

The Symphony of Peace Prayers...

...is an inter-religious, inter-spiritual annual peace prayer event, first held in 2005 at Fuji Sanctuary in Japan. This unique prayer ceremony brings together people from different faiths and spiritual traditions to pray with one voice for peace on Earth. Since 2007, the SOPP has been linked with the larger-scale Global Peace Meditation and Prayer Day event (<http://globalpeacemeditationprayerday.org>). In 2008, the first local SOPP ceremonies were held in locations around the world, and in 2009 and 2010, hundreds of thousands of people participated in over 50 countries worldwide.

How do you create an SOPP program?

The SOPP ceremony is based around two core elements, described below. You can structure the program in any way you like, and incorporate your own activities and ideas to celebrate the oneness of humanity and honor the diversity of faiths and spiritual traditions.

Prayers of different faiths and spiritual traditions

In this part of the program, prayer leaders from different faiths and spiritual traditions take turns leading participants in their own prayers for peace. The simple act of religious and spiritual leaders praying the prayers of other faiths, joined in unison by all participants, sends a powerful message of tolerance and harmony. You can also invite participants to offer peace prayers from their own traditions, or anything else they wish to share.

Prayers for peace in each country

In this global celebration of the oneness of the human family, participants are invited to offer prayers for peace in each country and region on Earth, transcending national, religious, and ideological boundaries, and giving expression to the universal wish for peace and harmony. You may wish to use the prayer, *May peace be in _____ (name of country or region); May peace prevail on Earth*, or simply to speak the word 'peace' in the language(s) of each country.

Other programs

Include any other programs and activities you like! You may wish to honor an indigenous spiritual tradition, or read a poem to honor Mother Nature. You can enhance the ceremony with music, song, and dance. You may also wish to open and close the event with a moment of silence.



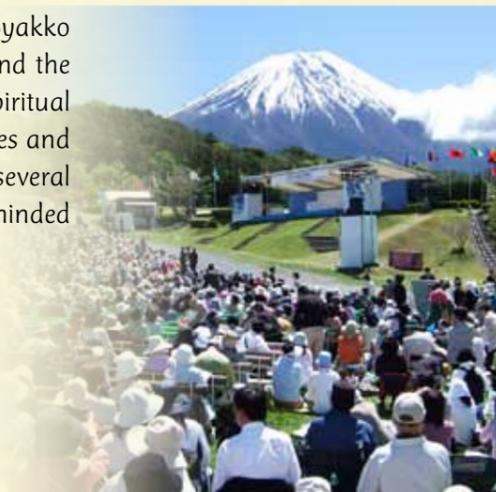
Fuji Sanctuary — global sanctuary of peace and home of the SOPP

Set in the foothills of magnificent Mount Fuji in Japan, Fuji Sanctuary is the home of Byakko Shinko Kai, an international grassroots organization dedicated to world peace and the elevation of humanity's consciousness through prayer and other easily accessible spiritual practices. Since the 1980s, Fuji Sanctuary has continually hosted prayer ceremonies and other activities and initiatives for peace, including six SOPP ceremonies, each with several thousand participants. Today, Fuji Sanctuary is part of a global network of like-minded groups and organizations around the world.

For more photos and reports from previous ceremonies, and a guide to hosting an SOPP ceremony, please visit the Symphony of Peace Prayers website: <http://byakkoblog.typepad.com/sopp>

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CELEBRATING THE ONENESS OF HUMANITY

7th annual

Symphony of Peace Prayers



toward a bright future for all humanity

Sunday, May 22, 2011

***Join in an SOPP ceremony near you,
or create your own gathering for peace!***

Be part of the celebration as hundreds of thousands of people around the world unite their hearts for peace on Earth, celebrating with interfaith prayers for peace, meditations, gratitude to nature, songs, dances, and beautiful expressions of oneness.

MAY PEACE PREVAIL ON EARTH

Be part of the worldwide Symphony of Peace Prayers network!

We come from different cultures, backgrounds, and faiths, but on this day, we unite our hearts for peace

On May 22, people around the world will send out thoughts and prayers for the peace and harmony of humanity. With so many of us connected, this powerful ceremony of prayers for peace is expanding, its energy resonating to every corner of the globe and out to the universe. Peace is our future.

May the waves of peace, light, and love generated by the Symphony of Peace Prayers touch each and every heart, the planet, and all its life.



Some of the many SOPP ceremonies and prayer gatherings held around the world in 2010