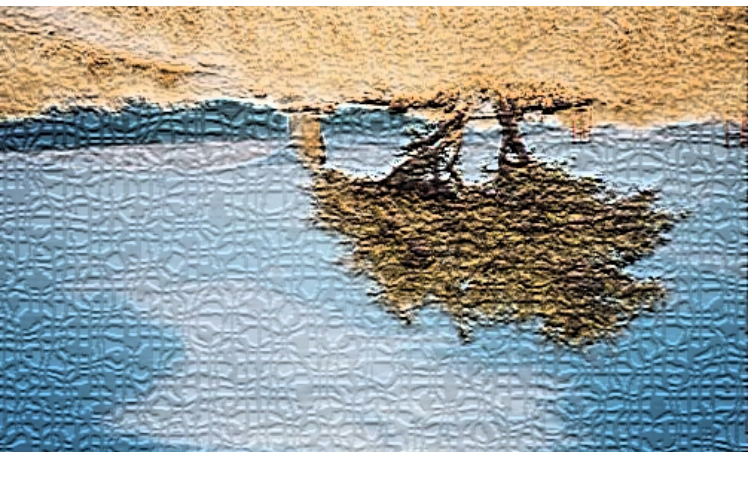
Festival Programme



1st Edinburgh Festival of Middle Eastern Spirituality and Peace

Edinburgh - SCOTLAND

27th February - 7th March 2004

Festival Welcome and Introduction

This Edinburgh Festival of Middle Eastern Spirituality and Peace has been jointly organized by the Edinburgh International Centre for World Spiritualities (EICWS) and the Edinburgh Institute for Advanced Learning (EIAL), and with the support of a wide range of organisations. This Festival is built around an international conference on Middle Eastern Spirituality and Peace on Thursday 4 March 2004. This conference will seek understandings of the nature of spirituality among Middle Eastern Spiritual Traditions, with particular reference to the Spiritual Foundations for Peace, and will be developed in association with, and with the support of, the other events in the Festival. We look forward to welcoming you in person to the Festival conference and events.

There is increasing awareness of the potential contribution of the world's spiritual traditions to wider society, and the need for dialogue, shared understanding, and cooperation between these traditions. Scotland has a distinctive role in meeting this global challenge. Hence, it is planned to develop this as an annual Festival in Scotland. This will not only lead to new spiritual understandings across traditions and the sharing of spiritual practices, but it will also lead to further contacts being established between Scotland and the spiritual communities of the Middle East, and to those who share an interest in such spiritual work. We aim to manifest the spiritualities under consideration as well as having informed discussions about the Spiritual Traditions of the Middle East. A background to this Festival is the recent development of the Alexandrian Declaration for supporting peace processes in the Holy Land.

Please share this information with other individuals and organisations who you think would be interested to participate in the conference and Festival. Please do get in contact if you would like to develop links to our spiritual work.

Conference and Festival Coordinators:
Neill Walker and Dr Neil Douglas-Klotz

Neill Walker,
Edinburgh International Centre
for World Spiritualities (EICWS),
4 William Black Place,
South Queensferry,
Edinburgh, EH30 9PZ.
Scotland. UK.
Ph: +44 (0)131 331 4469
email: njwalk1300@hotmail.com
Scottish Charity SC030155

Dr Neil Douglas-Klotz,
The Edinburgh Institute
for Advanced Learning (EIAL),
7 East Champanyie,
Edinburgh, EH9 3EL,
Scotland. UK.
Ph: +44 (0)131 466 1506
email: ndk@eial.org

Festival Website
www.eial.org

Principal Sponsors:
The Oneness Project and INDUP

This Middle Eastern Spirituality and Peace conference is part of the EICWS series of conferences: Bahá'í Spirituality (Saturday 26 January 2002), Hindu Spirituality (Saturday 21 December 2002), Sikh Spirituality (Saturday 24 May 2003), with other conferences to follow.

Edinburgh Celebrates Middle Eastern Spirituality and Peace

A wide range of Jewish, Christian, and Islamic representatives will join in a conference, workshops, and arts and cultural events during a week long Festival centred on the theme of spiritual approaches to peace.

From Friday 27 February - Sunday 7 March, this Edinburgh Festival of Middle Eastern Spirituality and Peace will bring together artists and speakers from the Sufi, Druze, Baha'i, Ismaili, Zoroastrian and other lesser known traditions, in addition to representatives of more mainstream Judaism, Christianity, and Islam.

