# SEASONS for PEACE and NONVIOLENCE



SPAN the next decade

### 2008-09

### **Compassionate Activism for Global Healing**

Co-founded and Convened by the Association for Global New Thought

Season of Interfaith Celebration (September-December, 2008)

Gandhi-King-Chavez Season for Nonviolence (January 30-April 4, 2009)

Season for the Earth (April-June, 2009)

Season for Humane Service (June-August, 2009)

#### The Next Decade of the

#### **Gandhi King Season for Nonviolence**

The Association for Global New Thought recently celebrated the 10th Anniversary of the Gandhi King Season for Nonviolence

Ten years in action, our collective vision has revolutionized the grassroots and New Thought movements!

We invite you and your community to join the AGNT "collaboratory" for the next decade of evolutionary activism

- Each year, FOUR "Seasons" will be celebrated. Choose to participate in every season, specific seasons, or focus on one season as a theme for your sustained work.
- Establish a PEACEPORT OFFICE an activated "node" that will hold and coordinate new resources for S.P.A.N.. PEACEPORTS and stamps will become part of your toolkit, along with cd-rom and start-up materials.
- The first Season: Season of Interfaith Celebration, From September 11–21, 2008, join hundreds of SNV task forces in prayer gatherings and vigils, focusing on interfaith prayer and harmony between the anniversary of Satyagraha (9/11/1906), and the United Nations' International Day of Peace

A Season for Nonviolence, January 30 – April 4, is a national 64-day educational, media, and grassroots campaign dedicated to demonstrating that nonviolence is a powerful way to heal, transform, and empower our lives and our communities. Inspired by the 50th and 30th memorial anniversaries of Mahatma Gandhi and Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr., this international event honors their vision for an empowered, nonviolent world.

## Season of Interfaith Celebration (September-December, 2008)

"Humanity stands at a crossroads between horror and hope. In choosing hope, we must seed a new consciousness, a radically fresh approach to life drawing its inspiration from perennial spiritual and moral insights, intuition and experience. We call this new awareness Interspiritual, implying not the homogenization of religion, but the recovering of the shared mystic heart beating in the center of the world's deepest spiritual traditions." Wayne Teasdale, The Mystic Heart

## Gandhi-King-Chavez Season for Nonviolence (January 30-April 4, 2009)

Keep being the change! Continue the decade-long legacy that communities like yours have brought to the meaningful advancement of spiritually-motivated nonviolent social change. Honor the memories of Sunanda Gandhi and Yolanda King — our dear friends lost in 2007. The tides of violence, local and global, are nearing the crests of evolution. New resources will be distributed.

# Season for the Earth (April-June, 2009)

Very few entire communities standing on solid spiritual ground are in as good a positon to respond to the challenges of a shifting planetary ecology as the one you are ALREADY PART OF. AGNT is partnering with the best in practical environmental programs to bring your group new resources tailored to spiritual activists. Stay tuned --we DO know how prayer and action work together for solutions.

# Season for Humane Service (June-August, 2009)

Katrina to Kenya... AIDS to Autism... Sri Lanka, India, Brazil, Pakistan, the Middle East...Conscious Service and Travel with Purpose are built into our "noetic code." This Season shares well researched opportunities for your community to choose the places and conditions where the heart of its humanity is most critical. Whether close to home, or among distant brothers and sisters whose distress is all but forgotten, your sacred service is needed. Background, training, and resources will be provided.

# SNV 1998-2008: Our "Collaboratory" for Spiritually-Motivated Social Action

The first decade of the Season for Nonviolence became successful because we all took responsibility, as a whole, for "being the change we wish to see in the world."

