

# A Shared Gratitude and Grief

## 30 years of Creators of Peace



Online  
3 August 2021 12pm - 2pm GMT  
Programme



## **Programme**

**Translation from English to French, Hindi and Spanish available**

**12pm**

**Welcome**

**by Cleopadia Mohlaodi (South Africa)**

**Opening by President of Creators of Peace International**

**Amina Dikedi-Ajakaiye (Nigeria/United Kingdom)**

**Guest speaker**

**Ms. Ahunna Eziakonwa**

**UNDP Assistant Administrator, and Director, Regional Bureau for Africa  
at the rank of Assistant Secretary General.**

**Creators of Peace - sharing our journey**

**Gladys Mabe ( South Africa)**

**Meena Sharma (Nepal)**

**Miranda Shaw (UK)**

**Iman Alghafari (Syria)**

**Creators of Peace celebratory film**

**Short Break**

**1pm**

**Breakout Rooms**

*(Translation will not available in breakout rooms)*

**Silent reflection**

**Call to action**

**2pm**

**Goodbyes**

**Contact: <https://www.iofc.org/creators-peace-cop>**



Picture: Amina (second from left) shares time with Creators of Peace friends from Syria and the UK

### **Opening by President of Creators of Peace International Amina Dikedi-Ajakaiye (Nigeria/United Kingdom)**

**Amina Dikedi-Ajakaiye** has been actively involved in the work of the Initiatives of Change (IofC) since 1982. From 1994 to 2013 Amina served as International Coordinator of Creators of Peace. She has been a Board member of Initiatives of Change Nigeria since 2012 and is currently the President of Creators of Peace International. Through her work and her caring approach, Amina has earned the respect, trust and friendship of a large network of individuals throughout Africa and continues to build on her links with politicians, senior civil servants, traditional leaders, educators, business people and citizens.

#### **Who are Creator of Peace?**

Creators of Peace is a global women's peace initiative that was launched in 1991 at the Initiatives of Change conference centre in Caux, Switzerland, by Anna Abdallah Msekwa, a respected politician and trailblazer of women-led organizations in Tanzania. In her inaugural speech, she urged everyone to 'create peace wherever we are, in our hearts, our homes, our workplace and our community. We all pretend that someone else is the stumbling block.... Could that someone be myself?'



**Guest Speaker Ms. Ahunna Eziakonwa, UNDP Assistant Administrator, and Director, Regional Bureau for Africa at the rank of Assistant Secretary General.** She leads over 4000 staff implementing a \$1.2 billion annual development programme in 46 African countries. She is deeply passionate about equality, inclusion, reshaping narratives on Africa, mobilizing for youth entrepreneurs and the dignity of Africa's people. Her vision "Africa's Promise: The UNDP Renewed Strategic Offer in Africa" employs an opportunity lens to development practice in Africa. She established the Africa Influencers for Development (AI4D) to ensure that Africa's Money works for Africa's Development; the Africa Young Women Leaders Initiative; Africa Innovates Magazine; and the Africa Borderlands Centre. She leads UNDP Africa socioeconomic response and recovery from COVID 19 and (Co) Chairs the UN Africa Regional Collaborative Platform which oversees implementation of the Secretary General's regional UN reform. She spent 10 years as UN Resident and Humanitarian Coordinator in Ethiopia, Uganda, and Lesotho. As Chief (Africa) at UN OCHA, she led responses to natural disasters, emergencies and transitions to recovery. Before the UN, Ms. Eziakonwa worked for "Initiatives of Change" serving as international coordinator of its "Creators of Peace – Women's Initiative".



**Our host Cleopadia Mohlaodi (South Africa)** is a daughter, aunt, friend, mentor, trainer, facilitator, community builder, visionary and humanitarian. She has been given an opportunity to serve multiple roles in Initiatives of Change such as African website webmaster, the National Coordinator for Initiatives of Change South Africa, a member of the Africa Coordination Group and a board member of some community non profit organisations. She received training in Early childhood development, IT management, Business management, Africa leadership, hospitality, Administration and basic psychology and therapy.



# Creators of Peace - sharing our journey



**Gladys Mabe** ( South Africa) is a young, gentle and motivated woman who finds lessons in challenging situations. I strive for what is best for my growth and others around me. My curiosity always motivates me to learn as I'm a fast learner and I enjoy learning new things. After I passed my Grade 12, I obtained an Office Computing Diploma, then Project Management for Community Based Organizations, and now I'm currently studying for Human Resources Management. I believe in teamwork because that is where my character is being shaped, respect and effective communication. I am a Projects Manager and a facilitator at Initiatives of Change South Africa.