Among the highlights of the Festival will include: a two day International Conference at the Quaker Meeting House (March 3-4), a public evening Multi Faith Forum at St. George's West Church on the Spiritual Foundations for Peace, an evening colloqium on Science and Spirituality (5), an Interfaith Meditation Retreat at Wiston Lodge near Biggar (5-7), and a Middle Eastern themed One World Peace and Justice Concert at St. Mary's Episcopal Cathedral (6), among a wide range of education, film, theatre, music, dance, storytelling, and exhibition events and workshops, as well as services linked to the theme of the Festival.

The Festival has been jointly organized by the Edinburgh International Centre for World Spiritualities, EICWS, and the Edinburgh Institute for Advanced Learning, EIAL, and with the support of many other organizations.

'Spiritual approaches to peace - ones that use art, music, and processes of listening and forgiveness - have an important role to play in the peace process', said Dr. Neil Douglas-Klotz, one of the event organizers. *'We're bringing together people who are already active in these approaches on the ground in the Middle East, or who have new and creative ideas about how to proceed in an area from which we are used to hearing mainly bad news.'*

According to Neill Walker of the EICWS, *'Scotland has a distinctive role to play in meeting the global challenge of multifaith and cultural diversity, dialogue, and shared understanding leading to mutual spiritual enrichment. We feel that this conference and Festival will not only lead to new spiritual understandings across traditions, but it will also further contacts, understandings, and learnings between Scotland and the spiritual communities of the Middle East.'*

Exhibitions and Displays Linked to the Theme of the Festival

'Overcoming Violence Against Women: a Middle East Initiative'

St Mary's Episcopal Cathedral, Palmerston Place,
27 February - 7 March,
Mon. Tues. Wed. Fri.: 8am - 1pm., 1.30 - 5.30pm;
Thurs.: 8 - 11.30am, 12 noon - 1pm, 1.30 - 5.30pm;
Sat.: 8am - 4pm;
Sundays 8.30 - 10.30am, 11.45am - 3.30pm.
Contact Helen Hood
email: wcc.dov-women@ecosse.net

Schools Art Exhibition

27th February - 7th March:
City of Edinburgh schools are invited to submit pupils artwork to be included in an exhibition. Artwork should reflect the themes of the Festival celebrating diversity of belief, multi-culturalism, and shared understanding.
Further details from: Stevi Manning, Arts Development Officer, City of Edinburgh Council, Department of Education, Arts Unit. Tel. No. 0131 469 3359

Two Displays and an Exhibition at the Edinburgh Central Library, George IV Bridge (including a display of calligraphy books, provided by Moshen Hemmati)

Sounds of the Spirit, 7 February - 6 March, Central Music Library, George IV Bridge. Contact: 0131 242 8500; Multi Faith Perspectives, 27 February - 6 March, Central Reference Library, George IV Bridge. Contact: 0131 242 8060; Middle Eastern Perspectives, 21 January - 6 March, Central Library Stair Display, George IV Bridge.

Contact: 0131 242 8000

A Selection of Children's Art from the World Peace Prayer Society International Children's Peace Pals Art Exhibition

The Sanctuary, new Royal Infirmary of Edinburgh.

Contact: wppsallanton@btinternet.com, 0138 7 740642

A Display by the London Academy of Iranian Studies, with a Documentary Film

A Display based upon the work of the Ecumenical Accompaniment Programme in Palestine and Israel

Provided by the Quaker Peace and Social Witness, and, a photographic exhibition by Matt Robson, Witnessing Reality: Pictures and Stories from Palestine and Israel.

27 February - 7 March, at the Augustine United Church, 41 George IV Bridge, Edinburgh, 0131 220 1677

An Exhibition based upon the work of Living Values Education in the Middle East

Provided by Living Values: an education programme, at St George's West Church, 58 Shandwick Place, Edinburgh, 27 February - 7 March. Contact: britishisles@livingvalues.net, 01865 408124

Interfaith Dialogue: An International Perspective

Edinburgh Peace and Justice Centre, 27 February - 7 March 2004, Monday - Saturday, 10am-4pm.

