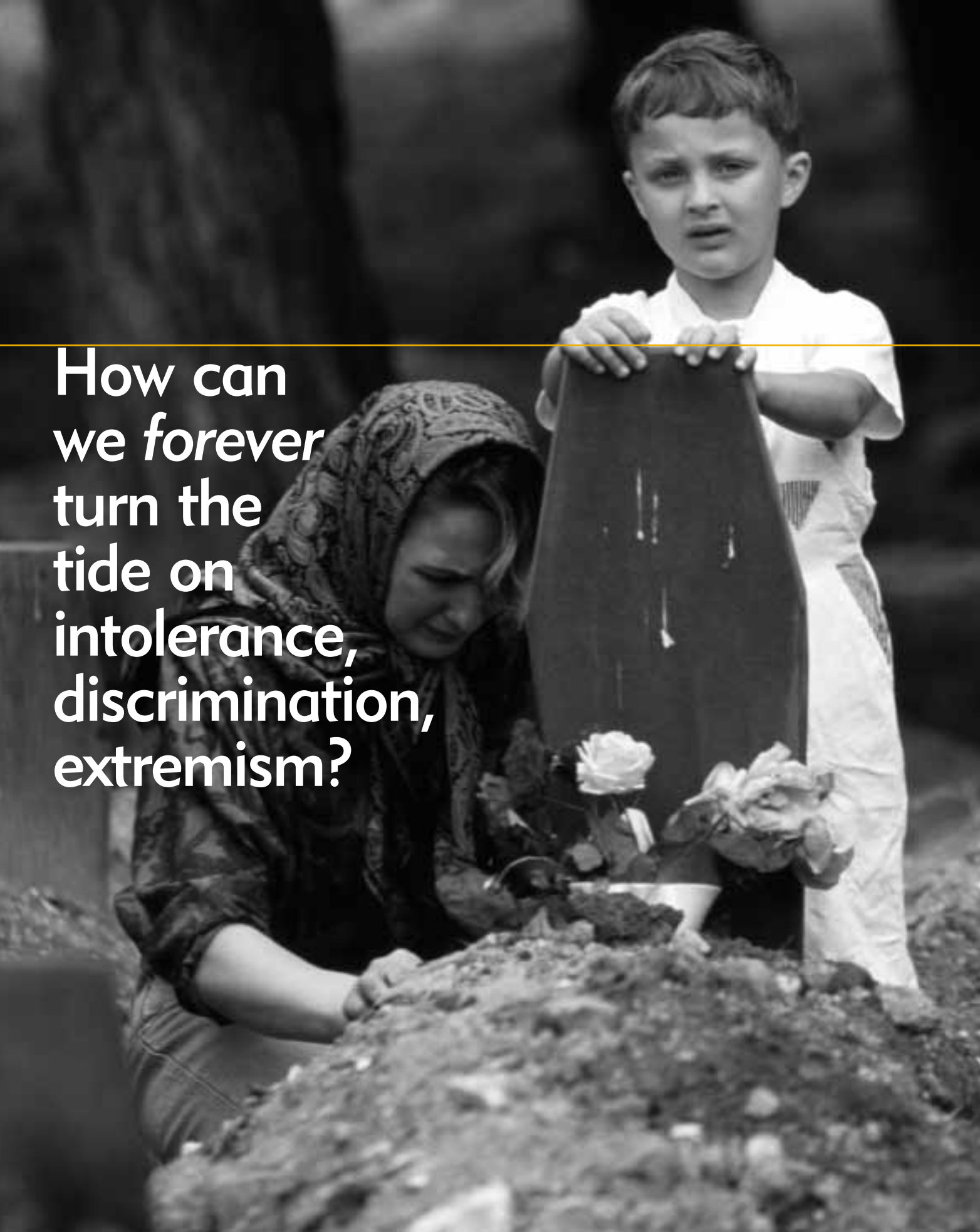


**SCIENTOLOGY**  
effective solutions



making  
human rights  
a reality

How can  
we *forever*  
turn the  
tide on  
intolerance,  
discrimination,  
extremism?



# Introduction



**W**e live in a world troubled by inequality and contradiction. Our parliaments have outlawed a range of inhumane practices and passed laws intended to ensure fair treatment for all; yet human rights organisations remind us that for many of the world's 6 billion human beings, life continues to be a painful struggle for existence against injustice and abuse.

Given today's modern sheen of civility, the particulars can alarm.

In its *Report 2004*, Amnesty International described significant human rights violations in 155 countries. The number of complaints to the European Court of Human Rights has soared from just over 1,000 in 1988 to 38,000 in 2003.

Furthermore, it has been well documented that in some western European countries, mere membership in a religious or ethnic minority can lead to job dismissal, cancellation of one's bank accounts, and even refusals by schools to enroll one's children.

Is there a common denominator underlying these insecurities and injustices? Is there some causative factor that if identified and remedied would help bring about a secure, stable and just society? The question is not minor: We live in an age when the power of weaponry and the advances of science do not afford the luxury of

permitting international tensions to continue to escalate.

To answer with a definite yes would be ambitious. Yet there is one major contributory factor we can isolate. According to leading human rights organisations and international political figures, it is the respect for human rights that emerges as an indispensable ingredient in the formation of stable societies. Violations of human rights injure not only the immediate victims, they also contribute to societal tensions and can foster terrorism and hate crime. No less of an authority than the U.N. Secretary-General, Kofi Annan, has observed, "Large-scale human rights violations are not merely the product of civil and ethnic conflict, they are also a major cause of such conflicts."

Clearly it is not enough solely to place human rights protections within the frameworks of national and international law. While these are necessary steps, the nature and importance of human rights must be *fully understood and applied* by the people as well as by their governments.

Thus, the task of educating individuals in human rights must be of primary concern to every government that seeks peace and prosperity for its people, and indeed, to any society that wishes to survive. To otherwise contemplate a future without pervasive human rights is to glimpse a world out of control.

# Protecting universal human rights

Scientologists advance freedom and tolerance for all

“Human rights must be made a fact, not an idealistic dream.”

— L. Ron Hubbard  
Founder of the  
Scientology religion



**T**ruly it is a shared heritage among religions: the ambition to improve the world of man, to bring peace and succour wherever needed. Although that original intention may sometimes be obscured today, in a world deeply divided by religious conflicts, it can be claimed with considerable justification that religion has served as the primary civilising influence throughout history.

Churches of Scientology share in that same heritage, and have

enshrined their commitment to such principles in church scripture. In fact, The Aims of Scientology, first articulated in 1954 by the religion's founder, L. Ron Hubbard, are:

“A civilization without insanity, without criminals and without war, where the able can prosper and honest beings can have rights, and where man is free to rise to greater heights....”

In pursuit of these aims, Scientologists have, since the earliest days of the religion, assumed the mantle of responsibility and stepped

forward to ensure the fundamental rights and freedoms of all peoples. It is a firm belief amongst Scientologists that a threat to the freedom of any one individual is a threat to the freedoms of all.

Because Scientology places great importance on the individual's freedom to pursue happiness and develop one's full potential, it was only natural that members of Scientology churches would embrace the cause of human rights, as articulated in the Universal Declaration of Human



“If every organisation did what the Church of Scientology is doing for human rights, we would indeed find ourselves in an entirely different world — a world of peace and unity.”

— Irving Sarnoff  
Founder and director  
of the nongovernmental  
organisation,  
Friends of the United Nations

Rights. Written in answer to the global atrocities of World War II, the Declaration states that, “recognition of the inherent dignity and of the equal and inalienable rights of all members of the human family is the foundation of freedom, justice and peace in the world.”

