

Christian Conference of Asia

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Training of Young Ambassadors of Peace in Asia (YAPA)-20251 -8 September 2025 Colombo, Sri Lanka

Christian Conference of Asia (CCA) invites applications from young people to attend the *Young Ambassadors of Peace in Asia (YAPA)* Training Programme, which will be held from **1 to 8 September 2025** in **Colombo, Sri Lanka**. The theme for YAPA-2025 is: **"Sustaining Peace in Asia through Religious Cooperation (SPARC)."**

The YAPA, an annual training programme –launched in 2016, seeks to identify and equip a new generation of young peacebuilders across Asia. Through this training, selected participants will be empowered as Young Ambassadors of Peace and will be encouraged to act as advocates for peace and reconciliation in their respective communities.

More information about YAPA-2025 and Application process are attached herewith.

YAPA-2025

Asia continues to face persistent challenges including sectarian conflict, religious intolerance, political instability, and human rights violations. The YAPA programme addresses these pressing concerns by equipping young people with the skills and perspectives necessary for conflict transformation, peace-building, and post-conflict community reconstruction.

The programme is grounded in the principles of non-formal education and highlights the value of intercultural and interfaith dialogue, human rights education, and youth-led peace initiatives. Through participatory sessions, the training will enhance the knowledge, skills, attitudes, and values of participants, who will be encouraged to translate their learning into community-based peacebuilding efforts.

Objectives of the YAPA Training Program

- To affirm and strengthen the role of young people as active contributors in peacebuilding processes;
- To enhance youth engagement in addressing human rights violations, including discrimination and hate speech;
- To foster cooperation with stakeholders and NGOs working in the field of peace and reconciliation;
- To improve the capacity of youth in conflict-affected areas through targeted educational approaches;
- To develop participants' competencies in conflict transformation, intercultural and interfaith dialogue, and the promotion of human dignity;
- To support local-level initiatives led by young peace ambassadors;
- To establish a sustainable Asian network of Young Ambassadors of Peace for long-term impact.



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Criteria

- Aged between 20 and 30 (exceptions may be considered with valid justification);
- Proficiency in spoken and written English;
- Demonstrated motivation to apply peacebuilding values and contribute to local initiatives upon return;
- Active involvement in church/ecumenical/interfaith work or youth-led activities.

Application Process

Interested applicants must complete the online application form (Google Form link will be provided) and upload the following documents:

- A Curriculum Vitae outlining academic and professional background;
- A letter of endorsement from applicant's church/council/ecumenical institution;
- A scanned copy of passport;
- A recent passport-size photograph (digital copy).

The deadline for submission of completed applications with all required documents is **30 July 2025**. A total of 25 participants will be selected based on regional representation, gender balance, competence, and commitment to peacebuilding.

Financial Information

CCA will cover the board and lodging of all selected participants during the training. Limited travel bursaries are available for deserving applicants from West Asia, South Asia, and Southeast Asia. Applicants from Australia, New Zealand, Hong Kong, Taiwan, Korea, and Japan are encouraged to support by respective member churches or councils for travel expenses.

We look forward to your support in identifying -and nominating committed young leaders from your church/council for this important initiative.