- We called out community together....
  - Churches and centers formed task forces
  - Individuals met among friends or sought out other groups
- We stood on a foundation of prayer and meditation, rooted in nonviolence
- We invited others from different religions, cultures, ideologies, and professions into a nonjudgmental, inclusive dialogue... we shared our stories
- > We studied common educational and training materials, developed resources, asked guestions, shared wisdom, learned from one another
- We became social strategists and organizational designers at a high level of competence – not because we adopted a hierarchy, but because we uncovered our collective gifts through a process of emergence
- We brought our programs and projects in front of decision- and policy-makers, local media, Boards of Education, and more
- We communicated our successes and challenges within our communities, and also to the central hub coordinating Season for Nonviolence so that our work could be shared as templates with others, reducing our collective *learning* curve greatly

As a result of this deep and sustained dedication, A new model for omni-local, spiritually-based peace governance has emerged successfully, igniting entire communities. The Gandhi King Season for Nonviolence project has evolved through our collective, exemplary leadership in more than 400 cities in the U.S. and 18 other countries during the past ten Seasons.

#### What We Have Learned

- It has been said that, "If you want peace, work for justice." This quote is attributed to Pope Paul VI.
- During the past 10 years, our spiritually-based model for nonviolence has seeded peace-building communities that integrate vision and action. We know that the key

to empowerment is compassionate visionary consciousness coupled with enlightened choices toward action.

- Through dedicated prayer, research, education, planning, team-building, dialogue, logistics, fundraising, and successful implementation of events and programs promoting nonviolent personal and social transformation, we have identified common factors that are at the root of all peace-building:
  - 1. Compassion/understanding/forgiveness/acceptance
  - 2. Positive interfaith and intercultural relationships
  - 3. "Omni-local IS global"
  - 4. Connection is critical both psychologically and organizationally
  - 5. Education/awareness is key to resolving conflict
  - 6. Sharing our wisdom with others, and benefiting from others' experience, are equally important
  - 7. Along with rights, come responsibilities
  - 8. Each one of us is VERY powerful; together we are more powerful than alone; serving a larger vision and Source as a unified humanity is *infallible*
  - 9. We create change by living the change. We are already doing it
- In the next decade, Seasons for Peace And Nonviolence will call us to learn and act in an even more focused and effective way.

#### How Do I Participate in the First Season?

There are several choices to get you started **and** into the communications loop:

- Use the form below to alert AGNT to your participation and request the cd rom
- Email us at SPAN@agnt.org
- Go to www.agnt.org Click on Season of Interfaith Celebration SIGN IN
- You may freely use the web-posted materials or request a cd-rom that contains more extensive materials.
- It is crucial for you to use the interactive calendar to post your activities

#### Connect with Others in Your Area

If you would like to connect with other interested individuals or Task Forces in your area, please reply to <a href="mailto:SPAN@agnt.org">SPAN@agnt.org</a> with a range of zip codes and city/town names in your area and we will then send you a list of contacts in your area. Throughout the

Season, new registrants in your area will be given your name, email and phone # as their local TFL when they sign in. You may also check in periodically to receive updated contact lists for your area as well.

#### **Additional Task Force Support and Resources**

#### ACTION ITEM:

We are now prepared to send out very useful and comprehensive Resource materials to anyone who is seriously interested in leading, or participating in a local task force. RESOURCES:

**A. CD Rom:** Whether you use a PC or Mac computer, these carefully indexed folders of documents and templates in Microsoft Word will be easy to open and customize for your city, and the unique needs of your task force. Most graphics software will open the logos and artwork. Most of what you need to function as a task force is included on the CD-rom