A similar axiom underpins the aims of Scientology. Although non-political, Scientology subscribes to the precept that, in the words of L. Ron Hubbard, “a benign government, designed and run for all the people, ... deserves

support.” Democracy does by its very nature assume a belief in the essential good intentions of men and women, and their ability to devise rules of constructive and peaceful co-existence. It postulates that individuals should be free to think for themselves and that government is the servant of the people, not its master. Churches of Scientology recognise that the principles of democracy offer an ideological home for human rights, and a platform for their advancement, unparalleled by any other modern form of government.

In half a century of dedicated effort, Scientologists have fought hard to advance not only such human rights as freedom of speech and religion, but to also focus public attention on abuses that some may not at first recognise as, in fact, human rights violations. And while the Church’s own history and experience has shown that standing up for human rights can provoke opposition and hostility, Scientologists assert that there is no other option. Freedom has its price, and complacency leads only to ruin.

# Raising public awareness of human rights

Widespread educational activities reach millions

“The activity of Scientology is very appreciated, as it supports the United Nations, which first promoted the Universal Declaration of Human Rights as a doctrine for safeguarding humankind.”

— Eligio Grizzo  
UNO Inspector and  
veteran Italian army  
commanding officer



*On December 10, 1948, the UN adopted the Universal Declaration of Human Rights, a document Eleanor Roosevelt (above left) tirelessly promoted. Scientologists' advocacy of human rights — with their cross-continent marches, marathons and media events — flows from the theological foundation of the Scientology religion.*

**T**he vital importance of human rights in preventing war and promoting goodwill between nations, races and religions is the central reason the United Nations adopted the Universal Declaration of Human Rights (UDHR) in 1948. Its preamble states, “disregard and contempt for human rights have resulted in barbarous acts which

have outraged the conscience of mankind...” and calls for “the advent of a world in which human beings shall enjoy freedom of speech and belief and freedom from fear and want.”

The fundamental premise of human rights, laid down in Article 1 of the Declaration, is that, “All human beings are born free and equal in dignity and rights. They are endowed with reason and conscience and



should act towards one another in a spirit of brotherhood.”

The Universal Declaration of Human Rights is the world’s foremost human rights charter and is the fount from which all modern human rights instruments have sprung, including the European Convention on Human Rights and the more recent Charter of Fundamental Rights of the European Union. The UDHR has been translated into at least 300

languages and is accessible within seconds on the Internet, as are both the Convention and the Charter. Yet an October 2002 survey by the European Commission revealed that only one in five Europeans feel they are well informed about their rights as EU citizens. It is not unreasonable to assume, therefore, that in countries around the world with lower literacy rates, a majority of the population are uninformed about the basic human

rights granted under the UDHR.

Scientists hold that the rights articulated in the UDHR, if applied broadly, will not only lead to a massive reduction of human rights violations across the world, but will significantly vanquish the simmering resentments that cause racial and religious conflicts — and are used for recruitment by terrorists. But any human rights charter, no matter how noble in its aspirations, has no



*Members of the 1998 Religious Freedom Journey were joined by religious and human rights leaders outside the European Parliament in Brussels (left). The 3,225-kilometre, continent-wide project was supported by Jewish, Christian, Muslim, Sikh, Buddhist, Hindu and other religious communities.*

“I really congratulate the Church of Scientology... for fighting for human rights for our future, because it is very, very important just now here in Europe and the whole world.”

— Dr. Bertil Persson  
UNESCO representative

practical use unless it is known, understood and applied. Believing, therefore, that greater awareness of the UDHR will lead to greater exercise of its principles, churches of Scientology have for many years made human rights education a priority.

In 1998, observing that even in Europe many people were losing their jobs and suffering other forms of discrimination solely because of their beliefs or ethnicity, the Church of Scientology International’s Human Rights Office launched a campaign to achieve that very purpose: increasing public understanding of human rights.

It began with a marathon by a team of Scientologists who used the medium of sport to convey the importance of human rights to the peoples of Europe. The participants in the first of these, called the European Journey for Religious Freedom, ran 3,225 kilometres through Britain, Holland, Belgium, France, Switzerland, Italy, Austria and Germany, to raise public awareness of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights in its 50th anniversary year.

Meeting thousands of people, from government officials, human rights leaders and church leaders to



the public-at-large, the marathoners acquainted them — most for the first time — with the details of this fundamental human rights charter. They went out of their way to stop at every hamlet, village and town they passed to talk to the people and distribute handouts that explained the Universal Declaration of Human Rights and its importance. Sometimes the marathon team would leave the beaten track and travel into the hills





# The Universal Declaration of Human Rights

(Abridged)

What follows is an abridged version of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights (the full text of the Declaration is available in most libraries, from United Nations information centres in each capital city, and is on the United Nations Internet website at <http://www.unhcr.ch/udhr/index.htm>). There are 30 basic rights and the Declaration explains each.

1. Every person is born free and equal in dignity and rights.
2. Every person has human rights regardless of race, sex, language, belief or religion.
3. Every person has the right to life, liberty and security.
4. Slavery and the slave trade are prohibited.
5. No person shall be subjected to torture.
6. Every person has the right to recognition as a person before the law.
7. All persons are entitled to equal protection before the law.
8. Every person is entitled to the aid of law when not treated fairly.
9. No person shall be subjected to arbitrary detention.
10. Every person is entitled to an impartial hearing.
11. Every person shall be considered innocent until proven guilty.
12. Every person has the right to protection of his or her privacy.
13. Every person has the right to travel freely within a country and to leave and return to his or her country.
14. Every person has the right to asylum from persecution.
15. Every person has the right to a nationality.
16. All adults have the right to marry of their own free will and to found a family.
17. Every person has the right to own property.
18. Every person has the right to freedom of religion.
19. Every person has the right to freedom of opinion and expression.
20. Every person has the right to freedom of personal assembly and association.
21. Every person has the right to take part in the government of his or her country.
22. Every person has economic, social and cultural rights.
23. Every person has the right to work, to just pay, and to form and join unions.
24. Every person has the right to rest and leisure.
25. Every person has the right to an adequate standard of living.
26. Every person has the right to an education.
27. Every person has the right to participate in cultural activities and benefit from scientific advancement.
28. Every person is entitled to a social order in which these human rights can be realised.
29. Every person has duties to the democratic society according to the law.
30. No person can take away these rights and freedoms.



to speak with local shepherds or, for example, to meet with a monk in a distant monastery.

Carrying the national flags of their countries, they made a colourful procession, and were often surrounded on their arrival in a town by local residents, curious as to the purpose of their journey and soon asking questions about human rights. Taking into account the literature they distributed and the numerous

television and radio programmes they appeared in, the marathon team brought the UDHR to an estimated 30 million people.

The European Journey was succeeded the following year by an even more ambitious human rights marathon, which started in the historic birthplace of democracy, Athens, and ended 13 weeks later in Hamburg. A key feature of the Church's marathons is that officials

*Government officials and leaders of nongovernmental organisations participated in events, including EU Parliament and UNESCO officials. A Mormon Church interfaith representative in the U.K. (facing page, bottom) was among the thousands who signed the proclamation to make the Declaration a reality in all lands.*



*In Turin, UNESCO's national councillor for Italy (left, foreground) signed her name in support of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights. Below, a Hispanic community leader in Los Angeles put her name to a pledge commemorating the Declaration's 55th anniversary on December 10, 2003.*

**“Scientology is one of the few modern religions which have taken a very clear standpoint that human rights not only should be talked about, but should be practiced....”**

— Bashy Quraishy  
Editor, *Media Watch*,  
Minority consultant and author  
of several books on religious  
discrimination and intolerance  
Copenhagen, Denmark



and community leaders meeting the runners sign their names to a pledge, which the athletes carry with them from town to town. The pledge sets forth the principles of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights and commits the signatory to abide by and practice them. In 1999, several members of the Council of Europe's Parliamentary Assembly incorporated the pledge into an official declaration.<sup>1</sup>

In subsequent years, the human rights marathons have crossed Belgium, Hungary, Czech Republic, Austria, Germany, Switzerland, Spain, Italy and France — with each ending at a destination of significance for human rights. In 2001, for example, the marathon concluded in Geneva. Representatives of a dozen nations and 47 nongovernmental organisations (NGOs) attended a specially arranged Celebration of Human Rights at the United Nations Human Rights Office.

