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2008 ICCJ International Conference Jerusalem, June 22-25

The International Council of Christians and Jews (ICCI) has announced that its 2008 Annual Conference will be held June 22-25 in Jerusalem, under the theme "The Contribution of Jewish-Christian-Muslim Dialogue to Peace-Building in the Middle East." The local host of the program will be the Centre for Interreligious Encounter with Israel, a program of the Interreligious Coordinating Council in Israel. Topics to be dealt with will include Theology of the Land, the influence of the Israeli-Palestinian conflict on Christian-Jewish relations, and the role of religion in the conflict, as well as religion as a source of reconciliation.

The venue for the conference will be the Judaeon Guest House, a new facility in southern Jerusalem, with further housing at the Ecumenical Institute for Theological Studies (Tantur). Workshops will be held in the form of study outings to the sites of programs of interreligious education and reconciliation. Areas visited will include the Jewish, Christian, and Muslim quarters of the Old City, Bethlehem, Abu Ghosh, Ramle, and Neve Shalom/Wahat a Salam, the village jointly established by Jewish and Palestinian Arab citizens of Israel, as well as Yad Vashem, the Islamic College at Baka, the Open House at Ramle, and other institutions. Conference attendees will also have the opportunity to meet with significant religious and political leaders.

A pre-conference study tour further examining some of the conference topics will be held June 17-21 on the theme "Listening to the Other's Religio-Historical Narrative." There will also be a Women's Conference preceding the main conference. The ICCJ Annual General Meeting will be held on June 26, and following that, a post-conference study tour (June 27-July 1). The theme of this tour, which is designed to explore issues not highlighted at the main conference, will be "Spirituality and the Holy Land of Israel." F.S.

For further information, visit www.icci.org.il or e-mail iccj2008@icci.org.il