**ABOUT NILE DIALOGUE PLATFORM**

Nile Dialogue Platform (NDP) was founded in 2009 with the mission to foster interfaith and intercultural dialogue, stimulate thinking and exchange of opinions on supporting and fostering pluralism and peace and to provide a common platform for education and information exchange.

The principal goal of the Nile Dialogue Platform is to promote peace and contribute to a peaceful coexistence of the adherents of different faiths, cultures, ethnicities and races. For that to be achieved, we believe that everyone must be respectful to the environment and to all creatures’ right to exist, believe in the sanctity of human rights and democracy and use all means at hand to make this coexistence possible.

NDP's universal message serves as the basis of our mission, which is to facilitate dialogue by promoting love to transform hate, understanding to prevent misinterpretation, flexibility against rigidity, and, above all, tolerance to overcome bigotry.

NDP a non-partisan organization; however, in principal, we support activities pertaining to the better service to humanity, such as promoting conflict resolution within and between nations. As such, NDP iS committed to universal values of freedom, justice, democracy and the rights of all living beings.

Nile Dialogue Platform concentrates on commonalities, uniting in diversity thus making the world a harmonious place for all of us to leave in. As human beings we share a lot in common given the fact that we were created all in the same way.

NDP is also involved in interfaith and intercultural dialogue. Interfaith dialogue enables followers of different faith to talk, collaborate and live in the same place even enabling them to find a point of agreement. From this they are able to learn about, listen to and understand the other groups and find a point of agreement, be it shared or not. This should be carried out in an atmosphere of peace, freedom and openness, equality, tolerance, righteousness, sincerity, love respect and with good intentions.

NDP’s source of inspiration in interfaith and intercultural dialogue is Fethullah Gulen. Born in Erzurum, in eastern Turkey, in 1941, M. Fethullah Gülen is a Turkish-Islamic scholar and thinker, and a prolific writer and poet who currently lives in United States who has now inspired three generations in Turkey and beyond with a message of peace and social harmony. Mr. Gulen is considered among the top most intellectual in the world by the fact that in July 2008, he was listed as one of the top 100 intellectuals by “FOREIGN POLICY MAGAZINE” He was trained in the religious sciences by several celebrated Muslim scholars and spiritual masters. Gülen also studied the principles and theories of modern social and physical sciences. Fethullah Gulen has given thousands of sermons that have been recorded on audio or video tapes and he has written more than 40 books which have been translated in a variety of different world languages.

Gulen has stated that in the modern world the only way to get others to accept your ideas is by persuasion. He describes those who resort to force as being intellectually bankrupt; people will always demand freedom of choice in the way they run their affairs and in their expression of their spiritual and religious values. Democracy, Gülen argues, in spite of its many shortcomings, is now the only viable political system, and people underlined the fact that science and religion are in fact two different aspects that emanate from the same truth: “Humankind from time to time has denied religion in the name of science and denied science in the name of religion, arguing that the two present conflicting views. All knowledge belongs to God and religion is from God. How then can the two be in conflict? To this end, our joint efforts directed at inter-religious dialogue can do much to improve understanding and tolerance among people.”

Gulen identified three greatest enemies of especially African and Asian peoples are ignorance, poverty, and internal schism. Knowledge, work-capital, and unification can struggle against these. Ignorance is defeated through education, poverty through work and the possession of capital, and internal schism and separatism through unity, dialogue, and tolerance. However, as every problem in human life ultimately depends on human beings themselves, education is the most effective vehicle regardless of whether we have a paralyzed social and political system or one operating with a clockwork precision. One of the most dangerous kinds of separatism in our time is ethnicism. During a period when the world is increasingly becoming a global village and countries come together to form unions and when universal objectives attract people from all corners of the world, such a separatism is extremely strange, baseless, and ridiculous. Other factors that strengthen divisions are the imbalances in the economic field, unfilled gaps in earning and distribution of income and the absence of institutions that can serve as a bridge between groups and individuals.

The reasons for the pain we are suffering can also be better understood in view of such factors as there being no established separation of powers in the administration, democracy not functioning well and the balance of law-power-wisdom not being established at a desirable level.