Contact: 0131 229 0993, peace-justice@btconnect.com

Cradles of Belief

The National Library of Scotland, George IV Bridge, Edinburgh, 0131 226 4531, will put on a display for the period 27 February - 7 March, opening hours will be:- Monday, Tuesday, Thursday, Friday: 9.30 - 20.30, Wednesday: 10 - 20.30, Saturday: 9.30 - 13.00, Sunday closed

Hadeel

St George's West Church, 58 Shandwick Place, Edinburgh, Tuesday-Saturday, 10.30-4pm.

Contact: palcrafts@fish.co.uk, 0131 225 1922

Mapping the Unseen: The Art of Ahmed Moustafa

Exhibition at the St Mungo Museum of Religious Life and Art, Glasgow: Fri 12 Dec 2003 - Sun 18 Apr 2004.

Contact: 0141 553 2557

Admission is free to all exhibitions and displays.

1st Edinburgh Festival of Middle Eastern Spirituality and Peace

Festival Programme
27th February - 7th March 2004

From Friday 27 February - Sunday 7 March 2004 a series of events will be held on the subject of Middle Eastern Spirituality and Peace. These events as listed here have been developed around three major public events on the evenings of Wednesday 3rd, Thursday 4th, and Friday 5th, an international conference on the subject of Middle Eastern Spirituality and Peace on Thursday 4th, a day Workshop on Friday 5th, an Interfaith Spiritual Retreat from Friday 5th - Sunday 7th, and a Middle Eastern themed One World Peace and Justice Concert on Saturday 6th.

We invite expressions of interest from individuals, organizations, spiritual and faith traditions, civic organisations, arts and cultural organisations, among others, about possible participation in this Festival.

FESTIVAL PRE EVENTS

A 'Ministry for Peace' Initiative
4th February 2004, 7-9pm
Talk by Diana Basterfield on the Ministry of Peace, Quaker Meeting House, 7 Victoria Terrace, Edinburgh, Jointly organised by the EICWS and the EIFA. Admission is free.
Contact: Neill Walker - 0131-3314469, njwalk1300@hotmail.com or Victor Spence eifa100@hotmail.com

The Whirling Dervishes of Turkey with the Suleyman Erguner Ensemble
10th February 2004, 8pm
Edinburgh Queen's Hall, Tuesday, Presented by MultiCulti, in association with the EICWS. This event will be preceded by a pre-concert talk by Suleyman Erguner on 'The Spiritual Side of Sufism', from 7pm. Contact: Kola Adefope, multicultiuk@yahoo.co.uk, or 0131 668 2019.
Tickets - £16, Box office - 0131 668 2019 or boxoffice@queenshalledinburgh.org

MAIN FESTIVAL

Public Discussion: 'To the Leaders of the World's Religions'
Thursday 26 February, 7pm
Baha'i Centre, 26 North Fort Street, Leith. Admission is free.
Contact: David and Maureen Hunter-Merrick, 0131 333 2170, meteorquake@hotmail.com, or mospleen@hotmail.com

At the start of the current millennium the Universal House of Justice (the governing body of the Baha'i Faith) issued a Message to the leaders of the world's religions calling for a concerted effort to remove bigotry and prejudice from the world. This evening presents the key points of this message in the hope of stimulating useful discussion. Refreshments will be served. As space is limited please book your seat in advance.

Middle Eastern Films at the Filmhouse Cinema
As a contribution to the Festival of Middle Eastern Spirituality and Peace, following on from the release of the Afghan film OSAMA (20-26/2 see www.filmhousecinema.com), there will be a season of films set in the region. The programme is yet to be finalised, but will include Elizabeth Fernea's documentary on the citizens of Palestine and Israel, THE STRUGGLE FOR PEACE, Hany Abu-Assad's revealing road movie that takes us from the roadblocks at Ramalla to the roadblocks at Jerusalem, FORD TRANSIT, two films on Moroccan street children AWAKENINGS and ALI ZAOUA, Elia Sulieman's black comedy DIVINE INTERVENTION, and Ghassan Salhab's Lebanese comedy TERRA INCOGNITA.

