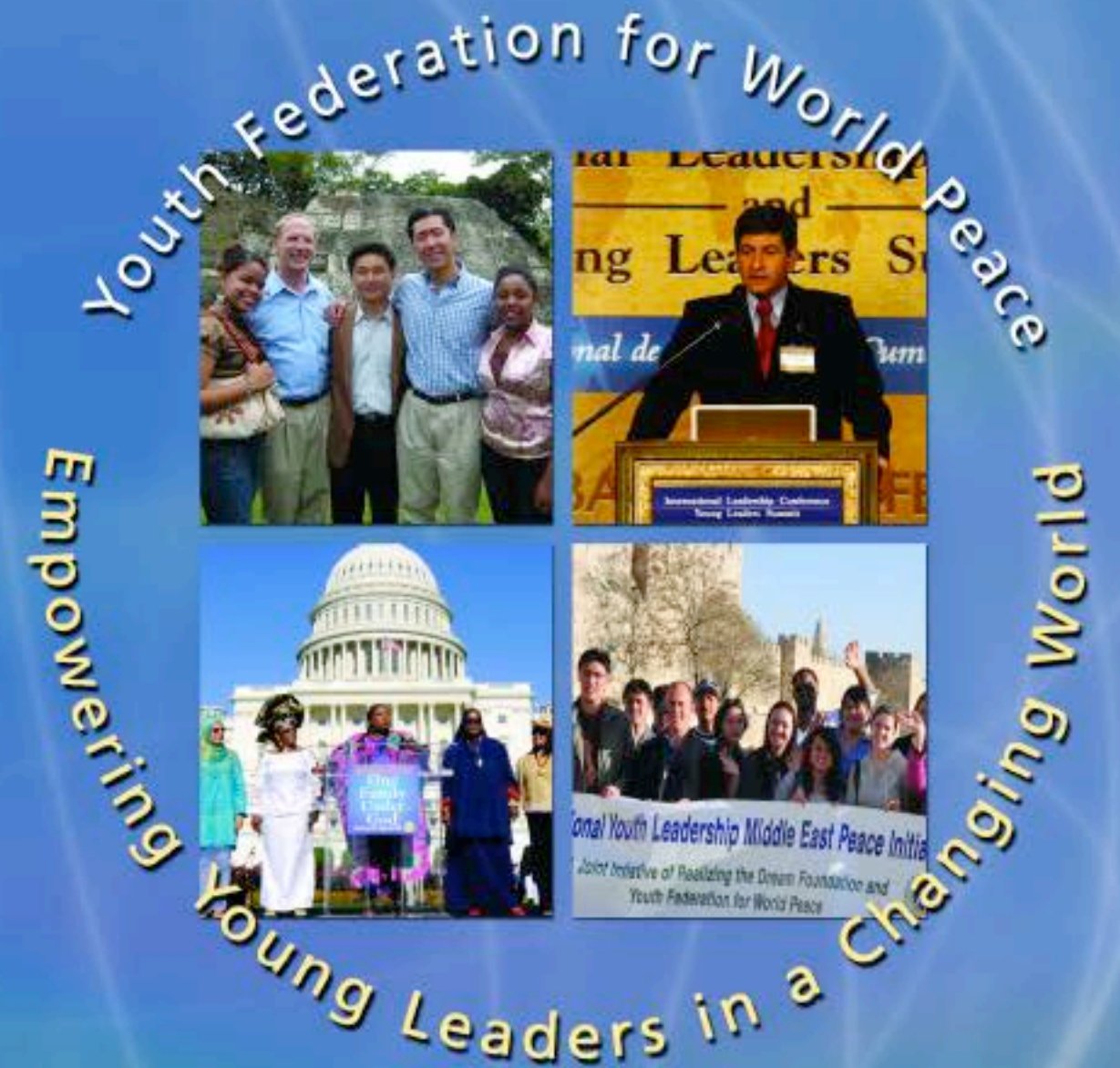
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2008 REPORT



# Empowering Young Leaders in a Changing World

The last two years have witnessed historic changes and unprecedented challenges in global affairs. A youthful new leader, Barack Obama, has assumed the presidency of the world's leading democracy, eloquently voicing the need for service as a necessary aspect

global community is currently buffeted by severe economic turmoil, affecting not just wealthy nations but the developing world and its most vulnerable populations.

