

WEB BASED INTER-FAITH RELIGIOUS RESOURCES

WORLD RELIGION

The following sites have been awarded the ARIL Hot Site designation as offering among the best resources **concerning world religion** on the Internet.

<http://www.aril.org/World.html>

EARTH-BASED RELIGION

About Pagan Religion

www.paganwiccan.about.com

Guides and resources to learn about earth-based religions

Extensive and deep links to many religious sites and resource

www.pagan-links.com

Star Hawk www.starhawk.org

"Hi, folks. You've reached the website of Starhawk, the author of *The Spiral Dance*, *The Fifth Sacred Thing*, and other books that link an earth-based spirituality to action to change the world. Here you'll find information about my books, my current and past activities, many of my articles and unpublished writings, links to related groups and organizations, and resources for activists." -- Starhawk

BAHAI

Intro to Bahai

www.religioustolerance.org/bahai.htm

The *Bahá'í World Faith* is the youngest of the [world's main religions](#). It was founded in Iran during the mid 19th century by Siyyid 'Ali-Muhammad (1819-1850 [CE](#)). He assumed the title Bab ("*the Gate*") and prophesized the future arrival of "*One greater than Himself*." One of the Bab's followers, Mirza Husayn-'Ali-i-Nuri (1817-1892), announced that he was the Manifestation predicted by the Bab. He assumed the title Baha'u'llah ("*glory of God*"). His teachings on world peace, democracy, civil rights, equal rights for women, the acceptance of scientific discoveries, etc. were decades ahead of his time.

Bahai (Official Site)

www.bahai.org

We are Bahá'ís - members of the Bahá'í Faith, the second most widespread of the world's independent religions, established in 235 countries and territories throughout the world. We come from over 2,100 ethnic, racial, and tribal groups and number some 5 million worldwide...In the words of Bahá'u'lláh, the Founder of our Faith, "The earth is but one country, and mankind its citizens."

Bahá'u'lláh taught that there is one God Who progressively reveals His will to humanity. Each of the great religions brought by the Messengers of God - Moses, Krishna, Buddha, Zoroaster,

Jesus, Muhammad - represents a successive stage in the spiritual development of civilization. Bahá'u'lláh, the most recent Messenger in this line, has brought teachings that address the moral and spiritual challenges of the modern world.

BUDDHIST

The following Buddhists sites have been awarded the ARIL Hot Site designation as offering among the best resources on the Internet.

<http://www.aril.org/Buddhist.html>

New England Buddhist Peace Fellowship

www.bpf.org/html/get_involved/chapters_and_affiliates/chapters/new_england_region.html

Buddhist Peace Fellowship

www.bpf.org/html/home.html

The mission of the Buddhist Peace Fellowship (BPF), founded in 1978, is to serve as a catalyst and agent for socially engaged Buddhism. Our aim is to help beings liberate themselves from the suffering that manifests in individuals, relationships, institutions, and social systems. BPF's programs, publications, and practice groups link Buddhist teachings of wisdom and compassion with progressive social change.

Our practice of contemplation and social action is guided by our intentions to:

- Recognize the interdependence of all beings
 - Meet suffering directly and with compassion
 - Appreciate the importance of not clinging to views and outcomes
 - Work with Buddhists from all traditions
 - Connect individual and social transformation
 - Practice nonviolence
 - Use participatory decision-making techniques
 - Protect and extend human rights
 - Support gender and racial equality, and challenge all forms of unjust discrimination
 - Work for economic justice and the end of poverty
 - Work for a sustainable environment
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KWANZAA

(from <http://www.tike.com/celeb-kw.htm>)

Kwanzaa is a unique African American celebration with focus on the traditional African values of family, community responsibility, commerce, and self-improvement. Kwanzaa is neither political nor religious and despite some misconceptions, is not a substitute for Christmas. It is simply a time of reaffirming African-American people, their ancestors and culture. Kwanzaa, which means "first fruits of the harvest" in the African language Kiswahili, has gained

tremendous acceptance. Since its founding in 1966 by Dr. Maulana Karenga, Kwanzaa has come to be observed by more than 18 million people worldwide, as reported by the *New York Times*. When establishing Kwanzaa in 1966, Dr. Karenga included an additional "a" to the end of the spelling to reflect the difference between the African American celebration (kwanzaa) and the Motherland spelling (kwanza).

