

## **INTERNATIONAL FEMININE CONGRESS** For a Culture of Peace

## Women's turn to speak

Newsletter

## **THE CONGRESS**

www.congres-international-feminin.org

# **TOGETHER, LET US CHANGE THE WORLD**

The International Feminine Congress for a Culture of Peace offers an unprecedented opportunity to lay the groundwork for a shared reflection aiming to build the foundation for a Culture of Peace, serving all humanity.

The Congress is deeply honored to be placed under the patronage of the President of the People's Democratic Republic of Algeria, Mr. Abdelaziz Bouteflika.

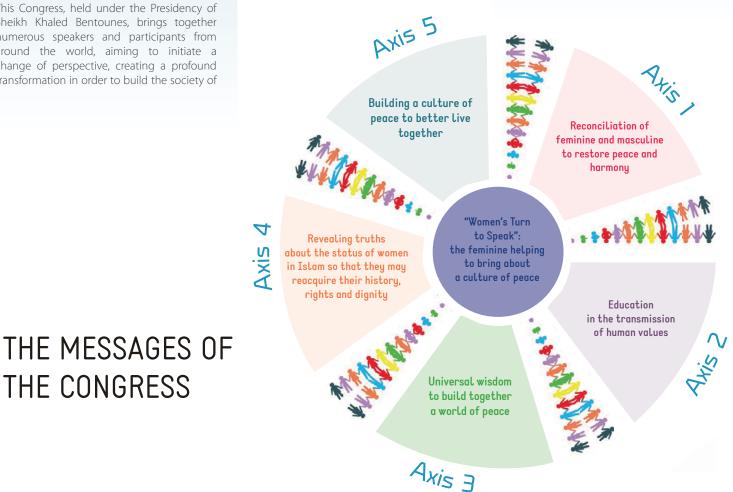
The International Alawiyya Sufi Association (AISA), which has organized this Congress, is an officially recognized international NGO, with special consultative status in ECOSOC. This offers AISA the opportunity to communicate its vision of « better living together » to the attention of a broad international audience.

This Congress, held under the Presidency of Sheikh Khaled Bentounes, brings together numerous speakers and participants from around the world, aiming to initiate a change of perspective, creating a profound transformation in order to build the society of tomorrow a society in which men and women are equal and responsible; in which each individual recovers his or her dignity, balance and creativity ; « better living together » will become a tangible reality.

In preparation for this long-awaited event, a second international pre-Congress, of the organizers, took place from the 1st to the 3rd of May in Mostaganem. This second intensive work session allowed for the completion of the Congress program, including the various artistic and cultural events to take place alongside the conferences and participative workshops in the mornings and afternoons.

Going far beyond borders and genders, the themes to be considered deal with universal subjects, in response to questions raised in many international forums. A detailed description of the program is provided on page 2.

In addition to the program, this second work session also identified the main key messages of the Congress, which are illustrated below.







Mohamed Ben Ahmed convention Center , Oran Algeria

#### OCTOBER 28, 2014 FEMININE : DIFFERENT PERSPECTIVES Chairman -- Diibril Sène

#### CONFERENCES

Feminine: To be or to appear to be? Olfa Youssef (TN) Feminine-masculine: beyond gender. Audrey Fella (FR) Reconciliation of the feminine and masculine genders as vectors of peace. Valérie Colin-Simard (FR)

Workshop 1: Violence toward women: what solutions? Imane Hayef, UN representative (DZ), Anissa Smati-Bellahsene (Associations de femmes algériennes, Wassila network) (DZ), Nadia Aït Zai (DZ) Workshop 2: Breaking away from feminine stereotypes. Issam Toualbi-Thaàlībi (DZ), Bénédicte De Navacelle (FR) Workshop 3: A better sharing of roles and responsibilities. Wassyla Tamzali (DZ), Valérie Colin-Simard (FR) Workshop 4: Mysticism: the feminine case. Houria Abdelouahed (FR), Audrey Fella (FR), Eric Geoffroy (FR), Manijeh Nouri (FR) Workshop 5: The Feminine in the Koran. Tahar Gaid (DZ), Carmen Del Río Pereda (ES) Workshop 6: The sacred relation with the mother. Ivân Rendôn Llamas (ES)