The Youth Federation for World Peace is committed to realizing a culture of peace and sustainable prosperity, and has been investing its resources in long-term peace-building—through the education of next-generation leadership and through initiatives that break down historic barriers of prejudice and ignorance, building peaceful relations where there was enmity and hate.

The emergence of vibrant young leadership in the public and private sector is one of the untold stories of the last decade. Over the last two years, I have been privileged to travel with YFWP's chairman, Dr. Hyun Jin Moon, throughout Latin America, Asia, and Africa, to meet with young leaders and learn of their real-life concerns. I see a global youth movement rising up, empowered by genuine vision, fresh perspectives, and clear-eyed awareness that achieving peace is not merely a political objective.

Indeed, a crisis of values is affecting the entire world, compromising the integrity of individuals and the institution of the family. This is not fundamentally a problem that can be solved through the political process. Only through a revolution of service, beyond the restrictive boundaries of religion and ethnicity, can the plagues of war and social injustice be transcended and a world of peace emerge.

To this end, YFWP has appointed some 25,000 Young Ambassadors for Peace just within the last two years who are bringing innovative models of peace building to conflict regions around the globe, from Nepal and the Philippines to Palestine and Mindanao. YFWP is building a new constituency for peace among young leaders who have a passion for realizing a dream where all live as one family under God.

We are grateful for our many supporters who have made the last two years a time of extraordinary growth. We invite you to join us as partners—and as Young Ambassadors for Peace—to build a critical mass for peace in the twenty-first century.

—David Caprara  
Executive Vice President



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**YFWP President Dr. Hyun Jin Moon speaks to high school students in Belize.**

of good citizenship. Grassroots interfaith initiatives and track-two diplomacy have led to new levels of understanding and substantial progress toward the goal of peace.

Yet, in the Middle East an ongoing cycle of violence threatens global stability, and dangerous division remains on the Korean peninsula as a remnant of the Cold War. The





Mission

*Mission*



The Youth Federation for World Peace (YFWP) is a 501(c)3 non-profit global alliance of young leaders and youth-related organizations dedicated to building a world of peace, a world in which everyone can live in freedom, harmony, cooperation and co-prosperity for all.

**These efforts are directed principally in five areas:**

- Peace education and leadership programs for Young Ambassadors for Peace;
- Global Interfaith service projects, with special focus on the Middle East and Southeast Asia;
- Global Peace Festivals in all continents to foster and celebrate peace;



- Humanitarian service and character education programs to fulfill the Millennium Development Goals of the United Nations;
- Peace-building programs in Northeast Asia, with a special focus on North-South Korea reunification.

# Young Ambassadors for Peace

*Young Ambassadors for Peace*

The signature initiative of YFWP is the education and appointment of young leaders in every walk of life, from ages 18 to 49, to leading roles in national renewal and global conflict resolution as Young Ambassadors for Peace. Now numbering some 25,000, these young ambassadors build professional leadership networks and collaborate on key initiatives and are committed to promoting reconciliation,

overcoming barriers, and building peace through nonviolent engagement.

Young Ambassadors for Peace have shown a commitment to service and peace-making activities in many fields, including religion, politics, media, academia, business, the arts,

*Young Ambassadors for Peace are collaborating with international peace builders in service and relief projects, character education programs, and sponsorship of dialog in conflict areas.*



**Former Philippine Speaker of the House Jose DeVenecia recognizes a Young Ambassador for Peace at the Global Peace Festival in Mindanao.**



**Rev. Torrey Barrett, YFWP-USA president, receives a Young Ambassador for Peace appointment in Israel, with YWPF Executive Vice President David Caprara (left) and Realizing the Dream Executive Vice President Johnny Mack.**  
**Below: Canadian parliamentarian Justin Trudeau, son of the former prime minister, addresses a Young Leaders Summit in Asunción, Paraguay.**

sports, and volunteer associations. They are contributing both within their area of expertise as well as in collaboration with international peace builders in service and relief projects, character education programs, and sponsorship of dialog in conflict areas.

#### **International Young Leaders Summit**

Through the International Young Leaders Summit, promising next-generation leaders are being educated on the importance of the God-centered family and principles of public service as the building blocks of a peaceful society and world.