In 2002, the marathon expanded to become a “multathlon,” a coined word meaning “many contests” in the sense that participants run, walk, cycle, sail, ride, swim, in-line skate or engage in any sporting activity for the cause. The multathlon began in

St. Petersburg, commencing with a free concert to promote human rights attended by an audience of 12,000. As the team travelled across Europe, they distributed human rights literature to the public and spoke to hundreds of officials, members of parliament and community leaders, as well as thousands of general public. Ultimately, they travelled more than 4,000 kilometres through nine countries, crossing the finish line in Paris.

That same year, the United States witnessed its first human rights multathlon, a five-day run that criss-crossed through many different ethnic communities in Southern California, and helped to bring those cultures and peoples together. The Los Angeles City Council recognised the value of this human rights project in a proclamation that commended the Church's Human Rights Department and the United Nations Association USA (UNA-USA)<sup>2</sup> for jointly sponsoring the event. This event was so popular and effective that a second multathlon was held the following year, and looks to become an annual fixture. In addition, the popularity of the multathlons has

1 1999 European Marathon for Human Rights in honour of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights, 23 September 1999. Available by searching the website of the Parliamentary Assembly.

2 UNA-USA is a not-for-profit, non partisan organisation that supports the work of the United Nations. It describes itself as the United States' largest grassroots foreign policy organisation and the leading centre of policy research on the UN and global issues.

*Many Scientologists, young and old, donate several months a year to human rights initiatives, helping to organise the marathons and other sporting events to promote human rights.*



“The Church has proved it is able to go beyond its particular identity and denomination to the aim of stating human rights as the true centre of a new and renewed society. This action goes beyond any other consideration: To use means and remarkable energy (also economic) — not to affirm oneself, but toward a goal that unites all of us — is an act of great generosity and wisdom.”

— Dr. Aldo Natale Terrin  
Professor, Department of  
Philosophy and History of Religion  
Catholic University in Milano and  
University of Urbino

spread and events are now being scheduled across the world in such places as Ukraine, Hungary, Russia and Mexico.

The dedication and generosity of the many Scientologists from the United States and Europe, who donated several months of their year to these initiatives, cannot be overlooked. Not only did they take part in the run itself, they also spent innumerable weeks of man-hours preparing for the event and organising

logistics. The results speak for themselves — wherever these marathon teams have travelled, their message has been clear: Discord and violence begin with acts of intolerance, and respect for and adherence to human rights law is the only chance for lasting peace and stability.

It is a message that churches of Scientology have sought to spread far and wide, through a wide range of media.

# Teaching human rights

## Educational publications promote peace and tolerance

“I think the Church of Scientology really has to be credited with being among the first in the field of a concerted campaign for upholding human rights.... It’s been in the forefront of fighting for human rights.”

— Daoud Rosser-Owen  
President, Association  
of British Muslims



Russia



*Flanking the Church’s many human rights awareness events and proclamation signings across the globe are more than a dozen informational booklets published in as many as 19 languages (centre).*

One important means of developing grassroots awareness of human rights issues is through the targeted distribution of pamphlets and booklets, containing educational information on the Universal Declaration of Human Rights. To date, the Church has issued fourteen such informational publications in as many as 19 languages.

*Restoring and Safeguarding Religious Freedom: A guide to protecting your human rights in*

*Europe*, details exactly what an individual can do if one is being discriminated against because of religion. The work explains and includes the international human rights instruments that protect an individual’s right to freedom of religion as well as the relevant articles from the constitutions of 13 countries. It also offers helpful tips on what to do in the face of religious intolerance, and provides contact information for human rights and governmental organisations that can help.



Malaysia



In 1997, the Church of Scientology International released this handbook in English, German, French, Spanish, Swedish, Danish, Dutch, Italian and Greek. A Russian edition was published in 1999 by the Moscow affiliate of one of Europe's most respected human rights groups — the International Helsinki Federation for Human Rights. Well received by government officials, religious leaders and human rights organisations, this booklet remains a perennial favourite at conferences

promoting religious freedom.

A principal theme of the Church's publications on human rights is that the UDHR is an effective educational tool in defusing the tensions that cause conflicts and advancing the principles of respect and tolerance. The concept is well articulated in the Church's *A Guidebook to Peace through Human Rights*, published in 2002. This work clarifies how and why human rights are the best route towards sustained peace in the world, and includes practical advice on how to apply the UDHR in everyday life. The text of the Declaration is included in the booklet. The Church has distributed this publication to government officials, community leaders and the media, and has provided innumerable copies to the public at large. As the mayor of the town of Siena in Tuscany wrote after receiving the booklet, such initiatives help "create a culture" of human rights.

Concurrently, the Church of Scientology International has published *How to Resolve Conflicts*, a booklet that details the exact steps to isolate the real source of conflicts. Central to this publication is an essay by L. Ron Hubbard explaining why, despite the well-intended efforts of so many, some disputes seem endless and unsolvable. Mr. Hubbard outlined the natural law behind such

conflicts and precisely how to resolve disagreements large and small — information that, as he writes, "is worth working with in any situation where one is trying to bring peace."

As a further means to resolve conflicts and end the resultant violence, in 2003 the Church of Scientology International launched an awareness campaign that stretched all across Europe. It utilised billboards, posters and advertisements in Britain, Russia, Austria, Switzerland, Ireland, Spain, Italy, Denmark and Belgium, with informational messages appearing in major newspapers from Spain's *El Mundo* to Switzerland's *Neue Zürcher Zeitung* to Russia's *Izvestia*. A series of advertisements advocating human rights was also run in several pan-European publications including the *International Herald Tribune*, *European Voice*, and the European editions of *Time* and *Newsweek*.

The widespread and sustained character of the Church's educational actions in this field has won the attention of leading human rights advocates, including the rapporteur of the *European Parliament's 2002 Annual Report on Human Rights in the World*, who praised the Church for "the awareness-raising campaign of what human rights are as well as the practical assistance to those whose rights have been violated."

# Safeguarding tomorrow's generation

## Young champions of human rights

Youth for Human Rights International's mission is to teach youth around the globe about human rights, helping them to become valuable advocates for tolerance and peace.



Holland

**T**he value and importance of honouring and applying human rights, by both governments and individuals, cannot be understated. Yet very little education in this field is concentrated on the future, and on those who will need it most: our children.

To correct this omission,

Scientologist and educator Mary Shuttleworth, in coordination with the Church of Scientology International's Human Rights Office, founded Youth for Human Rights International (YHRI) in August 2001. YHRI's mission is to teach youth around the globe about human rights, helping them to become valuable advocates for tolerance and peace. In less than three years, YHRI has established



Belgium

26 chapters all over the world, from Mexico to the United States to Sweden. Many human rights advocates, legislators, teachers, police and humanitarians now work closely with YHRI, encouraging young people to learn about, appreciate and even champion the cause of human rights.

One of YHRI's first endeavours was to sponsor an international

youth contest on the subject of human rights. Children from 12 countries participated, submitting essays. The top three entrants won a trip to the United Nations High Commission on Human Rights in Geneva; while there, they met with a representative of the U.N. High Commissioner on Human Rights. They were also asked to present their essays to a select audience, which included

*What Are Human Rights? presents the Universal Declaration of Human Rights in a form understandable to the very young. The booklet is very popular with teachers, government officials, community and religious leaders, and with the children themselves.*



Israel

Having conducted youth summits in Europe in 2002-2003, Youth for Human Rights International took its message on a 72,240-kilometre World Educational Tour in February 2004 through Asia, Africa, Europe, South and Central America.

