



**WOMEN'S FEDERATION  
FOR WORLD PEACE AUSTRALIA**

## **The United Nations International Day of Families**

**One Human Family - The Role of the Abrahamic Faiths in  
Fostering Shared Values for Peace Building.**

### **Commemorating the United Nations Day of Families**

The day serves as an opportunity to promote appropriate action and highlight the impact of social, economic, and demographic factors on families.

**2025 UN Day of Families theme:** *Family-Oriented Policies for Sustainable Development.* To foster sustainable development in the international community we need peace. Conflict has the greatest negative impact on families.

The interactive seminar series "Way2Happiness" offers a holistic approach to life education, aiming to foster individuals as good people, promote quality education, and cultivate responsible global citizens. Grounded in universal values such as consciousness, responsibility, and yes, love, the program advocates the philosophy of "living for the sake of others" as the key solution for achieving happiness and fulfilment in life. By joining the "Way2Happiness" community, participants engage in meaningful discussions, exchange insights, and acquire practical tools for personal development and positive social change.

**Philosophy of Living for Others:** Central to the program is the philosophy of "living for the sake of others," emphasizing the importance of altruism, empathy, and compassion in enhancing individual wellbeing and promoting social harmony.

**Saturday 31 May, 10:00 - 3:00 pm**

**Venue:** Mount Waverley Community Centre  
47 Miller Crescent Mount Waverley



**Entry \$30** - includes lunch, morning & afternoon tea

**Registration Link:** <https://events.humanitix.com/way2happiness-and-peacebuilding-seminar-series-2025>

10:00 – 10:30	<b>Registration and Morning Tea</b>
10:30 – 10:45	<b>MC Introduction of the Day and Introductory Videos</b> <div data-bbox="368 322 644 636">  </div> <p><b>Master of Ceremony</b> – Preetah Bolaky  Founder, Preetah Bolaky Coaching, WFWP VIC Advisory Committee member and, WFWPI UN Office Regional Representative for Oceania.</p>
10:45 – 11:00 (15 minutes)	<b>Topic: A Non-Killing Approach to Peace</b> <div data-bbox="368 777 668 1075">  </div> <p><b>Presenter: Professor Dr. Anoop Swarup</b>  Chairman, Centre for Global Nonkilling, Founding Chair of Global Knowledge Alliance, and Secretary General of the Association of Universities of Asia and the Pacific.</p> <p>Anoop Swarup, a Presidential Awardee of the Republic of India (2003), brings over 32 years of distinguished service across civil governance, peacebuilding, education, and social entrepreneurship. As a futurist and humanitarian, his work spans global efforts to advance ethical leadership and nonviolent solutions to modern challenges.</p> <p>In an era marked by rapid technological and scientific progress, Dr Swarup warns that without a parallel evolution in ethical consciousness, humanity risks undermining the very foundations of civilisation.</p> <p>He champions the vision of a nonkilling society — one not only possible but rooted in four compelling truths:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. The intrinsic human inclination toward nonviolence.</li> <li>2. Our spiritual and scientific heritage honours the sanctity of life.</li> <li>3. The development of nonkilling is a rigorous and actionable science.</li> <li>4. The demonstrated power of nonviolent social movements to confront injustice without resorting to violence.</li> </ol>
11:00 – 11:10 (10 minutes)	<b>Discussion and Q&amp;A</b>
11:10 – 11:25 (15 minutes)	<div data-bbox="368 1765 671 2069">  </div> <p><b>Topic: Our shared human existence is a truth echoed through the very heart of the Abrahamic faiths.</b></p> <p><b>Presenter: Bismi Palatty</b>  Bismi is a dynamic speaker, emerging author, inspiring radio host, and impactful speaking coach. A passionate advocate for diversity and inclusion, she empowers individuals to embrace self-love and uncover their core</p>