COST OF CD ALONE -- \$35 INCLUDES SHIPPING

- **B. "Leur Songe de Paix (Their Song of Peace)" FREE DVD -** An 11-minute video/music work that uses a text by Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. (1929-68) accompanied by computer music by Stephen Travis Pope and video images by Lane Clark. The motivation is to provide the simplest possible setting for several excerpts from Dr. King's famous "A Time to Break Silence" speech, delivered in New York City exactly one year before his assassination. The music is an abstract concerto in three movements for many voices, bells, analog synthesizer, orchestral samples, and Morse-code program. Lane Clark's mesmerizing video uses a series of painted slides to accompany the text and music. The video is intended for projection together with a separate video in which the text of the speech scrolls by. The printed text version is included (excerpts from Dr. King's "A Time to Break Silence" speech delivered at the Riverside Church in New York on April 4, 1967)
- **C. Synthesis Dialogues DVD -** What would happen if you brought together in one place, thirty of the world's most experienced, influential, and effective activists who have dedicated their lives for the good of Humanity? This is exactly what the Synthesis Dialogues III has done, under the loving guidance of HH, the 14th Dalai Lama of Tibet. Sponsored by the Association for Global New Thought, the events in

this program show how joy, love, and peace live in harmony with sorrow, conflict, and disagreement to reveal a more profound Truth. In this rich field of reconciliation, global peace initiatives like "The Abraham Pilgrimage" emerge. Built around the awakened music of Rickie Byars Beckwith, Karl Anthony, and others, this DVD is both a powerful teaching tool and an entertaining work of art. It is the kind of event you will want to watch many times, and share with your friends. Plus, the bonus elements feature some of the worlds most profound thinkers on Nonviolence, Religious Pluralism, and Peace Activism. COST OF DVD - \$19.95 You may order directly at WWW.agnt.org

#### **BOOKS**

**D. Nonviolent Communication Books** – Marshall Rosenberg's powerful tools for peace and partnership. Puddle Dancer Press has generously provided a set of NVC books (7 in all) for interested Task Force Leaders along with suggestions and support for hosting NVC workshops as part of your SNV activities. COST OF BOOKS –Your gift from Puddle Dancer Press – \$7 each set for shipping & handling.

### E. Speak Peace in a World of Conflict: What You Say Next Will Change Your World

by Marshall B. Rosenberg, Ph.D. Discover how you can create an internal consciousness of peace as the first step toward effective personal, professional and social change. Puddle Dancer Press has generously provided "proof" copies of the book for our TFLs to review for use in your SNV activities. (note: one copy per Task Force) Order multiple copies of all Rosenberg books at: www.nonviolentcommunication.com/giftofpeace/

**F. Common Peace - The Center for the Advancement of Nonviolence -** Educational resources and promotional merchandise (posters, t-shirts, teaching course, etc.) are available from The Center for the Advancement of Nonviolence: www.nonviolenceworks.com/orderform2003.pdf

#### **Conferences & Communication**

As part of the Awakened World Conference, AGNT hosts *Seasons for Peace and Nonviolence* Symposium with presentations by noted peacemakers and dialogue between task force leaders and new participants and leaders. More Conference information at: www.agnt.org

Regular communications and updates are sent from *Seasons for Peace and*Nonviolence headquarters to all Task Force Leaders. Conference Calls and regional

visits are also part of the ongoing support. In order to benefit, we <u>URGE</u> you to stay in close communication so we can include you.

#### **PLANNING ACTIVITIES AND EVENTS**

The (AGNT) Seasons for Peace and Nonviolence website links to comprehensive rosters of activities during previous years of SNV. If your team hasn't already come up with plans, here are some general ways that you can be part of our global community to bring peace and A Season for Nonviolence to your community.

1. Create a Task Force to plan an event to promote peace and awareness of nonviolence philosophies of Gandhi and King.

Examples include - a musical concert with local artists, planting a peace pole, Walkathon, community potluck, series of workshops

2. Through your church or organization's sponsorship, offer workshops & lectures during one or more of the *Seasons for Peace and Nonviolence* 

Examples include - themes on nonviolent attributes, peace prayers; workshops on conflict resolution, diversity, family values, nonviolence to our planet; invite guest speakers to share their programs of peace, honor peace heroes

- 3. Collaborate with other organizations to introduce programs of nonviolence into youth organizations such as YMCA, Boys & Girls Club, private schools. Co-create with young teens to come up with a plan for nonviolence and present where possible.
- 4. Place a Call for Action to other Faiths to join you in co-presenting *Seasons for Peace and Nonviolence* in your community.
- 5. Invite local politicians to proclaim special days to celebrate *Seasons for Peace and Nonviolence*
- 6. Involve the Media in your community in promoting the practice of nonviolence in our daily lives. Invite local businesses to sponsor actions.
- 7. Host a Nonviolent Communication Training Seminar for your church, school or community.