Many human rights advocates, legislators, teachers, government officials, police and humanitarians worldwide now work closely with YHRI.

dozens of representatives from governments and NGOs.

Realising that the Universal Declaration of Human Rights had to be made available in a form understandable to the very young as well, in March 2002 YHRI released *What Are Human Rights?* This booklet contains a simplified version of the UDHR written especially for children. Instantly popular with teachers, government officials, community and religious leaders, not to mention the children themselves, the work has already been translated into 19 languages. And in October 2003, the head of UNESCO's New York office took delivery of 2,000 copies of *What Are Human Rights?* for UNESCO-affiliated schools to foster understanding of human rights among the young. It has routinely proven to be very successful in helping children understand why human rights are so vital to peace.

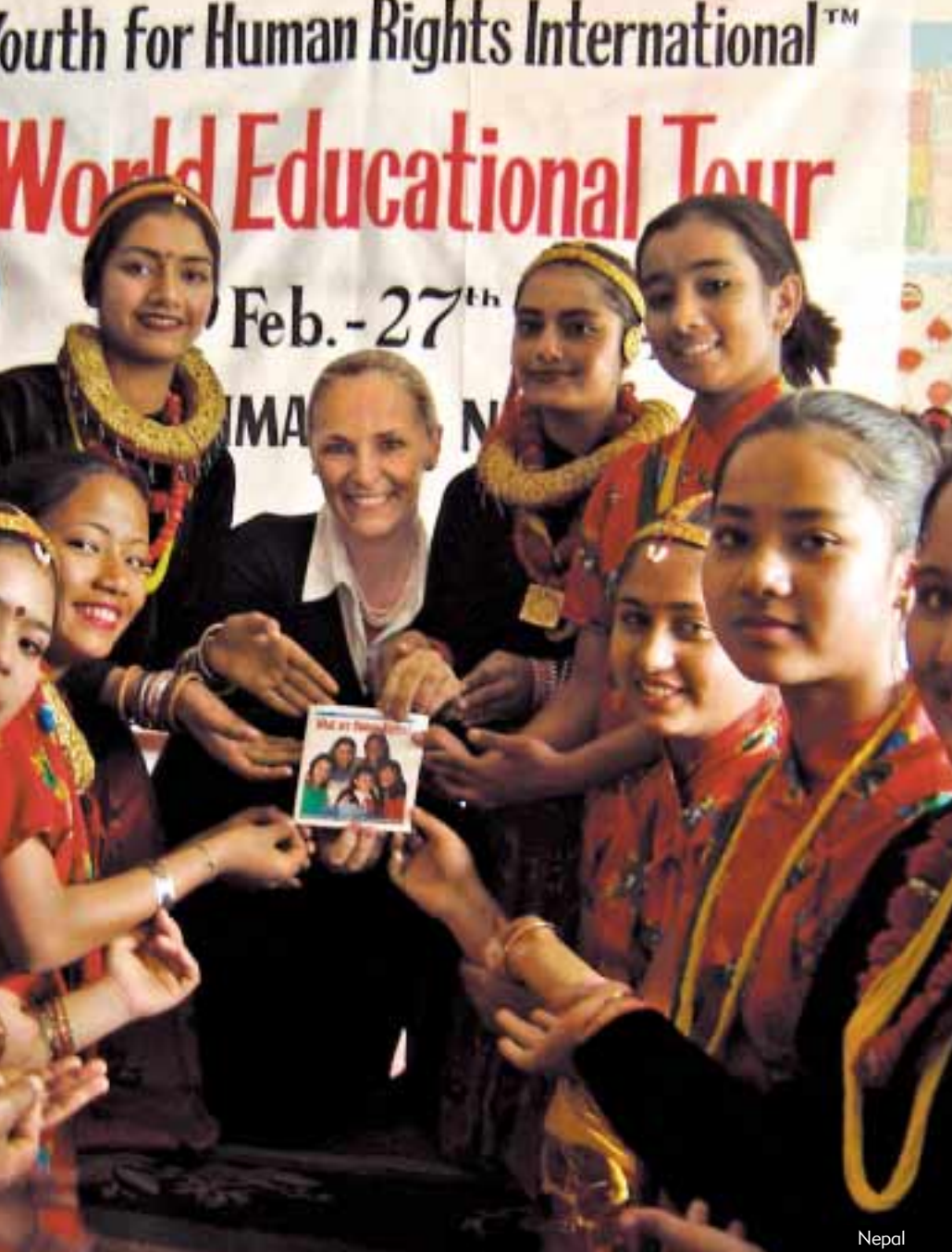
In March 2003, the first South African chapter of YHRI opened its doors in Durban. Presiding over the inaugural ceremony was the city's deputy mayor, who described the launch of the



human rights campaign as "a milestone event." Afterwards, a representative from an organisation affiliated with the University of Natal, which helps children in South Africa understand their legal rights, commented, "It is essential that learners are taught about democracy and human rights throughout their schooling."



Taiwan



Nepal

Youth for Human Rights International distributes copies of *What Are Human Rights?* to thousands of children and brings youth summits to communities across the globe.

In particular, she told a Durban newspaper, "The reaction to HIV/AIDS in our country has resulted in the infringement of many fundamental freedoms and human rights."

To help further address this problem, YHRI's educational work in Africa now includes teaching children, as well as adults, about the causes and prevention of

HIV/AIDS. YHRI has produced an easy-to-understand handout that defines HIV/AIDS, dispels of common misconceptions about it, explains how infection occurs and sets out what each person can do to minimise the risk — vital information on a continent socially, economically and humanly devastated by an AIDS epidemic.

Russia



## Youths discover human rights

The role of Youth for Human Rights International is to teach the principles of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights to children. Here youth speak of its valuable lessons in tolerance and peace:

**D**iscrimination of any sort is not born in the children's hearts. I appeal to the good sense of the adults to let human rights prevail."

— Daniel (age 15), Austria

**I**f I didn't have human rights then I wouldn't be able to decide my own future and career, and therefore probably wouldn't be happy creating, doing art such as singing, acting, dancing and all the other things I love!"

