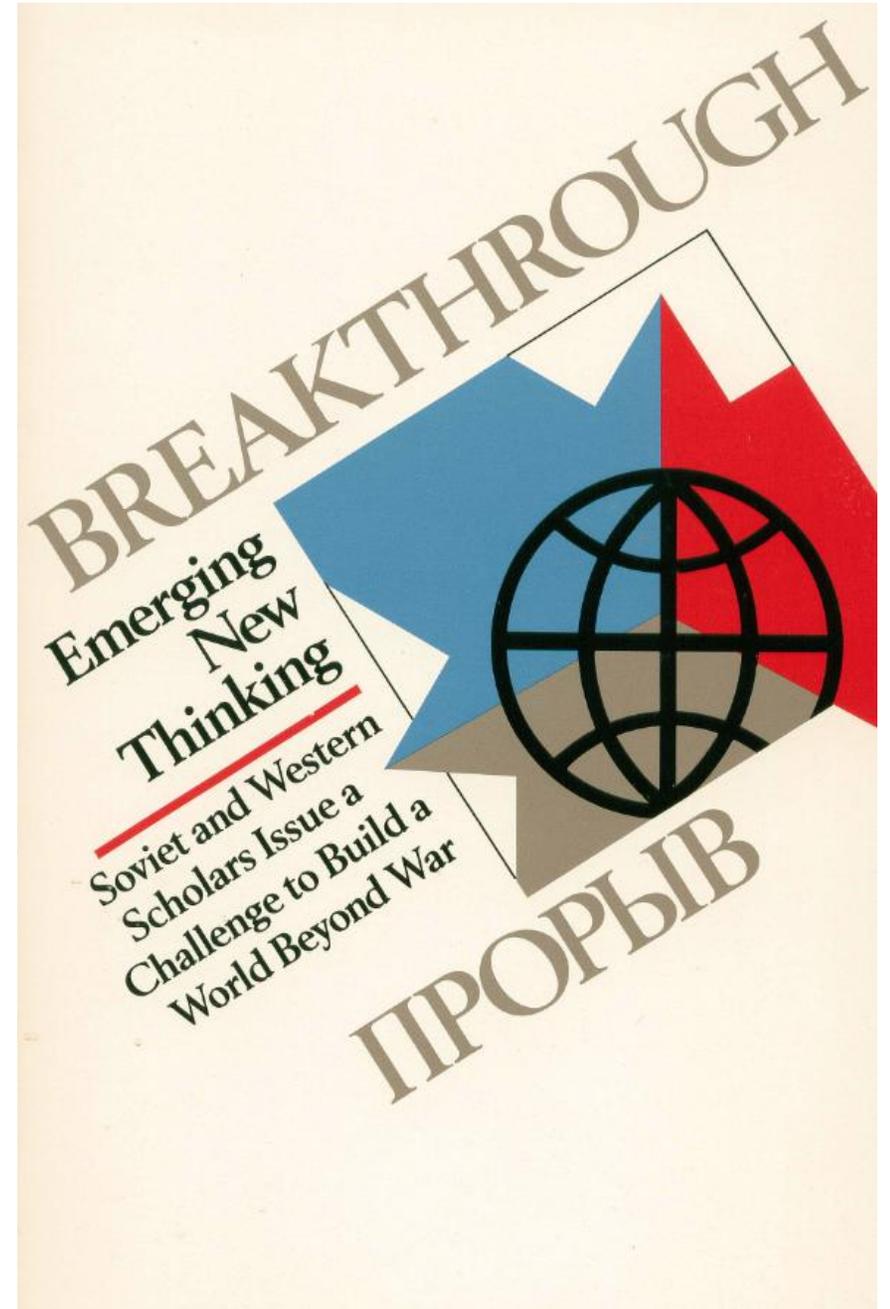
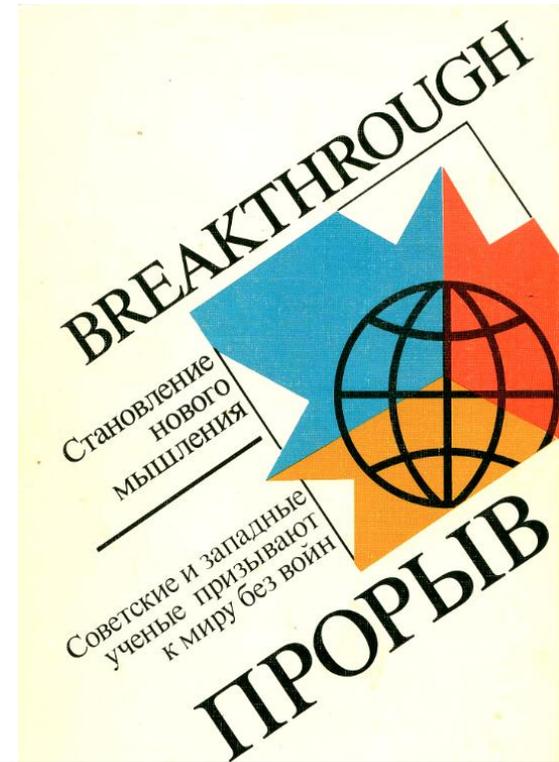


