

Religions for Peace, Asia (ACRP)
Asia Pacific Women of Faith Network (APWoFN)

A Virtual Summit on

The Reality of Human Trafficking

1. Rationale

Human trafficking is a widespread global issue affecting many people at varying levels. It is a complex criminal behavior with many different and unsettling manifestations from labor trafficking in fishing vessels of Southeast Asia, to domestic servitude in the Middle East, child labor in the brick kilns of South Asia, to commercial sex trafficking in the major cities of Asia and Europe. The International Labor Organization (ILO) estimates that globally there are 40.3 million people in modern slavery today. Global trends indicate that 71% of trafficked victims are women and girls while men and boys account for 29%. Human trafficking is a lucrative global trade. According to the ILO report human trafficking earns global profits of roughly \$150B a year \$99B of which come from commercial sexual exploitation.

Human trafficking is such a complex phenomenon which makes it extremely difficult to address and is becoming increasingly challenging to governments and anti-trafficking advocates. Its global nature transcends geopolitical borders, yet its execution is local. As a crime with both global and local dimensions, human trafficking must be countered with tools that are both global and local and would require robust collaborations across borders between the public and private sectors; governments, businesses, civil society groups and faith-based organizations (FBOs)

FBOs such as Religions for Peace, have the unique capacity to engage in advocacy against human trafficking. FBOs build on their religious tradition of charity and justice on their commitment to taking common action for the common good as well as in their ideological frame of promoting the dignity of the human person. As grassroots organizations they have the expertise to work with the poor and underserved communities. They bring people together and strengthen community bonds. And while working at local levels FBOs have a broad reach deploying their institutional networks that span across global regions as well as social classes to promote advocacies and deliver critical services. It is in this light that Religions for Peace, Asia (ACRP) has adopted Human Trafficking as a flagship program. This webinar is part of a continuing effort in raising public awareness on the realities of human trafficking in the region.

2. Dates: January 14th-15th, 2021 /12:00-14:30 (JST)

3. Organizer: Asia Pacific Women of Faith Network

4. Venue: Zoom Online Symposium

5. Theme: The Reality of Human Trafficking in Asia

6. Language: English/Japanese (*Simultaneous interpretation is available)

7. Registration *Registration is required to join this symposium.

Programme

(Time: Japan Time)

[DAY 1]

Time	SESSION	CONTENT	Resource Person/Presenter	Moderator
12:00 - 12:15	Opening	Interfaith Prayer		Pablito Baybado, Jr.
		Welcome Remarks	Rev. Nobuhiro Nemoto ACRP Secretary General	
		Opening Remarks	Rev. Yukiko Moriwaki	
		Orientation: APWoFN	Dr. Lilian Sison Chairperson, Asia-Pacific Women of Faith Network	
12:15- 13:15	Plenary 1: Spiritual Reflections on Human Trafficking	Buddhism	Rev. Yoshinori Shinohara Secretary General Religions for Peace Japan	
		Islam	Dr. Macrina Morados Dean, Institute of Islamic Studies University of the Philippines	
		Christianity	Most Rev. Yvon Ambroise Chairman, FABC Office of Human Development	
13:20 - 14:20	Plenary 2: The State of Human Trafficking in South Asia	Bangladesh	Dr. Rashida Khanam	Yasuko Miyoshi
		India	Dr. Deepali Bhanot Religions for Peace India	
		Nepal	Ms. Pooja Manandhar	
		Pakistan	Ms. Huma Ikramullah	
14:20- 14:30	Wrap-up		Prof. Pablito Baybado, Jr.	

[DAY 2]

Time	SESSION	CONTENT	Resource Person/Presenter	Moderator
12:00 - 12:10	Opening Remarks		Rev. Masamichi Kamiya	
12:10 – 13:20	Plenary 3: The State of Human Trafficking in Southeast and East Asia	Indonesia	Ms. Elga Serapung	Ms. Haidi Fajardo
		Myanmar	Daw Yin Yin Maw	
		Philippines	Lilian Sison/Gigi Tupas	
		Thailand	Dr. Suphatmet Yunyasit	
		South Korea	Ms. Hyunmi Ahn	
13:25– 14:20	Plenary 4: Special Topics	Technology and Human Trafficking	Alison Rahill Australia	Dr. Joan Christi Bagaipo
		Human Trafficking from the Perspective of the Youth	John Ismael Medina APIYN	
		Working Together to fight Human Trafficking in our communities	Renz Christian Argao	
14:20 – 14:30	Closing Remarks		Dr. Deepali Bhanot – Co-Chair of APWoFN	
			Dr. Desmond Cahill – ACRP Deputy Moderator	