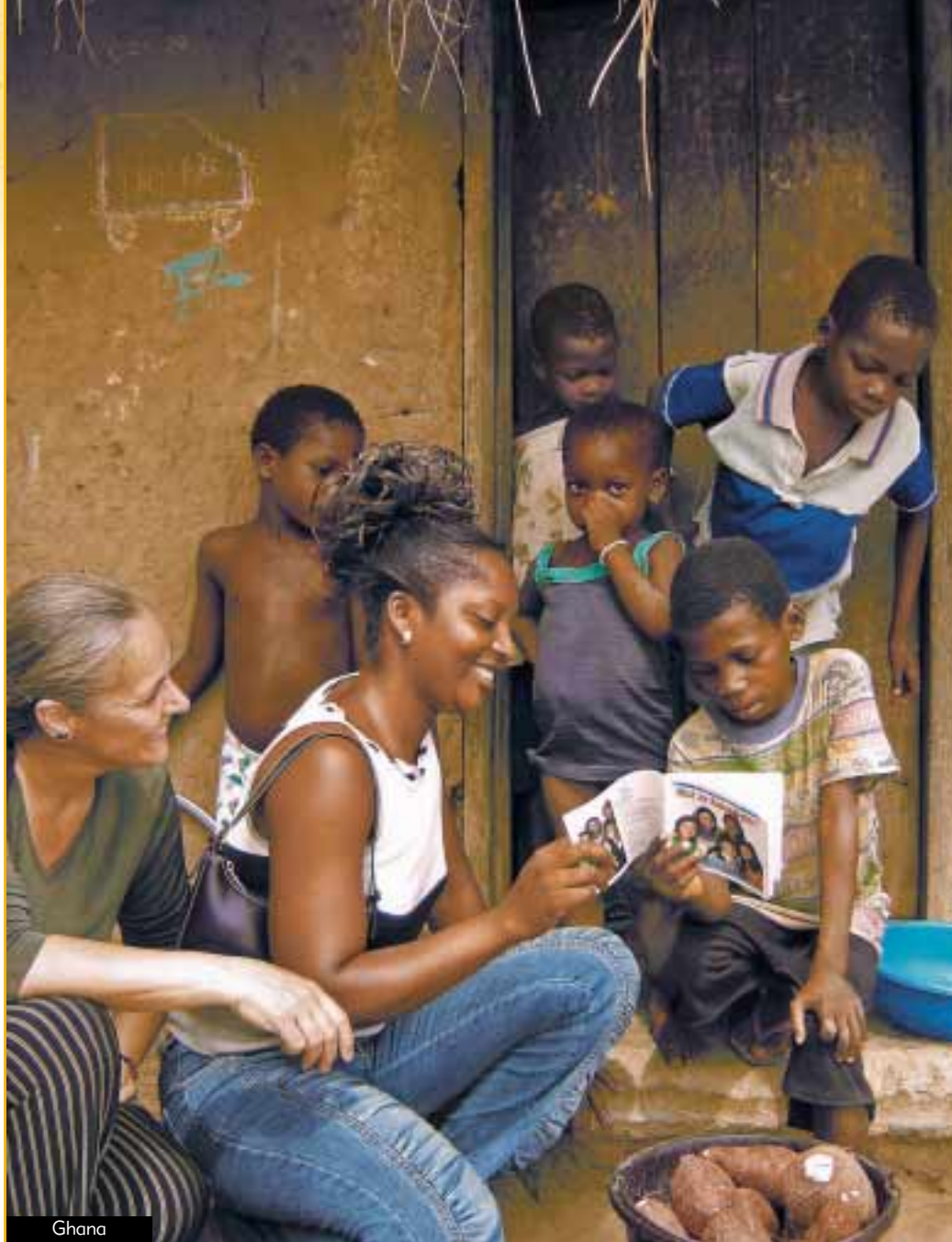
— Sinead (age 14), England

**W**hat does the idea of human rights mean? What do they stand for?... In one word, they mean tolerance.... Therefore I feel free to draw the conclusion that the [Universal] Declaration of Human Rights stands for humanity's only chance for peace."

— Boris (age 12), Israel

**I** have sometimes heard that people are not loved because of their religion or because of what they think, but in reading the booklet I discovered that one is free to believe and to think what one wants.... *What Are Human Rights?* has taught me that one has the right to live a beautiful life (Article 25)."

— Lise (age 9), France



Ghana

YHRI has also begun to tackle the problem of human trafficking or "modern day slavery," a type of crime that now affects an estimated 27 million people, mostly women and children, worldwide. YHRI has worked tirelessly to bring about greater public awareness of the problem, believing that increased understanding of its scope will

compel effective action. In furtherance of this aim, YHRI has held a number of seminars and roundtables on human trafficking, including one in Los Angeles in January 2004 attended by a representative of the U.S. Department of Justice.

Due to the success of various YHRI campaigns, government officials have begun integrating



Thailand

YHRI educational materials into national programmes. Witness the mayor of the city of Morón in Argentina, who was so impressed by the school-age winners of a national YHRI art contest that he decided to place YHRI's educational materials in the hands of every child in the city's 90 schools and to add the teaching of human rights to the curriculum.

With the expansion of YHRI and its message that human rights should be learned when still young has come a demand for more information from all over the world. To fill this need, in February 2004, YHRI representatives set out on a 72,420-kilometre World Educational Tour. In the space of five weeks, YHRI delegates travelled to both well-populated and far-flung locations, including Tokyo; Bangkok; Accra, Ghana; Georgetown, Guyana (South America) and Mexico City to increase the understanding of human rights among youth and to found new YHRI chapters. Along the way, YHRI representatives met with senior government officials, visited local towns and villages, and distributed to

both parents and children copies of *What Are Human Rights?* and YHRI's educational flier on AIDS. At each stop, they asked the children to write short accounts of what they understood of human rights and why these are so precious (see sidebar).

What resulted from this tour was a veritable wave of interest in human rights education for the young. As Elizabeth A. Ohene, the Ghanaian Minister of State, Tertiary Education, wrote, "You have certainly managed to break down the two difficult subjects of human rights and AIDS in the booklet *What Are Human Rights?* and the flyer entitled 'Protect Yourself [and Others] from a Sickness Called AIDS' into child-friendly tracts."

The reason Scientologists work with such persistence in this field arises from a simple understanding: The teaching of human rights principles must form a vital part of any effort to combat intolerance and ignorance if we are to prevail in establishing a stable, peaceful and secure future for our children.

"You have certainly managed to break down the two difficult subjects of human rights and AIDS in the booklet *What Are Human Rights?* and the flyer entitled 'Protect Yourself [and Others] from a Sickness Called AIDS' into child-friendly tracts."

— Elizabeth A. Ohene  
Ghanaian Minister of State  
Tertiary Education



Germany

# Defending religious freedom

Multi-denominational peace initiatives

“The Church of Scientology advances a very coherent, professional and studied campaign on the subject of human rights, which is far beyond that of many organisations who, comparatively, speak very lightly of human rights.”

— Francisco Jose Alonso Rodriguez, Sociologist and President, Spanish League for Human Rights



**A** cornerstone of democracy is freedom of religion. To flourish, that freedom must include a tolerance for disparate faiths. It is one of the great paradoxes that, while religions act as primary forces for mutual respect and peace, a significant percentage of the world's turmoil arises from deep-seated intolerance toward other beliefs and practices.

As a result, religion today is

subject to much discussion and critical consideration. Yet at no time has its civilising influence been more important. We live in a world where many solutions advanced to cure the world's pressing problems ignore the spiritual nature of humanity. The explosion of intolerance, the plague of drug abuse, the increasing ills of illiteracy, crime and immorality and the rapid rise in terrorism and international conflict demonstrate

the futility of purely scientific solutions alone.

Religious organisations, therefore, have an important contribution to make in resolving the ills of society. Indeed, churches of Scientology across the globe hold that a reaffirmation of the primacy of the human spirit will bring about resurgence in our civilisation.

International human rights instruments, such as the European Convention on Human Rights and the

*Scientology church members — among them celebrities Kirstie Alley and Isaac Hayes (centre and right, below) — have fought alongside officials of other religious and human rights organisations to win important religious freedom victories in countries such as Germany (left) and France (below).*



Concluding Document from the 1989 Conference of the Organisation for Security and Cooperation in Europe, articulate that every person has a right to express, practice and profess their religious beliefs. That freedom includes the right to possess the scriptures and texts of one's chosen religion, to conduct religious services and to bring up one's children in one's religious tradition, without interfering with their own religious choices upon reaching maturity.

To this end, the Church and its members have for five decades dedicated themselves to the cause of religious freedom all over the world. They have helped investigate and expose discrimination by government bodies against a range of religious organisations, including Christian, Muslim, Hindu, and Buddhist movements as well as Scientologists themselves. In Germany, for example, the Church's Human Rights Office has documented more than 1,500

cases of discrimination, and has worked with many of those affected to help them address and resolve the situation.

Church representatives have played a leading role in bringing religious communities together to form coalitions that can speak with one voice against such religious intolerance. In March 2000, the churches in Paris organised a conference of more than 30 religious and spiritual minorities there.

