



News Release



Office of Public Affairs

U.S. Embassy

U.S. Principal Officer Bryan Hunt Stresses Need for Tolerance at Interfaith Conference

Lahore, April 23, 2007 – Welcoming guests at a conference “Celebrating Interfaith Harmony Through Dialogue” U.S. Consulate Principal Officer Bryan Hunt stressed that “today more than ever we all need to make a conscious effort to promote tolerance.” The conference, which was organized at the Consulate by the Pakistan Ulema and Mashaikh Council, included members of the Muslim, Christian, Hindu, Sikh and Parsi faiths, and started with recitation from the Holy Quran.

“America is a land of many faiths and we welcome the rich diversity these faiths bring to our nation. We need to strive for interfaith harmony to strengthen appreciation of the values and norms common to the world’s religions and cultures. I truly appreciate the initiative taken today to promote inter-religious harmony,” remarked Principal Officer Bryan Hunt.

Allama Muhammad Zubair Abid, President Ulema and Mashaikh Council, highlighted in his remarks that Islam is a religion that preaches peace and tolerance. He concluded by thanking the Consulate for hosting the conference.

Other guest speakers included: Punjab Minister for Religious Affairs Sahibzada Saeedul Hasan; Shakir Ali Rizvi; Archbishop Lawrence Saldanha; Bishop of Lahore Alexander John Malik; Bishan Singh, Gurdwara Parbandhak Committee; and Dr. Manohar Chand. More than 50 representatives of various faiths attended the conference.

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