<p><b>11:25 – 11:35</b> (10 minutes)</p>	<p>values. Drawing deeply from personal experience, Bismi shares a compelling truth: “Connecting to the Core is the Beginning of Change.”</p> <p>At the heart of her message is an unshakable spiritual foundation. For Bismi, it is not skill but will — fuelled by God’s spirit — that leads to a truly successful life. She guides others to align with their core values, rooted in Christ, as a path to lasting transformation. Through this sacred connection to self and soul, individuals can step into their unique identity — their Status and Signature — in both personal life and the professional sphere.</p> <p><b>Activity – Write in your journal and share with others.</b></p> <p>How can the values of love and compassion for all bring peace?</p> <p>Peace and justice work hand in hand, how do you see this?</p>
<p><b>11:35 – 11:50</b> (15 minutes)</p> <p><b>11:50 – 12:00</b> (10 minutes)</p>	<p><b>Topic: What Does 'Human' Mean in Abrahamic Religions? A Peace Perspective.</b></p> <div data-bbox="371 840 746 1137" data-label="Image"> </div> <p><b>Presenter: Fr. Jacob Joseph, PhD</b></p> <p>Deputy President, Victorian Council of Churches Lecturer: Patristic Theology, Liturgy, History, and Mission St Athanasius College, University of Divinity, Melbourne.</p> <p>True peace and human coexistence often begin with recognising the central role of God in the created universe. Can we envision the harmonious ‘coexistence of all creation’ through a human lens, while honouring the divine purpose behind it?</p> <p>This brief presentation explores the profound question: What does it mean to be human? — and considers how our call to coexist within creation reflects a fundamental purpose of life. Drawing from the rich teachings of the Abrahamic faith traditions, we delve into the spiritual and ethical dimensions of peace and our shared responsibility to uphold it.</p> <p><b>Q&amp;A and Discussion</b></p>
<p><b>12:00 – 12:45</b> (45 minutes)</p>	<p><b>Lunch and Photos</b></p>
<p><b>12:45 – 1:00</b> (15 minutes)</p>	<p><b>Topic: Shared Values and Principles</b></p> <div data-bbox="378 1758 651 2094" data-label="Image"> </div> <p><b>Presenter: Dr John Bellavance</b></p> <p>Global Vice President, Sun Moon University (SMU), Oceania Coordinator, International Association of Academicians for Peace and Vice-President, Universal Peace Federation Australia</p> <p>The Abrahamic faiths share foundational values that emphasise peace on multiple levels:</p>

<p><b>1:00 – 1:10</b> (10 minutes)</p>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Peace with oneself.</li> <li>2. Peace within the family; and,</li> <li>3. Peace with the environment.</li> </ol> <p>These universal principles offer a powerful framework for promoting social wellbeing, justice, human rights, and the dignity of all people—regardless of faith or background. In a time marked by division and an “us versus them” mentality in religion, politics, and culture, what we need most is a renewed commitment to our common humanity.</p> <p><b>Activity and Discussion – Write in your journal and share with others.</b></p> <p>Pair and share with another your fundamental ideas about shared values.</p> <p>Did we find some shared values?</p>
<p><b>1:10 – 1:25</b> (15 minutes)</p>	<p><b>Topic: The importance of promoting mutual understanding among different communities - restoring faith in peace.</b></p> <div data-bbox="371 831 644 1193">  </div> <p><b>Presenter: Yousef Alreemawi</b>  Writer   Internationally renowned proofreader of Arabic content   Leader of Tarab Ensemble   Founder of Palestine Remembered @ Radio 3CR   Translator/Interpreter   Expert on Arab Culture and Palestine</p> <p><b>1:25 – 1:35</b> (10 minutes)</p> <p><b>Q&amp;A and discussion</b></p>
<p><b>1:35 – 1:55</b> (20 minutes)</p>	<p><b>Grab a Cupper - Short Break</b></p>
<p><b>1:55 – 2:10</b> (15 minutes)</p>	<p><b>Topic: One Human Family - The Role of the Abrahamic Faiths in Fostering Shared Values for Peace Building”?</b></p> <div data-bbox="371 1561 644 1912">  </div> <p><b>Presenter: Milon Islam</b>  Milon Islam, FCPA, is the Vice President of the Islamic Council of Victoria (ICV) for the 2024–2026 term, having previously served as ICV’s Treasurer from 2018 to 2024.</p> <p><b>2:10 – 2:20</b> (10 minutes)</p> <p><b>Discussion and Q&amp;A</b></p>