*In the 1990s, when a wave of anti-religious hysteria swept through a number of European countries, the Church set about organising actions, such as this vigil for religious freedom in Paris (right), which broadly promote religious tolerance as embodied in the Universal Declaration of Human Rights.*



**“There is no group in the world today that is doing more to celebrate and promote the principle of religious freedom than the Church of Scientology.”**

— Professor Derek Davis  
Director, J.M. Dawson Institute  
of Church-State Studies  
Baylor University, USA

Subsequently, these groups decided to get united to protect freedom of conscience. They provided evidence of religious intolerance in France to the investigator appointed by the Council of Europe to delve into the issue of discrimination. Based on his report, in November 2002, the Assembly formally asked France to reconsider a June 2001 law that called for the dissolution of entire religious communities, including all their churches nationwide, if the perceived leader of even a local chapter had received two criminal convictions for relatively minor offenses. It is probably because of the international controversy aroused by this law that French authorities have been reluctant to apply its provisions.

Scientology churches have also continued to work closely with interfaith groups and have regularly prepared extensive submissions on the subject of abuses of religious freedom, especially in Europe. Over the last 15 years, Scientology churches in Europe have filed scores of such submissions to international human rights and governmental bodies including the United Nations High Commission on Human Rights, the Council of Europe and the Organisation for Security and Cooperation in Europe. At the same

time, Scientologists continuously seek to engender dialogue between religious bodies and government officials, believing that this is absolutely critical to resolving their differences, as many of these apparent differences are merely misunderstandings created by lack of communication. After working alongside Church officials on some of these actions, Professor Derek Davis, director of the J.M. Dawson Institute of Church-State Studies at Baylor University in the United States, was moved to comment, “There is no group in the world today that is doing more to celebrate and promote the principle of religious freedom than the Church of Scientology.”

Furthermore, in the United States during a period that stretched from the 1970s to the 1990s, Scientology church officials and parishioners were together instrumental in neutralising the negative impact of aspersions spread by a hate group called the Cult Awareness Network (CAN) against certain religious and spiritual minorities. Through lies, false generalities and even kidnapping, CAN had sought to bring an end to targeted minority faiths solely because of a difference of ideology. Scientologists documented the crimes and human rights abuses perpetrated

# Helping citizens overcome discrimination

**Churches of Scientology have helped thousands of individuals over the years to surmount religious discrimination, as these testimonials demonstrate:**

by CAN, and provided the evidence to prosecutors and other government authorities. In a landmark case that essentially ended the activities of such hate groups in the United States, a Scientologist attorney represented a Christian man in a lawsuit against the former CAN. During the litigation, won by the Christian in a jury decision upheld by the U.S. Supreme Court, a federal judge condemned CAN's actions as "motivated by a discriminatory animus" involving "the forceful abduction and retention of an adult against his will."

The decision led to the demise of CAN in its initial form. Today, CAN, now with a multi-faith board and membership, has been transformed into a vehicle to promote religious tolerance and understanding. For example, the organisation operates a "hotline" which, for eight years, has assisted more than 15,000 callers to resolve their religious differences amicably.

Because there will never be any rational justification for religious intolerance, churches of Scientology will continue to work with government officials, religious leaders and coalitions, and human rights organisations to protect and advance religious freedom throughout the world.

"After more than ten years in the civil service, my husband realised that his career was over, because he knew that advancement in that field was barred to him because of his religion.... We were very concerned as our family's income depends on my husband being able to find remunerative work. At this point we approached the Church of Scientology Human Rights Office for assistance. As a result of the advice we received, my husband was able to find suitable work with no further problem or discrimination. He is now very popular and successful in his company and the economic survival of our family is assured."

— M.O., Germany

"The Church of Scientology's Human Rights Office in Germany helped me handle a situation of severe discrimination that I was facing at work. I am employed as an administrator and my husband and I have two children. One day I was called ... by my boss who said he had started an internal investigation into me and had been questioning my colleagues about my

behaviour. This was entirely based on my religious affiliation. Moreover, he had contacted a local organisation that had given him the impression that I was somehow a threat to the company because of my affiliation. I was afraid of losing my job and turned to the Church's Human Rights Office for help. As a result of their assistance, I was able to reassure my boss that I posed no threat to the company and he realised that he had treated me unfairly. He acknowledged my good work and that he had been given wrong information. In the end, not only did I keep my job, but I was asked to work longer hours for the company at a higher rate of pay."

— M.G., Germany

"In my professional career as a teacher, I experienced religious discrimination, including leaflets and bad press about me, which created a climate of hate in the school where I was working. The aim of this campaign was to have me transferred to another school, solely due to my religious beliefs. I turned to the Human Rights Office of the Church of Scientology in Paris, which assisted me in actions to uphold my rights. As a result I was able to gain the support of members of parliament and senators who recognised that my rights had been violated."

— M.R., France

# Protecting rights and freedoms

## Campaigns encourage you to “think for yourself”

“I’ve always had a great admiration for the work that the Church has done in defence of individual rights, free speech, religious [freedom], social toleration. I think without a doubt... it’s a force for good”

— Dr. Chris Tame, Director  
Libertarian Alliance



The freedom to think is the building block of a free society and integral to the preservation of human rights. It is specifically articulated in the Universal Declaration of Human Rights, which confers “the right to freedom of thought” and “the right to freedom of opinion and expression; this right includes freedom to hold opinions without interference....”

With intolerance towards racial, ethnic and religious minorities mounting across Europe in the late

1990s, the Church of Scientology International launched a campaign throughout the continent to promote freedom of thought by encouraging people to take a fresh look at society. A series of advertisements, billboards, fliers, and radio spots was punctuated by the single message “Think for Yourself.” Images of famous independent artists, scientists and adventurers — Mozart, Einstein and others — showed how each had made a difference by looking for the truth and keeping his own counsel. The encouragement to “think for

yourself” motivated many people to do exactly that — and to reject the mass media stereotypes of minority groups that fuel intolerance.

The opposite of freedom of thought is the effort to control and manipulate populations through propaganda, indoctrination and thought reform — namely, mind control.

L. Ron Hubbard and the Church of Scientology have publicly exposed and fought this despicable practice for more than five decades. In the mid-20th century, in the depths of the cold war era, covert government programmes

were developed in the United States and Great Britain to manipulate men's minds through special drugs and coercive psychiatric treatment. These now infamous "mind control" programmes, run by the American and British intelligence agencies, included implanting destructive ideas or impulses in an individual without his consent. And despite the fact that in 1951 the very existence of "mind control" programmes was a closely guarded secret, one of the first, if not the first, to discover and publicly decry this abuse was L. Ron Hubbard in his book *Science of Survival*, published that same year.

Those responsible for such abuses retaliated with a massive smear campaign against Mr. Hubbard and Scientology that would last for several decades. In the interim, the Church of Scientology remained undeterred and founded the Citizens Commission on Human Rights (CCHR) in 1969 in London. CCHR's mandate was to expose and eradicate human rights abuses perpetrated by psychiatrists and other mental health practitioners against their often-unwitting victims.

In a 1986 report to the United Nations Human Rights Commission, Erica-Irene Daes, a UN Human Rights laureate (1993), concluded, "CCHR has been responsible for many great reforms. At least 30 bills throughout the world, which would otherwise have inhibited even more the rights of patients, or would have given psychiatry the power to commit minority groups and individuals against their will, have been defeated by CCHR actions." Since Ms. Daes wrote those words, the number of such unconscionable and repressive bills that CCHR has prevented from becoming law has risen from 30 to 110.

Today, CCHR has acquired a well-earned reputation as a powerful international human rights watchdog and has 133 chapters in 34 countries.

