

# Dialogue Australasia Network 2009 CONFERENCE DVD

## Teaching the Abrahamic Religions: Christianity in Dialogue with Judaism & Islam



Dialogue Australasia Network  
Promoting excellence in Values, Philosophy & Religious Studies  
[www.dialogueaustralasia.org](http://www.dialogueaustralasia.org)

# ABOUT THIS DVD

The aim of the 2009 DAN Conference was to equip educators with knowledge, practical strategies and resources to enable their students to understand the common ground held between Judaism, Christianity and Islam, as well as the divergences and potential sources of conflict; and to affirm those who represent the best that has been thought and said within each tradition.

This was a lofty ambition for a 2.5 day Conference. Inevitably there were important things left unsaid, and voices and perspectives unacknowledged.

The same will be true for this DVD, which was prepared in advance of the Conference as an additional resource for delegates.

All Keynote and Workshop presenters were invited to contribute materials and recommend others for inclusion. The result is neither a comprehensive resource for *Teaching the Abrahamic Religions*, nor a definitive representation of the complexity of interpretations and practices within the Abrahamic faith traditions. This DVD should therefore be used in conjunction with an increasingly number of resources generated by educational and multi-faith bodies in Australasia.

Any additional materials sourced during the Conference (including Keynote papers) will be posted on the DAN website in May 2009. The password to access these materials will be **(xxxxxx – advised on purchase of DvD)**.

DAN gratefully acknowledges the support of individuals and organisations that have contributed materials to this DVD. In most instances, contact details for contributors are noted on their respective resources and they should be approached in the first instance with any enquiries relating to their materials.

The materials on this DVD are for use in Australia and New Zealand only, and are subject to copyright. Whilst some materials are freely available for download from the Internet, it is a condition of the use of this DVD that no part of it may be placed on a publicly available web site (this does not prohibit its use on a school's intranet, provided that it is not accessible to anyone outside the school community).

E. dan@dialogueaustralasia.org  
www.dialogueaustralasia.org

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## FOLDER 1: KEYNOTES

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Dr Peter Vardy, Vice Principal, Heythrop College, University of London

\* Powerpoint available on DAN website (Password: COMPASSION)

### **B. A Critically Realistic Pedagogy for Teaching the Abrahamic Religions**

Professor Andrew Wright, Religious & Theological Education, King's College, London

Paper (for more articles click here)

### **C. Approaching the Qur'an: Past and Present**

Professor Abdullah Saeed, Sultan of Oman Professor of Arab and Islamic Studies, University of Melbourne

Paper (for more articles see: [www.abdullahsaeed.org](http://www.abdullahsaeed.org))

### **D. Understanding Jesus, the Faithful Jew**

Paul Forgasz, Centre for Jewish Civilisation, Monash University

Extracts from Key Texts & Bibliography

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Rod Pattenden, Chair of The Blake Prize for Religious Art

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Dr Nicolas Coleman, Wesley College, Victoria

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Dr Peter Vardy, Vice Principal, Heythrop College, University of London

Powerpoint & *The Common Word Between Us and You* Letter & *An Open Letter from Muslims to Pope Benedict*

### **B. The Jewish Christian Muslim Association Schools Project – Strategies and Resources for Engagement**

Rev Paul Tonson, JCMA (Victoria), Uniting Church

Outline of Projects & Contacts

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Ms Makiz Ansari & Mr Sadiq Ansari, Directors and Education Coordinator, Affinity Intercultural Foundation

Overview of Affinity, Paper on Interfaith Dialogue from a Muslim Perspective, Educational Resources

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Dylan Bartlett, Head of Philosophy & Religious Studies, The Royal High School, Edinburgh

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Australian Centre for Sufism and Irfanic Studies

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Fr Herman Roborgh sj, PhD (Islamic Studies, Aligarh, India)

Powerpoint Presentation

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Kath Engebretson, Associate Professor School of Religious Education, Australian Catholic University

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**H. Christian-Jewish Relations**

Paul O'Shea, Senior Religious Education Coordinator, St Patrick's College, Strathfield

Notes & Powerpoint

**I. From Stone to Water – Interpretation and Sacred Stories**

Donna Jacobs Sife, Religious Educator, Storyteller, Writer, Together for Humanity Foundation

[www.donnajacobsife.com](http://www.donnajacobsife.com) (Stories & CDs)

[www.togetherforhumanity.org.au](http://www.togetherforhumanity.org.au) (Schools Programme)

**J. Using Movies to Get the Message Across**

Mike Meyer & Susan Mudford, Christian Education Team, St Kentigern College, Auckland NZ

Worksheet & Movie Clips & Ten Commandments Scheme of Work

**K. Teaching the Bible, “Creation Myths” – from the Charles Sturt University Graduate**

**Certificate in Religious and Values Education**, Richard Browning, Lecturer, CSU & Chaplain,

Director of Community, Radford College, Canberra

\* Presentation available on DAN website (Password: COMPASSION)