Kwanzaa is based on the Nguzo Saba (seven guiding principles), one for each day of the observance, and is celebrated from December 26th to January 1st.

- Umoja (**OO-MO-JAH**) Unity stresses the importance of togetherness for the family and the community, which is reflected in the African saying, "I am We," or "I am because We are."
- Kujichagulia (**KOO-GEE-CHA-GOO-LEE-YAH**) Self-Determination requires that we define our common interests and make decisions that are in the best interest of our family and community.
- Ujima (**OO-GEE-MAH**) Collective Work and Responsibility reminds us of our obligation to the past, present and future, and that we have a role to play in the community, society, and world.
- Ujamaa (**OO-JAH-MAH**) Cooperative economics emphasizes our collective economic strength and encourages us to meet common needs through mutual support.
- Nia (**NEE-YAH**) Purpose encourages us to look within ourselves and to set personal goals that are beneficial to the community.
- Kuumba (**KOO-OOM-BAH**) Creativity makes use of our creative energies to build and maintain a strong and vibrant community.
- Imani (**EE-MAH-NEE**) Faith focuses on honoring the best of our traditions, draws upon the best in ourselves, and helps us strive for a higher level of life for humankind, by affirming our self-worth and confidence in our ability to succeed and triumph in righteous struggle.

BIBLICAL RESOURCES

The following sites have been awarded the ARIL Hot Site designation as offering among the best resources **concerning the Bible** on the Internet.

<http://www.aril.org/Bible.html>

JUDAISM

Basic Introduction

www.religioustolerance.org/judaism.htm

Judaism is one of three Abrahamic religions -- faiths which recognize Abraham as a Patriarch. The others are [Christianity](#) and [Islam](#). Although Jews comprise only about 0.2% of the human race, Jewish influence on the world has been vast -- far more than their numbers would indicate.

Judaism

www.jewfaq.org

The information in this site is written predominantly from the [Orthodox](#) viewpoint, because “I believe that is the starting point for any inquiry into Judaism,” says the author. As recently as 200 years ago, this was the only Judaism, and it still is the only Judaism in many parts of the world. Be aware, however, that many Jews do not follow all of the traditions described here, or in the precise form described here. The [Conservative movement](#) believes that these laws and traditions can change to suit the times, and [Reform/Liberal/Progressive movements](#) believe that individuals can make choices about what traditions to follow.

Torah

www.torah.org

Shalom, and welcome to the Project Genesis Web Site -- your Torah Cyberspace Center! Via the Internet we're reaching thousands each week with our Jewish educational material, and we hope that our range of Torah archives, and our popular e-mail classes will meet your interests. Happy Exploring!

The following sites have been awarded the ARIL Hot Site designation as offering among the best resources **concerning Judaism** on the Internet.

<http://www.aril.org/Jewish.html>

Shalom Center

www.shalomctr.org

- A network of American Jews who draw on Jewish tradition and spirituality to seek peace, pursue justice, heal the earth, and build community.
 - Founded in 1983; now a division of [ALEPH: Alliance for Jewish Renewal](#).
 - We believe that the rhythm of work and rest, doing and being, acting and reflecting, acquiring and sharing, is one of the most basic Jewish wisdoms.
 - We see that the modern world is out of kilter: so addicted to the technology of making, doing, producing, consuming—and so contemptuous of contemplation, community, and family—that this addiction is endangering both our society and the web of life on earth.
 - So we apply the ancient wisdom of the healing spiral rhythm of Work and Shabbat, Doing and Being, to: transforming top-down globalization into planetary community; reshaping the twin diseases of disemployment and overwork into sacred work and sacred rest; protecting the planet's web of life; reshaping a sexual ethics to affirm both joy and responsibility; requiring corporate social responsibility; advancing peace and rejecting militarism.
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Jewish Peace Fellowship

www.jewishpeacefellowship.org

Social justice in the here and now lies at the heart of Judaism. Torah teaches us that the guiding principle for achieving social justice is *shalom* -- the establishment of true, positive peace among family, neighborhoods and nations -- secured by the respect for the dignity of everything created in God's image, especially the poor, the weak and the vulnerable. The Jewish Peace Fellowship believes that the practice of tikkun olam, repairing the world, requires us to work for peace and social justice for all.

