

# THE JISRA JOURNAL

Dear colleagues, thank you once again for sharing such inspiring stories! In this edition of The JISRA Journal, we celebrate the incredible strides made in promoting Religious Tolerance across our programme. Dive into powerful stories from Ethiopia, Indonesia, Kenya, Mali, Nigeria, and Uganda, where communities are embracing positive change through our shared mission. We hope these stories energize and inspire your own work! Enjoy your read!

## SUCCESS STORIES



### MALI

From leading women's associations to fostering interfaith dialogue, Ms. Bayogo and Pastor Timothé are rewriting the narrative of cooperation and tolerance in Mali. Ms. Bayogo's recent visit to Burkina Faso reshaped her view on inclusivity within her faith, while Pastor Timothé is mobilizing hundreds for peace forums. Discover how their journeys and actions are creating a ripple effect across Mali's communities. [Click here](#) to learn more

### UGANDA

In Uganda, young leaders, women's groups, and families are navigating religious diversity to build stronger, more united communities. Discover how Musoga Nasur overcame addiction to become a youth mentor, how the Katwisanye Women's Group united to stop child marriage, and how Nurah and Charles found acceptance for their interfaith marriage. These stories highlight the resilience and hope that are transforming lives and communities in Uganda. [Click here](#) to read more

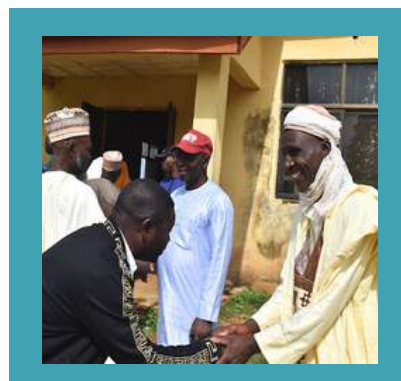


### INDONESIA

In a region still healing from historical conflicts, the Youth Interfaith Camp in West Java brought together 30 young people to tackle generational prejudice. From sharing stories to shaping recommendations for a more inclusive future, these young leaders are rewriting the story of tolerance. Discover how their time together is creating new pathways for peace in Indonesia. [Click here](#) for the complete story

## NIGERIA

How does a simple invitation to celebrate together begin to bridge years of division? In Nigeria, Mrs. Juliana Haruna's journey to religious tolerance started with acts of kindness that opened hearts in her community. Meanwhile, Mallam Muhammadu Bayi's leadership is inspiring lasting peace between previously divided villages. Read about these transformative stories and more to see how individuals are reshaping Nigeria's path to unity. [Click here](#) to dive into these stories



## KENYA

What happens when centuries-old misunderstandings are challenged head-on? In Kenya, community gatherings led by Kaya elders and interfaith dialogues facilitated by KECOSCE are breaking down deep-seated biases. Witness the impact of a groundbreaking visit to Kenya's sacred Kaya forests and learn how these open dialogues are fostering a peaceful coexistence in Kenya's coastal counties. [Click here](#) to read the full stories

## ETHIOPIA

In Ethiopia, leaders like Neima, Tewodros, and Lami are driving powerful transformations in their communities. From advocating for gender equality to fostering interfaith dialogue, they are creating inclusive spaces for peace and understanding. Learn how JISRA's training programs are equipping these young leaders to address deep-rooted social issues and bring about unity. [Click here](#) to read their full stories



# GLOBAL CAMPAIGN

## INTERNATIONAL DAY OF TOLERANCE

The International Day of Tolerance, celebrated on November 16th, serves as a powerful reminder of the importance of respect, empathy, and understanding across all beliefs and backgrounds. This day, recognized by the United Nations, highlights the need for tolerance as a foundation for peaceful coexistence and sustainable communities.

Join us in observing the International Day of Tolerance by sharing powerful stories of change from this edition of The JISRA Journal! These stories highlight the importance of peace, respect, and understanding across diverse communities. Feel free to use them to inspire and engage your networks on social media or within your communities.

Support our message by sharing your own experiences or reposting these stories with #JISRA to amplify our collective commitment to a world that celebrates and respects diverse beliefs. Together, let's make a global impact!

# PAST EVENTS

## YOUTH MISSION TO HIGH-LEVEL POLITICAL FORUM (HLPF) – NEW YORK

In July, JISRA participated in the High-Level Political Forum (HLPF) in New York, championing youth inclusion in Freedom of Religion or Belief (FoRB) and broader peacebuilding efforts. Through impactful advocacy sessions, young leaders highlighted the essential role of youth in promoting tolerance and religious freedom on a global stage. The event provided a vital platform for engaging with international policymakers, reinforcing the importance of intergenerational dialogue for sustainable peace. [Click here](#) to read more about the outcomes and inspiring moments from HLPF.



## ONLINE PHOTOVOICE TRAINING

In September, JISRA conducted a two-part Photovoice Training for our partners, focusing on using photography and storytelling to promote social change. Across both sessions, participants explored how Photovoice can capture powerful narratives that resonate in advocacy for FoRB, women's rights, and peacebuilding. The training provided a creative platform to develop visual storytelling skills, and we're excited to see how these tools will enhance campaigns like 16 Days of Activism and International Women's Day. We encourage everyone who attended to keep practicing, as next year, we'll be launching a competition for the International Women's Day campaign!

## CROSS-COUNTRY LEARNING WORKSHOP

From October 28 to 31, JISRA partners gathered in Mombasa for a cross-country learning workshop focused on strengthening knowledge-sharing and learning across borders. The workshop fostered a shared understanding of lessons learned, examined the promotion of women's and youth rights within FoRB, and engaged faith actors in peacebuilding efforts. Through hands-on sessions, including field visits and interactive discussions, participants developed skills in analysis, storytelling, and action planning. This collaborative experience equipped teams with tools to produce knowledge products and strategies that support sustainable advocacy and communication efforts within JISRA's mission.



## CONSORTIUM UPDATES

In October, JISRA submitted the 2024 Mid-Year Report, along with the 2025 Annual Plan and revised budget, to the Ministry of Foreign Affairs. These documents highlight the ongoing impact of our partners’ work and set a strategic direction for the year ahead. As we enter our final year in 2025, we look forward to celebrating the remarkable efforts and achievements of our consortium. This final phase will focus on building sustainable, lasting impacts within our communities, ensuring that the progress made continues to benefit generations to come. We extend our sincere thanks to all teams for their dedication in preparing these reports and for their unwavering commitment to Freedom of Religion and Belief.

## UPCOMING EVENTS

### JOIN THE SECOND PEER-TO-PEER DIALOGUE

On the 26th of November, JISRA invites you to join the second Peer-to-Peer Dialogue, focusing on local strategies to prevent violent extremism and promote Freedom of Religion or Belief (FoRB). Building on insights from Kenya and Indonesia, this session offers a powerful platform for sharing experiences and challenges in localizing these efforts. Engage with partners and stakeholders to advance peace and social cohesion. [Click here](#) to register and be part of this essential dialogue.

NOV 2024

#### 12-17 November: Islam and FoRB Training in Muscat, Oman

Facilitated by NRTP, this upcoming training will gather JISRA partners to strengthen advocacy for religious tolerance and interfaith harmony through Islamic perspectives on FoRB.

NOV/DEC 2024

#### November 25 - December 10: 16 Days of Activism

The 2024 campaign, themed 'UNITE! Invest to Prevent Violence Against Women and Girls,' calls on individuals and governments worldwide to take tangible actions and make investments toward ending gender-based violence

This was the final JISRA JOURNAL of 2024. We wish you a joyful and peaceful festive season and look forward to continuing our journey together in the new year!