

IIA highlights, June 2011

Although I did not travel abroad in June, the month included a number of meetings with both international character and import.

Anglican-Jewish Com. meeting- co-hosted by AJC

Arguably the most important of these was the fifth annual Anglican-Jewish dialogue under the auspices of the Archbishop of Canterbury/the Anglican Communion and the Chief Rabbinate of Israel (which I advise on interfaith relations and) on whose delegation I serve. The meeting was co-hosted by AJC and held at Beit Moses. The main theme of the dialogue was the central ideas and the place of the book of Psalms in our respective traditions.

In addition each delegation updated the other on its current interfaith activities and there was also much discussion on current issues especially pertaining to the situation of Christian communities in the Middle East in general, in Israel and the PA in particular, as well as specific current challenges facing the Anglican church in Jerusalem. See:

<http://www.anglicancommunion.org/acns/news.cfm/2011/7/4/ACNS4901>

http://www.rabbiavidrosen.net/Statements_Reports.htm#statements



Back row left to right:
Rev. Rana Khan, Rev. Timothy Howarth,
Rabbi Prof. Daniel Sperber, Mrs Clare Amos,
Mr Oded Wiener, Archdeacon Michael
Ipgrave, Dr. Jane Clements

Front row left to right:
Rabbi David Brodman, Archbishop Michael
Jackson, Rabbi Shear Yashuv Cohen, Rabbi
David Rosen

Council of the Religious Institutions of the Holy Land with Tony Blair

A delegation from the Council of the Religious Institutions of the Holy Land (representing the official highest bodies of the three faith communities in Israel and the PA) was invited by the Quartet's special representative Tony Blair to meet with him and his colleagues to discuss ways in which cooperation may be fostered and religious leadership contribute to promoting Israel-Palestinian reconciliation.

See:-

<http://www.quartetrep.org/quartet/news-entry/tony-blair-meets-with-the-council-for-the-religious-institutions/>



Sheikh Salah Zuheikah, Bishop Munib
Younan, Patriarch Fouad Twal, Sir Tony
Blair, Rabbi David Rosen, Mr Oded Wiener

Addresses to visiting leadership delegations/groups

Among the various groups I address this month, a particularly important delegation was hosted by the Propst (the title given to the head) of the German Lutheran congregation in Jerusalem. This was the German Lutheran leadership delegation led by Bishop Droeger of Berlin, with whom I met, briefed and discussed issues related to religion and politics as well as the current state of interfaith relations locally and internationally.

Other groups that I addressed included regular PI groups; young journalists from Holland (for CIDI, the Dutch Jewish advocacy body) and Australia (for AIJAC); graduate students from George Mason University studying religion, conflict and conflict resolution; and American Armenian leaders on Armenian- Jewish relations; and I also addressed the Amiel rabbinic training program on Jewish-Christian relations, past and present.