



**INTERFAITH
ALLIANCE**
FOR SAFER COMMUNITIES

**Wahat Al Karama
Abu Dhabi, United Arab Emirates
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The Abu Dhabi Declaration

Interfaith Alliance for Safer Communities: Child Dignity in the Digital World

Every human being was born with the right to live a dignified life and prosper in a safe community. Protection of children's dignity is pivotal to the progress of their community and the world we live in. Their generation is harnessing the power of these technologies, as children represent today more than a quarter of the world's three billion internet users. Yet millions of them are being harmed in this new digital world, since technology innovations have also become a source of online sexual abuse and exploitation of children.

To solve this unprecedented problem, we must inform and involve all stakeholders, including people of faith. We believe that protecting the dignity of children is a cause that will unify and mobilize people across countries, cultures and faiths. Today, we have the opportunity, awareness, wisdom, innovation and technology to achieve this human and moral imperative.

It is with a firm belief in the inherent dignity of every child that we, leaders of the world's major faiths and participants at the Interfaith Alliance for Safer Communities: Child Dignity in the Digital World, convened in Abu Dhabi, United Arab Emirates on 19-20 November 2018, do solemnly commit that we will:

1. Unite as faith leaders and join with people of all faiths to prevent harm to children and to promote children's physical, social, psychological and spiritual development;
2. Advocate for a universal truth that no form of progress or advancement progress or advancement can justify any form of harm to children;
3. Foster dialogue in places of worship worldwide on the role of community faith leaders in supporting the dignity and protection of children specially in the digital world;
4. Form and engage effectively in partnerships with leaders of every faith to address the religious implications of online child abuse and exploitation;
5. Work to inspire spiritual and practical action and education by all faiths within their own religious leadership at all levels on how to respond to cases of child abuse and to support victims and their families.

We commit ourselves here today to do all that is in our influence, within our faith communities and beyond, to work together to preserve and protect the dignity of children in this digital world.

Dated 20th of November 2018 in Abu Dhabi, United Arab Emirates.