[Download the text of WRESTLING WITH YOUR CONSCIENCE A GUIDE FOR JEWISH DRAFT REGISTRANTS AND CONSCIENTIOUS OBJECTORS in Microsoft Word](#)

CHRISTIANITY

The following sites on or about Christianity have been awarded the ARIL Hot Site designation as ranking among the best on the Internet.

<http://www.aril.org/Christian.html>

Christianity: What is it?

www.geneva.rutgers.edu/src/christianity

- This set of pages tries to summarize Christian beliefs and practices. It is intended as an introduction to Christianity for non-Christians, and also as background for those who want to follow the discussions in www.soc.religion.christian.
- Several of these pages are long. The longer pages are organized into numbered subsections. If you are a non-Christian trying to get a feel for what Christianity is about, you might prefer to go to the next page when you hit section 2.

The Christian Religion

www.religioustolerance.org/christ.htm

- There are over a million religious web sites on the Internet. Almost all promote a single viewpoint -- that of the webmaster. **This web site is different.** Our goal is religious education, not religious conversion.
- We define "*Christian*" as including **any** group or individual who seriously, devoutly, prayerfully describes themselves as Christian. This is the same inclusive definition as public opinion pollsters use. Under this definition, [Roman Catholics](#), Southern Baptists, [Jehovah's Witnesses](#), [Mormons](#), United Church members, even a few [Unitarian Universalists](#), etc. are all considered to be Christian.
- We try to explain the full diversity of Christian beliefs: from those held by very conservative to very liberal believers. Included also are the beliefs of the very early Christian movement from the 1st and 2nd century [CE](#).

Christianity

“Jesus to Christ”

www.pbs.org/wgbh/pages/frontline/shows/religion

"From Jesus to Christ: The First Christians" tells the epic story of the rise of Christianity...and explores the life and death of Jesus, and the men and women whose belief, conviction, and martyrdom created the religion we now know as Christianity.

This site is anchored by the testimony of New Testament theologians, archaeologists and historians who serve as both critics and storytellers. They address dozens of key issues, disagreements and critical problems relating to Jesus' life and the evolution of Christianity.

The Center for Progressive Christianity

www.tcpc.org

- The Center for Progressive Christianity provides guiding ideas, networking opportunities, and resources for progressive churches, organizations, individuals and others with connections to Christianity.
 - We promote an understanding of Christian practice and teaching that leads to a greater concern for the way people treat each other than for the way people express their beliefs, the acceptance of all people, and a respect for other religious traditions.
 - We affirm the variety and depth of human experience and the richness of each persons' search for meaning, and we encourage the use of sound scholarship, critical inquiry, and all intellectual powers to understand the presence of God in human life.
 - We are opposed to any exclusive dogma that limits the search for truth and free inquiry, and we encourage work that eases the pain, suffering and degradation inherent in many of the structures of society, as well as work that keeps central to the Christian life fair, open, peaceful, and loving treatment of all human beings.
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Christianity Today Magazine

www.christianitytoday.com

CTI's mission statement is carried out by ...

Informing: Inspiring: Equipping: Connecting:

- We endeavor to serve the global church with resources designed to meet the needs of both Christian leaders and laity alike — adults, youth, and families.
 - We endeavor to minister to the needs of Christian men and women by communicating that the gospel is the power of God unto salvation — a transforming and vital force for the individual, church, and society.
 - We endeavor to daily provide believers worldwide with the practical tools and scriptural perspectives needed to successfully tackle the myriad challenges of being salt and light in today's world.
 - We endeavor to provide a variety of community-building interest areas that enable Christians around the globe to encourage and build one another up in the faith.
 - [Click here](#) to read Christianity Today International's Mission Statement.
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Sojourners Magazine & Community

www.sojournal.net

Sojourners, is a Christian ministry whose mission is to proclaim and practice the biblical call to integrate spiritual renewal and social justice.