YFWP in partnership with the Universal Peace Federation brought more than 500 young leaders from around the world, including parliamentarians, entrepreneurs, and

representatives of civil society and faith-based organizations, to Asunción, Paraguay, in July 2008, to examine the role of young leadership in meeting twenty-first century challenges.

In September, over two thousand university and high school students convened at YFWP's International Youth Summit, "A Culture of Love:

The Fuel Toward Peace and Development," in Mindanao, the Philippines. YFWP later organized six more summits, educating some 6,000 young leaders to become Young Ambassadors for Peace, and plans to establish chapters in all 69 provinces.

The numbers of Young Ambassadors for Peace are expanding in 2009, with worldwide chapters anticipating more than 100,000 to be appointed by 2010. ■



## Key Initiatives

# Key Initiatives

**T**he Youth Federation for World Peace is bringing innovative solutions in areas of interfaith peace building, human development based on the UN Millennium Development Goals, and reunification of the Korean peninsula with ongoing projects around the world.

#### **Interfaith Peace Building**

The Youth Federation for World Peace has initiated a series of six cross-cultural initiatives and service partnerships as part of its interfaith peace-building initiative in the region. Representing many of the world's faith traditions, participants meet with Palestinian and Israeli leaders, as well as

citizens from all walks of life in an effort to transcend polarizing stereotypes that perpetuate division. Recognizing the role of sports in overcoming barriers, YFWP also contributed to the launch of the Peace Dream sports project in Palestine.



One important outcome is to build a model of unity and mutual respect among the religiously diverse participants. YFWP specifically engages young leaders and provides service training and education in principles of

nonviolence and conflict resolution. Developing bonds of friendship across racial and religious divides among youth and devising broader perspectives that reconcile divisions will be critical to achieving lasting peace in the Middle East.

## Key initiatives



● In March 2008, YFWP partnered with Martin Luther King III's Realizing the Dream to gather forty young leaders from the United States, the European Union, and Israel in Tel Aviv and Jerusalem to deepen their understanding of the beliefs and experiences of all sides and work for peace through the principles of nonviolence and interfaith service. Delegates met with Israeli leaders from across the political spectrum at the Yitzak Rabin Center and learned about daily life on field trips to Arab and Israeli communities. The ini-

**Above: Interfaith peace building enables the voices of all sides to be heard. Right: Martin Luther King III meets with participants in the joint YFWP-Realizing the Dream initiative in 2008.**

tiative included local partnerships with Democratic Mizrahi Keshet, the Israeli-based Save a Child's Heart Foundation, and the Middle East Nonviolence and Democracy NGO.

● In September, a group of Israelis and Palestinians

traveled across the Italian peninsula for ten days, to promote fresh perspectives, new leadership capacity, and greater understanding of the conflicted relations that have inflamed the region. Prior to embarking on the mission, all participants were educated in YFWP principles of peace, emphasizing one's essen-



tial spiritual and moral nature; the principle of living for the sake of others; the importance of cooperation beyond the boundaries of ethnicity, religion, and nationality; and the ultimate reality of our kinship as children of God. Participants found that beyond their differences and strong political views, they are brothers and sisters who have similar dreams and hopes.

● In December 2008, young leaders from the United States, the European Union, and Israel again gathered in Israel to further the work of building bridges of reconciliation. In addition to continuing education on principles of peace and acts of service, the delegates joined the Global Peace Festival as honored guests in Haifa.

## Key initiatives



### Millennium Development Goals

The Youth Federation for World Peace encourages and sponsors service work in all sectors of society. Guided by the Millennium Development Goals (MDGs) adopted by 189 nations and signed by 147 heads of state and governments during the UN Millennium Summit in September 2000, YFWP's efforts support both governmental and volunteer sector responses to the world's main development challenges. The International Young Leaders Summit in Paraguay and the International Youth Summit held at the United Nations both addressed the role of youth in meeting the UN Millennium Development Goals.

To contribute toward meeting these needs, YFWP international chapters have initiated a broad range of projects.

