



The Global Freedom Network is a multi-faith, anti-slavery initiative that operates as a coalition of faith communities committed to ending modern slavery.

The Global Freedom Network was formed in late 2013 after The Al Azhar Al Sharif declared modern slavery and human trafficking to be in contradiction to the teachings of the Qur'an and issued the world's first fatwa condemning modern slavery. On 2 December 2014, faith leaders from across the world bridged cultural, religious and political divides to come together to pledge an end to modern slavery and human trafficking by 2020. Leaders of the Catholic, Anglican and Eastern Orthodox religions as well as Buddhist, Hindu, Jewish and Muslim faiths, signed the Joint Declaration of Religious Leaders Against Modern Slavery. The 2 December event was historic not only for its definitive commitment to work across religions to eradicate modern slavery, but also because it was possibly the first time ever that these faith leaders had met as a group, unified in a common cause, signing their names on the same document.

The following year, events were held in both Canberra, Australia and New Delhi, India. These events brought together 27 faith leaders and led to the formation of the India Freedom Network and the Australian Freedom Network.

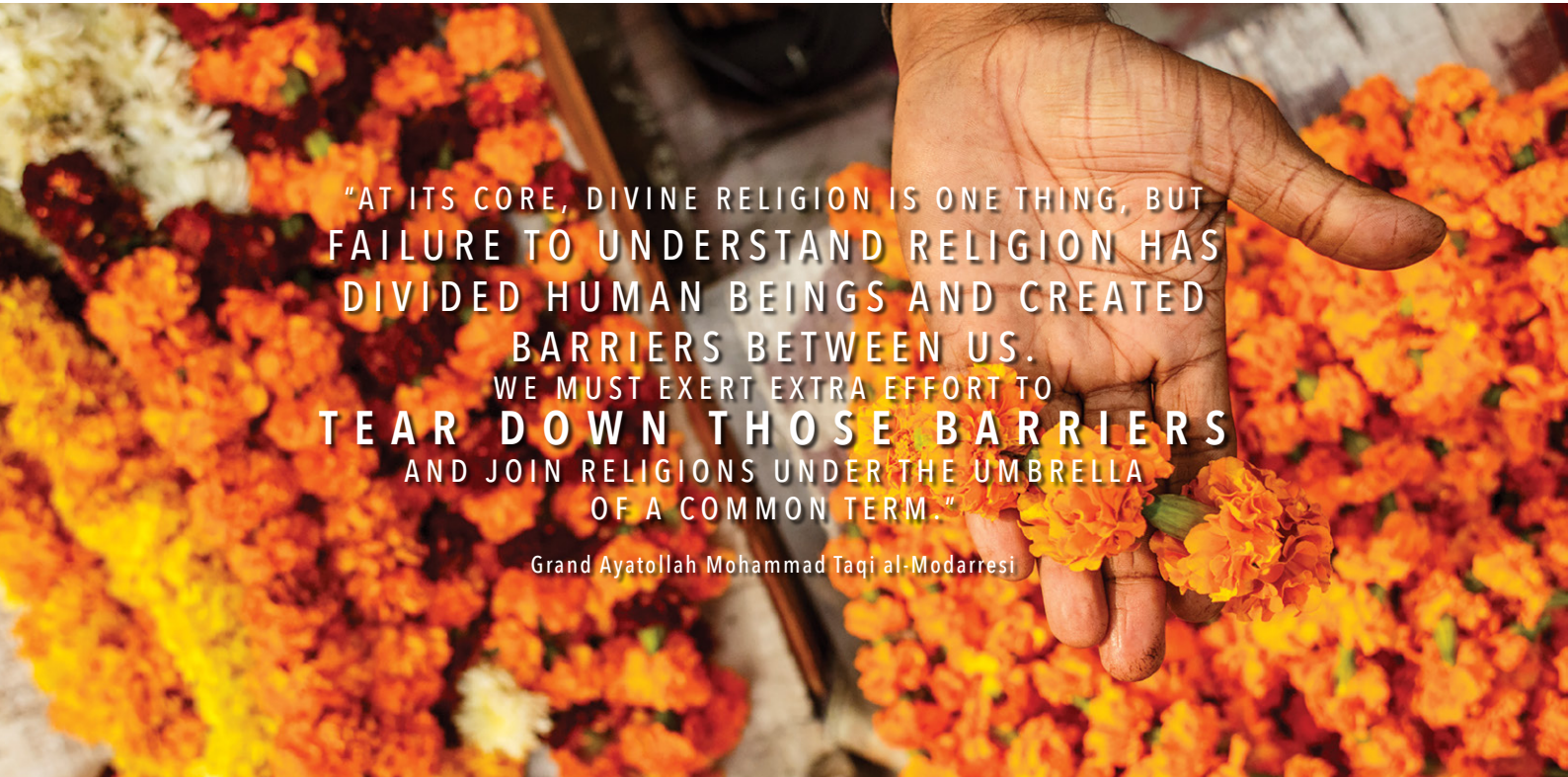
The Global Freedom Network is continuing to build on the momentum achieved through the Joint Declaration and historic events in Vatican City, Canberra and New Delhi in 2014 and 2015. Engagement is ongoing with other world faiths that share the aspiration for a world without modern slavery. In addition, sovereign leaders and global influencers from the political and business communities, as well as civil society, are being invited to become signatories to the Joint Declaration.

“*Unless there is effective and open collaboration within the work that we do, we will never reach the ambitious goals we have set for ourselves.*
- Grace Forrest

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FAITH LEADERS

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FAITHS

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MAJOR EVENTS



“AT ITS CORE, DIVINE RELIGION IS ONE THING, BUT FAILURE TO UNDERSTAND RELIGION HAS DIVIDED HUMAN BEINGS AND CREATED BARRIERS BETWEEN US. WE MUST EXERT EXTRA EFFORT TO TEAR DOWN THOSE BARRIERS AND JOIN RELIGIONS UNDER THE UMBRELLA OF A COMMON TERM.”

Grand Ayatollah Mohammad Taqi al-Modarresi