One



1987

Cold War Citizen-driven  
Breakthrough





# The Beyond War Award



The annual [Beyond War Award](#) for eight years (1983-1990) honored the great efforts of individuals, groups, and nations as humankind moves to build a world beyond war.

1989

Our Inspiration

[Koinonia Southern Africa](#)



[Neve Shalom ~ Wahat al-Salam](#)



1991

Framework For a Public Peace Process



*"There are some things only governments can do, such as negotiating binding agreements. But there are some things that only citizens outside government can do, such as changing human relationships."*

**Dr. Harold Saunders,  
former U.S. Assistant Secretary of State, and  
Negotiator of the Camp David Accords**

1992



**Black-White Meal Sharing**



**Jewish-Palestinian  
Living Room Dialogue**

## 420 Palestinians & Jews at Dinner-Dialogue



# News Journalists Begin to Discover the Dialogue

## Jews, Palestinians in dialogue group try to expand goals

NATALIE WEINSTEIN  
Bulletin Staff

Eighteen friends gather round a chocolate cake and burst out with "Happy Birthday." After slicing the cake, they joke and chit-chat for nearly a half-hour before sitting down in a circle of chairs set up in the living room. They finally get down to business as usual, begin talking about the latest obstacles between Israelis and

Mateo. "Now we're so comfortable. Should we keep meeting? What's the point?"

These questions were something the founders never expected to confront.

Traubman and her friend, Carol Kittermaster of Belmont, decided to form the grassroots dialogue group after successfully helping to bring 10 Palestinians and Israelis to the Bay Area in 1991 to write an unofficial peace proposal.

"We thought: What if we tried our own experiment?" Traubman said.

At first, the meetings were hosted by the group of local Jews and Palestinians. They vented their anger and frustration over the Middle Eastern situation.



Jewish-Palestinian Living Room Dialogue group members Hanan Rasheed, Elias Botto, and Kay Hay.

## Jews, Palestinians at area dinner put Mideast peace on the table

By Jonathan Curiel  
CHRONICLE STAFF WRITER

Jews and Palestinians sat down at a negotiating table yesterday and discussed the bloody violence that has been enveloping the Middle East — but the talks were held in a San Francisco living room, not in a conference room that contained the usual trappings of anger, hurt and hope.

The Jewish-Palestinian dialogue group met yesterday in the Bay Area for the first time. The meeting was held in a living room that contained the usual trappings of anger, hurt and hope.

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cynical over the events that have transpired over the last two weeks. We've seen that, inevitably, we're both capable of violence and brutality."

Several Jewish-Palestinian groups meet regularly in Bay Area homes. Yesterday's San Francisco meeting at the Renaissance Entrepreneurship Center on 5th Street, included Rasheed, who was born near the Palestinian town of Ramallah; her husband, business broker Rifaat Rasheed; Mandelsberg; San Francisco activist Faye Straus; and Dudy Tsafri, a UCSF post-doctoral fellow from Israel who is active in the Alliance of Middle Eastern Scientists and Physicians, a dialogue group that started two years ago and that features Israelis, Lebanese, Syrians and others.

The biggest point of contention yesterday concerned Thursday's brutal beating deaths of two Israeli reserve soldiers in Ramallah. Were the two men spies planning to kidnap Palestinians, or did they make an innocent wrong turn into the town?

"It has happened many different times that Israelis have dressed as Arabs, and kidnap," said Rifaat Rasheed. "I condemn that. Plus, (the soldiers) knew what they were going to be facing; there was an angry mob (of Palestinians) that just came back from two funerals."

"You don't need to justify it," said Mandelsberg. "I know," said Rifaat Rasheed. "The results were bad. We're not here to justify that." Talks were not the only activity for Jews, Palestinians and Syrians in the Bay Area yesterday.

