

Dedicating Your Peace Pole

Peace Poles are often planted to commemorate special occasions, such as holidays, anniversaries, events and festivals. Or any date may be chosen to dedicate a place to peace.

Planting a Peace Pole is a way to bring people together from many sectors of the community. Every Peace Pole dedication ceremony is a unique outcome of the shared experience of those who plan the program, as well as those who attend. Here are some suggestions to consider in the creation of your Peace Pole dedication ceremony:

- Invite your community to participate in the ceremony, including children and senior citizens, representatives of various faith communities and/or ethnic groups, schools, clubs, scouts and local media. Community leaders and clergy love to be asked to make speeches!
- Explain the history and origin of the Peace Pole Project, how you learned about it, why the particular languages were selected, and the significance of the site and date.
- Choose an inspiring spiritual passage, litany, poem or prayer for the occasion.
- Have the peace messages on the Pole read in the four (or more) different languages by designated individuals with a connection to each language or culture.
- Invite local groups to provide entertainment, such as a church choir or a children's dancing school. It is nice to end with everyone singing together.
- Some Peace Poles are already placed in the ground prior to the ceremony and unveiled during the dedication. Or you may choose to have a group planting, planting, where everyone gets to heave a shovelful of earth. Peace poems or other items may be planted along with your Peace Pole.
- A dedication plaque can honor your organization and the communities you serve.
- Plan a re-dedication ceremony for the following year.

Whatever you do, the important part is to hold a prayer for world peace in your heart and send it around the world. You will make it special, and your organization will be seen as part of the global movement for peace on Earth. Your Peace Pole dedication will be filled with love!

Let Us Know

Please send information and a photo of your Peace Pole dedication to:

The World Peace Prayer Society
26 Benton Road
Wassaic, NY 12592 USA
info@worldpeace.org
www.worldpeace.org

May Peace Prevail on Earth!



The Peace Pole Project Around the World



Alaska, USA



Spain



Baghdad



Sydney University



Winter Olympics,
Salt Lake City, USA



Rio de Janeiro



Bethlehem



Italy



Montevideo



Puerto Rico



Robben Island, South Africa



Sierra Leone



China



India

May Peace Prevail on Earth

THE PEACE POLE PROJECT

A Peace Pole is an internationally-recognized symbol of the hopes and dreams of the entire human family, standing vigil in silent prayer for peace on earth. Each Peace Pole bears the message *May Peace Prevail on Earth* in different languages on each of its four or six sides. There are more than 250,000 Peace Poles in nearly every country in the world dedicated as monuments to peace.

Your organization is invited to plant a Peace Pole at each of your centers to highlight the important work you do in many countries to bring about world peace through inner peace. Your Peace Poles would symbolize your mission and simultaneously link your work with that of people of all faiths and nationalities worldwide who are striving for a better world. Won't you join this great network of peace?

Your Peace Poles may be purchased or hand-crafted locally, displaying the languages that are meaningful to your organization. Each Peace Pole should be dedicated in a ceremony that can commemorate a special occasion (such as the founding of your organization or the annual UN-designated International Day of Peace). The prayers offered at your Peace Pole dedication will help to activate the worldwide network of prayers for peace.

This booklet contains resources about Peace Poles for your reference. We hope that your organization will become a part of this inspiring global network of emerging peace consciousness by joining the Peace Pole Project.

May Peace Prevail on Earth!