Dr. Barbara Fields Assoc. for Global New Thought 220 Santa Anita Rd. Santa Barbara, CA 93105 tel. 805-563-7343 fax. 805-563-7344 www.agnt.org

### SIGN-IN all Season for Interfaith Celebration Leaders!

Don't let your hard work and enthusiasm get less than the attention it deserves. CHECK IN with us and allow us to publicize your events, and to keep you fully informed of news and resources.

Email to: SPAN@agnt.org
Name of organization/church/community:
Name of Leader (if not yourself):
Your name
Address:
City State zip:
Phone: Fax:
Email: Website:
Check those that apply:
My group is already involved and/or ready to reconvene for 2008-09
My group would like to connect with other task forces and individuals in my area (send zip code range and we will send contact list)
I am will take leadership in forming a group in my area (send zip code range and we will send contact list)
I would like to participate but know of no existing activity in my area (send zip code range and we will send contact list)

2. USE the interactive calendar on the website—it has been designed to feature your projects and events to a global audience. It allows you to easily post your events, media activity, and projects. (<a href="www.agnt.org">www.agnt.org</a> click on Seasons for Peace and Nonviolence.) You can direct people to the SPAN site for information on your event, and it will give others the opportunity to get involved.

#### **INSTRUCTIONS FOR POSTING YOUR EVENT:**

- 1. go to www.agnt.org click on Seasons for Peace and Nonviolence
- 2. click on Post to Calendar: Your Events and Projects for SPAN
- 3. Click on the "Add Item" box and fill out the form with your up coming or completed event information. Be sure to fill in all sections as completely as possible, especially "Time", (AM or PM and time zone), and "Location" (with town and state included). Keep the description brief but do include the name of the facility or site and any costs involved.
- 4. For completed projects or events, briefly describe what happened, how many participated, comments or experiences, etc. that you want to share.
- 5. Comments may be added to your postings after they happen as well. For example you can add a brief summary or comment on the event at the end of the body of text that you posted previously by finding your event date and opening that day on the events calendar. Click on "Modify Item" and scroll to your event. Click on the dot by your event and make changes or additions. When finished, scroll to the bottom and click on "Modify Event". That's it!
- 6. If you will be having ongoing or recurring events, please fill out the "Recurring Events" section as carefully as possible.

Thank you for helping us "get the word out" on the web. We are looking forward to reading about your exciting and inspired events on the SPAN website!



### September 11th - September 21st

(Continuing through December, 2008)

Sept. 11<sup>th</sup> 101 Years Since the Birth of Gandhian Nonviolence

The International Day of Peace Sept. 21st & Call for Global Ceasefire

Seasons for Peace and Nonviolence "S.P.A.N. the Next Decade"

30 Days to:

Transform the world's wounds of 2001

Strengthen partnerships among grassroots peace builders

Participate in a "measured" prayer and meditation event for global healing along with millions worldwide

#### Sponsored By

Association for Global New Thought Season for Nonviolence

Pathways to Peace / Culture of Peace Initiative

CommonPassion

M. K. Gandhi Institute for Nonviolence

United Religions Initiative

Unity World Day of Peace

SIGN IN and request FREE tool kit cd-rom at http://www.agnt.org Season of Interfaith Celebration

"Humanity stands at a crossroads between horror and hope. In choosing hope, we must seed a new consciousness, a radically fresh approach to life drawing its inspiration from perennial spiritual and moral insights, intuition and experience. We call this new awareness Interspiritual, implying not the homogenization of religion, but the recovering of the shared mystic heart beating in the center of the world's deepest spiritual traditions."

