

Bonner Querschnitte

Bonn Profiles – Press Reports

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Christian-Islamic dialogue in eight Emirates

(Bonn, 02.09.2019) Thomas and Christine Schirmmacher, religious scholars responsible for the dialogue of the World Evangelical Alliance (WEA) with other religions, have visited mosques in Kuwait and the seven emirates of the United Arab Emirates (UAE). On their journey through Abu Dhabi, Ajman, Dubai, Fujairah, Ra's al Chaima, Sharjah, and Umm al Qaiwain they conducted numerous dialogue talks. The mosques they visited included:

- the Masjid al Kabir (= “Great Mosque”) in Kuwait,
- the Sheikh Zayed Mosque (= “White Mosque”) in Abu Dhabi,
- the Jumeirah Mosque in Dubai,
- the Great Mosque of Dibba al Hisn of Sharjah,
- the Sheikh Zayed Mosque of Fujairah,
- the Al Badiyah Mosque, Fujairah, the oldest UAE mosque dating from 1446.



Dialogue in the Jumeirah Mosque in Dubai © BQ/Schirmmacher

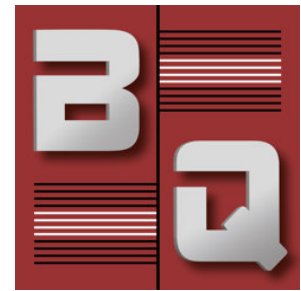
They also attended a worship service on the beach of Dubai under the Burj al Arab. The worship service was a result of the Pope's visit to Abu Dhabi, in which Schirmmacher participated. Thomas Schirmmacher also participated in the two major dialogue conferences, the second in connection with the Pope's visit. Schirmmacher was pleased that the talks with the government of Abu Dhabi in the context of the dialogue conferences also showed fruits for the liberties of foreign Protestants.

In the UAE there live 9.6 million people, only 1.06 million of which are citizens. Less than a quarter of people living there are Arabs. 8.9 million are labour migrants from about 200 countries, 60 percent of them from South Asia, mainly Indians (3.5 million), Egyptians (0.93 million), Bangladeshis and Pakistanis (1.76 million), and Philipinos (0.56 million).

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A joint platform for the following Bonn organizations on the basis of the Evangelical Alliance:

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www.ead.de/akref

Culture and Science Publ.
www.vkwonline.com

Department of Theological Concerns of World Evangelical Alliance
www.worldevangelicals.org/pdf/TN-47-1-Jan-2018.pdf

Giving Hands – International Charity
www.gebende-haende.de

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www.islam institute.net

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UN Bonn liaison for inter-religious concerns of WEA

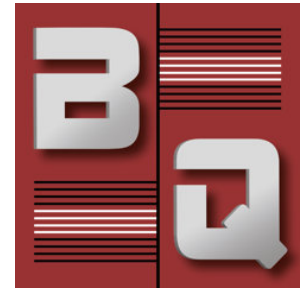
WEA Sustainability Center
www.wea-sc.org

World Evangelical Alliance – Office Bonn

SOS World (Brussels)
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Downloads and Links:

- **Photo A1:** Dialogue in the Masjid al Kabir (= “Great Mosque”) in Kuwait © BQ/Schirmmacher
- **Photo A2:** The Masjid al Kabir (= “Great Mosque”) in Kuwait © BQ/Schirmmacher
- **Photo A3:** The Parliament of Kuwait © BQ/Schirmmacher
- **Photo A4:** Kuwait’s landmark, the water towers © BQ/Schirmmacher
- **Photo B1:** The Sheikh Zayed Mosque (= “White Mosque”) in Abu Dhabi © BQ/Schirmmacher
- **Photo B2:** Thomas Schirmmacher in the Sheikh Zayed Mosque (= “White Mosque”) in Abu Dhabi © BQ/Schirmmacher
- **Photo C1:** Dialogue in the Jumeirah Mosque in Dubai © BQ/Schirmmacher
- **Photo C2:** The Jumeirah Mosque in Dubai © BQ/Schirmmacher
- **Photo C3:** View from Burj Khalifa (Dubai Tower) © BQ/Schirmmacher
- **Photo D:** The Great Mosque of Dibba al Hisn of Sharjah © BQ/Schirmmacher
- **Photo E:** The Sheikh Zayed Mosque of Fujairah © BQ/Schirmmacher
- **Photo F1, photo F2, photo F3, and photo F4:** The Al Badiyah Mosque, Fujairah, the UAE’s oldest mosque from 1446 © BQ/Schirmmacher
- **Photo G1, photo G2, and photo G3:** Sunrise Service at the beach of Dubai at Burj Khalifa © BQ/Schirmmacher

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