## Talk Peace in Bay Area Dialogue Groups



Hanan Rasheed (left), a Palestinian American group leader, and Jacob Mandelsberg, who lived in Israel, discussed the recent Mideast violence.

to the Israeli-Palestinian dialogue group. "What was once all Jewish is now human," said group leader June Levin of Hillsborough. The mix now includes Arab-born Jews and Palestinian immigrants, and

Continued from Page 1  
Hanan Rasheed, a Palestinian-American who grew up near Ramallah and now lives in Danville. Rasheed wasn't the only one who referred to Jews and Palestinians as cousins that night. In fact, without eyeing name tags, it was often difficult to tell the Jews and Palestinians apart.

Such remarks and observations were the norm at the Jewish-Palestinian Living Room Dialogue group, which celebrated the fifth anniversary of monthly meetings last night. The group, based in San Francisco, has about 30 members. But they hoped their message to a broader audience. "It's not what divides us," Botto, a member of the group, told the attendees.

At 4:30 p.m., a group of 100 people protested in front of the Israeli consulate in San Francisco. At 4:30 p.m., a smaller demonstration took place near the doorway of the Israel Bonds Office on Kearny Street.

Donna Wallach, a 49-year-old Jewish activist who lived in Israel for 15 years, carried a sign at the noon protest that read, "Israel Stop Massacring Palestinians." Wallach said that Israel should be turned over to the Palestinian people because "all of Israel is occupied territory and it needs to be returned."

Wallach said she wouldn't attend a Jewish-Palestinian dialogue group. "I'm too radical for the Jews who are there," she said. "The Jews and Palestinians who do meet in the Bay Area say that talks make a difference in the Middle East."

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based grassroots group, the main sponsor of the event. "We need to be encouraged by the voices of moderation in the community that is not our own." Young ended his speech with one of the evening's most intriguing challenges.

He called on participants to plan an event for the spring that would commemorate the founding of a Palestinian state. The event also honored 10 grassroots groups across the United States that promote coexistence between Jews and Palestinians, such as Building Bridges for Peace.

Deana Ahmad, a Palestinian-American who took part in the program's summer camp, which brings together Israeli and American teenage girls, said the experience changed her life.

"We hated them without knowing them," said Ahr Palestinian and American now attends college. After attending the camp, "we saw each other not as the enemy but as human beings."

Although Ross couldn't make it, Libby an answering machine. Slightly embarrassed, the group explained that their answering machine emits a 15-second message. "I believe in what you're doing," Ross said. "Peace in the Middle East must be some of the current impasse in the Jewish-Palestinian dialogue in the United States. It's not how to build trust and directly impact the Mideast peace process, but how to build trust and directly impact the Mideast peace process."

After listening to his short speech, a few moments in silence to pray for Ross. Len Traubman, a founding member of the group, invited those attending to sign a term project sponsored by his group. Starting in January, the project will visit households, both Jewish and Palestinian, in each other's homes for four tir

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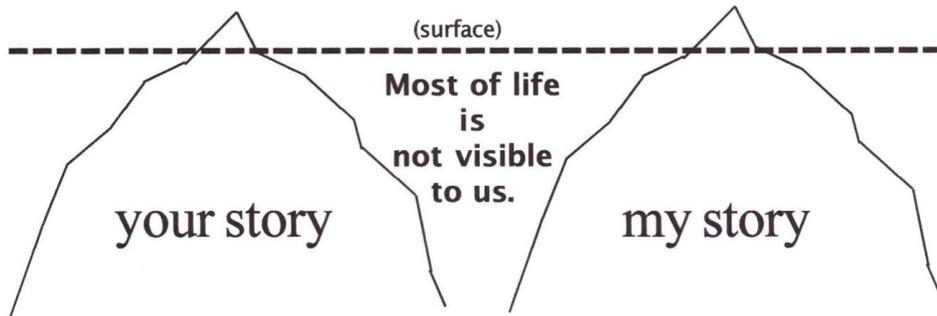
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# Graphics