Wayne Teasdale, The Mystic Heart

#### 30 Days of Interfaith Celebration, toward Peace and Nonviolence

#### The International Day of Peace & Call for Global Ceasefire

The UN General Assembly Resolution A/RES/55/282 fixes the date for the International Day of Peace as 21 September and declares "that the International Day of Peace shall henceforth be observed as a day of global ceasefire and non-violence, an invitation to all nations and people to honour a cessation of hostilities for the duration of the Day..."

Resolution 55/282 also "Declares that the International Day of Peace shall henceforth be observed as a day of global ceasefire and nonviolence, an invitation to all nations and people to honor a cessation of hostilities for the duration of the Day."

All 191 member countries of the United Nations agreed to honor September 21, The International Day of Peace, as a Global Ceasefire and a day of peace and nonviolence.

For the past 24 years, the International Day of Peace has been a catalyzing opportunity for individuals, nations and civil society to unite in our shared yearning for a more peaceful, just and sustainable world. Thousands of events and activities have taken place for the International Day of Peace, coordinated by governments, agencies and a network of more than 800 civil society organizations in over 106 nations. http://www.internationaldayofpeace.org/

#### Seasons for Peace and Nonviolence: S.P.A.N. the Next Decade

2007 marked the 10th anniversary of the Association for Global New Thought and the M.K. Gandhi Institute's pilot project known widely as the Gandhi King Season for Nonviolence. It was a landmark for putting the impact of community leadership in nonviolence on the map. A new model for omni-local, spiritually-based peace governance has emerged successfully, igniting entire communities everywhere. The Season for Nonviolence project evolved through our collective, exemplary leadership in more than 400 cities in the U.S. and 18 other countries during the past ten Seasons, which bookend the memorial anniversaries of Gandhi (Jan 30) and Martin Luther King Jr. (April 4).

Our next decade ushers in perennial *Seasons for Peace and Nonviolence (SPAN)*," in which unwavering nonviolence in thought, emotion, word, and action becomes our chosen way of life.

The (SPAN) campaign continues into the next decade with a year-round series of offerings coordinated by PEACEPORT OFFICES in your own centers and organizations. The first is the Season of Interfaith Celebration in September, 2007, continuing to the end of the year.

Spiritually-motivated peace-building is strengthened by the New Thought community's genius for prayer and action.

#### **CommonPassion**

This year's program includes a unique addition: CommonPassion.org.

CommonPassion is a global social collaborative of peace-creating groups whose purpose is social and environmental harmony, comprised of members from every faith and wisdom tradition. CommonPassion will help organize meditation-prayer events during A Season of Interfaith Celebration that will join in a worldwide study of our influence in the world. This will allow us in future Celebrations to apply what we learn in these studies to optimize our peace-creating influence in our communities and in the world.

**CommonPassion.org** is developing and testing the technology to validate what people have known for millennia: that these pursuits, once thought to be solely the purview of faith, can and *do* make a difference.

- We can promote social harmony naturally and efficiently.
- We can reduce crime, violence and terrorism in our communities and in the world without burdening law enforcement agencies or increasing war budgets.
- We can improve the quality of life and return Planet Earth to her pristine nature.
- We can come together with a common passion to make our world a better place.

One of the products of our studied collaboration would be the development of a Social Harmony Index <a href="http://www.commonpassion.org/about/technology.html">http://www.commonpassion.org/about/technology.html</a> reflective of the value in social capital gained by their efforts. <a href="https://www.commonpassion.org">CommonPassion.org</a> will regularly monitor indicators of social harmony and coherence, like the level and severity of emergency calls, crime statistics, socially responsible investing, and other real-time data sources. We will then feed this composite index back to participating groups in visual and audio formats over mobile phones, podcasts, television, radio and the Internet.