For further information, please contact:
James McKenzie, james.mckenzie@filmhousecinema.com
or 0131-623-8020

Dialogue between Rev Prof Frank Whaling and Rev Paul King
Rev Prof Frank Whaling in dialogue with Rev Paul King on the 'Seven Modes of Inter-Faith Dialogue', Sunday February 29th at 6.30pm, at Nicolson Square Methodist Church, 25 Nicolson Square, Edinburgh. Admission is free.
Contact: Paul King, 0131 662 0417 / 0131 667 1465
paul.king7@virgin.net

Heart Rhythm Meditation
Sunday 29th February, 7.30pm - 9.30pm
Salisbury Centre, 2 Salisbury Road, Edinburgh
Heart Rhythm Meditation has its origins in the works of Sufi Master Hazrat Inayat Khan. This practical meditation brings the Heart to the centre of one's life by coordinating the body's internal rhythms, resulting in the ability to act naturally and easily with Compassion, Cooperation, Courage, Compelling Vision, Creativity and Confidence. Admission is free.
Contact Ayaz Walker at 0131 667 0656 (evenings) or
Email at hrm@ayazwalker.plus.com

Dances of Universal Peace events
These meditative movements, accompanied by chanting sacred phrases, are inspired by spiritual traditions across the world and engender feelings of love, joy, and harmony. During the Festival we will be focussing on Dances of Universal Peace inspired by religions of the Middle East. Sunday 29 February, Quaker Meeting House, 7 Victoria Terrace, Edinburgh, 3-5pm, £5/£3.50; Monday 1 March, Creative Space, St George's West Church, 58 Shandwick Place, 1-2pm, by donation; Friday March 5, Holy Trinity Church Hall, Dumbarton Road, Stirling, 7-8.45pm, £5/£3.50. Contact: 0131-664-6206 for 29/2, 1/3, and 5/3 events; 01786-461-173 for 5/3 event.

Public Talk on Islam and Medicine by Professor Aziz Sheikh
Professor of Primary Care Research and Development, University of Edinburgh, Chair of the Research and Documentation Committee of the Muslim Council of Britain. The Edinburgh Peace and Justice Centre hosts a public talk with Professor Aziz Sheikh who will speak on Islam and Medicine on Monday 1 March, 7.30pm, Annandale Street Mosque, Edinburgh. Admission is free.
Contact: Edinburgh Peace and Justice Centre, 0131 229 0993, peace-justice@btconnect.com, or, Neill Walker - 0131-3314469, njwalk1300@hotmail.com

Book Launch Event: Genesis Meditations: A Shared Practice of Peace for Jews, Christians and Muslims - Dr Neil Douglas-Klotz
Cornerstone Bookshop, St. John's Church, Princes Street, Tuesday 2nd March, 5:30-6:30pm. Contact: Nikki Macdonald; 0131 229 3776, or cornerstonebooks@stjohnedin.fsnet.co.uk. Free event, but please book your place as seats are limited.

Scientific and Medical Network Edinburgh event: Dr Neil Douglas-Klotz will talk on Creation: Old Story, New Story
2nd March, 8.00pm, c/o Jane Ridder-Patrick, 29 East London St, Edinburgh. Dr Neil Douglas-Klotz is well known as a scholar in religious studies and psychology, as well as a leader in the International Sufi Movement. His most recent book is The Genesis Meditations, which sets out meditations on creation from Judaism, Christianity, and Islam. Admission is free. Please let Jane know you are coming: 0131 556 2161

Meetings at the Borders: Spiritual Approaches to Middle East Peace, with Rodef Shalom Eliyahu McLean, Sheikh Abdul Aziz Bukhari, and Dr Neil Douglas-Klotz
Wednesday 3 at the Quaker Meeting House, 7 Victoria Terrace, Edinburgh, 6.30pm for 7pm-9.30pm:
First come, first served. Admission is free, donations appreciated towards costs. Everyone welcome to attend. Contact: Neill Walker - 0131-3314469, njwalk1300@hotmail.com

International Conference on Middle Eastern Spirituality and Peace
An international conference on the subject of Middle Eastern Spirituality and Peace on Thursday 4 at the Quaker Meeting House, 7 Victoria Terrace, Edinburgh. Registration 9am-9.30am. Conference runs from 9.30am-5.30pm. Lunch will be available from 1pm-2pm. Conference registration £20/£10. This conference will include participation from Christian, Jewish, Muslim, Sufi, Ismaili, Baha'i, Zoroastrian, and Druze as well and other faith and spiritual traditions.
Contact: Neill Walker - 0131-3314469, njwalk1300@hotmail.com, for enquiries and a conference registration form.