<p><b>2:20 – 2:30</b></p>	<p><b>Topic: A Heart-to-Heart Approach – My Experience in Israel and Palestine</b></p> <div data-bbox="373 237 686 555">  </div> <p><b>Presenter:</b> Randall Apps</p> <p>Randall is the president of Geelong Interfaith Network. He has travelled to 20 nations and shared with over 40 faiths (From A-Anglican to Z-Zoroastrian).</p>
<p><b>2:30 – 3:00</b></p>	<p><b>Presentation of Ambassador for Peace Award and Photos</b></p>
	<p><b>Milon Islam FCPA</b></p> <div data-bbox="373 786 641 1135">  </div> <p>Milon is the Vice President of the Islamic Council of Victoria (ICV) for the 2024–2026 term, having previously served as Treasurer from 2018 to 2024.</p> <p>A Fellow of CPA Australia, he is currently General Manager of Finance at a leading national not-for-profit supporting children and young people recovering from trauma. With over 25 years of senior leadership in the not-for-profit sector, Milon brings together professional expertise and a strong commitment to community service.</p> <p>He holds key voluntary roles, including Central Treasurer of the Islamic Practice and Dawah Circle (IPDC), a national organisation that manages mosques, Islamic centres across multiple states, and an Islamic school in Canberra. He is also Treasurer and Board Member of the Islamic School of Canberra.</p> <p>Milon's past service includes 15 years with the Bengali Language School—10 as President and five as Vice President—and four years as Joint Secretary of the Australia Bangladesh Association. He is a life member of several not-for-profit organisations, including the Al Ehsan Centre and the Australia Bangladesh Islamic Council (ABIC), known as the Huntingdale Mosque. At Al Ehsan, he has volunteered for over 22 years in senior roles including Secretary; at ABIC, he served as Secretary and Joint Secretary for six years.</p> <p>Milon's extensive experience across governance, finance, and grassroots engagement reflects his enduring dedication to community development and meaningful service.</p>



### Mary Zeit Musleh



Mary is an accomplished professional with expertise in translation, administration, and community leadership.

She holds an Advanced Diploma in Interpreting from RMIT University and has led numerous initiatives both in Palestine and Australia. In Palestine, Mary chaired the women's committee at the Orthodox Club in Beit Jala, directed SAWA (focused on violence prevention), and led AFKAR (supporting educational development). She also served as Secretary of the YWCA in Ramallah.

Now based in Australia, Mary is President of the Beit Jala Palestinian Association in Victoria, continuing her dedication to cultural advocacy and community empowerment.

### Yousef Alreemawi



Writer | Internationally renowned proofreader of Arabic content | Leader of Tarab Ensemble | Founder of Palestine Remembered @ Radio 3CR | Translator/Interpreter | Expert on Arab Culture and Palestine

Yousef is an experienced educator, curriculum developer, and translator, with a strong background in writing, editing, and community engagement.

Skilled in nonprofit leadership, fundraising, social media, public speaking, and community outreach, with a Master of Business Administration from Deakin University. A passionate advocate for peacebuilding, he combines storytelling, Classical Arabic music, and linguistics in his work as a lecturer on Understanding Palestine—fostering dialogue, cultural understanding, and social cohesion.

## 2025 Way2Happiness & Peacebuilding Calendar

September	<b>'Way2Happiness and Peace Building Series'</b> <b>Seminar 2 Theme ~ UN International Day of Peace</b>  DATE: Saturday September 20 <sup>th</sup> TIME: 10 – 3:00pm  VENUE: Mount Waverley Community Centre (Main Hall) 47 Miller Crescent, Mount Waverley
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**This seminar series is presented by:**

**Women's Federation for World Peace (WFWP)** is an NGO in General Consultative Status with the Economic and Social Council of the United Nations. We adhere to the principle that women, working together, taking initiative, and empowering one another across traditional lines of race, culture, and religion to create healthy families, are resolving the complex problems of our societies and world - [www.wfwpaustralia.org](http://www.wfwpaustralia.org)

**Universal Peace Federation (UPF)** is an NGO in General Consultative Status with the Economic and Social Council of the United Nations. We support and promote the work of the United Nations and the achievement of the Millennium Development Goals - [www.upf.org](http://www.upf.org)

**The Family Federation for World Peace and Unification (FFWPU)** is comprised of families from around the world striving to establish a world of peace and unity among all peoples, races, and religions as envisioned by Rev. and Mrs. Sun Myung Moon and to embody the ideal of true love, which is to live for the sake of others. FFWPU champions three ideals: family, peace, and unification. <https://www.familyfedaustralia.org/>

# My Notes



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