This Social Harmony Index would serve as a social coherence feedback signal <a href="http://www.commonpassion.org/about/technology.html">http://www.commonpassion.org/about/technology.html</a> that integrates the diverse tendencies in society for a mutually enhancing common good. This will educate and empower people to participate in the most effective socially and environmentally harmonizing program ever developed, one that puts this power in the hands of those who benefit most: the individual.

#### Centenary of Mahatma Gandhi's Satyagraha Movement

It was on September 11, 1906, that M. K. Gandhi launched the first nonviolent campaign against racial oppression in Johannesburg, South Africa, and later he said "There is no way to peace, Peace is the way." Gandhi concluded that true peace can be achieved only when human society stopped indulging in economic violence, cultural violence, social violence, religious violence, educational violence, moral violence and political violence. Peace is contingent upon each of us becoming "the change we wish to see in the world." http://www.gandhiinstitute.org/

#### .Unity's World Day of Prayer

We invite you to be involved in a worldwide interfaith vigil on September 14. to experience a transformation of health, abundance, and love on a global level. Wherever you are on that day, you'll share moments of prayer with others of like mind—your prayer partners united in positive attitude, understanding, and love. Provide Unity with the names of those you'd like recognized in prayer during their 24-hour prayer vigil in the Silent Unity Chapel on that day and for thirty more days of continuous prayer afterward. You may also choose to join in from a church or center in your community.

World Day of Prayer is a sacred time to unite in prayer. If you would like more information, please visit www.worlddayofprayer.org to request materials, to submit names for prayer, to view the affirmation with audio/video, and more.

#### 11 Days of Global Unity

In September 2004, We, The World inaugurated this international promotion of peace and sustainability with more than 120 cities participating worldwide. \_\_Supporters of the launch included Nobel Peace Laureate Archbishop Desmond Tutu and Honorary Co-Chairs Jane Goodall, Deepak Chopra, Irene Khan (Secretary General of Amnesty International), Marianne Williamson, John McConnell (the original Founder of Earth Day), Hazel Henderson, Ervin Laszlo, Jonathan Granoff, Barbara Marx Hubbard, Robert Thurman, Sally Fisher, Riane Eisler, Lynne Twist, Paul Winter, Nina Meyerhof, and NYC Councilman Alan J. Gerson. \_\_In 2005, 11 Days included more than 200 events in over 60 countries.

Http://www.wetheworld.org/wtw2/11days/index.php4

#### ABRAHAM PATH INITIATIVE

### **A Brief Description**

The purpose of the Abraham Path Initiative is to open up a route in the Middle East retracing the footsteps of the prophet Abraham (Avraham / Ibrahim), revered for his faith, patience, selflessness, and commitment in responding to the call of God. The spiritual significance of the common patriarch to Judaism, Christianity and Islam is described in the sacred scriptures of each – the Hebrew Bible, the New Testament, and the Qur'an. In an age where faith and action begin to discover convergent paths, Abraham once again holds a key to healing the human heart; by believers in all three religious cultures, Abraham is greatly beloved.

Such a pilgrimage route, roughly analogous to the Camino de Compostela in Spain, the journey from Mecca to Medina in Saudi Arabia, or the Lewis and Clark Trail in the United States, is intended to draw travelers from all parts of the world. As the father of monotheism and the spiritual forefather of Jews, Christians, and Muslims, Abraham is the unifying point for over three billion people who consider themselves part of the family of Abraham. It has long been a dream for many – including Martin Luther King Jr. and the late Pope John Paul II-- to walk in the footsteps of Abraham.

The Abraham Path is a call to our collective moral imagination. It is also a call to action. Against a backdrop of conflict in the Middle East that has become a global symbol of intractable strife and despair, the path -- with televised images of imams, priests, and rabbis walking

LEBANON SYRIA

Jerusalem Al'Khalii/Hebron JORDAN

EGYPT

SAUDI ARABIA

To Mecca

Initial Proposed Route

Abraham Path ...... Possible Future Routes

together -- will introduce millions around the planet to new possibilities for mutual respect.