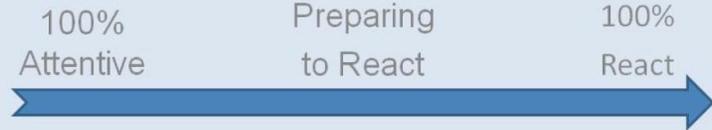
## Story

"An enemy is one whose story we have not heard."  
Gene Knudsen-Hoffman

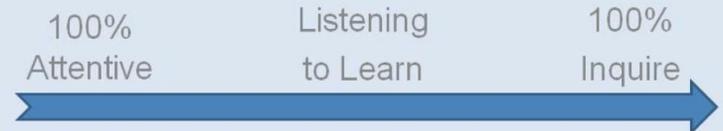


## Listening

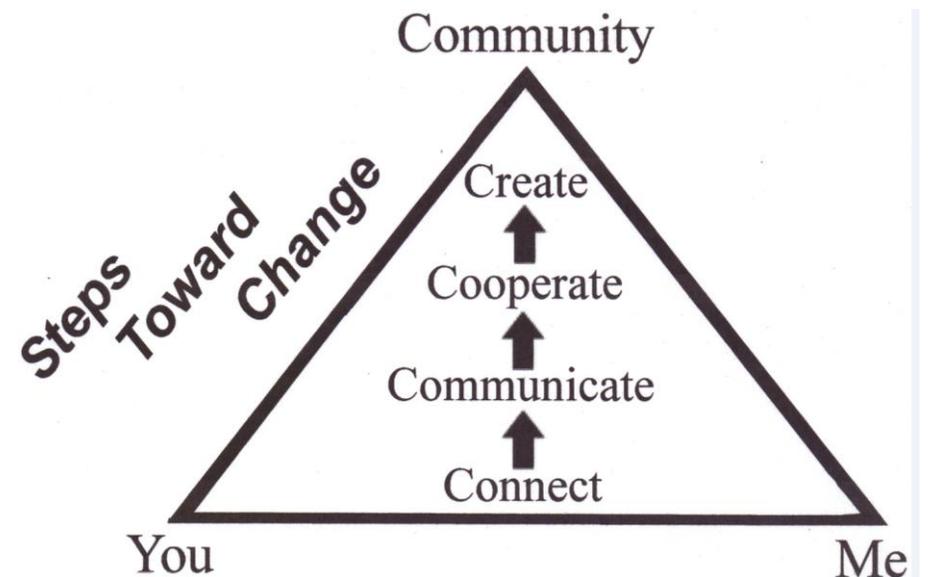
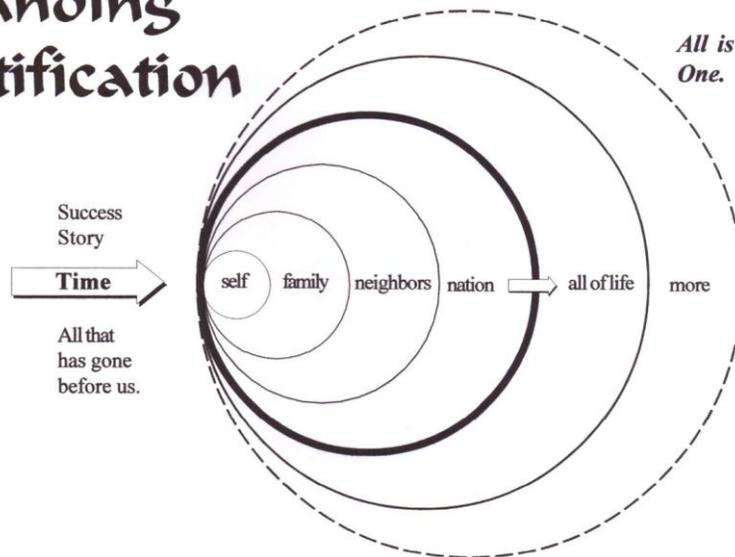
## Usual Communication



