

Peace Prize Nomination

Organisation's Name: Dar Al-Salam Organisation
Organisation's Location: Sana'a, Yemen
Organisation's Website: <http://www.dasoyemen.org>

Description of specific project, practice, or technique:

Dar Al-Salaam Organization (DASO) – The Dar Al-Salaam Organization (DASO), or “House of Peace”, is an indigenous Yemeni NGO focused on conflict resolution and countering violent extremism through engagement of tribal and religious leaders. Based in Sana'a, DASO has grassroots networks and trust relationships throughout the country. Led by a Sufi tribal sheikh, DASO has developed 250 grassroots Peace Committees around the country with over 4000 tribal, religious, youth, and community leaders as members. DASO's work focuses on tribal mediation, religious and sectarian dialogue, conducting youth peace building workshops, and engaging religious leaders in reducing violent extremism.

DASO's approach employs traditional tribal mediation practices, emphasizing the role of Islamic principles in reducing violence, preventing revenge killings, and promoting peaceful coexistence among different sects and identity groups. The organization conducts training workshops with influential citizen leaders (e.g. religious preachers, counselors, academics, tribal leaders, and members of local government) to promote peace and coexistence in their communities. Some workshops, for example, have brought together Yemeni Salafis, Ismaili and Zaydi Shias, Sufis, and members of the Muslim Brotherhood and Houthis movements to raise awareness of the Islamic basis for peaceful coexistence and social diversity, to equip participants to transmit these values to their communities, and to counter political and extremist manipulation of religion. DASO trainings have focused on building participants' knowledge of the causes and realities of conflict in Yemen, raising awareness of Islamic values that promote peace and coexistence, and developing participants' capacities to mitigate armed conflicts and propagate values of forgiveness, human rights, democracy, and social cohesion in the larger culture. Training modules in DASO workshops have included themes on armed conflict and social violence and the role of tribal and religious ethics and leaders in its promotion or prevention.

DASO has managed several internationally-supported programs. One, conducted in partnership with the Government of Yemen, the US Embassy, and the private sector, trained hundreds of religious, local council, and other community leaders in eight governorates in peace building, collaboration, and countering violent extremism. Another 18-month project on peace and social cohesion, sponsored by the European Union, conducted a field study on issues of conflict in Abyan, Al-Jawf, and Lahj, awareness-raising workshops to disseminate the findings of the study, and community initiatives to promote dialogue and reconciliation.

DASO has also facilitated initiatives to increase peaceful electoral participation, especially among women. Most recently, DASO launched a program to engage civil society activists, particularly women and youth leaders, in advocating and supporting the outcomes of Yemen's National Dialogue Conference (NDC) in their communities and connecting the concerns and priorities of these communities to the NDC and the government.

Information on organisation or agency including history and scope of its work:

Sheikh Abdurrahman al-Marwani- Yemen- Sana'a, -23 years of strengthening human rights in the most dangerous issues at the Middle East level, he burst into the challenge when he adopted the direct intervention for addressing peace building, and to contain the armed disputes associated with the human rights violations, and some tribal cultures which are connected to arms as a sign of manliness. Al-Marwani and his organization continued to be unparalleled at the official, public and civil society levels up to the year 2013, where they achieved success despite their loss of 22 martyrs, prompting international TV channels and research centers to prepare and transmit full-length movies and reports addressing the armed disputes in Yemen and their impact on human rights, as well as the field success achieved by al-Marwani, his organization and supporters. The Government itself reviewed al-Marwani's successes at international conferences, in addition to local TV field reports which could be seen through the attached links.

Introduction of the problem

The armed conflicts in Yemen, leave daily dozens dead children and women, helping in the increase of extremism, terrorism and hostility towards others.

Al-Marwani announced the establishment of the organization in 1997, giving it the name of (Darussalam in Yemen,) which meant the (the house of peace in Yemen). he worked on associating the direct intervention with the awareness campaigns, education, training and undertook study of anti – weapon campaigns, considering its use as a major factor in the violation of human rights in Yemen as well as working to change tribal perceptions linking masculinity to bearing arms as well as to promote the culture of tolerance, peace and the universality of human rights. They are the axis which started with intervention campaigns to resolve disputes and then developed into including anti- weapons, containing the crimes of foreigners kidnapping, then the issue of encouragement of religious tolerance and universal human rights.

The following are the most important campaigns:

Launching wide range campaigns for immediate intervention to resolve armed disputes and lately some of the kidnapping cases

Launching awareness and educational campaigns for changing concepts so as to combat carrying of small weapons which are considered to be the main factors in conflict.

The implementation of field studies in the most dangerous regions so as to deep-root the tolerance culture and the universality of human rights by targeting the schools, mosques and public places.

The following are the most important achievements:

Containment of many armed conflicts and returning of families to their villages.

Rescinding dozens of capital sentences by setting the alternatives.

Containment of a number of disputes between minorities and between the Somali community and the Yemenis.

Direct intervention for peaceful release of kidnapped foreigners.