● In Japan, YFWP has provided early childhood education scholarships to children in impoverished regions of China and the Philippines;

● In Albania, YFWP volunteers have offered HIV-AIDS and character education;

● In Tanzania, YFWP has sponsored sports programs for youth and done a farm restoration project;

● In postwar Liberia, YFWP is hosting service projects, educational seminars, and public events to foster an environment for peace in the country.

● In Kenya, volunteers supported the cleanup of the critically polluted Nairobi River;

● In Israel, YFWP peace building efforts included planting trees and painting a school in a distressed district in Tel Aviv.

Through these and other projects, YFWP seeks to develop a culture of service that emphasizes inner transformation as well as objective results.

Concentrating on conflict regions, our youth leadership work recognizes the important role of building strategic partnerships as well as service to others in achieving lasting peace.

### Northeast Asia Peace Initiative

YFWP has initiated programs to advance the prospects of peaceful reunification of North and South Korea. A YFWP-organized forum on reunification was held in South Korea's Parliament building. YFWP-Korea has initiated a long-term partnership with senior members of Parliament to promote reunification. YFWP-Korea also provided support for service projects in North Korea organized by Service for Peace. ■

**Above: Japan's One Child One Peace provides early childhood education to children in rural China and the Philippines. Below: A YFWP service project in Thailand.**



**The Youth Federation for World Peace has chapters in 70 countries as of January 2009. The following are representative YFWP programs and initiatives in four countries which address local matters, as well as conflict and development issues of concern to the global community.**

## Nepal

The Himalayan nation of Nepal has recently made the transition from a Hindu monarchy to a parliamentary democracy. Major education initiatives and leadership training by YFWP have significantly contributed to the emergence of a peaceful, politically pluralistic Nepal.

of 318 prominent young leaders from government, the faith community, and volunteer sector; ongoing youth leadership training and character education; a peace volunteer initiative; a scholarship program for youth in need; a community cleaning program; and humanitarian service work across the country.

YFWP-Nepal also organized a Young Ambassador for Peace Program for successful climbers of the First Philippine Inclusive Women Mt. Everest Expedition 2008 and a Youth Rally in Kathmandu on the occasion of International Youth Day.

Underscoring the growing effectiveness of YFWP's strategic partnerships, fifteen youth organizations joined in rally, which was followed by a Young Ambassador for Peace Award Ceremony and Education Program.



**Young leaders call for action at a YFWP rally on climate change in Nepal's capital of Kathmandu.**

YFWP is poised to play an increasingly influential role through its educational efforts and penetration into segments of national leadership.

Constituent Assembly representative Honorable Rabindra Adhikari said that the Youth Federation for World Peace is "bone marrow for the New Nepal." Another representative emphasized that YFWP education about family values and peace should be included in school curricula.

## Korea

The Korean peninsula, and the Korean people, have been divided for more than fifty years. For Korean youth, the trauma of divi-

sion and the separation of families is less acute than for elder Koreans. For this reason, young leaders in Korea can approach the ideal of reunification with fresh perspective, free of preconceptions.

YFWP-Korea has reminded young leadership about the historic ties between the two Koreas and engaged in a number of activities to further the process of ultimate reunification. Importantly, YFWP organized an International Leadership Seminar at the Korean Parliament to focus attention on the division of Korea and strategies for reunification.

In the field in partnership with the U.S.-based Service for Peace, YFWP brought Young Ambassadors for Peace into North Korea for projects in the villages of Onkyri and Kumchon. YAP volunteers also painted a building in Ungokri, built a foundation for a house in Kumshon Ri, and visited the home of Yangji villager. This rare exposure to everyday life of North Korean people helped break down barriers of misunderstanding on both sides and encouraged more trust and openness between North and South.



**Korean Speaker of the House Hyung Oh Kim addresses the International Leadership Seminar in Seoul.**

summit in Mindanao alone was able to gather more than 2,300 youth for its service project, youth conference, and young leaders forum. One Philippine young leader, twenty-eight-year old Lanao province governor Khalid Q. Dimaporo, a YFWP board member, organized a trip to the model Peace Village in his province in the midst of

YFWP has also invested its efforts toward meeting the UN's Millennium Development Goals. In Cambodia, YFWP brought five groups of Young Ambassadors for Peace to support children's education, and in Korea, the Pure Love initiative provides education on the family and marriage. In 2008 the program reached 52 Parent and Teacher groups, and 91 student programs were presented.