## Advancing freedom of speech

In 1968, the Church of Scientology founded *Freedom* magazine as an independent journal that has developed into the human rights voice of the Church. Now published in 11 languages in 20 countries, *Freedom* remains uncompromising in its probing investigations of injustice, misuse of government power, the underlying causes of violent crime, the perpetrators of intolerance — indeed, anything that strips away individuals' fundamental rights.

And while *Freedom* is proud of its history in bringing human rights abuses to public attention, the magazine's editors recognise that exposure alone is not enough. Thus *Freedom* has consistently championed the cause of reforms.

Given *Freedom's* commitment to the equal treatment principles of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights, it is not altogether surprising that one of its first major exposés of oppression took place in South Africa under the apartheid regime. In the mid-1970s, *Freedom* published a report on the plight of more than 10,000 psychiatric patients who had been detained in numerous private facilities and were being exploited as slave labour in what amounted to concentration camps. In retaliation for *Freedom's* graphic accounts and photographs, the regime raided and temporarily closed down the magazine in that country.

*Freedom*, however, took its evidence to the World Health Organisation (WHO), which conducted its own investigation



and confirmed the magazine's findings. The WHO stated in its report on the camps: "This situation... does have a parallel in the ownership and trading of slaves."

After the fall of apartheid, Scientologists brought this sordid chapter to the attention of the new South African government. As a result of the investigation that followed, an unprecedented 92-page government report was issued, condemning brutal conditions and recommending sweeping actions against psychiatric perpetrators — including prosecution of crimes and the establishment of a charter of patients' rights.

The Church's work through *Freedom* in bringing these abuses to the attention of the international community has not been forgotten by the government of post-apartheid South Africa. As recently as November 2003, while speaking at the opening of a Church of Scientology at new and larger premises in Johannesburg, Dr. Ben Ngubane, former South African Minister of Arts, Culture, Science and Technology, personally thanked the Church for "exposing the most horrendous practices of the apartheid system of mental treatment of people.... The Church of Scientology... became a real thorn in the side of the apartheid government. And of course, it was for the better, for those who suffered from those conditions."

# Making human rights a reality

## Humanitarian leadership on a continental scope

“For those who seek greater security and happiness for the people of Europe and the world, actively solving these problems is the only means to a safe and secure future, one that guarantees peace and prosperity now and for the future generations. Our facility in Brussels exists to help make that happen.”

— Fabio Amicarelli  
Director, Church of  
Scientology International  
European Office for Public Affairs  
and Human Rights, Brussels

Scientists have shown dedication in their work throughout the past five decades to defend and uphold human rights and religious freedom — not only to preserve their own, but also to guarantee the rights and freedoms of every citizen.

Such is especially relevant when one considers Europe, where a host of different cultures and ethnicities intermingle in close proximity, and where the vitality of each of those groups can best be nourished by the principles set forth in the Universal Declaration of Human Rights.

For these reasons and more, the Church of Scientology International in 1990 realised the need for a human rights office in Brussels, the seat for the Parliament of the European Union. The office subsequently obtained the status of a nongovernmental organisation with the Organisation for Security and Cooperation in Europe.

In September 2003, the Church once again dramatically increased its commitment to human rights in Europe by opening a new and much larger office building at Rue de la Loi, 91, in Brussels' European quarter. The Church of Scientology International's European Office for Public Affairs and Human Rights houses the first permanent European exhibition on the Scientology religion and the life of its founder, L. Ron

Hubbard. Not simply a “walk-through,” this exhibit is interactive, covering three floors and consisting of 750 displays illustrating the practice of Scientology and the exceptional results achieved by social betterment organisations that use Mr. Hubbard's discoveries, as well as more than 320 official and personal acknowledgments of the Church and the founder for humanitarian works.

In a speech given at the opening of this facility, Mr. Janssen van Raay, former chairman of the Law Committee of the European Parliament, paid tribute to the contributions made by the Church and its members in advancing human rights throughout Europe.

“Scientists are peace-loving people,” he told the attendees. “But they fight for what they believe in. And because of their tenacity, their victories have meant that the people of Europe today enjoy more freedoms.”

To commemorate the opening of its new headquarters, the Church released a Proclamation on Religion, Human Rights and Society, which details every facet of human rights that Scientists have sought to support and improve. It is available on the European Office of Human Rights website ([www.scientology-europe.org](http://www.scientology-europe.org)).

The Church's human rights headquarters in Brussels has quickly



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— Janssen van Raay  
Former chairman, Law  
Committee European Parliament

become a major resource and focal point for those seeking to help their communities. The facility provides workable answers to the problems facing those active in the field of religion, human rights and social betterment. It is regularly used by human rights and social organisations for conferences and events, and is designed to facilitate initiatives toward social betterment throughout the continent. It is a living embodiment of the principles of openness and democracy, tolerance and freedom;

and as such, it is open to all.

Today, we stand at a watershed moment in history. If we work diligently and well to see that human rights are made a certainty for every man, woman and child on the face of the Earth, we may in fact attain a true and stable civilisation for all mankind, where crime, discrimination and war simply do not exist.

These are our aims; we are certain that they are your aims as well. We welcome your help, and offer our own, in fulfilling this cause.

“On the day when we can fully trust each other, there will be peace on Earth.”

— L. Ron Hubbard



**L. Ron Hubbard**  
Bringing solutions to humanity

**F**rom the central truths of Scientology, and placed in the hands of Scientologists and non-Scientologists alike, come L. Ron Hubbard's solutions to the humanities.

To enumerate the particulars, there are his educational tools now employed by several million students and teachers across all continents, and described as the singular key to all literacy and learning throughout the whole of southern Africa. There is his program for criminal reform, similarly employed across every continent, and regularly credited with reducing 90 percent recidivism rates to virtually nothing. There is his means of drug rehabilitation, routinely ending 10 and 20 years of substance abuse in cases once judged incorrigible, and likewise credited with the salvation of a hundred thousand terminal addicts in 70 nations. There is his system for sane and equitable administration now at work in some

80,000 private and public concerns worldwide, and credited with reviving whole industries from the dead. Finally, there is Mr. Hubbard's nonreligious moral code, *The Way to Happiness*, now in the hands of some 62 million readers and proving an astonishing force for peace and decency.

The point here, and a crucial one: L. Ron Hubbard has provided the means for repairing every breach of human rights and cultural inadequacy besetting us in this 21st century. He has further inspired churches of Scientology to form a truly powerful bulwark against those who would perpetuate those cultural inadequacies.

"If you champion the dignity and freedom of mankind, you are a Scientologist at heart if not by name," he once wrote.

"We believe in mankind. We can and are helping man, our countries and society.

"We are not 'one man.' We are millions and we are everywhere."

"I bring to your attention... the works of writer and philosopher L. Ron Hubbard... to emphasise the wisdom of his philosophy regarding the creation of harmony amongst mankind. His scientific truisms and passionate talks about the rights of mankind inspire hope for an optimistic future."

— Stanislov S. Pylov  
Russian Academy of  
Humanitarian Sciences

# Discover the facts

## Informational brochure series about the Scientology religion and its activities

This is the seventh in a series of publications on the Scientology religion and its activities. Twelve in all, these brochures are being widely distributed, one each month, throughout the year.