Public Multi Faith Forum on the Spiritual Foundations for Peace
Thursday 4 at St George's West Church, 58 Shandwick Place, Edinburgh, refreshments from 6.45pm-7.15pm. Multi Faith Forum on the Spiritual Foundations for Peace, 7.15pm-9.30pm. First come, first served. Admission is free, donations appreciated towards costs. Everyone welcome to attend.
Contact: Neill Walker - 0131-3314469, njwalk1300@hotmail.com, for detailed information on speakers at this Multi Faith Forum.

"Genesis Now! A Shared Practice of Peace for Jews, Christians and Muslims." Interfaith Spiritual Retreat led by Dr Neil Douglas-Klotz
March 5-7: Wiston Lodge, nr Edinburgh, Scotland: Meditation, chant, Dances of Universal Peace, body prayer. Contact: Narada Ian Ramsey: Tel. 44 (0)1290 661 082. narada@abwoon.com. For information on Neil's new book, Genesis Meditations, see:
http://www.genesismeditations.com/schedule.html,
Http://www.abwoon.com/GenesisNowatWistonLodgeMarch2004.htm

Workshop 'Where's the Power!' facilitated by Lee Gershuny, Ph.D.
The purpose of this workshop is to explore different ways of dealing with obstacles to peace. It is based upon the belief that practicing peace locally in our daily lives not only empowers us individually and collectively, but also promotes peace and justice in the world. The workshop aims to enable participants to: 1. Become more aware of attitudes and actions that help create peace and justice with each other in the present; 2. Develop skills to work creatively among diverse participants; 3. Build a sense of community among diverse participants. Demonstrations, interactive exercises and role play in small and large groups will enable us to practice three principles of peacemaking, namely, Not Knowing; Bearing Witness; Loving Action/Compassion. Lunch will be purchased from caterers at the venue. This workshop will be facilitated by Lee Gershuny of The Elements, and will be held at St George's West Church, 58 Shandwick Place, Edinburgh, on Friday 5. Tea 9.30am-10am. Workshop from 10am-4.30pm. Lunch will be available from 1pm-2pm. The cost for coffee, teas, etc. is £1 per participant for the whole day. Registration fee is £5, first come, first served, and registration forms are available from: Neill Walker - 0131-3314469, njwalk1300@hotmail.com

Science and Spirituality: A Crisis of Faith in Science and the Need for a New Enlightenment?
Friday 5 at Martin Hall, New College, The Mound, Edinburgh University, jointly organised and hosted by the Helsinki Citizen's Assembly and the EICWS. 7pm-9.30pm. Chair: Joyce McMillan. Speakers: Prof David Fergusson, Head of the School of Divinity, Edinburgh University; Prof Salim al-Hassani, Hon. Chairman of the Foundation for Science, Technology, and Civilisation; Prof Wilson Poon, Prof of Physics and Astronomy, Edinburgh University. Admission is free, everyone welcome to attend.
Contact: Neill Walker - 0131-3314469, njwalk1300@hotmail.com, or, Dr Andrew Morton, 0131 332 6592, armorton@btopenworld.com

Storytelling Workshop. Wise Fools and Spiritual Quests in Middle Eastern Stories. Workshop led by Angela Knowles, storyteller, and Dr Donald Smith of the Scottish Storytelling Centre
Saturday March 6th, 12.30-4.30, St George's West Church, 58 Shandwick Place, Edinburgh.
Much of Middle Eastern literature has been shaped by oral traditions of storytelling. In this relaxed workshop participants can explore different kinds of storytelling in small groups and then share stories informally. The session begins with a keynote introduction and light lunch. Please book in advance, since places are limited. £7.50/£5.00. To book contact the Scottish Storytelling Centre, 43-45 High Street, Edinburgh, EH1 1SR. Tel 0131 557 5724, Fax 0131 557 5224.
Email: scottishstorytellingcentre@uk.uumail.com. This event is jointly hosted by Creative Space and the Scottish Storytelling Centre.

