Annual Report:

Korean Conference of Religions for Peace (KCRP) 2022

Korean Conference of Religions for Peace (KCRP) Projects

1. Interfaith Stay

KCRP provided interfaith experiences to the general public through its "Interfaith Stay" program, where participants had the opportunity to learn about the seven major religions of Korea while staying at different religious facilities for two nights and three days. This year's Interfaith Stay Program was conducted from October 2022 to February 2023, under the theme "Different is Also Beautiful", with a limited number of participants due to COVID-19 restrictions. The entire program is documented and uploaded as a series of videos on the official YouTube channel of KCRP: https://www.youtube.com/@_kcrp3262.

2. Carbon Neutrality Action Campaign

The Campaign called for all the seven religions under KCRP to discuss strategies on fostering collaboration between religious organizations for the implementation of various environmental initiatives and carbon neutrality policies. To determine how the religious sector can contribute to carbon neutrality practices, KCRP conducted the campaign in three parts: (1) conducting discussions on carbon neutrality practices for each of the seven religions, (2) formulating a set of manuals based on the discussions of each of the seven religions on carbon-neutral practices, and (3) preserving the manuals in an online archive for future reference.

3. Religious Youth Peace Camp

The Camp was held for two nights and three days from January 13 to 15, 2023 on Jeju Island, Korea. The agenda of the camp this year centered on the introduction of the newly formed Youth Committee of KCRP as well as discussions on programs for the coming year. These discussions also included conversations about various activities and future plans that were postponed for several years due to the COVID-19 pandemic.

4. Monthly Korean Newspaper < Joggyo wa Pyeong Hwa>

KCRP publishes a monthly newspaper called "Jonggyo wa Pyeonghwa" (Religion and Peace) in Korean. The newspaper covers a wide range of topics related to the seven religions represented by KCRP.

5. ACRP Contribution Support

KCRP donated 20 million Korean Won to ACRP as part of their efforts to promote peace among Asian religious communities and worldwide.

International Peace Corps of Religions (IPCR) Projects 2022

1. Interfaith Seminar on Islam and Interfaith Exchanges

On December 5 and 6, 2022, the interfaith seminars were held to address negative perceptions of Islam as a religion and the Muslim culture as well as to promote its peaceful integration into the Korean society. The discussions also covered various issues related to Islamic culture, including the hijab crisis in Iran.

2. Northeast Asia Seminar

The aim of this seminar was to explore practical approaches that religion can take to reduce tensions in Northeast Asia. The seminar was co-hosted by KCRP, RfP Japan, and CCRP, and took place on February 11, 2023 in Seoul, Korea. The participants discussed a range of perspectives from each country, with a particular emphasis on the themes of nature, humanity, and religion.

3. Korea-Japan Religious Leaders' Meetings

From December 20-23, 2022 religious leaders from Korea and Japan met in Tokyo to strengthen the bonds of friendship between the two countries. During the meeting, they discussed plans for various projects that had been put on hold due to the COVID-19 pandemic.

4. Quarterly Magazine <Religion & Peace>

The IPCR publishes a quarterly English magazine called <Religion & Peace>, which covers a broad range of topics related to religion, both within and beyond Korea.

Seoul Peace Education Center 2022

1. Peace School for Religious Youth

This program aimed to train a new generation of experts in peaceful inter-Korean unification and exchanges. It took place from November 2022 to January 2023 wherein youth members of the seven religions represented by KCRP participated in its Peace School and Peace Pilgrimage programs. The activities and lectures were designed to educate the participants about the history of Korea and the reality of its division, with the goal of preparing and training them as future activists in the peaceful unification of the Korean peninsula.

2. Asian Religious Youth Peace Camp

In coordination with Asian Conference of Religions for Peace, RfP Philippines, and the Asia & the Pacific Interfaith Youth Network (APIYN), the Seoul Peace Education Center co-hosted a youth peace camp in Manila, Philippines from February 5-8, 2023 under the theme "Asia Youth as Peacebuilders". The camp was attended by approximately 40 individuals, including religious youth from 11 different Asian countries.