



Opening Remark: Asia Consultation on Advancing the Implementation of the Marrakech Declaration

Description

I want to express my heartfelt gratitude to my esteemed friends and colleagues who participated in the Consultations on Advancing the Implementation of the Marrakesh Declaration in Jakarta on October 8-9. Your presence here is a powerful testament to our commitment to addressing critical global issues affecting minority communities.

Today represents a pivotal step in our collective journey, uniting us in the quest to confront the challenges faced by ethnic and religious minorities, particularly in Muslim-majority states. The discussions ahead are crucial and aligned closely with the core mission of the Marrakesh Declaration, which aims to provide a framework for the protection and empowerment of marginalized groups.

Reflecting on the Marrakesh Declaration, I find it infused with hope and determination. It compels us to advocate for the voices and rights of ethnic and religious minorities, guiding us to take action for those who are often overlooked. This is more than just a cause; it speaks to our shared humanity and our desire for justice.

The urgent human rights issues we see today, especially in Muslim-majority countries, call upon our collective strength and compassion. The Marrakesh Declaration urges us to take these realities to heart and act with purpose to address them, underscoring that the rights of minorities are essential to the broader narrative of human rights.

I envision equal rights as a divine blessing from Allah, fundamental in fostering justice and respect within our communities. This pursuit is not just a lofty ideal but a moral imperative reflecting our interconnectedness as human beings.

The significant message from His Majesty King Mohammed VI, the King of Morocco, is our guiding light in advocating for minority rights. His reflections remind us of our shared responsibility in this forum. We must deeply contemplate the King's vision of inclusivity and our commitment to ensuring that minority voices are uplifted.

Additionally, Sheikh Abdallah Bin Bayyah's insights provide a legal framework that enhances our understanding of minority rights. His teachings empower us to champion these rights as a legal and spiritual obligation, reminding us to advocate passionately and with integrity.

The lessons of the Medina Charter offer invaluable guidance as we embark on this journey. The example set by the Prophet Muhammad and his companions exemplifies how embracing diverse communities within a spirit of peace can lay the groundwork for harmony and justice.

The principles of the Medina Charter have been thoughtfully woven into the Marrakesh Declaration. Since 2016, scholars and policymakers have dedicated themselves to this critical initiative, and its success depends on our collaborative spirit, built on understanding and respect for one another.

Our shared purpose ignites a powerful force for change as we gather here. This gathering is not just a series of conversations but an opportunity to connect deeply and generate ideas that can lead to the impactful global implementation of the Marrakesh Declaration. Let us seize this moment and engage in dialogues that inspire transformative action.

At AMAN International, we recognize this program as a vital opportunity to strive for lasting peace and genuine equality of rights for all. For 30 years, we have passionately dedicated ourselves to this mission, witnessing how our collective efforts can create profound change.

Furthermore, AMAN Indonesia is a beacon of advocacy, enriching the discourse nationally and internationally for nearly two decades. I sincerely appreciate Mrs. Ruby and her dedicated team at AMAN Indonesia for their unwavering commitment and the positive changes they have championed in humanitarian efforts across Indonesia.

We want to extend my heartfelt gratitude to our friends from the Network for Religious and Traditional Peacemakers. Your support has been invaluable in bringing us together for this meaningful event. Let us cherish and nurture the bonds of friendship we've created, united by our shared commitment to humanitarian efforts. Together, may we continue to foster understanding and compassion for one another.

In conclusion, thank you for your dedication to this crucial event. I hope our time together sparks meaningful outcomes for the urgent humanitarian challenges we face. As we move forward, let us embrace our shared purpose: where human rights demand discussion, that is where we unite to advocate for justice and change.

Thank you.