**Meena Sharma (Nepal)** is a Peace Practitioner based in Kathmandu, Nepal and is the Executive committee member of Initiatives of Change (IoFC), Nepal. She had been able to combine over a decade and half, expertise in Gender Equity and Social Inclusion (GESI), peacebuilding, media, and human/women's rights. Her work focuses on building new knowledge from practice, especially in the areas of women's rights, empowerment, and transformative feminist leadership. She had worked with more than 200 civil society organizations in Nepal. As a volunteer, she is contributing as a Regional Coordinator of Creators of Peace (CoP) Asia. Working as lead facilitator/trainer for peace circles. She is providing strategic direction to the "Children as Zone of Peace" (CZOP) national campaign in Nepal, in the capacity of vice-chair. She is the President of the Institute of Human Rights Communication Nepal, (IHRICON).



**Miranda Shaw (UK)** has been involved with Creators of Peace since 2011 and has shared the role of UK National Coordinator since 2016. Since qualifying as a facilitator with Creators of Peace International she has facilitated Peace Circles since 2013 and co-facilitated her first Facilitators training alongside Kate Monkhouse in 2019. She has run various courses over the past 10 years including Sustainable Activism training alongside the Navigate facilitation coop and in various other settings, group process work, the Work That Reconnects (Joanna Macy) and theory of change models. She is an intersectional activist and campaigner and until recently ran a community cafe and taught the violin. She is particularly interested in local housing campaigns and environmental issues and likes to read and swim in the river in Oxford.

**Iman Alghafari's (Syria)** career has long been centred around building peace in Syria. She has been involved with Initiatives of Change for a number of years, leading Creators of Peace Circles in her native Syria and in Lebanon with the support of IofC Canada and IofC Lebanon. She lives in Damascus, where she works as a teacher. Iman had thought long and hard about how IofC's Creators of Peace programme could affect Syria. 2018 was the first time that she had been involved in the Caux Dialogue on Land and Security (CDLS). Its emphasis on the connection between peace and land restoration gave Iman new ideas.



# Breakout Rooms

During our event we will be hosting breakout rooms. All breakout rooms will run at the same time. You will have the option to join one room. All breakout sessions will run for 30 mins and guided by two Creators of Peace women. Please read through the information below before the event.

## Breakout Room 1: A Sense of belonging. Home.

The need to belong is a natural human emotional need to affiliate with and be accepted by members of a group. Building a sense of belonging is important to everyone, but how do refugees, IDPs, asylum seekers and immigrants build this feeling? What does 'belonging' mean to people? How can host countries help with integration? Join us in our conversation.

### Guided by



**Mumbi Judy (Kenya)** is the National Coordinator and a level 3 facilitator for Creators of Peace Kenya and has supported over 26 Peace Circles. She has also been engaged as the assistant programme manager for Initiatives of Change Trust building program in Kenya, is a facilitator for Kenya I Care programme and also a member of the Initiatives of Change Kenya Board.



**Nareeman Dosa (UK/Sudan)** holds a Masters in Public Relations from University of Westminster, and is currently working as a Media Relations Executive. She also manages Black Pearls section at LevantX magazine, which was created to celebrate the heritage of African descended people in the North Africa, West and South Asia region, and amplify their voices. Nareeman graduated from Refugees as Re-Builders programme in April 2020 and completed an online Peace Circle in 2020 (UK).

## Breakout Room 2: 'Past, Present and Future, Roots, Fruits and Shoots'

President Amina, Elder Jean and activist Meena examine and explore why Creators of Peace exist, who we are and where we are going? A time for sharing and exploring our journey to peace being peace creators.

### Guided by

**Jean Brown (Australia)** is one of the elders for Creators of Peace and has been involved with CoP since 1994. Jean is the designer of the Creators of Peace Circles which have spread to 50 countries over the last fifteen years. She authored the CoP facilitation and training manuals and most recently was the convenor for CoP's 25th anniversary conference. Jean has worked full-time with Initiatives of Change for 50+ years, including for many years in India and the USA, pioneering projects such as 'Action for Life', a leadership programme for young people, and supporting reconciliation initiatives in South Sudan. She lives in Australia where, together with her family, she is actively involved with community initiatives and regularly mentors women around the world.



**Meena Sharma (Nepal)** is a Peace Practitioner based in Kathmandu, Nepal and is the Executive committee member of Initiatives of Change (IoFC), Nepal. She had been able to combine over a decade and half, expertise in Gender Equity and Social Inclusion (GESI), peacebuilding, media, and human/women's rights. Her work focuses on building new knowledge from practice, especially in the areas of women's rights, empowerment, and transformative feminist leadership. She had worked with more than 200 civil society organizations in Nepal. As a volunteer, she is contributing as a Regional Coordinator of Creators of Peace (CoP) Asia. Working as lead facilitator/trainer for peace circles. She is providing strategic direction to the "Children as Zone of Peace" (CZOP) national campaign in Nepal, in the capacity of vice-chair. She is the President of the Institute of Human Rights Communication Nepal, (IHRICON).



