

Libyan Arab Jamahiriya



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Born in 1949, Mr. Abdurrahman .M. Shalgham holds a B.A in Media from the Cairo University (1972). He has a wealth of experience in journalism and government. In particular, Mr. Abdurrahman Shalgham was Editor-in-Chief of El-fajir El-jadid daily Newspaper (1975 – 1977) and of two weekly newspapers: Cultural Weekly Newspaper and Political Weekly Newspaper (1977 – 1979). From 1979 to 1981, he was Director of Jamahiriya News Agency, and from 1981 to 1983 Secretary of Information. From 1984 to 1995, he was Libyan Ambassador in Rome, and 1998 to 2000 Secretary of Foreign Affairs in The Libyan General People's Congress. In 2000, Mr. Abdurrahman Shalgham took the post of Secretary of General People's Committee for Foreign Liaison & International Cooperation.

Education and the establishment of the principles of peace and freedom

As mentioned in the UNESCO constitution that: “since wars begin in the minds of men, it is in the minds of men that the defenses of peace must be constructed”.

According to this statement, my country the Great Libyan Arab Jamahiriya has considered that fair peace is the essential aim that must spread all over the world, regardless of religion, race, sex or color. To stress this aim a call on “the culture of peace in Africa” was announced from Tripoli in the Great Jamahiriya during the final meetings and the closing ceremony of the writing of the history of Africa on the 12th of April 1999. Many African leaders as well as the UNESCO General Director attended that cultural event.

The desired peace for sure can only be achieved by realizing the rights and duties of each individual, and these aims can be reached only by education and the spread of culture. ((Education for All)), as stated by the Dakar Forum, is a strategic aim that must be achieved, with special care paid to women’s education, and the status of special and deprived groups.

We are embarking upon the 21st century and have not yet achieved the ambitions and aims of our peoples for freedom, equality, progress, stability and peace. Humanity today, more than any other time is suffering from many serious problems. Illiteracy rates are still high around the world, especially in Africa, Asia and Latin America. In addition diseases, unawareness and poverty are considered obstacles, which face development and progress and they should be confronted. Poor countries are in great need for help to stand on their own, this will not be achieved unless we adopt the principle of mutual understanding and respect. This means that capitalistic countries should stop trading on small and developing countries by consuming their treasures and wealth and employing their capacities for their own benefit. Social equality calls for the elimination of barriers between the rich and the poor, so that all enjoy welfare and comfort.

Due to scientific and technical development, the world has become a small village, and we need to maintain and care so much for this village. This is possible only if our intentions are sincere, and our efforts are united to create new generations with close views, hopes and shared

benefits. In this case, globalization should care for humanity in the first place, and respects man's dignity and existence as a human being.

We should confront disunity, conflicts and dispersion, and eliminate all aspects of violence, and fight against all forms of discrimination. We should work together to upraise and educate future generations on the right and sound bases, so as to lead them towards a better life that respects the human being. Only then we can say that we can live together in security and peace. ✍