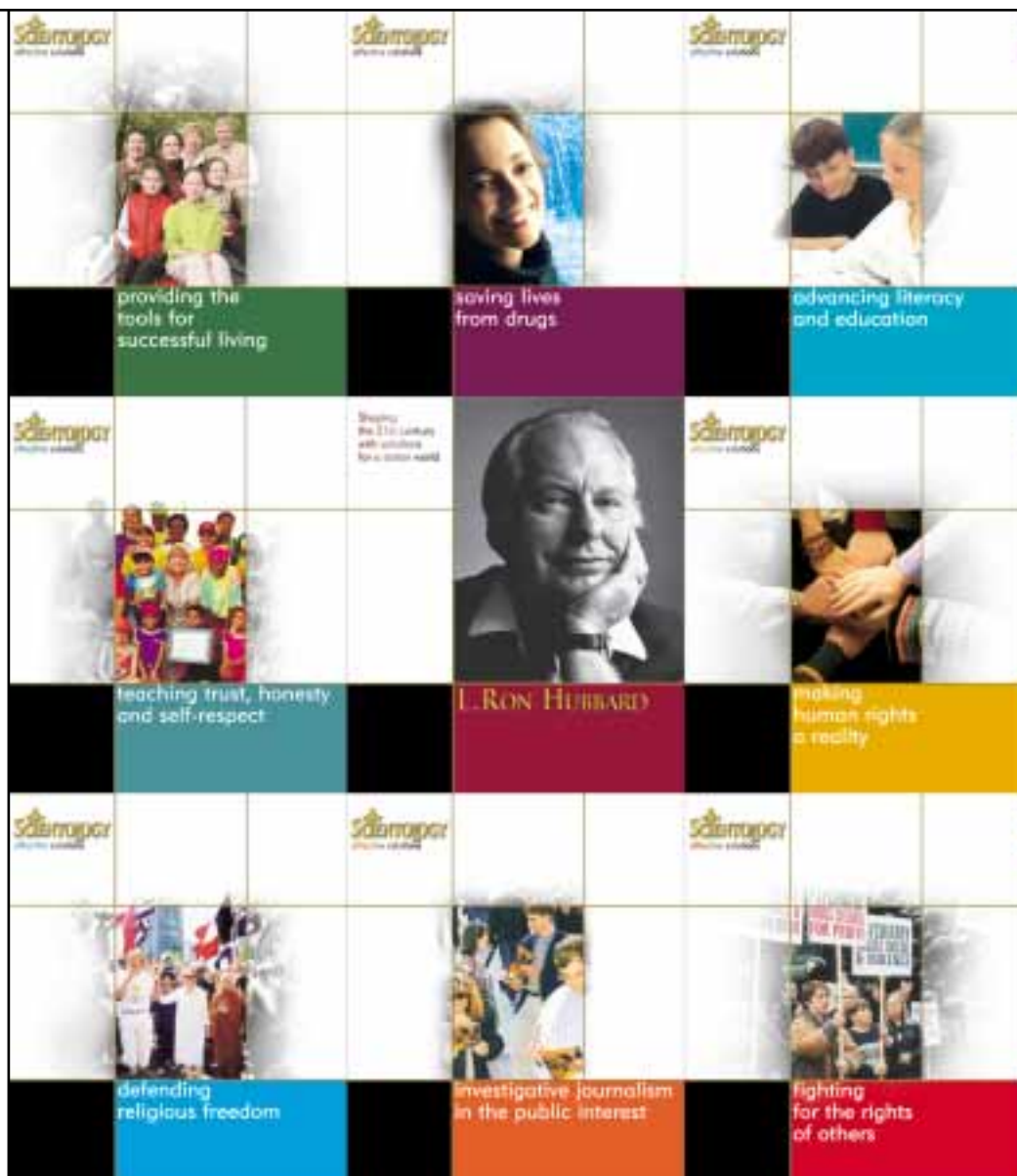
Published by the Church of Scientology International, these publications are intended to fulfil the growing public demand for more information about the Scientology religion, its beliefs and practices and community activities.

In particular, facts and figures about Scientology's wide-reaching social betterment and reform activities are presented; these are the effective solutions, based on the helping technologies developed by L. Ron Hubbard, that in the hands of Scientologists are bettering conditions across the continent.

It is these solutions and the lasting positive results they bring that has become the hallmark of this, the fastest growing religious movement on Earth.

We trust the information will be of interest — and use.

— Church of Scientology International



# For more information

To obtain more copies of this booklet or to receive other booklets in the series, contact:

**Public Affairs Director**  
**Church of Scientology International**  
**European Office for Public Affairs and Human Rights**  
**Rue de la Loi 91**  
**1040 Brussels, Belgium**  
**phone: + 32 2231 1596**  
**fax: + 32 2280 1540**  
**email: csiofficedir@scIENTOLOGY-europe.org**

- January 2004:**  
*Providing Tools for Successful Living*
- February 2004:**  
*Saving Lives from Drugs*
- March 2004:**  
*Advancing Literacy and Education*
- April 2004:**  
*Bringing Effective Help to the Community*
- May 2004:**  
*Teaching Trust, Honesty and Self-Respect*
- June 2004:**  
*L. Ron Hubbard: Shaping the 21st Century with Solutions for a Better World*
- July 2004:**  
*Making Human Rights a Reality*
- August 2004:**  
*Protecting the Public's Right to Know*
- September 2004:**  
*Defending Religious Freedom*
- October 2004:**  
*Investigative Journalism in the Public Interest*
- November 2004:**  
*Fighting for the Rights of Others*
- December 2004:**  
*The Church of Scientology — Looking Ahead*

To download copies of this or upcoming brochures from the Internet, as they are published throughout the year, please visit:  
[www.humanrightsareality.org](http://www.humanrightsareality.org)

Or contact the Director of Public Affairs at these locations:

## EUROPE

Church of Scientology Europe  
Store Kongensgade 55  
1264 Copenhagen K, Denmark

Scientology Kerk  
Amsterdam  
Nieuwezijds Voorburgwal  
116-118  
1012 SH Amsterdam,  
Netherlands

Dianetics & Scientology Centre  
Patision 200  
11256 Athens, Greece

Church of Scientology  
of Budapest  
Leonardo da Vinci U. 8-14,  
1082 Budapest, Hungary

Church of Scientology  
Saint Hill Manor  
East Grinstead, West Sussex  
England, RH19 4JY

Asociación Civil de Dianética  
Iglesia de Cienciología  
C/ Montera 20 1º Dcha.  
28013 Madrid, V  
Spain

Chiesa Nazionale  
di Scientology d'Italia  
Via Cadorna 61  
20090 Vimodrone  
Milano, Italy

Church of Scientology  
of Moscow  
Borisa Gushkhina St. 19A  
129301 Moscow, Russia

Scientology Kirche  
Deutschland e.V.  
Beichstraße 12  
80802 Munich, Germany

Scientologikirken Oslo  
Storgata 17  
0184 Oslo, Norway

Association Spirituelle  
de l'Église de Scientology  
d'Île-de-France  
7, Rue Jules César  
75012 Paris, France

Scientologi Kyrkan  
Reimersholmsgatan 9  
S-117 40 Stockholm,  
Sweden

Scientology Kirche Österreich  
Capistrangasse 4  
1070 Vienna, Austria

Scientology Kirche  
Freilagerstrasse 11  
8047 Zürich, Switzerland

## AUSTRALIA, NEW ZEALAND AND OCEANIA

Church of Scientology of Sydney  
201 Castlereagh Street  
Sydney, New South Wales  
Australia 2000

## NORTH AMERICA CANADA

Church of Scientology of Toronto  
696 Yonge Street  
Toronto, Ontario  
M4Y 2A7 Canada

## UNITED STATES

Founding Church of Scientology  
of Washington, D.C.  
1701 20th Street N.W.  
Washington, D.C. 20009

## LATIN AMERICA

Federación Mexicana de  
Dianética Calle Puebla #31  
Colonia Roma, México, D.F.  
C.P. 06700, México

## SOUTH AFRICA

Church of Scientology  
of South Africa  
6th Floor Budget House  
130 Main Street  
Johannesburg 2001

“HUMAN  
RIGHTS MUST  
BE MADE A  
FACT, NOT  
AN IDEALISTIC  
DREAM.”

— L. RON HUBBARD