



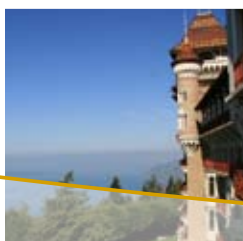
making peace, inspiring change

The Learning to Be a Peacemaker training program aims to inspire young Muslims to become ambassadors and agents of peace. Spreading peace should be seen as a primary faith objective.

The course enables participants to explore what peacemaking means and what it entails. They journey through various aspects of the life of the Prophet and his peacemaking efforts. The program studies in detail the theological principles of peacemaking through the examination of Islamic texts and its contexts. The participants study carefully the characteristics of peacemakers and peacemaking and its effects on communities and the world.

Most importantly, participants plan a practical project to demonstrate learning and their commitment to peacemaking. Participants undertake the project during the course or on their return home.

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As a non-Muslim I was in the privileged position of learning more than anyone. Whilst my knowledge of Islam, the Qu'ran and Sunnah grew, conversations with friends from France, Sweden and the UK, widened my understanding of what it means to be a Muslim today in a sometimes hostile society... The friendships that were formed will be lasting, and more importantly, they will be the foundations of a new initiative in Europe to prevent the lack of understanding continuing to be an obstacle to peace."

Vanessa Lucas, Bristol, UK

Learning to be a Peacemaker

Nurturing the Islamic peace culture for young Muslims in Europe

20th - 31st July 2011
Caux, Switzerland

Deadline extended to 1st July



PeaceMakers



What is Peacemakers?

Learning to be a peacemaker

The terrorist bombings of New York, London and Madrid have brought the Muslims in Europe into sharper focus. Citizens of Europe from the ordinary public to politicians and academics, are left with the following unanswered questions:

- ◆ Is Islam inherently a violent religion?
- ◆ Are Muslims so blinded by their hatred towards their fellow non-Muslim citizens, that they indiscriminately kill innocent people?
- ◆ Are Muslims more interested in integrating into European society or in taking Europe over?

The blessed Prophet Muhammed said, 'spread peace'. On another occasion he said, "I have been sent as a messenger so that I may demonstrate perfection of character and refinement of manners". At the heart of the answers to the above questions lies the inalienable fact that many young Muslims today are not familiar with the true message of Islam and the peacemaking nature of the Prophet.

The Learning to be Peacemaker training programme aims to

- ◆ inspire young Muslims to become ambassadors or agents of peace
- ◆ reorient young Muslims around the primary faith objective of Islam - spreading peace
- ◆ Build their capacities to actively engage in peacemaking initiatives

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The aim of the programme is to create courageous, effective and highly-trained peacemakers who become ambassadors and agents of peace.

Course Modules

1. Peacemakers' Jurisprudence (fiqh)
2. Peacemaking and War
3. Prophet the Peacemaker
4. Violence and extremism
5. Loyalty and Citizenship
6. How to become a Peacemaker?

Criteria

- ◆ Age between 18-30
- ◆ Living in any European country
- ◆ Willingness to sign up to change through peaceful means



“ One of the strengths between theoretical examples, making them integrate and use

Asma Soltani, France

What is the programme?

In this programme, young Muslims drawn from all over Europe will:

- ◆ **LEARN** Islam's approach to peace and how it responds to extremism and violence
- ◆ **DEVELOP** the capacity for honest conversation and improve your listening and negotiating skills with people of all backgrounds
- ◆ **STUDY** examples of peacemaking from the life of the blessed Prophet Muhammad and the lives of contemporary figures from different traditions
- ◆ **GAIN** in-depth understanding of approaches and terms used in contemporary peacemaking
- ◆ **BECOME** a peacemaker and share peacemaking

The programme has two parts:

- ◆ Part 1: Peacemaking in Islam (20-26 July 2011)
- ◆ Part 2: Learning to live in a multicultural world - diaspora and peacemaking in Europe (26-31 July 2011). Participation in a 5-day international conference on the contribution of diasporas to peacemaking, comprising interactive seminars, discussion groups and courses on skills and personal qualities necessary for peacemakers.

Languages:

The majority of the training will be delivered in English and there will be simultaneous interpretation to and from French and German

Serving each other: Part of the special ethos of the Caux centre is that everyone learns to serve others by participating each day in some aspect of preparing, serving and clearing-up meals



How much does it cost?

Cost for 11-day programme including accommodation and meals:

- ◆ 18-23 year olds and full-time students: CHF605 (±€465/£390)
 - ◆ Over-23s in employment: CHF1012 (±€775/£650)
- (In case of hardship, some assistance towards costs may be possible)*

How do I apply?

If you are a Muslim aged between 18 and 30, live in Europe and have a passion for dialogue, understanding the other and peacemaking, email your CV and a statement explaining why you would like to take part in this programme to admin@communitiesinaction.org

Deadline extended to 1st July

Where?

Venue:

Initiatives of Change Conference Centre, Rue du Panorama, 1824 Caux, Switzerland.

www.caux.ch

The conference centre is situated above Montreux, two hours by train from Geneva

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