Reduction of human rights abuse happening due to use of small weapons through awareness campaigns by sending a message to every home to claim a national Yemeni legislations as well as the work for changing the concepts of linking weapon carrying to manliness.

Leading mass rallies for demanding national anti-arm legislations.

Training and rehabilitation of hundreds of activists in peace building and human rights universality, through targeting the universities, the schools, the mosques' preachers, press persons and members of local governance.

Describe the context in which the organisation works, analyse the conflict, and indicate how this analysis has influenced the peacebuilding work of the organisation:

Sheikh Abdulrahman Al-Marwani, Yemeni who is the peacemaker and Head and Founder DASO. He is 50 years old. He is a devout Sufi, who was moved to work as a peace activist after surviving the blast from an extremist's bomb; he wished to respond by resolving and preventing violence.

Violence, he believed, is brought about mostly from ignorance, and can be resolved through dialogue. He has spent most of his life in the service of humanity, represented in peace-building activities, conflict resolution, and promotion of a culture of tolerance. He moves beyond religion, doctrine, and home to promoting one humanity and one human relationship. Despite facing many instances of harassment, and even attempted murder, during his the course of his work, he continues to risk his life and to spend long months away from his home in order to mediate and resolve conflict, end violence, prevent revenge killings, and promote peace in Yemen.

Sheikh Abdulrahman Al-Marwani remains steadfast to his belief that: "Peace is the will of Allah, and is the message of all of the Prophets. Without peace there is no welfare, there is no happiness.

The most important reason to nominating the peacemaker in Yemen Sheikh Abdurrahman Al-Marwani for promoting a new culture in Yemen for the first time in the Middle East, to exceed the debt-to-human relationship and to improve schools, universities, and primary schools. [have a look at this Here] So he founded Dar Al-Salam Organisation (DASO) in 1997, and remains its head. Dar Al-Salaam Organisation, or "House of Peace", is an indigenous Yemeni NGO focused on conflict resolution and countering violent extremism through engagement of tribal and religious

leaders. Based in Sana'a, DASO has grassroots networks and trust relationships throughout the country. Under Sheikh Abdulrahman's leadership, DASO has developed 250 grassroots Peace Committees around the country with over 4000 tribal, religious, youth, and community leaders as members. DASO's work focuses on tribal mediation, religious and sectarian dialogue, conducting youth peace building workshops, and engaging religious leaders in reducing violent extremism. Some of the most important successes achieved through Sheikh:

1. Establishing 250 Peace Committees across Yemen.
2. Persuading many young people affected by the culture of extremism and terrorism to exchange this for a culture of peace .[here for more information]
3. During the years 2011-2012 and in partnership with international backers, training 360 trainees in the construction of peace, tolerance, and conflict resolution. [here for more information]
4. Leading several mass rallies calling for peace.
6. Securing the peaceful release of many abducted foreigners.[here for more information]
7. Stopping many executions through various interventions.[here for more information]
8. Resolving many disputes, including those involving the marginalized minorities, Jews, and the Somali community.[Here for more information]
9. Carrying out several awareness campaigns against weapons and armed violence and extremism. [Here for more information]
11. Receiving a favourable review from the government of Sheikh Abdulrahman and his organization, its international experience, its peacemaking activities for conflict resolution, and its reconciliation procedures. [Here for more information]

Impact of the organisation or agency's work, including credible policy and advocacy influence that contributes toward peace:

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2. Persuading many young people affected by the culture of extremism and terrorism to exchange this for a culture of peace.
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Launching awareness and educational campaigns for changing concepts so as to combat carrying of small weapons which are considered to be the main factors in conflict. The implementation of field studies in the most dangerous regions so as to deep-root the tolerance culture and the universality of human rights by targeting the schools, mosques and public places.

The following are the most important achievements:

- Containment of many armed conflicts and returning of families to their villages. Rescinding dozens of capital sentences by setting the alternatives. Containment of a number of disputes between minorities and between the Somali community and the Yemenis.
- Direct intervention for peaceful release of kidnapped foreigners.
- Reduction of human rights abuse happening due to use of small weapons through awareness campaigns by sending a message to every home to claim a national Yemeni legislations as well as the work for changing the concepts of linking weapon carrying to manliness.