In response to this call, we offer a vision for faith in public life by:

- publishing [Sojourners](#) magazine, [SojoMail](#) and other [resources](#) that address issues of faith, politics, and culture from a biblical perspective;
- preaching, teaching, organizing, and public witness;
- nurturing community by [bringing together](#) people from the various traditions and streams of the church;
- hosting an annual [program of voluntary service](#) for education, ministry, and discipleship.

In our lives and in our work, we seek to be guided by the biblical principles of justice, mercy, and humility.

To find out more about Sojourners, read about our [history](#).

InterVarsity Christian Fellowship

www.intervarsity.org/

InterVarsity Christian Fellowship/USA® is an **evangelical** campus **mission** serving more than 35,000 **students** and faculty on more than 560 college and university campuses nationwide. Incorporated in 1941, InterVarsity has a rich **tradition** of campus **witness**, thoughtful **discipleship**, and a **concern** for **world missions**.

The Fellowship of Reconciliation

www.forusa.org

FOR's Vision: We envision a world of justice, peace, and freedom. It is a revolutionary vision of a beloved community where differences are respected, conflicts are addressed nonviolently, oppressive structures are dismantled, and where people live in harmony with the earth, nurtured by diverse spiritual traditions that foster compassion, solidarity, and reconciliation.

FOR's Mission: FOR seeks to replace violence, war, racism, and economic injustice with nonviolence, peace, and justice. We are an interfaith organization committed to active nonviolence as a transforming way of life and as a means of radical change. We educate, train, build coalitions, and engage in nonviolent and compassionate actions locally, nationally, and globally.

ISLAM

The following sites have been awarded the ARIL Hot Site designation as offering among the best resources **concerning Islam** on the Internet.

<http://www.aril.org/Islam.html>

Islam

www.cometotruth.com

To Non-Muslims:

We welcome you to our site and hope that in your research you find that Islam is not what mainstream media endlessly propagates. Instead it is a beautiful religion built around the worship of the one true God. Insha Allah(God Willing) you will abandon all your misconceptions about Islam and look at it for what it really promotes.

To Muslims:

We are very pleased to see that you are trying to increase your knowledge about Islam. May

Allah increase your knowledge of Islam and grant us all entrance to Jannah for our perseverance in committing ourselves to the straight path.

Islam for the Non-Muslim

www.islam-guide.com

This Islamic guide is for non-Muslims who would like to understand Islam, Muslims (Moslems), and the Holy Quran (Koran). It is rich in information, references, bibliography, and illustrations. It has been reviewed and edited by many professors and well-educated people. It is brief and simple to read, yet contains much scientific knowledge. It contains the whole book, *A Brief Illustrated Guide to Understanding Islam*, and more.

Islam 101

www.islam101.com

Islam 101 is an educational site on Islam, its way of life, civilization and culture. The website not only presents Islamic beliefs, but also contains articles on human relations in Islam. It also includes an introductory course on Islam and presents Islamic views on contemporary issues.

Muslim Peace Fellowship

www.mpfweb.org

- The **Muslim Peace Fellowship** (*Ansar as-Salam*) is a gathering of peace and justice-oriented Muslims of all backgrounds who are dedicated to making the beauty of Islam evident in the world.
 - **We believe:**
 - Personal example is the only convincing argument for the truth of any religion. Since the particular business of Muslims is to emulate the model of the Holy Prophet (peace and blessings be upon him), who was sent as "a mercy to the worlds," our main concern must be to learn and teach the integrity and kindness that were his chief characteristics. And since the Creator of the Universe asks us, at the beginning of every act, to call to mind His benevolence and compassion, we know that these qualities must be the primary hallmark of any full realization of Islam.
 - We are consciously devoting ourselves to work towards that realization.
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