

A CALL TO CONSCIENCE:  
**Defending Freedom  
& Human Rights**

AUGUST 14-18, 2023 | McCORMICK PLACE



**A presentation by participants at the Parliament of World Religions  
Monday 30<sup>th</sup> October, 7-8 pm**

**Zoom Meeting ID: 879 3905 7239. Passcode: 568422**

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/87939057239?pwd=am81cm1hcmVSdEoydXI2KzM0ZXhZZz09>

**ALL WELCOME!**

**Presenters**

**Bishop Philip Huggins** is a Bishop in the Anglican Church of Australia. He is a former President of the National Council of Churches in Australia. He has a long-time commitment to interfaith, and peace, justice and reconciliation movements.

**Ayesha Bux** is the founder of SalamFest, celebrating the contributions of Muslims in the fields of arts and culture. She is on the JCMA Board (Jewish Christian Muslim Association) and an avid supporter of women's empowerment, interfaith harmony, and empowerment of marginalised community groups.

**Adrian Dass** received a grant (National Council of Churches in Australia, and Victorian Council of Churches) to attend PoWR to gain a deeper understanding of ecumenical and interfaith relations, and the diversity of faith perspectives.



The Parliament of World Religions (PoWR) is the world's biggest interfaith movement, first held in Chicago in 1893, reconvened in Chicago in 1993, and again in Chicago in 2023. In 2009, the PoWR was held in [Melbourne](#). The 2023 gathering had 8254 participants, from 95+ countries, and 210+ traditions. There were 150 booths in the exhibition hall, and 600+ panels and workshops, on topics such as religious freedom, inclusivity and diversity, climate change, human rights, food security, social justice and women's rights.

*Today we possess sufficient economic, cultural, and spiritual resources to introduce... a vision of peoples living peacefully together, of ethnic and ethical groupings and of religions sharing responsibility for the care of Earth. A vision rests on hopes, goals, ideals, standards.... it is the communities of faith that bear a responsibility to demonstrate that such hopes, ideals, and standards can be guarded, grounded, and lived." (1993 PoWR Global ethic statement)*

*"Your spiritual traditions have the power to guide people to a path of peace and nurture a spirit of mutual respect and collaboration. The urgency in this moment requires us to demonstrate the most incredible act and power known to humankind - the act of love."*  
(2023 PoWR Opening address by Mayor of Chicago, Brandon Johnson).