#### OCTOBER 29,2014 FEMININE : ETHICS AND EDUCATION

### Chairwoman -- Olfa Youssef

#### CONFERENCES

What roles for ethical values in education? Hoda Darwish (EG) The media and human values. Patrick Busquet (CD) Rethinking the educational system, what reforms? Mustapha Cherif (DZ) DEBATE

Workshop 1: About pedagogical awakening. Malika Boudalia (DZ), Nadia Mimouni (FR), Rachid Benzine (FR) Roundtable discussion: How to put information at the service of humanity Patrick Busquet - Fondation Hirondelle (CD), Abrous Outoudert - Liberté (DZ), Cherif Lahdiri - EL-Watan (DZ), Kamel Daoud - Quotidien d'Oran (DZ), Bouziane Ben Achour - El-Djoumhouria (DZ), Leïla Boukli (DZ) Workshop 3: Inter-generational debate with no taboos Youth and:

Politics- Aissa Belmekki (DZ), Education- Mustapha Cherif (DZ), Religion- Tareq Oubrou (FR) & Abderrazak Guessoum (DZ)

## OCTOBER 29, 2014

### FEMININE : TRADITION AND MODERNITY

Chairwoman -- Khadidja Terki

#### CONFERENCES

AXIS

AXIS

The contribution of Feminine to peace. Leila Zerrougui, Special Representative of the Secretary-General for Children and Armed Conflict, United Nations (DZ) Tradition and modernity: when one strengthens the other. Fatma Oussedik (DZ) Trans-modernity: a vision of tomorrow. Gunter Pauli (BE) DEBATE

Workshop 1: Problematic issues: tradition, religion and modernity lqbal Gharbi (TN), Karima Ramdani (FR) Workshop 2: Workshop 2: Transmission in traditional societies Farida Sellal (DZ), Elisabeth Inandiak (FR, ID) Workshop 3: Transmission of customs and traditions today. Fatma Oussedik (DZ)

## OCTOBER 30,2014 -

FEMININE : VEILING AND UNVEILING

Chairman -- Abderrazak Guessoum

#### CONFERENCES

Koranic exegesis in the feminine. Mongia Nefzi Souahi (TN) Misogynistic hadiths (sayings of the Prophet): in a feminine light. Meriem Attia (DZ) Women scholars in Islam: a confiscated heritage Mohammad Akram Nadwi (GB, IN) DEBATE

Workshop 1: Contemporary feminine ijtihad Olfa Youssef (TN), Youssef Seddik (TN), Amna Nosseir (EG) Workshop 2: History of the veil. Mongia Nefzi Souahi (TN), Tareq Oubrou (FR), Meriem Attia (DZ), Elizabeth Reichen-Amsler (CH) Roundtable discussion: Women's role in spiritual education. Cheikha Nur Artiran (TR), Workshop 4: Status and rights of women: in a feminine light Wassyla Tamzali (DZ), Igbal Gharbi (TN), Issam Toualbi-Thaâlibî (DZ)

#### OCTOBER 30, 2014

FEMININE : CULTURE OF PEACE Chairwoman -- Farida Sellal

#### CONFERENCES

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AXIS

The Desire for Peace. Cheikh Khaled Bentounes (DZ) Paradigms for the economy of tomorrow: the Japanese experience. Keiko Takaki Nakamura (JP) A pedagogical model for a culture of peace Delia Mamon, Graines de Paix (CH) DEBATE

Roundtable discussion: What values for the construction of a sustainable peace? Cheikh Khaled Bentounes (DZ), Leila Zerrougui (DZ), Virginie Larousse (FR)

Workshop 2: New vision of the economy for a society defending universal values. Pierre Rabhi (FR)

Roundtable discussion and debate: How to build a culture of peace. Delia Mamon, Graines de Paix (CH), Monique Carmona, Femmes Internationales Murs Brisés (FR), Dr. Philippe Barthelet, TDA (FR)

#### GENERAL SUMMARY AND CLOSING

EXPOSITIONS

During the Congress, designated spaces will be devoted to a variety of expositions. Amongst them are the following :

**A** «spotlight» exhibition on the theme of veiling/unveiling, on one hand to retrace the history of the veil through different traditions and secondly to reveal the imprint of knowledgeable and spiritual Muslim women on the history of humanity.

A multidisciplinary exhibition entitled « Art Conjugated in the Feminine Mode », bringing together a number of artistic talents from Algeria and elsewhere.

