

Albanians' Peace Council Established in Kosovo

Hotel Theranda, Prizren, 17. November 2013



The newly established Albanian Peace Council

Establishing an Albanians' Peace Council which could include all the Albanians living in Albania, Kosovo, Montenegro, Macedonia, South Serbia and North-West Greece was the goal of UPF Albania and Kosovo since two years ago when we concluded the National Peace Council Assembly on November 2011.

During these past two years we could develop further this idea by trying to bring together top Ambassadors for Peace from the above mentioned countries. The first concrete step was the European Leadership Conference organized last year on 27 – 28th of April 2012 in Tirana with title "The Role of Albanian People for Lasting Peace in Balkans." That conference brought together top VIPs and Ambassadors for Peace from Albania, Kosovo, Macedonia, Montenegro, Southern Serbia and Cameria (North-West Greece). Key VIPs were appointed as Ambassadors for Peace and encouraged to see Albanian people from another viewpoint, their historical course and the role they could play in Balkans as a Nation of Peace.

That conference was followed by another European Conference which took place in Kosovo one month later on May 27th – 28th in cooperation with Ministry of Justice of Kosovo Government. Both these conferences created a foundation to build upon and after continuous communication and discussions; we decided to convene the official event to establish Albanians' Peace Council.

For organizational matters and reduce of costs, we decided to hold the event on the same place and date with the Assembly of National Peace Council of UPF Albania which took place from 17th – 18th of November in Hotel Theranda, Prizren – Kosovo. After concluding successfully the Assembly of UPF Albania with the participation of over 130 Ambassadors for Peace, on the afternoon of the 18th of November we brought together 23 top VIPs and Ambassadors for Peace from Albania, Kosovo, Macedonia, Montenegro, Southern Serbia and Cameria (North-West Greece). Among them we can mention the Former President of Albania H. E. Alfred Moisiu (2002-2007), Former President of Albania H.



Mr Gani Rroshi, national leader of Albania opens the meeting with a prayer

E. Rexhep Meidani (1997-2002), Former President of Kosovo H. E. Fatmir Sejdiu (2006-2010), Peace activist and Saharov Peace Prize winner Mr. Adem Demaci from Kosovo etc.



The event started at 16.00 moderated by **Mr. Ali Lacey** – former Chairman of UPF Albania and one of the AfP who got the inspiration to establish such a Peace Council. Mr. Lacey is one of those close AfP in Albania who has studied Divine Principle,

attended the ODP seminar in Germany, received Blessing and understands True Parents. He said that the Founders of UPF brought the inspiration and have enlightened all of us being here today by appointing as Ambassadors for Peace and supported us to be organized and be here today.



After welcoming everybody, Mr. Lacey gave the floor to **Mr. Bajram Ibraj** – chairman of UPF Albania who explained how the idea of establishing the Council arouse two years ago and the process of preparations until this day when all those

dignitaries had come to attend and be part the this historical event. Mr. Ibraj explained also the spiritual background and how this initiative was to be developed based on UPF founders' teachings.



Then, three Former Presidents shared their thoughts and gave their input based on the general goal of the Albanians' Peace Council to make our nation the "The Ambassador for Peace Nation" in Balkans and beyond by giving also concrete

proposals on how the Peace Council can fulfill its objectives for peace among Albanians and making Albanian people a model for peace in Balkans and beyond. **Pres. Moisiu** in his speech said *"we as AfP who have taken the decision to follow these principles and achieve its goals since we decided to be part of this movement, should know clearly that nothing can be done without continuous investment*

and hard work. Therefore we should work hard to reach our goal to bring peace among people, among states and nations. As Mother Teresa said, even what you do is as small as a drop of water in the ocean Do It, because if you don't then the ocean will be without that drop. Therefore we AfP are most interested to bring about reconciliation among peoples and nations based on teachings of Rev. Mun and his followers.."



Afterwards, **Pres. Meidani** among others mentioned *"I propose that our Peace Council should focus on several specific areas where we give our input. One of them is promoting and strengthening the Interreligious harmony*

and tolerance we have in Albania. Another focus could be the involvement of AfP on reducing and eliminating the blood feud problems in northern Albania."



Other speakers and participants in this historical event were: **Pres. Fatmir Sejdiu** – President of Kosovo 2006-2010, Mr. Nail Draga – chairman of Peace Council Ulqin Montenegro, Prof. Dr. Shezai Rrokaj – Former Rector of Tirana

University and Chairman of Albanian National peace Council 2009-2011, Prof. Dr. Selman Sheme – founder of Camera Association, Prof. Dr. Daut Demaku – founder of Positive Thinking Center in Kosovo, Dr. Saemira Pino – Former deputy Minister of Education Albania, Mr. Ismajl Kurteshi – Chairman of UPF Kosovo, Mr. Jonuz Musliu –

Chairman of Local Parliament in South Serbia (Bujanovc), Mr. Gaqo Apostoli – Former Minister of Transports and Member of Global Peace Council, Mr. Hydajet Hyseni – member of Global Peace Council and Kosovo MP, Dr. Arben Malaj – Chairman of Albanian National Peace Council and Former Minister of Finance, Mrs. Lavdie Ruci – Chairman of National Peace Council UPF Albania 2011-2013, Gen. Bilbil Mema – Former General Director of State Police, Dr. Astrit Memia – Mamber of Albania UPF Presiding Council, Mr. Meriman Braha – Secretary of Kosovo Politically Persecuted Association, Secretary



generals of UPF Albania and Kosovo and several other VIPs.



The closing speech was given by **Pres. Ahn** who shared True Parents viewpoint on how to build lasting peace. He shared also the suffering history of Korean people and what Albanians can learn from it. After congratulating the

establishment of the Albanians' Peace Council, Pres. An proposed also that it would be of great contribution to Peace in Balkans that we establish a Balkan Interreligious and Interethnic Peace Council

by bringing together all Balkan nations so that substantial reconciliation can take place in this peninsula. At the end of the meeting, after all the speakers had shared their thoughts and opinions, Mr. Ali Lacej asked the President of the Family Federation Albania Mr. Gani Rroshi to offer a prayer and offer this meeting to God. After the prayer, all 23 participants signed the agreed declaration of the establishment of Albanians' Peace Council which appointed Mr. Ali Lacej and Mr. Hydajet Hyseni as Coordinators of the Peace Council until next meeting where also the leading structure will be elected. The event finished with a group photo and free discussion during the dinner.

Reported by:
Gani Rroshi – Albanian NL



The Former President of Albania H. E. Alfred Moisiu (2002-2007), Former President of Albania H. E. Rexhep Meidani (1997-2002), Former President of Kosovo H. E. Fatmir Sejdiu (2006-2010) signing the declaration of the Albanian Peace Council