

## Program At A Glance

The 2009 Parliament will offer more than 500 programs including dialogues, workshops, symposia, performances and exhibits, featuring programs on religion and the environment, and Aboriginal and Indigenous leaders from around the world, as well as religious leaders from all the world's religions. Below is just a sample of what the programming will include.

### Daily Schedule

### Sample Programs

### Sample Presenters/Speakers

#### 08.00 – 09.00 Observances

[Click Here for the Full List of Major Speakers](#)

Offerings from diverse religious and spiritual traditions

**Buddhist meditation and chanting** ·  
**Christian meditation** · **Simran (Sikh contemplative meditation)** ·  
**Sufi whirling dervishes** · **Hindu observances** · **Yoruba spiritual practices** · **Sunrise ceremony** ·  
**Labyrinth** · **Sacred art** · **Qur'anic recitation** · **Aboriginal healing** ·  
**Yoga** · **Sacred dance** · **Scriptural readings** · **Jewish Morning Service** ·  
*many more...*

- **Buddhist Monastic Leaders** Melbourne Buddhist Community, Australia
  - **Fr. Laurence Freeman** World Community for Christian Meditation, UK
  - **Bhai Kultar Singh** Sikh musicians, India
  - **Uncle Reg Blow** CEO of Maya Living Free Healing Association, Australia
  - **Prof. Wande Abimbola** World Spokesperson for Ifá and Yoruba Religion, Nigeria
- And many more*

#### 09.30 – 11.00 Intrareligious Programs

Speakers from a single religious tradition express their identities, discuss their challenges and showcase their messages

**Hearing each other: Australian Aboriginal spirituality** · **New religious movements - Perspectives on spiritual presence** · **Christian churches of Australia** · **Orthodoxy in Australia** · **Multiple voices of Islam** · **Hinduism and political leadership** · **Confucian humanism, Indigenous traditions and sacred sites** · **Christianity and ecology** · **Asian religions and ecology on the ground** · **Confronting religious extremism** · **Pilgrimages and religious tourism** · *many more...*

- **Ms. Dalia Mogahed** Executive Director of the Gallup Center for Muslim Studies, member of the Advisory Council for the White House Office of Faith-Based and Neighbourhood Partnerships
  - **Prof. Joy Murphy Wandin** Senior Aboriginal Woman of the Wurundjeri People Australia
  - **Dr. Karan Singh** Indian politician, author, diplomat, India
  - **Dr. Akbar Ahmed** Anthropologist, filmmaker, diplomat, USA
  - **Rabbi Dr. David Rosen KCSG** International Director of Interreligious Affairs, American Jewish Committee
  - **Cardinal George Pell** Archbishop of Sydney
  - **Aunty Doreen Garvey Wandin** Wurundjeri-Wandooon Elder, Melbourne
  - **Dr. Homi B. Dhalia** World Zarthushti Cultural Foundation, India
  - **Mrs. Lally Lucretia M. Warren** National Spiritual Assembly of the Baha'is in Botswana
  - **Dr. Tu Weiming** Harvard Yenching Institute, USA and Peking University, China
- And many more*

#### 11.30 – 13.00 Interreligious Programs

Speakers from two or more religious traditions engage with each other seeking greater understanding

**Australian interfaith initiatives** · **Role of minority religions** · **Social cohesion in Australia** · **Divine feminine** · **Interfaith dialogue and peacemaking** · **Jewish interreligious work** · **Gender and peacebuilding** · **Religious women and development** · **Healing the earth** · **Science and religion** · **Access to food and water** · **Religious ethics and 'Corporate Social Responsibility'** · **Interfaith peacebuilding** · **Right relationships** · **Perspectives on the family** · **Cultivating insight** · **Sustainable living** · **Interfaith marriages** · **End of life concerns** · *many more...*

- **Sister Joan Chittister OSB** Benedictine nun and international lecturer, USA
- **Chief Oren Lyons** Native American Faithkeeper of the Turtle Clan of the Onondaga Nation USA
- **Jewish-Christian-Muslim Association speakers** JMCA enables people of faith to deepen their understanding by meeting. Victoria, Australia
- **Dr. Mary Evelyn Tucker** Co-Director of the Forum on Religion and Ecology, Yale University, USA
- **Dean Dipak C. Jain** Dean, Kellogg School of Management, Northwestern University, USA
- **Ven. Dharma Master Hsin Tao** Museum of World Religions, Taiwan
- **Ms. Margot Adler** National Public Radio reporter and writer on Paganism, USA
- **Hugh Evans** Director and Founder of the Global Poverty Project, Australia
- **Dr. William F. Vendley** Secretary General of Religions for Peace, USA