## Philippines

Since the relaunch of YFWP in Manila is 2006, the Philippines has been actively building capacity to meet the challenges of raising young leadership to lead the diverse nation in the twenty-first century. The International Young Leaders regional



**YFWP Secretary General Yeqing Li joins Philippine delegates at the International Young Leaders summit in Mindanao.**

*The Youth Federation for World Peace is "bone marrow for the New Nepal."*

—Hon. Rabindra Adhikari



**Members of the First Philippine Women Everest Expedition received YFWP sponsorship and were later named Young Ambassadors for Peace.**

YFWP-Nepal's work included a comprehensive Young Ambassador For Peace initiative, with appointments

## Chapter Highlights



The twenty-eight-year old Lanao province governor, Khalid Q. Dimaporo, a local YFWP chapter president, hosted the youth delegation to the Peace village in Mindanao.

rival tribe, following the example of his parents who were likewise of different faiths.

In addition to the national Young Leaders Conference in Manila, summits were organized in Cagayan de Oro, Roxas City, Antipolo, Baguio City, Cabanatuan, and Cavite City. YFWP also hosted singing and dancing competitions, a tree planting service project, and a forum on climate change. Some 2,500 Young Ambassadors for Peace have committed themselves to the ideals of service to others, family integrity, and interfaith cooperation in 2008.

### United States

In February, in partnership with the Universal Peace Federation and Martin Luther King III's Realizing the Dream, the U.S. Chapter sent a

contingent of young leaders to Israel and Palestine to explore new approaches to Peace. Later initiatives in Italy in September and the Middle East in December again included the key participation of U.S. delegates.

In conjunction with the Global Peace Festival in Washington, DC, more than 1000 area youth went to work throughout the district on service projects coordinated by the U.S. National Parks Service, the Boys and Girls Clubs, the National Arboretum, the DC Office on Aging,

Washington Parks and People, and the Anacostia Watershed Conservancy, among others.

In New York, volunteers collected donations throughout the tri-state region to resupply New York City's depleted food banks, assisted a city park tree-planting and restoration project, and supported a gang violence prevention program.

YFWP also organized two important youth forums at the United Nations Headquarters in New York. These forums addressed strategic responses to the problems of underdevelopment and the importance of an ethic of service and interreligious cooperation to create a culture of peace. ■



A question to the panel at the YFWP-sponsored Youth Forum at the United Nations in New York.

## Global Peace Festival

# Global Peace Festival

The Global Peace Festival has grown from a series of events in 2007 to a truly worldwide phenomenon in 2008. YFWP is proud to be a key partner along with the Universal Peace Federation, Points of Light, and others, in this global movement and has mobilized young leaders and engaged volunteer youth organizations in service for peace. Drawing more than a million partici-

*"The power of one human family united with the will of God can quell the turmoil of conflict throughout the world. It can end the strife and poverty of Africa, the conflict in the Middle East, and the final remnant of the Cold War on the Korean Peninsula."*

—GPF founder Dr. Hyun Jin Moon

pants from government, business, the volunteer sector, and communities of faith, the GPF is bringing the vision of One Family under God to influential young men and women who will take the lead in shaping the global society in the twenty-first century. YFWP played a lead role in organizing and supporting festivals in Paraguay, Kenya, the



The Global Peace Festival in Japan drew thousands to the main event in Tokyo.

# Global Peace Festival



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**The Global Peace Festival honors peace makers with celebrations and cultural performances, while engaging youth in service to the community. Below right: Malaysian astronaut Datuk Dr. Sheikh Muszaphar Shukor speaks at the main event at the Global Peace Festival in Malaysia.**

Philippines, Brazil, Malaysia, Japan, Korea, Mongolia, Israel, Great Britain, and the United States.

Service to local communities is one of the most rewarding aspects of the Global Peace Festival and youth are among the most active and enthusiastic volunteers of area service projects.

Festival projects included the cleanup of the polluted Nairobi

River during the Kenya GPF, city-wide service projects in Asunción, and the collection of food donations for deleted food banks in New York City.

The Global Peace Festival is more than a celebration. It is a new paradigm of grassroots peace activism, engaging all segments of society, young and old, as principal stakeholders in achieving lasting peace. ■



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## International Advisory Board

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