The World Peace Prayer Society
www.worldpeace.org

International Organizations and Governments

Peace Poles carrying the message "*May Peace Prevail on Earth*" have been presented to many international organizations and governments to promote a Culture of Peace around the world, including:

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| Association of South East Asian Nations (ASEAN), Jakarta | Parliament of the Independent State of Samoa, Apia |
| Commonwealth of Independent States (CIS), Minsk | Pentagon, Washington, DC |
| International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA), Vienna | President of the Republic of Lithuania |
| International Monetary Fund (IMF), Washington, DC | President of the Republic of the Philippines |
| International Organisation of the Francophonie (OIF), Paris | President of the United Nations General Assembly, New York |
| League of Arab States, Cairo | South Asian Association for Regional Cooperation (SAARC), Kathmandu |
| National Assembly of the Republic of Namibia | United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO), New York |
| Office of the High Commissioner for Human Rights (OHCHR), Geneva | United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP), New York |
| Organization for Security and Cooperation in Europe (OSCE), Parliamentary Assembly, Bucharest | United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR), Geneva |
| Organization for Security and Cooperation in Europe (OSCE) Secretariat, Vienna | United Nations Office at Nairobi (UNON) |
| Organization of American States (OAS), Washington, DC | United Nations, New York |
| Organization of the Petroleum Exporting Countries (OPEC), Vienna | World Bank Group, Washington, DC |
| Pacific Island Forum, Suva | World Health Organization (WHO), Geneva |
| | World Trade Organization (WTO), Geneva |

Peace-lovers of all faiths have been involved in Peace Pole dedications, including the XIV Dalai Lama, Mother Teresa, President Jimmy Carter, Deepak Chopra and John Denver, as well as mayors, clubs and Girl Scouts. There are Peace Poles on the Allenby Bridge between Israel and Jordan; at the Peace Park where 84 Peace Poles commemorate the Winter Olympics in Salt Lake City; at the War Museum in Viet Nam; at Robben Island in South Africa, where Nelson Mandela was imprisoned; at the Pyramids at El Giza in Egypt; at the site of the baptism of Jesus at Bethany-Beyond-the-Jordan; and at schools, churches, synagogues, mosques and temples across the United States and around the world.

How to Make a Peace Pole

The Basics

A Peace Pole is a column with four or six sides. Each side displays the prayer, "*May Peace Prevail on Earth*" in a different language. A standard Peace Pole is about eight feet tall (2m 50cm), with the bottom "planted" in the ground. Indoor Peace Poles are supported by stands.

What is a Peace Pole Made Of?

It is important that a Peace Pole be made from a material that is environmentally sound. In the United States, most Peace Poles are made from western cedar, a wood that is a renewable resource. Peace Poles may be made from any local hard wood, or from plastic, concrete, metal or stone. Wooden Peace Poles should be treated with natural plant resin oil, which should be re-applied periodically to maintain beauty. Otherwise, they may be varnished with a minimum of three coats of hand-applied spar urethane. A fresh coat of varnish may be applied every two or three years. A wooden Peace Pole may also be painted gloss white, using a minimum of four coats of high-quality industrial exterior gloss alkyd white enamel paint, which will last 3-8 years.

Peace Message Plaques

Message plaques can be made of various materials including plexiglass, plastic or wood. The plexiglass plaques are 3/16" (1/2cm) thick, with black lettering on a white background under the clear plaque, with eight small holes for nails. Wooden Peace Poles may also have wooden plaques, usually with white lettering. Simple Peace Poles can have the message painted on. Some very beautiful Peace Poles have the prayer carved directly into the wood.

Obtaining a Peace Pole

If you live in a country that has a Peace Pole maker, such as the United States, Japan, Switzerland, Germany or Chile, you will probably want to purchase your Peace Pole from the manufacturer, as they are not expensive. Your Peace Pole maker may supply the plaques if you craft your own pole. If you live in a place where shipping would be costly or if you have a carpenter who is interested in doing the work, you can have your own Peace Pole constructed locally. Sometimes this is an excellent way to involve the community in the project.

Where to Order a Peace Pole

NORTH AMERICA

Peace Pole Makers, USA
7221 S. Wheeler Road
Maple City, MI 49664
USA
Tel: 231-334-4567
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www.peacepoles.com
Kate Reedy

SOUTH / CENTRAL AMERICA

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EUROPE

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The World Peace Prayer Society

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Caroline Uchima

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INDO-PACIFIC

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Margaret Driscoll