Middle Eastern themed One World Peace and Justice Concert
A major Middle Eastern themed One World Peace and Justice Concert on Saturday 6. Doors open at 5.45pm, first come, first served. 5.45pm-6.30pm: refreshments by Suruchi Indian Restaurant. Concert from 6.30pm-10pm, at St Mary's Episcopal Cathedral, Palmerston Place, near Haymarket, Edinburgh. No tickets in advance. £4.50/£3.50, family ticket price of £2.50 per person.
CANTY: Anne Lewis, Lorna Stephens, Rebecca Tavener, with William Taylor (medieval clarsach). 'The Mother and the Magdelene': A sequence of medieval music celebrating the two Marys of the New Testament including antiphons by Hildegard von Bingen, an Italian 'lauda', an English 'carol', polyphony from the Llibre Vermell and the St Andrews Music Book, plus the Scottish premiere of 'The Troparion of Kassiani' by Ivan Moody; 'The Beauty of Islam' by Hassen Rasool and Sarah Joseph, on behalf of the Muslim Council of Britain; "Where's the Power?" Dance/Drama, devised and presented by The Elements; Egyptian Dance with Hilary Thacker: Improvisation with veil and cymbals, and Middle Eastern percussion with Mike Zolker and Javier Villar Morales; Jewish Klezmer Music with Celtica Schmeltica; Music from the band Moscu with influences from Iran, Brazil, Cuba, and Africa. The performers are Roxana Pope (vocals), Dougie Hudson (vocals/percussion), Peter Vilk (drums/percussion), and Marcello (guitar); Jewish Chants led by Rodef Shalom Eliyahu McLean; Sufi Chants led by Sheikh Abdul Aziz Bukhari; Dances of Universal Peace led by Alice Fateah Saunders.
Contact: Neill Walker - 0131-3314469, njwalk1300@hotmail.com; Paul Boast - 0131-2299594, pboast@onetel.com

Services and Events at Cathedrals and Churches across Edinburgh on Sunday 7 March 2004
Edinburgh Churches Together have communicated with churches across Edinburgh to consider linking services on Sunday 7 to the Festival theme: St Mary's Episcopal Cathedral, Palmerston Place, Edinburgh, Sunday 7 March 2004, 3.30pm. Choral Evensong, J.S.Bach Cantata BWV 54 'Widerstehe doch der Sünde'. Special prayers for Middle Eastern Spirituality and Peace Festival; St Mary's Catholic Cathedral, Leith Walk, Edinburgh, Sunday 7 March 2004, special bidding prayers/prayers of intercession for peace and greater community in the Middle East during 7.30pm Mass; Old St Paul's Episcopal Church (enter from Jeffrey St, disabled access available - phone ahead 0131 556 3332), Mass for Justice and Peace at which all are welmcome, Friday 27 February and Friday 5 March 2004, 12.20pm. This is a reflective service of prayer and communion, celebrated in a chapel built to remember those killed in wars. Churches across Edinburgh are encouraged to be mindful of the Festival theme on Sunday 7 March 2004.

Service at the Edinburgh Synagogue
4 Salisbury Road, Edinburgh, on Saturday 28 February.
To attend contact: Rabbi David Rose, 0131 668 1279,
Neill Walker - 0131-3314469, njwalk1300@hotmail.com

Women in Black Silent Vigil
Women in Black hold a silent vigil on every Saturday, 1-2pm at the East End of Princes Street, and all women of all ages are welcome to join the silent vigil. Contact: Neill Walker - 0131-3314469, njwalk1300@hotmail.com

National Library of Scotland event
Contact: Neill Walker - 0131-3314469, njwalk1300@hotmail.com; Fiona Morrison Graham, 0131 226 4531

Napier University Chaplaincy student focused event
A student focused event is being planned at the Napier University Chaplaincy. For information contact: Neill Walker - 0131-3314469, njwalk1300@hotmail.com; Jenny Williams, butterfly.greenleaf@gmx.net

Media Coverage associated with the Festival
Discussions are ongoing about specific media input to the Festival, including Radio Scotland. For interviews, photo opportunities, or a press release contact: Neill Walker - 0131-3314469, njwalk1300@hotmail.com

The Time for Reflection in the Scottish Parliament
May be given by a distinguished visiting speaker associated with the conference on Wednesday 3. Contact: Neill Walker - 0131-3314469, njwalk1300@hotmail.com

'Scotland has a distinctive role to play in meeting the global challenge of multifaith and cultural diversity, dialogue, and shared understanding leading to mutual spiritual enrichment. We feel that this conference and Festival will not only lead to new spiritual understandings across traditions, but it will also further contacts, understandings, and learnings between Scotland and the spiritual communities of the Middle East.'

Festival Coordinators