## Dialogue



## Expanding Identification



2000

Television News Begins Visiting the Living Room



2003-2007

Palestinian-Jewish Family Peacemakers Camps

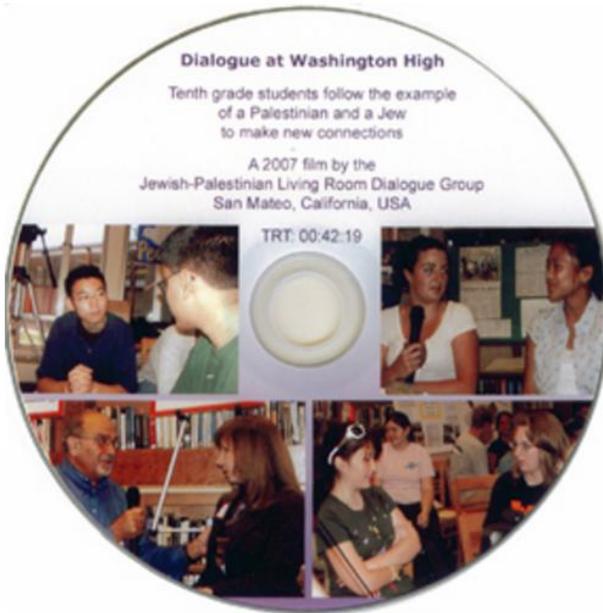


# High Schools

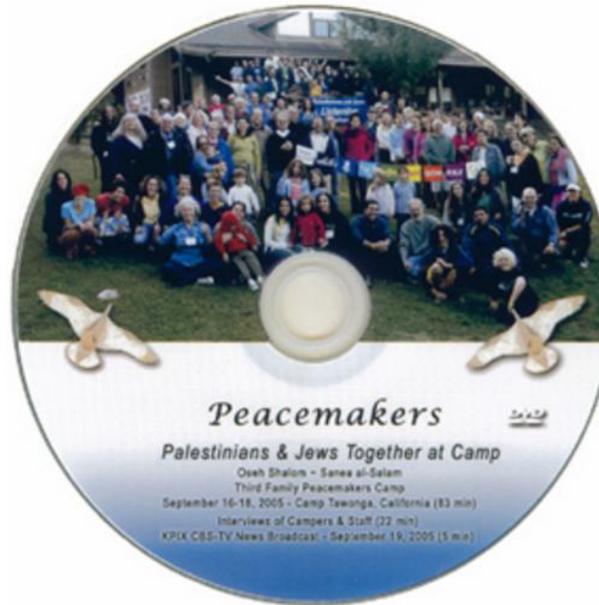


2007

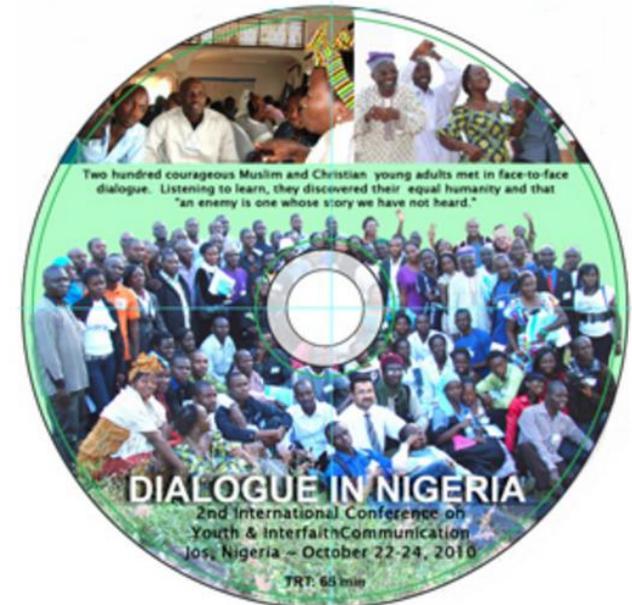
Documentary Films



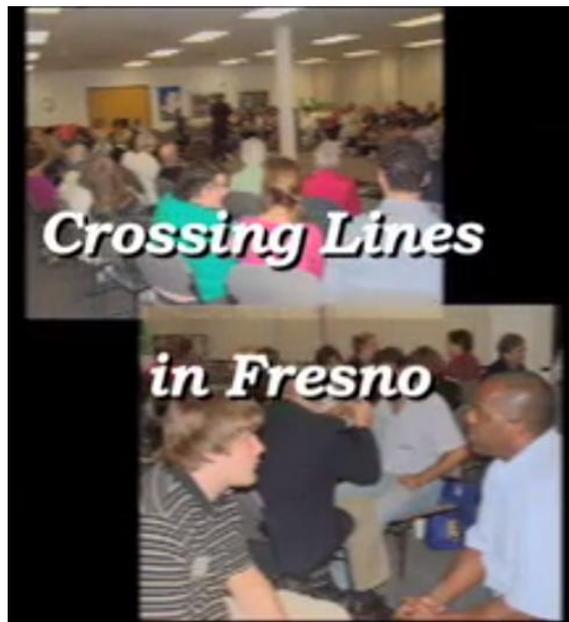
DIALOGUE AT WASHINGTON HIGH



PEACEMAKERS:  
Palestinians & Jews Together at Camp



DIALOGUE IN NIGERIA:  
Muslims & Christians Creating Their Future

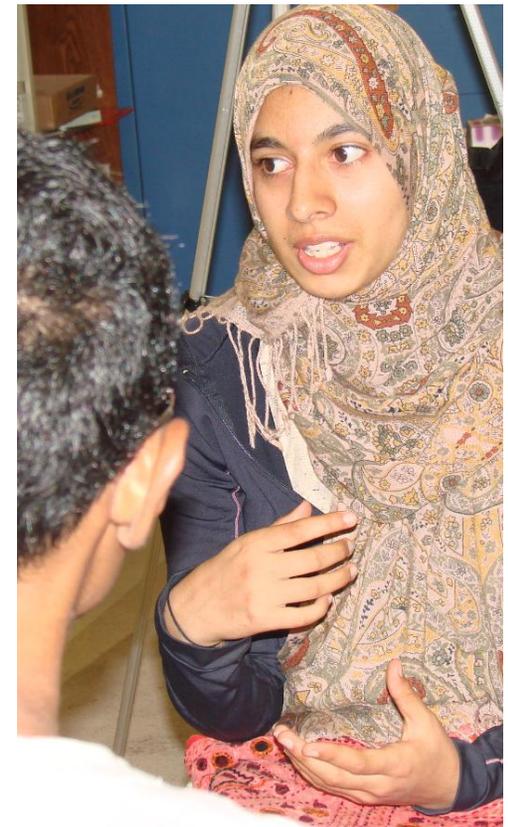


20 Years of  
Jewish-Palestinian  
Living Room  
Dialogue

# University Students



# Muslim Mosque Youth



# Fresno, California Community



# Skype-facilitated Dialogue in Asia

## Singapore University



## Korean-Japanese Reconciliation

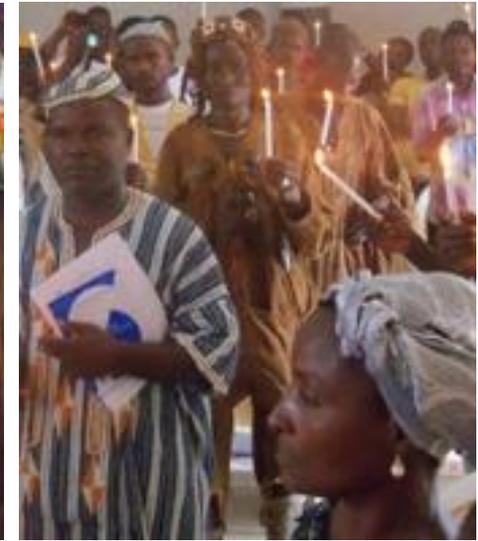
