Global Appeal 2009 to End Stigma and Discrimination against People Affected by Leprosy

GLOBAL APPEAL 2009

Global Appeal 2009 is an initiative of Yohei Sasakawa, Chairman of The Nippon Foundation

Leprosy is a disease as old as human history.

Its disfiguring effects struck fear in people's hearts.

Patients were ostracized for lack of an effective cure.

Now a cure exists, and it's available free of charge.

Diagnosed early and treated promptly, leprosy leaves no trace.

But mistaken beliefs about the disease persist.

They perpetuate social and economic discrimination.

This discrimination causes emotional and psychological pain.

To conquer this age-old stigma, drugs alone are not enough.

All of us must be part of the social healing process.

People affected by leprosy and their families have a right to a normal life.

Denying basic human rights to someone because he or she once had a disease is wrong.

Let us all join hands to eliminate fear, discrimination, and social stigma wherever they exist.

Let the healing begin today.



His Eminence Ammar A.

Vice President of Islamic Supreme Council of Iraq

Al-Hakim

His Eminence Archbishop Istrinsky Arseniy

Vicar of the Holy Patriarch of Moscow and All Russia



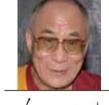
Sant Shri Morari

Shri Sitaram Seva Trust, India

Bapuji



+ James Cal Togenot



His Eminence Cardinal Javier Lozano Barragán



of Tibet





John Kten

The Very Reverend John Robert Hall Dean of Westminster, United Kingdom



Il beson blu

His Royal Highness Prince Hassan bin Talal of Jordan President Emeritus, World Conference of Religions for Peace



Shore -

The Reverend Dr. Samuel Kobia General Secretary, World Council of Churches





The Reverend Dr. Stavros Kofinas Coordinator of the European Network of Health Care Chaplaincy; Representative of the Ecumenical Patriarchate of

Constantinople





His Eminence Archbishop Yukei Matsunaga

Japan Buddhist Federation

President.



His Eminence Rabbi

Yona Metzger

The Chief Rabbi of Israel



+ Landenio B. Condinal Boscher anti- Hadron of Marile

His Eminence Gaudencio Borbon Cardinal Rosales The Cardinal Archbishop

of Manila, the Philippine



Priestess Beatriz

Schulthess
President,
Indigenous Peoples Ancestral
Spiritual Council



HAMA. SAHAL MAHFUD

His Eminence K.H. Sahal Mahfud Chairman, Indonesian Council of Ulamas





His Holiness Tep Vong The Great Buddhist Supreme Patriarch of the Kingdom of





The Most Reverend Desmond Tutu Archbishop Emeritus of Cape Town, South Africa



温川特章

Yohei Sasakawa Chairman of The Nippon Foundation, Japan; WHO Goodwill Ambassador for Leprosy Elimination