

SOPP 2014

Opening remarks by Mr. Tomohiko Naya

To all of you who have gathered here from throughout Japan and various parts of the world, welcome to the Symphony of Peace Prayers. My deepest gratitude goes out to the prayer leaders, distinguished guests, and all participants for taking time out of your busy schedules to be present here today.

This year, we are extremely pleased to be holding the tenth annual Symphony of Peace Prayers ceremony. As this year marks a turning point for the SOPP, we are extremely grateful for the strong support that all of you have given to this event.

Today, our heartfelt prayers for the peace of humanity will connect with the prayers of like-minded people who are holding gatherings in all parts of the world, and the energy of love, harmony, and peace will resonate across the globe, reaching all life on earth.

When we take part in the Symphony of Peace Prayers, our consciousness naturally calls forth a world of great harmony. In this way, we are building a current toward a new era in which people of all different faiths will manifest the prayerful heart that resides in their true nature, and will join together in prayers for the peace and happiness of all humanity.

Throughout the world, we find that important fields such as government, finance, education, and many others are lacking a bright vision for the future. Those who are spiritually-minded feel strongly how indispensable the power of prayer is to turn the tide of this uncertain state of affairs. It is my hope that people around the world who believe in the power of prayer find that today's prayer symphony gives them encouragement and strength to depict a sound vision for the future.

And beyond that, I hope that in bringing people together through prayer, the SOPP calls forth, as soon as possible, an era in which all the people of the world transcend religious boundaries and place great value on the spirit of prayer, taking this spirit into their respective fields. In your program booklets, you will find messages of support from many pioneering individuals who are already doing just that.

Once again, I am deeply grateful to all of you for your support in making today's SOPP ceremony a reality. Thank you.