Other factors are partisanship and arbitrariness, many things being designed according to the impulses of individuals and deficiencies and mistakes in administrative and political fields. As another danger threatening the existence of Asian and African communities, moral erosion, which is like a contagious disease that has engulfed all communities, is moving along at a level capable of destroying all the principles that keep a society on its feet. The segments of society that have been brought to a state of disrespect for sacred values by this erosion are in a position of becoming the victims of the absence of intellectual and spiritual bases. So, taking into account all these divisive and destructive factors, there is an intense need to consult on the common points of union and take this matter into consideration with reason and logic. For the sake of union, which is the foundation stone of a community's material/spiritual existence and happiness, there is a compelling need for peace and cooperation.

To this end everyone should try to be saved from, first of all, such types of bigotry as seeing the truth always on one's own side coming from ego-centricism, and showing no respect for the truth and goodness realized at the hands of others. They should also try to eliminate the reasons that separate people, such as egoism, self-interest, and discrimination based on race, ethnicity, and language. No one should not move excited by impulses and emotional factors but everyone should move according to the requirements of a social contract. That will be by reviewing once again all the common points and the vital elements which necessitate unity and balancing them with factors that separate peoples, societies and countries. Compared with the common points, the things that require separation are extremely insignificant. The continued existence of African peoples and countries, and especially their becoming a continent with some say in the existing balance of power in a globalized world, is only possible through alliances among, first of all, neighbors and then, the countries with which there is much in common, without arising any enmity from other countries.

Establishing natural alliances and being surrounded by a circle of friends rather than enemies would benefit everyone. articularly the nations and countries sharing a common geography, history, and even destiny can be considered a large society. I see Africa as such a society. Within each country and as an African society, there are many things in common. By giving sufficient importance to neighbourly, friendly, and even brotherly/sisterly relationships on the basis of such a shared consciousness, they can establish compatibility, peace, and harmony. In an increasingly civilized world that is growing ever-smaller, every type of hostility should be discarded, and respect should be felt for every individual's and society's, nation's, country's, freedom to exist.

Non-interference in each other's internal affairs, assistance, and cooperation should be the norm. Existing and future problems should be solved diplomatically based on mutual goodwill. In addition, neither international problems should be misused for internal political interests, nor internal interests for international problems, as so often happens today. Hope is essential in approaching and handling every problem, no matter how great it seems or really is. Crises and turmoil resemble snow, blizzards and storms. In respect to their results they are frequently good. Crises force a society to new birth and form, and as a result of crises a society better comprehends the age it is living in. If a community does not know the historical period it is living in, and if its actions and reactions are not a part of that period's events, then it is not possible to count that as a living society for it is on the way to certain decline. It is hoped that that behind the agitations Africa is suffering today there is preparation for new birth and formation, which will be aided by internal and external pressure shaking the walls of inactivity. A community that can come out of these disturbances without much harm will get its share of what has been promised by this process and it will build a new world.

**VISION OF NILE DIALOGUE PLATFORM**

“PROMOTION OF AN ENVIRONMENT OF PEACEFUL COEXISTENCE.”

**MISSION OF NILE DIALOGUE PLATFORM**

“FOSTERING INTERFAITH AND INTERCULTURAL DIALOGUE.”

**NDP Principles/ pillars of dialogue**

• Love

• Tolerance

• Forgiveness

• Compassion

• Respect

• Dedication

**NDP Activities**

• We organize both domesticated and international activities.

• Organizing seminars and workshops.

• Capacity building

• Feasibility study for borehole construction.

• Recognizing some International days like World Peace day, World

Tolerance day, World Interfaith Harmony week, World Press day, World day

of sports development and peace and many others.

• Promoting peace education through literature given out.

• Magazine printing.

• Funding of partner companies.

• Contingency

**NDP structure**

NDP is headed by the Chairman, Hakan Ulus and Kirarira Issa Nyende as the Secretary General. On addition to this NDP has got volunteer members from different fields of study including teaching, journalism, law thus diversifying knowledge.

Nile Dialogue Platform warmly welcomes everyone who wishes to work with us and supports the work of organizations and individuals in furthering peaceful relations, respect, and understanding between people of different faiths, beliefs and ideologies. We make efforts to be absolutely inclusive, and deny participation to no one.

We are open uniformly to adherents of all views and encourage a free exchange of opinions. We recognize and honor the specific differences that distinguish individuals and cultural groups, yet seek the common principles and values through which they can be harmonized.