



3-9 DECEMBER 2009

MELBOURNE AUSTRALIA

www.parliamentofreligions.org

The Wurundjeri people welcome you to Melbourne for the 2009 Parliament.

– Professor Joy Murphy Wandin AO,
Senior Woman of the Wurundjeri People

The **2009 Parliament of the World's Religions**, in Melbourne, Australia, will be an international interreligious gathering spanning seven nights and six days – from December 3rd to 9th – bringing together over 8,000 people from around the world.

The Council invites all people of faith and spirit to encounter the vast and rich diversity of the world's religious and spiritual traditions and take part in over 450 events including keynote addresses, seminars, conferences, dialogues, performances, concerts and exhibitions, all focused on the theme:

**Make a World of Difference:
Hearing each other, Healing the earth.**

The theme reflects the urgent need for religious and spiritual communities and all people of goodwill to act on their concerns for the environment, peace, and overcoming poverty, and to take responsibility for cultivating awareness of our global interconnectedness. In our differences lies great opportunity; we can make a world out of our difference. Hearing each other, we can move towards a more just, peaceful and sustainable future. Healing the earth is our common task: to heal is to set right and repair, to restore to health and spiritual wholeness. This is hopeful work.

We look forward to people from around the world convening and renewing their commitment to the future of the planet.

Religion and spirituality are the keys to open our hearts and see everyone with compassion.

– Her Holiness Sri Sri Mata Amritanandamayi Devi,
Keynote Address, Closing Plenary Session of the 2004
Parliament of World's Religions



Council for a Parliament of the World's Religions

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Major sponsors of the 2009 Parliament are:



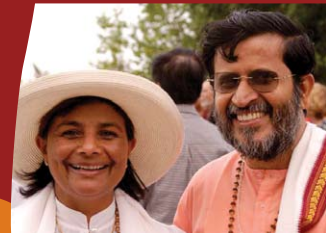
Australian Government

**Department of Immigration
and Citizenship**



ATTEND

The Council
for a Parliament
of the World's
Religions
invites you to attend
a series of
Chicago luncheons,
community celebrations
and forums.



The Council for a Parliament
of the World's Religions



Chicago is the birthplace of the interreligious movement, dating back to the first World Parliament of Religions in 1893. It continues to be a center of interreligious organization and innovation. The Council for a Parliament of the World's Religions invites you to a series of events highlighting the interreligious movement in Chicago, and the religious and spiritual diversity of Chicago.

CHICAGO

Chicago Pre-Parliament Celebration

In anticipation of the 2009 Parliament of the World's Religions in Melbourne, Australia December 3–9, 2009, Pre-Parliament Events will be held in Australia and around the world.

This taste of the Parliament experience is a full-day interreligious gathering providing an opportunity for neighbors and friends to come together and experience a taste of the 2009 Parliament. Participants will attend spiritual observances, workshops, dialogues, presentations and performances.

December 7, 2008

University of Illinois at Chicago Forum
725 W. Roosevelt Rd.
Chicago, IL 60608

Downtown Luncheon Series

This series of noon-time luncheons feature several creative expressions of the interreligious movement that are flourishing in the Chicago area. Participants will also be updated on progress toward the Melbourne, Australia 2009 Parliament of the World's Religions.

Spertus Institute of Jewish Studies
610 South Michigan Avenue
Chicago, IL 60605

May 29, 2008

Why the Interreligious Movement and the Parliament of the World's Religions Matter

Dr. Rachel Bronson
Vice President of Programs and Studies,
The Chicago Council on Global Affairs

September 18, 2008

Islam in America

Dr. Akbar Ahmed
Ibn Khaldun Chair of Islamic Studies,
American University

October 24, 2008

The Interreligious Mission of Joseph Cardinal Bernardin and the Bernardin Center

Reverend Donald Senior
President, Catholic Theological Union

February 26, 2009

The Interfaith Youth Core: Cultivating Leadership

Dr. Eboo Patel
Executive Director, The Interfaith Youth Core

April 22, 2009

Our Common Religious Responsibility for the Earth and for Each Other

Reverend Dirk Ficca
Executive Director,
The Council for a Parliament of the World's Religions



Community Celebrations and Forums

The Council for a Parliament of the World's Religions invites you to attend a series of Chicago celebrations and forums hosted by various religious and spiritual communities in the Chicago area.

June 14, 2008

Sikh Celebration of the 300th Anniversary of Sikh Scripture

Sikh Gurdwara of Palatine
1280 West Winnetka Dr, Palatine, IL 60074

September 19, 2008

Pagan Celebration of the Autumn Equinox

7 – 9:30pm
Lake Street Church
607 Lake Street, Evanston, IL 60201

October 12, 2008

Zoroastrian Forum

Living in Harmony with the Earth

Zoroastrian Center of Chicago
8615 Meadowbrook Dr, Burr Ridge, IL 60527

March 2009

Jain Celebration and Forum

Jain Society of Metropolitan Chicago
435 N Route 59, Bartlett, IL 60103

June 14, 2009

International Buddhism Festival celebrating the birth, enlightenment and death of the Buddha

Buddhist Council of the Midwest

Additional celebrations and forums hosted by the following communities of Chicago will be announced at a later date: Catholic, Muslim, Bahá'í, Jewish, and Hindu. Please check our website for upcoming information.

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