		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Rev. Dr. Shanta D. Premawardhana</b> <i>And many more</i></li> </ul>	World Council of Churches, Switzerland
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**14.30 – 16.00 Engagement**

Speakers from diverse religious traditions consider the challenges of our many crucial topics and the resources to meet them	<p><b>Faith and development work</b> · <b>Disaster relief</b> · <b>Caring practices for the earth</b> · <b>Inter-faith education</b> · <b>Conflict resolution</b> · <b>Inter-Faith action for peace in Africa</b> · <b>Perspectives on economic justice</b> · <b>Global sustainability</b> · <b>Millennium Development Goals</b> · <b>Human rights</b> · <b>Earth Charter as a global ethics</b> · <b>Religion and sport</b> · <b>Religion in cyberspace</b> · <b>Religion, HIV/AIDS and healthcare</b> · <b>Food and water - justice for all</b> · <i>many more...</i></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>His Holiness the Dalai Lama</b></li> <li>• <b>His Holiness Sri Sri Ravi Shankar</b></li> <li>• <b>Rev. Tim Costello</b></li> <li>• <b>Nazeem Hussain</b></li> <li>• <b>Dr. Chandra Muzaffar</b></li> <li>• <b>Rev. Dr. Ishmael Noko</b></li> <li>• <b>Dr. Azza Karam</b></li> <li>• <b>Ms. Tanya Oziel</b></li> <li>• <b>Mr. Steve Killelea</b></li> <li>• <b>Ms. Vicki Clarke</b></li> <li>• <b>Uncle Bob Randall</b></li> </ul> <p><i>And many more</i></p>	<p>Tibetan Buddhist Leader, India</p> <p>Spiritual and humanitarian leader, founder of Art of Living Foundation</p> <p>CEO World Vision Australia</p> <p>Comedian and Cast Member of Salam Cafe (Australian comedy talk show)</p> <p>The International Movement for a Just World, Malaysia</p> <p>General Secretary of the Lutheran World Federation and Inter-Faith Action for Peace in Africa</p> <p>UN Global Interfaith Network on Population and Development, USA</p> <p>Executive Director, The Peres Center for Peace – Australian Chapter</p> <p>Global Peace Index, Australia</p> <p>Mutti Mutti woman and co-ordinator of Aboriginal Catholic Ministry, Melbourne, Australia</p> <p>An Indigenous elder, member of the Yankunytjatjara people and one of the listed traditional owners of Uluru, Australia</p>
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**16.30 – 18.00 Open Space**

Rooms open for informal discussions	<p><b>Regional gatherings</b> · <b>Receptions for international groups</b> · <b>Networking sessions</b> · <b>Student groups</b> · <b>Special interest meetings</b> · <i>many more...</i></p>	<p>Interfaith groups such as:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Religions for Peace</b></li> <li>• <b>United Religions Initiative</b></li> <li>• <b>World Congress of Faiths</b></li> </ul> <p><i>And many more</i></p>
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**19.30 – 21.00 Evening Plenaries** [Click Here for the Full List of Major Speakers](#)

Thursday December 3	Friday December 4	Saturday December 5	Sunday December 6	Monday December 7	Tuesday December 8	Wednesday December 9
Opening Plenary	Communities Night	International Plenary	Sacred Music Concert	Youth Plenary	Melbourne Plenary	Closing Plenary
Official 'Welcome to Country' from the Aboriginal community and key government and international speakers with special artistic performances.	Melbourne's diverse religious and spiritual communities will host interstate and international visitors in local churches, temples, synagogues, mosques etc.	Presents the international interreligious movement and the UN Decade for Interreligious Dialogue by international speakers, international artists and performers.	Performances of the world's sacred music and movement by world-class musicians from diverse religious and spiritual traditions. It will include Muslim singer-songwriter Zain Bhikha; Indian flautist Natesan Ramani & singer Manjiri Kelkar; Jewish vocalists and ensemble of Dr Kim Cunio and Heather Lee.	Will showcase the work being done by young people around the world in tackling global issues and using creative mediums to effect change.	Presentations and performances celebrating Melbourne's religious and spiritual diversity and its vision for interfaith dialogue and cooperation.	Official closing plenary with highlights from participants' commitments, presentation of awards for contribution to the International Interreligious Movement, major speakers and artistic performances.