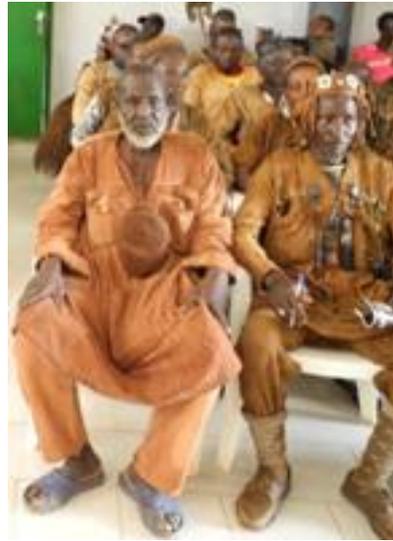


# Africa

## Dialogue in Nigeria



# Cote d'Ivoire (Ivory Coast) Tribal Reconciliation



## Dignifying Persons with Albinism



# DR Congo

## Dignifying Citizens with Physical Handicaps



## Married Couples Improving Communication Skills



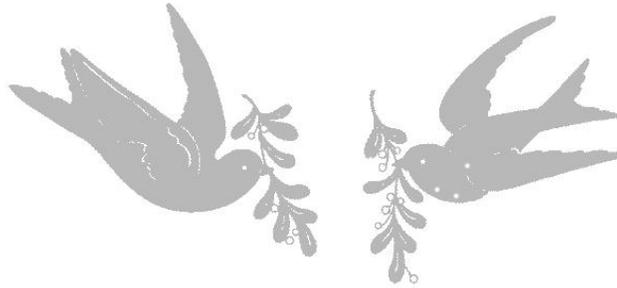
# Conference Booths





**Search the Web for:**

**Jewish-Palestinian**  
**Living Room Dialogue**



## ***Jewish-Palestinian Living Room Dialogue***

celebrating 23 years of talking, listening, and cooperating

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[LTraubman@igc.org](mailto:LTraubman@igc.org)

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