One of the most significant and exciting objectives of The Abraham Walk will be a comprehensive educational and awareness campaign centered on understanding of and respect for the different faiths. 'Abraham Walks' will be designed in local communities throughout the world with people walking from churches to mosques to synagogues and other places of worship with "omni-local" grassroots teams from many faiths and cultures taking the lead. Resources will be offered for purposes of self-study and community. Shared religious services, celebrations, and educational dialogues will attract people based on what they hold in common.

The Abraham Path will start from the ancient arch in the center of Harran, in the ruins of the old Mesopotamian city located in present-day southeastern Turkey, where Judaism, Christianity, and Islam concur that Abraham heard the call of God to go forth. The route will proceed through Syria (passing the Euphrates, Aleppo, Damascus), and through Jordan, Israel, and Palestine. It will pass through Jerusalem and end at the Tomb of Abraham in al-Khalil/Hebron, a total of 1100 kilometers. As with other well-known trails, travelers will choose to travel part or all of the route, and will do on foot, by camel, by car, by bus, or a combination. Other parts of the Abraham Path will be opened in the future from Ur in southern Iraq to Harran, from Egypt to al-Khalil, and from al-Khalil to Mecca.

Beyond the personal significance of traveling the Abraham Path for the travelers and those whose lives they touch, the Abraham Path will have many concrete benefits for the peoples of the Middle East, indeed of the entire world:

- Economic: creating thousands of jobs by building infrastructure such as trails, hotels, restaurants, and providing guide services. Political: building confidence between states, for example, by opening up a path across the Golan Heights between Syria and Israel.
- Religious/cultural: restoring dozens of sacred sites along the route.
- Educational: promoting religious and cultural understanding through the media, the arts, and personal meetings

- Environmental: environmental preservation along the route, such as cleaning up the Euphrates corridor.
- Youth: providing a focal point for the idealism, energy, and adventurous spirit of young people from around
- the world.

A study of the Abraham Path has been conducted for the past eighteen months at Harvard University. A consultation process intended to elicit the views and support of religious, political, and community leaders in the region and around the world is underway. This website is intended to inform and connect interested individuals and organizations. A guidebook to the Abraham Path is in the process of being written and the second journey from Harran to al-Khalil/Hebron, to be undertaken by a consultative delegation, is being planned for October-November 2007. Our aim is to have the Abraham Path open for interested pilgrims and tourists within two years or less.

Initial co-conveners for the Abraham Walk project include Harvard University's Global negotiation Project, and the Association for Global New Thought in the U.S. Support and funding have come from foundations and individuals in Brazil, Italy, Syria, Turkey, Israel, Palestine, Pakistan, and the United States. Affirmations of interest in the Project have come from, among others, Nobel Peace Prize winners Jimmy Carter and the Dalai Lama.

If you would like to become involved in the Abraham Path Initiative, please contact us at barbara@agnt.org

# AWARENESS CAMPAIGN: THE EDUCATION COMPONENT & THE ROLE OF LOCAL TASK FORCES

There are many other possibilities for participation in your community. An array of ideas for religious and secular activities, along with organizing guides and educational materials will be provided when you contact barbara@agnt.org to send us your information.

- Organizers of the Omni-local initiative will distribute Abraham Path materials to existing task forces and new inquiries.
- The primary role of the local organizing task force is to identify organizations and individuals that are already engaged in work promoting awareness of this issue in their community.
- We suggest that communities of people who have a stake in the Abrahamic traditions and whose efforts are motivated toward forgiveness, nonviolence, and reconciliation be invited to focus their ongoing work around the Abraham Path in 2007-08.
- These organizations and individuals will be asked to select (or organize) and describe a specific project, program, or initiative that promote awareness and demonstrate nonviolent solutions.
- Beginning now, and over time, the local walks will become preparatory opportunities for Abraham's children in our own communities to visit holy sites in the Middle East region, thus expanding and enhancing peace building efforts in their home communities.