

Human Rights Day Forum Focuses on Understanding

Members of the community gathered at the Church of Scientology to celebrate Human Rights Day 2019.

LOS ANGELES, CALIFORNIA, UNITED STATES, December 10, 2019 /EINPresswire.com/ -- An interfaith forum held in celebration of Human Rights Day 2019 at the Church of Scientology in Mountain View, California, focused on Universal Declaration of Human Rights (UDHR) Article 18:

“Everyone has the right to freedom of thought, conscience and religion; this right includes freedom to change his religion or belief, and freedom, either alone or in community with others and in public or private, to manifest his religion or belief in teaching, practice, worship and observance.”

Article 18 is one of 30 articles that describe the basic rights belonging to every member of the human family.

In 1969, in addressing escalating social unrest in cities throughout the world, Scientology Founder L. Ron Hubbard wrote: “The United Nations came up with the answer. An absence of human rights stained the hands of governments and threatened their rules. Very few governments have implemented any part of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights. These governments have not grasped that their very survival depends utterly upon adopting such reforms and thus giving their people a cause, a civilization worth supporting, worth their patriotism.”

The Church of Scientology of Silicon Valley spotlighted freedom of religion or belief in their Human Rights Day celebration. A recent article in Deseret News points out: “Contrary to popular belief, religious persecution is alive and well around the world. More than 80 percent of the global population lives in religiously restrictive environments, according to Pew Research Center.”



Human Rights Day forum and open house at the Church of Scientology Silicon Valley focused on religious freedom



Panelists represented six different religions.

The Church hosted a forum featuring a panel of leaders from six religions: Christianity, Judaism, Buddhism, Hinduism, Islam and the Church of Scientology.

The following questions were addressed by the panelists: What are the basic teachings of their faith? Do their traditions have a concept of human rights? How have the scriptures or teachings of their religion been used to promote peace? This was followed by questions from the audience.

Dr. Alexa Alborzi, Public Affairs Director of the Church of Scientology of Silicon Valley, introduced the audience to Youth for Human Rights International, a human rights initiative supported by Scientologists and the Church of Scientology. As both a Muslim and a Scientologist, Dr. Alborzi said the subject of human rights is very dear to her—every person should be treated with dignity and their rights must be upheld.



Dr. Alborzi introduced those attending to the Youth for Human Rights International educational initiative.

Many attending the forum realized they had misconceptions about one or more of the faiths represented. One realized her views of Muslims had been colored by negative media and she said she appreciated having the opportunity to gain a richer understanding of the religion.

L. Ron Hubbard set forth the beliefs of the Church of Scientology on the subject of religious freedom and human rights in the [Scientology Prayer for Total Freedom](#):

“We pray that human rights will be preserved so that all people may believe and worship freely, so that freedom will once again be seen in our land.

“Freedom from war, and poverty, and want; freedom to be; freedom to do and freedom to have.

“Freedom to use and understand Man’s potential—a potential that is God-given and Godlike.

“And freedom to achieve that understanding and awareness that is Total Freedom.

“May God let it be so.”

For more information, visit the website of the [Church of Scientology Silicon Valley](#) or watch [Destination: Scientology—Silicon Valley](#) on the Scientology Network.

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