

IARF Kenya Chapter



Human Rights Education and interfaith encounter

26 January 2014

Kajiado, South Rift Province, Kenya



Religious leaders at Enarau

The IARF- Human Rights Education and interfaith encounter, Kenya organized at Kajiado by IARF Kenya Chapter was organized in courtesy of Pastor Daniel Kimakon and Pastor Philip Korio of Enarau Full Gospel Church

The event attracted many religious leaders and the community around.



The program began with welcome from the two pastors, Daniel and Philip of Enarau Full Gospel Church, who gave introduction address and encouraged the participants to understand why IARF have decided to visit them and introduce Human Rights and related aspect.

Program

The first session started with participants' self-introduction and, followed by the History of IARF and its programs i.e. Human Rights, Female Genital Mutilation and Inter faith Programs.

The second sessions was the feedback from the first event that was held in the same place in the year 2012

Issues discussed based on Female Genital Mutilation.

This was the second time IARF have this program in this area. Therefore opportunity was given to young adults and girls to give their testimony on outcome on the first meeting event that that was held in the same church in the 2012 by the same pastors where brother Robert Papini, Bishop Jefferson Ghauri and Brother Lawrence were the chief guests.

Programs that bring different solutions for Human Rights such as, religious freedom, gender discrimination, and child abuse were deep discussed about future activities to support the Human Rights were also mentioned.

Testimonial

A woman came forward to share the issues, which affected them before. She started by saying:

“I thank you all for this opportunity. as we Masaai community, we had been left behind in any opinion making and I want to tell you that since we hear about IARF and after the last event that was held here, we have seen changes even from our community leaders especially on female genital mutilation awareness. Majority of the community around are aware of FGM and girls are nowadays given chances to have their right as they are free to share opinions to their parents and leaders. I want to appreciate you for the support of these programs in this area. Thank you”



Chairman's remarks

The IARF Kenya chapter chairman Amb. Dr. Jared Onyari appreciated the leaders the initiative they have taken to be the spear heads to create awareness on Human Rights. He further said that that as religious leaders, we should also be front to preach peace among their religions lines. And for this community, we ask the local leaders to allow the organizations such as IARF to have chances to educate these communities whenever they require them to do so, as this shall create more awareness to many people in this region.

General Secretary's Remarks



The General Secretary Rev. Lawrence Adera encourage the leaders and the communities to support IARF leaders through participating into IARF activities by showing up whenever such events are called upon. He also urge the community members to pass all the knowledge and the information they have got through IARF programs and make use of them as they do them practically to you neighbors and to yourselves. We have realized that the major

thing to be done here is FGM programs and we as IARF; we are going to make sure that in two years time, the practice of this culture has to reduce to 0% as we are going to work closely to other government agencies that are supporting the fight against these practices.

The proposal on the same is on the course and very soon the centers that have been identified by you members will have their dates allocated for the programs.

Future plans

After listening to different opinions from young and old peoples and discussions, it was discovered that the main problem that is facing these community was FGM and therefore a proposal was brought up that centers be identify and FGM educational program be conducted in these centers. There were six centers proposal in the first place. Through their leaders, here are the requests for their future activities,

- Human rights are done in these identified centers as from April 2014.
- To organize FGM programs along with the religious leaders in their worship centers where young people are involved
- To form a team of experts to assist in counseling programs to schools children.
- Supporting the IARF- Human Rights Education in all the possible way to spread the awareness on Female Genital mutilation awareness.