**L. Teaching the Abrahamic Faiths across the 5 Strands – Innovative Strategies for Engaging**

**Middle School Students**, Catherine Syms, Head of Religious Studies, Diocesan School for Girls, Auckland NZ

\* Powerpoint available on DAN website (Password: COMPASSION)

**M. The Story of Abraham from a Christian and Jewish Perspective**

Dr Peter Vardy, Vice Principal, Heythrop College, University of London

Powerpoint and see *Video Testament: Abraham* (Multimedia Publishers 1998)

**N. Complimentary Approaches to teaching “The Life of Jesus”**

Nicole Storey, RS Teacher, Diocesan School for Girls, Auckland NZ & Sally Howe, A/Chaplain, Hale Junior School, Perth

Two Yr 7 Schemes of Work

**O. Silence and Reflection in Practice – A Whole of School Experience**

Peter Brown, Nga Tawa Diocesan School, Wellington NZ

Dialogue Australasia Journal Article & Silence Day Planning Letter

**FOLDER 3: Wombat Education** - [www.wombateducation.com](http://www.wombateducation.com)

**eudaemonia Conferences** - [www.eudaemoniaconferences.org](http://www.eudaemoniaconferences.org)

*POWERPOINTS:*

***Approaching Islam through Art***

Charlotte Fowler, Director of Studies, Heathfield St Mary's School and Tutor at Heythrop College, University of London

***Islam – An Introduction***

Dr Peter Vardy, Vice-Principal Heythrop College, University of London

***Islam and the Embryo***

Dr Peter Vardy, Vice-Principal Heythrop College, University of London

***The Role of the Qur'an in the life of Muslims***

Ahmad Ahtar, Lecturer in Islamic Studies, University of London

*VIDEOS:*

***Christology and Trinity***

Dr John McDade sj, Principal, Heythrop College, University of London

***The Person of Jesus***

Dr John McDade sj, Principal, Heythrop College, University of London

***The Jewish Approach to the Problem of Evil and Suffering***

Rabbi Albert Friedland and Dr Peter Vardy, Vice-Principal Heythrop College, University of London

***Faith and Reason in Islam***

Dr Peter Vardy, Vice-Principal Heythrop College, University of London

***Islam and Family Law***

Jacqueline Renton, Barrister specialising in Family Law and Dr Peter Vardy, Vice-Principal Heythrop College

***Islam and its Relationship to Christianity***

Dr Mohammed Shomali, Qum Theological College, Tehran

***Islam and Jesus***

Dr Mohammed Shomali, Qum Theological College, Tehran

***Islam and Family Life***

Dr Mohammed Shomali, Qum Theological College, Tehran

***Islam and Genetic Engineering***

Interview with Dr Mohammed Shomali and Dr Peter Vardy, Vice-Principal Heythrop College, University of London

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***Islam and Mary the Mother of Jesus***

Dr Mohammed Shomali, Qum Theological College, Tehran

***The Importance of Islam in my Life – a Personal Reflection from an Islamic Woman's Perspective***

Luftha Meah, Masters Student, MA in Psychology of Religion

**FOLDER 4: Project Abraham – [www.projectabraham.org.au](http://www.projectabraham.org.au)**

Project Abraham Educational Booklet – Teacher’s Resource

Project Abraham CDROM - Powerpoint Presentation

**FOLDER 5: NSW Jewish Board of Deputies Education Website – [www.ijs.org.au](http://www.ijs.org.au)**

*Understanding Judaism* Booklet

*Passover* Booklet for Educators

*The Arab-Israel Conflict and the Peace Process – An Overview* Booklet

*Core Ethical Teachings of Judaism*, Ian Lacey AM, NSW Jewish Board of Deputies

*The Talmud and other Literature of Judaism*, Rabbi Raymond Apple, Senior Rabbi of the Great Synagogue

*A Short Introduction to Midrash*, Avril Alba, Director of Education, Sydney Jewish Museum

**FOLDER 6: Centre for Dialogue, La Trobe University – [www.latrobe.edu.au/dialogue](http://www.latrobe.edu.au/dialogue)**

*Intercultural and Interfaith Dialogue in Education: A Case Study* - Dr George Myconos

*Understanding Cultural Difference Through Dialogue* - 10 Teaching Units for teachers of Middle and Secondary School Students

**FOLDER 7: Christian Education Publishing – [www.youthworks.net](http://www.youthworks.net)**

*A Spectator’s Guide to World Religions: An Introduction to the Big 5*, John Dickson – Sample Chapter on Christianity

*A Spectator’s Guide to Worldviews* – Sample Chapter on Postmodernism, Greg Clarke

**FOLDER 8: Christian Research Association – [www.cra.org.au](http://www.cra.org.au)**

CRA Introduction & Educational Resources

Sample from *Australian Religious Communities* CD-ROM (in File **arc2**, launch with **start\_here.html**)

*Pointers* Research Bulletin including *Implications of Youth Spirituality* Research

CRA Product and Order Form

**FOLDER 9: RE Today – [www.retoday.org.au](http://www.retoday.org.au)**

Extract from *Tackling Tough Questions – A Multi Religious Approach to Questions of Evil, Suffering and Death*

*Responses to God and the Problem of Suffering through Art* (Powerpoint)

## **FOLDER 10: The Wonder Project – [www.thewonderproject.co.uk](http://www.thewonderproject.co.uk)**

*Questioning Origins DVD (V2)* - an interactive DVD with 16 engaging lessons for Secondary School students addressing questions about our Origins from Christian, Hindu, Humanist and Islamic worldviews.