- Leading mass rallies for demanding national anti-arm legislations.
- Training and rehabilitation of hundreds of activists in peace building and human rights universality, through targeting the universities, the schools, the mosques' preachers, press persons and members of local governance.
- Introduction of humanitarian culture which goes beyond religion, doctrine and country for a remarkable unified humanitarian relationship
- Reduction of human rights abuse due to use of small weapons through awareness campaigns by sending a message to every home to claim a national Yemeni legislations as well as the work for changing the concepts of linking weapon carrying to manliness.
- Leading mass rallies for demanding national anti-arm legislations.
- Training and rehabilitation of hundreds of activists in peace building and human rights universality, through targeting the universities, the schools, the mosques' preachers, press persons and members of local governance.
- Introduction of humanitarian culture which goes beyond religion, doctrine and country for a remarkable unified humanitarian relationship by:
 - Conducting campaigns under, together towards religions calling for human rights and peace.
 - Involving some of the members of the Jewish community like the young man Sameh Yusuf Habib to give lectures in some Islamic schools over peace and human rights in the Old Testament and the Bible for the first time in the Middle East.
 - To involve all the religious, political forces and minorities in training for the first time in Yemen.
 - Leading a number of awareness campaigns for support of democracy, human rights and to make people avoid use of fire weapons.
 - Carrying out studies of human rights violations due to armed violence in 3 of the most violent and human rights violating provinces, where al-Qaeda exists
 - al-Marwani and his supporters were exposed to many harassments and threats, which include:
 - Al-Marwani was on constant travel for seven years, among the tribes to gather supporters, and after 23 years of work for peace and human rights, he was ensured of the success and continuation of his organization.
 - Al-Marwani was exposed to a number of threats, attempts on his life and harassments during his mission and he narrowly escaped one of them.
 - Al-Marwani lost about 22 of his supporters during his mission.
 - Al-Marwani remains absent for whole months from home and family during his travels for resolving tribal disputes which require setting tents at the dispute sites to stop the conflicts and then start negotiations for finding solutions.
 - Al-Marwani and his supporters are exposed to severe battles by the extremists, which included several accusations as well as killing his supporters, as it was the cases with the preacher of al-Ausaj mosque preacher, in addition to a booby-trapped envelop which injured one of his supporters.
 - The destruction of 4 of his cars.
 - There are several extremists or the so called jihadists who retracted from their ideas because of al-Marwani's efforts. al-Jazeera English Channel dealt with this issue in a special movie prepared and transmitted under the title of peace maker.

Tell us a story about this organisation or agency's peace work:

Many famous and international Media channels prepared and broadcasted movies about the role of the House of Peace in Yemen and the Peacemaker in Yemen Sheikh/Abdulrahman Yahia Al-Marwani.

<http://english.aljazeera.net/programmes/witness/2009/09/20099715835576637.html>
<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=0R1VB5DvUyQ>
http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=e-4MOGb_DZQ
http://www.youtube.com/channel/UCioTVIpW38XM_diZ8clRVBw
http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=nH_6gMKJvIQ&feature=c4-overview-vl&list=PLv_ulbGPYmYwjc_oGCirVE7k1-5qwINKt

The Link Resource Period Language Subject

<http://english.aljazeera.net/programmes/witness/2009/09/20099715835576637.html>
 Al-jazeera English 45 minutes English The movie of Peace maker in Yemen
<http://feeds.arte.tv/~r/arte/fr/artereportage/~5/9vd8acg8mTE/20110312>
 RTV French Channel 15 minutes French Documentary Film about the role of the Organization
<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=98EpwC2ICeE&noredirect=1>
 Al-jazeera Arabic 10 minutes Arabic Dar Al-Salam Organization report in the release of
 abductees
<http://www.itnsource.com/shotlist/RTV/2010/12/17/RTV3223310/>
 Russia Today Channel A documentary report on the role of the Organization
<http://news.cntv.cn/world/20110623/110790.shtml>
 China Channel 10 minutes Chinese Report of weapons in Yemen and the Organization's role in
 combating them.
<http://www.nytimes.com/2006/10/08/world/middleeast/08yemen.html>
 Report New York Times 3 English Press report: one man handles the violence in Yemen
www.lefigaro.fr/lefigaromagazine
 20 French Press report: Le Figaro French
<http://www.time.com/time/world/article/0,8599,1826707,00.html?xid=feed-postcards>
 The Times 6 English Press report: if we killed all Christians
<http://www.decitre.fr/livres/Egypte-Monde-arabe-N-1-2005-Le-shaykh-et-le-procureur.aspx/5552002416020>
 EGYPT/MONDE ARABE N° 1/2005 (LE SHAYKH ET LE PROCUREUR - SYSTÈMES
 COUTUMIERS ET PRATIQUES JURIDIQUES AU YÉMEN ET EN EGYPTÉ)
 British 20 French Research: administrative and scientific systems in Yemen and Egypt issued by
 the French Institute for Archaeology and Social Sciences.

www.annaplatsch.de/tl_files/music_academy/offenes_siegel-ausschnitte.pdf
 20 pages Germany Research: summary of my trip to Sufis and Muslims
<http://annabukhari.nl/een-man-zonder-wapen-is-geen-man>
 Freelance Reporter
 A Report from 6 pages French
 Man is not a man without carrying arms
 A problem which is unsolved
<http://www.arabamericannews.com/news/index.php?mod=article&cat=ArabWorld&article=2520>
 Arab News in America 6 pages English Report: Peace man works to save Yemen
<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=QuIWOJph7yI&feature=plcp> (Sana'a University) 3 minutes
 Arabic A movie about (House of Peace) in Yemen
 a graduation project