



Vesak Commemoration
Interfaith & Intercultural Dialogue – Fostering World Peace
through Cultural Education
27 – 29 May 2015

In pursuit of our vision to help establish Toowoomba as a Model City of Peace and Harmony, delegates from different faiths, the community, the media, and the educational field were invited to UNESCO Headquarters in Paris to present the work and progress achieved toward this journey. This presentation was part of the celebration for Vesak Day, which is the Buddha's birthday.

The audience of about 400 included ambassadors and international delegates. In the two hours of presentations, our delegates: Andrew Wielandt, Belinda Sanders, Reverend Jonathan Inkin, Kim Walmsley, Father Franco Filipetto, Mark Creedon, Meiling Chow, Venerable Wu Ping, and Muhammed Haniff, provided insights of what each has achieved in their respective field.

One of the objectives of the trip was to encourage the ambassadors to visit Toowoomba to see how we are achieving peace and harmony within our community. The delegates' passion, sacrifice, and hard work in preparing their presentations, deserves special mention. During a dialogue with Venerable Master Chin Kung, several ambassadors expressed their interest to visit Toowoomba next year.

We acknowledge that helping to build a model city of peace and harmony is going to be a long, hard journey. However with the continued support of our faith and community leaders, this journey is possible!

Venerable Master Chin Kung AM in his keynote address spoke on 'Six Prime Principles for Resolving Conflict and Promoting World Peace'



Venerable Master Chin Kung with UNESCO ambassadors



A group picture of our delegates outside UNESCO Headquarters, Paris



Presentation by the Toowoomba delegates, with Venerable Master Chin Kung in attendance