The whiteboard presentations, video clips, and games, along with worksheets (pdf) and lesson plans create a fresh and compelling learning environment. The resource provides six RE units, each of two lessons, with four further lessons linking origins studies with English, Art, Music and Science.

**Sample Lesson 3.1:** *Is there a conflict between scientific and religious views on origins? – Four Worldviews*

1. To launch lesson, Open Document – **index.html**
2. Choose either the Teacher or Student notes
3. You will be able to access ALL of the accompanying lesson plans, notes, powerpoints and worksheets for Lesson 3.1 and see an outline of the other 16 lessons
4. To explore the online Demo version or to buy *Questioning Origins* in its entirety go to:

**[www.thewonderproject.co.uk](http://www.thewonderproject.co.uk)**

## **FOLDER 11: Damaris – [www.damaris.org](http://www.damaris.org)**

**1. RE Lessons Online for Secondary Schools - [www.relessonsonline.com](http://www.relessonsonline.com)**

**Sample Lesson: Quantum of Solace: Making Moral Decisions**

Includes Lesson Plan and *What Shall I Do?* Worksheet

**2. Assemblies Online for Primary Schools and for Secondary Schools - [www.assembliesonline.com](http://www.assembliesonline.com)**

**Sample Primary Assembly: Heroism**

Features Assembly Notes, downloadable Film Clip of *Bolt* (2009) and Powerpoint Presentation

**Sample Secondary Assembly: You're not the only one making plans for your future**

Features Assembly Notes, downloadable Film Clip of *Marley & Me* (2009) and Powerpoint Presentation

**3. Pollard on Film - [www.damaris.org/cm/home/pollardonfilm](http://www.damaris.org/cm/home/pollardonfilm)**

**Sample: Changeling and Transformational Truth - [www.damaris.org/cm/pollardonfilmpages/525](http://www.damaris.org/cm/pollardonfilmpages/525)**

**4. Tools for Talks - [www.toolsfortalks.com](http://www.toolsfortalks.com)**

### **25% DISCOUNT FOR CONFERENCE DELEGATES**

Delegates attending the 2009 DAN Conference are entitled to a 25% discount off any online subscriptions from Damaris until April 2010. Please quote **Code: dialogue415** when ordering from the online shop.

To use the discount code, simply select the resource(s) you want from the Damaris online store [www.damaris.org/shop](http://www.damaris.org/shop) and then proceed to the checkout. At the "Payment" page (before entering credit card details) there is box titled "If you have a voucher for money off items, please enter it here." Just type (or paste) the discount code into that box and click update, and it will apply the discount. Note that this discount only applies to Immediate online subscriptions, not the subscription packs that are also available on our shop.

**[www.damaris.org/shop](http://www.damaris.org/shop)**

## **FOLDER 12:**

### **Charles Sturt University, Graduate Certificate in Religious & Values Education –**

[www.csu.edu.au/courses/postgraduate/values\\_education/](http://www.csu.edu.au/courses/postgraduate/values_education/)

*Teaching the Bible Module* – Sample Extract from THL471 Study Guide

Written and compiled by Dr Felicity McCutcheon

### **Heythrop College, University of London, BA in Abrahamics – [www.heythrop.ac.uk](http://www.heythrop.ac.uk)**

*Overview of BA in Abrahamic Religions*

### **National Centre of Excellence for Islamic Studies Australia – [www.nceis.unimelb.edu.au](http://www.nceis.unimelb.edu.au)**

*Understanding the Multifaith Classroom in a Secular Society* – Teacher's Resource

NCEIS Research Papers - [www.nceis.unimelb.edu.au/research/publications/nceis-research-papers](http://www.nceis.unimelb.edu.au/research/publications/nceis-research-papers)

### **St Mark's Review - [www.stmarksntc.org.au/thl/review/default.htm](http://www.stmarksntc.org.au/thl/review/default.htm)**

*Abraham – Our Father in Faith? Reflection on Christian-Muslim Consociation*, Emeritus Professor Tony Jones  
St Mark's Review, No.206, November 2008 (used with permission)

### **Extract from *Soldier's Conscience: The Ethical Complexity of Vietnam* – Peter Rose**

A series of stories derived from first hand evidence highlighting the ethical demands of modern warfare. The case study approach lends itself naturally to group discussion and is a valuable classroom companion to any examination of the ethics of war.

### **Extract from *God Knows Who I Am* – Robert Kirkwood**

The Australian reprint of this book (coming soon) contrasts various self-centred philosophies with the altruistic views found in religion. Another great teaching resource from author Robert Kirkwood.

## **Links to Downloadable Articles, Reports & Videos**

## **Summary of Organisations with Educational Resources Profiled on 2009 DAN Conference DVD**