An exhibition on the theme of feminine know-how.



Visit to the Zaouia Alawiyya: The doors of the Zaouia Alawiyya will remain open to all Congress participants from around the world, as well as to other visitors. In the spirit of sharing and fraternity, the public will discover Sufi tradition and heritage in its various forms and ramifications, such as the sanctuaries of Sufi masters, objects belonging to them and manuscripts and banners.

**Discovery of the exhibition on Algerian Sufi women:** The prominent role played by women in the chain of transmission of Sufi values will be honored with an exposition on Algerian spiritual women. Special attention will be given to the woman who embodied the soul of the Zaouia, namely Lalla Kheira, adopted daughter of the founder of the Alawiyya Sufi path.

Visit to the seat of the Mediterranean Foundation for Sustainable Development, «Djanatu al-Arif»: The journey continues with a visit to the headquarters of the Djanatu al-Arif Foundation, which is a center for the study of sustainable development, including its tree nursery, where the cultivation of the argan tree has been revived; its landscaped garden; its organic vegetable garden; and an outside market selling local organic products.

**Spiritual evening that will crown the day:** closing of the Congress with a spiritual gathering of the Sufi paths, followed by an evening show featuring the group « Ahallil » from Gourara in southern Algeria.



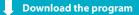
#### The daytime conferences will be prolonged and complemented by artistic events in the evening, retaining the feminine theme. The program includes the following (to be confirmed) :

A concert by the Algerian National Symphony Orchestra, composed of some fifty musicians, illustrating the richness and diversity of Algerian music.

A « Haute Couture » fashion show will be held, under the direction of Ms Yasmina Chellali, creative international fashion designer and leader of Algerian fashion, displaying Algerian costumes between tradition and modernity.

An evening debate following the film **« A Spirituality of Peace », and a documentary on the Kogi Indians by Eric Julien.** 

A traditional « Tarwih » wedding ceremony, particularly illustrating the symbolism of the « El Hzam » belt, with the traditional women's choral group "Mdahattes Dahmania", under the direction of Mr. Djamel Bensabeur, director.





EVENING SHOWS

Djannatu-Al-Arif center, Mostaganem - Algeria



# THE PRE-CONGRESS IN ACTION : 1-3 MAY, 2014



The organizers, both male and female, gathered for three days of work at the seat of the Djanatu al-Arif foundation in a warm and studious atmosphere.

On the first day there was a progress report on the work done by the different « poles » since the New Year's session. There was also a presentation of action to be implemented for the coming months.

The following days were devoted to a simulation of the Congress : the opening, a typical day, the free day, as well as the closing ceremonies. Thus the different interactions between the poles were able to be improved. Moreover, each pole was able, thanks to an on-site visit, to get to know the layout of the Congress and become familiar with the different sites.

This pre-Congress made it possible to finalize the program of conferences and workshops, including media communication supports for partners and the general public. Moreover, the choice of evening events and exhibits was finalized. Questions dealing with the management of first aid, hygiene, security and child care during the Congress were addressed. Finally, the role of the surveillance commission, responsible for anticipating and solving any and all problems, has been clarified. All the poles, in particular those of transport, logistics, accommodation, registration and reception worked synergistically in order to optimize their respective contributions to the overall success of the Congress.

On the last day, the representatives (moqadems) of the Sufi path Alawiyya, as well as representatives of civil society in the region of Mostaganem, were informed of the conclusions of this second pre-Congress. The Isawa brotherhood brought the day to a close with musical entertainment.

## SIGN UP FOR THE CONGRESS

## IF YOU WISH TO SIGN UP FOR THE CONGRESS, THREE OPTIONS ARE PROPOSED :

#### **OPTION 1, including :**

- 🗸 airplane ticket
- lodging (with four categories to choose from)
- 🖌 all meals
- inscription fees for the Congress (conferences, workshops, evening events)
- $\checkmark$  the spiritual excursion
- 🖌 one free day

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#### OPTION 2, including :

- lodging (four categories to choose from)all meals
- inscription fees for the Congress (conferences, workshops, evening events)
- ✓ the spiritual excursion
- ✓ one free day

🖉 SIGN UP ONLINE

#### <u> OPTION 3, including :</u>

 inscription fees for the Congress (conferences, workshops, evening events)

Students benefit from reduced fees.

## STAY CONNECTED

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