



Dear Friend,

Once again we are happy to share with you the Elijah Interfaith Institute's most recent activities. We have much to report and hope you enjoy this month's *Wisdom* e-newsletter.

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**News Update - Exciting Calendar of 2005 activities; launch of new website**

We are delighted to share with you Elijah's activity plan of major events scheduled for 2005. We are sure you will find these events as exciting and inspirational as we do.

- Jan 3-6** - First Congress of Imams and Rabbis for Peace, Brussels
- April** - Inaugural Meeting for establishment of North American Elijah-McGill University Religious Studies and Schools of Theology Academic Consortium
- April** - Think tank Meeting on the "Crisis of the Holy" plus public Conference on "The Holy as Source of Violence and Peace", Jerusalem
- June** - Think tank, "Jewish Theology of the Religious Other", Scranton
- June** - Summer School, McGill University
- July** - Think tank, "Crisis of the Holy"  
- Conference, "God or not to God", Arkansas  
- Presentation "Theology of the Religious Other", Jerusalem  
- Think tank meeting, "Fundamentalism and Education", Jerusalem
- Nov** - Conference "Mysticism and Peace: the Spiritual Contributions of the Religions to Global Justice", Zug, Switzerland
- Nov/Dec** - Board of World Religious Leaders Meeting, Taiwan

Requests for further information on any of the above events should be sent to [admin@elijah.org.il](mailto:admin@elijah.org.il).

The Elijah Interfaith Institute will also shortly be launching its newly redesigned website. The site's new features allow you to bring the wisdom of the eminent scholars and religious leaders to your desktop. Our extensive library of audio recordings on interfaith subjects has been digitized, and lectures are available for purchase in the "recordings" section. Papers delivered at previous events are available for download. New members will be able to join our interfaith forum and participate in virtual interfaith dialogue. To get a sneak peak at the new web site, visit [www.elijah.org.il](http://www.elijah.org.il).



### Sharing Reflections - Beautiful Testimony From Imams and Rabbis for Peace

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A beautiful testimony to the dignity of man, extolling forgiveness, mercy, and understanding to others, was quoted in the following source used by the Imams and Rabbis for Peace. The fourth caliph of Islam and son in law of the Prophet, Ali ibn Abi Talib, wrote to a governor he had appointed: "Infuse your heart with mercy, love and kindness for your subjects. Be not in face of them a voracious animal, counting them as easy prey, for they are of two kinds; either they are your brothers in religion or your equals



in creation. Error catches them unaware, deficiencies overcome them, evil deeds are committed by them intentionally and by mistake. So grant them your pardon and your forgiveness to the same extent that you hope God will grant you His pardon and His forgiveness. For you are above them, and he who appointed them is above, and God is above him who appointed you."

### Getting Involved - A Limited-Edition Offer

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We are thrilled by the response we received to our offer to recipients of our last newsletter to receive a copy of "Judaism and Islam: Directions for Dialogue, Collaboration and Mutual Recognition". This ground-breaking work in interfaith dialogue, developed by a think tank of eminent Islamic and Jewish scholars, was produced especially for the First World Congress of Imams and Rabbis for Peace, held in Brussels, January 3<sup>rd</sup> through 6<sup>th</sup>, 2005. The work, in English, French, Arabic and Hebrew, received enthusiastic praise from the Congress participants.

We have only a limited stock of this work remaining and urge you not to miss the opportunity of receiving a copy.

We are offering while stock lasts, to all donors who contribute US \$20.00 or more to the Institute's ongoing activities, a free official copy of this publication in acknowledgment of their support. Remember, the Elijah Interfaith Institute and all our 2005 activities are largely dependent on your active support and generosity. If you believe in our mission, namely fostering peace among faith communities by integrating the lived spirituality and wisdom of world religions with the highest level of scholarly and academic work, in order to address pressing issues of our contemporary global society, then make a donation now.

Donations can be made at

<http://www.elijah.org.il/participate/donate.shtml>

or by sending a check to our administrative offices:

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