

Religious Alliance for Peace: The Path with HWPL

- Efforts and Activities to Build Religious Solidarity in Mongolia -

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Greetings, I am Sainbuyan Nergui of Sain Nomuun Monastery. It is an honor to be present at today's 2023 HWPL Global Peace Leaders' Conference giving this speech.

Mongolia has a long religious history, and it is especially necessary to remember the time of Chinggis Khan's Pax Mongolica. It is known that the first Mongol law enacted by Chinggis Khan allowed religious tolerance and freedom. Chinggis Khan's Mongol Law stipulated that "no one shall be disturbed or harassed for reasons of religion" and "everyone shall enjoy the freedom to freely confess what they think is best." Mongolia was a country with such religious tolerance and developed based on that foundation.



Sain Nomuun Monastery was established in the Nalaikh District in 1990. It's already been 30 years. Now the Monastery is expanding and as a result, it has become a religious complex center. We are organizing various religious activities as well as paying attention to the education of monks. It founded the religious secondary school called "Chandmani Erdene" and obtained support from the monks of Sain Nomuun Monastery in 1998.

In the past years, we had worked with the aim of Sain Nomuun Monastery becoming a religious complex center that combined the traditional Buddhist religion of Mongolia with the present. There are 4 basic sections of activities at Sain Nomuun Monastery complex consisting of religious customs and religious ministrations; secondary schooling and religious education; meditation, yoga, and psychology training; and humanities, creative arts, etc.

Sain Nomuun is also carrying out practical activities for inter-religious harmony and communication by inheriting advanced religious culture. A representative activity is attending HWPL's World Alliance of Religions' Peace (WARP) Office. Monk Tserendorj Ninjchorol, who is the Vice Khamba Lama at the Monastery, has attended the WARP Office for about 7 years from 2016 to the present, sharing various opinions and communicating with other religions based on scriptures. Also, this June, we signed an MOU with HWPL for closer collaboration.

All religions know the will of God and strive to follow it. And God's will can be known through the scriptures. There are many other inter-religious activities, but HWPL is special in that it communicates with other religions based on scriptures. Through these activities, we will be able to revitalize the culture of religious tolerance and communication, as in the case of *Pax Mongolica*, and restore the will of God according to trustworthy scriptures.

In order to revitalize this peaceful religious culture, Sain Nomuun Monastery co-hosted the Mongolian Religious Forum titled "Solidarity of Religious Leaders" on June 20 to bring together various religious people in Mongolia. Through this event, Mongolian religious people have once again realized that there were religious teachings behind Mongolia's proud history. In addition, Mongolian religious people have been reminded of their mission to inform citizens of peaceful religious culture in solidarity.

In particular, I believe that HWPL's International Religious Peace Academy(IRPA) is a groundbreaking peace project in this global era where we need more understanding, respect, and solidarity with one another. In order to achieve perfect religious peace, religious leaders must first support and work together in the work of peace. In that sense, the IRPA is a project that can bring together religious leaders to learn about each other's religion through genuine exchange and achieve inter-religious peace.

I have been teaching the classes on Buddhism in the IRPA since July. As a Buddhist lecturer, I gave lectures informing people of various religions around the world about the true meaning of the Buddhist scriptures. At the same time, I was also learning about their religions which made this time all the more meaningful for me. Many people think and feel that it is difficult to achieve inter-religious peace. However, HWPL's courageous initiative to resolve such difficult and challenging endeavor for peace is greatly commendable and deserves much respect. I am proud to be with HWPL as a family of peace.

Furthermore, I would like to take this opportunity to express my gratitude once again to HWPL Chairman Mr. Lee Man-hee for inviting me to this World Peace Summit and for giving us valuable teachings of peace. I was able to communicate with many religious people from all over the world, be enlightened of our duties and in solidarity with them for the cause of peace. In this light, I am confident that the Peace Network created through HWPL will spread beyond Korea to Mongolia and the world, so that peace can be achieved without fail.

Sain Nomuun Monastery promises to be with HWPL as an active peace family. Until the day all religious people realize the will of God and fulfill their mission of peace, I will do my part.

Thank you.