**"Creators of Peace transforms, empowers and engages women in peace creation"**

### **Breakout Room 3: 'Grief, resilience and inner peace - love for others and ourselves'**

**Grief is a wound that needs healing and this takes time. Join us to explore grief and how it connects to covid, climate change and ancestral grief. We will share some ideas for processing grief and some music.**

#### **Guided by**

**Luz Stella (Colombia)** has been part of Creators of Peace for more than 7 years. She writes, "For me to be a creator of peace is to embrace, accept and live the experiences that life has given me, with an open heart ready to heal, remember the essence, deepen in love and deliver in service my learnings for the benefit of humanity and the planet. Today, after living through a big loss, I can share with you the lessons of love by surrendering to the grief process."



**Miranda Shaw (UK)** has been involved with Creators of Peace since 2011 and has shared the role of UK National Coordinator since 2016. Since qualifying as a facilitator with Creators of Peace International she has facilitated Peace Circles since 2013 and co-facilitated her first Facilitators training alongside Kate Monkhouse in 2019. She has run various courses over the past 10 years including Sustainable Activism training alongside the Navigate facilitation coop and in various other settings, group process work, the Work That Reconnects (Joanna Macy) and theory of change models. She is an intersectional activist and campaigner and until recently ran a community cafe and taught the violin. She is particularly interested in local housing campaigns and environmental issues and likes to read and swim in the river in Oxford.

## Breakout Room 4: 'Polarisation: how it shows up and how do we respond?'

An exploration of personal experiences and perspectives on the roots of polarization followed by sharing of possible responses and practices that enable working towards a shared humanity.



### Guided by

**Mayuree Pandit (India)** is a peace circle facilitator and an active member of Creators of Peace community in India. She has been deeply interested & engaged in holistic process centred healing & peace work, integrating spiritual, nature & body based work, social change and the arts, gender and sexuality; and living holistically and learning from indigenous wisdom.



**Shoshana Faire (Australia)** has been involved with Creators of Peace since 2010. She regularly facilitates Creators of Peace Circles and trains and supports CoP Facilitators. She is passionate about peace and what it takes to create peace and to be at peace. She is co-author of the bestselling book 'Everyone Can Win – Responding to Conflict Constructively'. She has facilitated conflict resolution skills programs for over 20,000 people and is keen on building bridges rather than towers'.

## Breakout Room 5: 'Sharing your favourite 'Gathering Point' experience' (Only for those who have completed a Peace Circle with Creators of Peace)

If you have completed a Creators of Peace Circle, is there a Gathering Point which has stuck with you? Perhaps it was a lightbulb moment or when something clicked? Or maybe it's something which you put into practice and found it created a pathway to peace? Join in and share your thoughts about your favourite gathering point in this room.

### Guided by

**Zohra Aly (Australia)** completed two Peace Circles, in 2009 and 2011 and trained as a facilitator soon after. Zohra was National Coordinator for Australia for five years between 2013 and 2018, and has facilitated several Peace Circles in Sydney. For the past few years, she has co-facilitated regular Network meetings for women in her local suburb. Being part of Creators of Peace has given Zohra her 'tribe' - the deep friendships she has formed have been a highlight for her, as well as the personal and leadership skills she has acquired in her journey. Zohra is also a mother, a pharmacist and a writer.



**Wendy de Meyrick (Australia)** first connected with Creators of Peace in 2011. Located in Sydney she completed two Peace Circles, trained as a facilitator and has been an active facilitator, co facilitator and behind-the-scenes person. Wendy is a passionate social justice advocate and has spent the greater part of her life working hand-in-hand with socially disadvantaged communities, families and individuals, providing front-line support and advocacy.





Illustrations of Creators of Peace and seasonal Hydrangeas growing in Dharamsala, India in July by @nogshi.c



Creators of Peace



Initiatives of Change



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Dedicated to all peace makers around the world. A special thank you to our volunteers, speakers, planning team in Kenya, Australia, Columbia, South Africa, UK, France and India, facilitators, Initiatives of Change UK for funding the film, the film production team, designer Ngoshi, Initiatives of Change international, the Creators of Peace International Team and Network, Creators of Peace UK, Caux Forum, Hub team, donors, collaborators and supporters from across the globe.