The panel of speakers include the following speakers:

**Baha’i**

Dr. Roya Akhavan is a member of the Baha’i Faith. She currently serves as Professor and Director of Graduate Studies at the Department of Mass Communications, St. Cloud State University. Dr. Akhavan is a frequent speaker on global issues at national and international forums and radio and television programs. She has lived and worked in four different cultures; Persian, American, Japanese, and Chinese. Her most recent work is a book entitled, Peace for Our Planet: A New Approach.

**Christianity**

Harry J. Bury, Ph.D. is a retired Roman Catholic priest. He has dedicated his life to non-violence. He was a Professor Emeritus of Organizational Behavior and Administration at Baldwin Wallace University from 1980–2010 and consulted in the U.S. and numerous other countries. After earning his PhD at Case Western Reserve University in Cleveland, Ohio, he became a full professor at Baldwin Wallace University where he taught from 1979 until 2015. Dr. Bury taught as an Adjunct Professor of Systems Management at Baldwin-Wallace College in Berea, Ohio and taught in both the undergraduate and graduate divisions (1979 – present). More information about him can be found on [http://www.harrybury.com](http://www.harrybury.com).

**Hinduism**

Mr. Godan Nambudiripad is a retired Mechanical Engineer from General Mills, a native of Kerala, India and longtime resident of Twin Cities. He is a longtime student of Hinduism, giving and leading tours at Hindu Temple in Maple Grove, Minnesota and a member of South Metro Interfaith Group. He gives talks about Hinduism and Indian Culture at schools, colleges and civic organizations. He is a past president of School of India for Languages and Culture (SILC), India Association of Minnesota (IAM), and Ragamala Dance. He is a cofounder of Indian Oral History Project(s) with Minnesota Historical Society. He is a member of Burnsville Historical Society and Minnesota Historical Society.

**Islam**

Dr. Shafi A. Khaled, Ph.D. In Business and Economics. He is a Labor & Development Economist, Zero Interest Financial System Economist, Essayist and Poet. He is an Executive Secretary of Muslim Community Outreach who has severed 19000 meals working with Loaves & Fishes. He is the Ex-Director (Development & Relief) of North American Bangladeshi Islamic Community. He is the Founder/President of Totally Personal Total Choice - Standing up to Addiction. He is known for his holistic, nondenominational, spiritual approach to addiction relief & prevention under ‘Totally Personal Total Choice’ program. You can find more information on this program on [www.tptChoice.org](http://www.tptChoice.org).

**Jainism**

Dr. Mukesh Doshi is the Chairman of JAINA Interfaith Committee. He is a pediatrician by profession and past Education Secretary, and past chairman of the Board of Trustees of Jain Society of Chicago. He is one of the contributing editors of many of the JAINA Pāthashālā books. He has been a teacher of Chicago Pāthashālā for the past 22 years and conducts advance level workshops in Jain Education. A recipient of JAINA adult recognition award, he has been nominated as a JAINA Scholar and he has been invited to speak on many Jainism related topics at various inter-faith events and several schools and colleges.
Sikhism

Randeept "Ricky" Singh Arora is a practicing Sikh. The word Sikh means student who is learning for life and respects humanity. Mr. Arora has been a member of the Minnesota Sikh community for almost 25 years. Mr. Arora has served various leadership roles on the Board of the Sikh Society of Minnesota such as Secretary, Vice-President, Director of Outreach and other volunteer positions since 1996. His current focus is on communications and developing the co-curricular and multifaith activities of the Society. He also coaches and performs Punjabi folk dance “Bhangra” at various community events to teach about and strengthen inter-community relations. He is often an invited guest speaker on Sikhism at various local education and religious institutions. Mr. Arora holds a master’s degree in technology and is a professional Senior Technology Manager in St Paul.

Moderator – Interfaith Peace Symposium

Mr. Ram Gada is a retired president of Gada & Associates, consulting engineers. Mr. Gada has nurtured and fostered several community organizations from their inception and now plays as a mentor and trusted lifetime advisor role in almost all of the foundational communities. He is a founding member and president of “Gujarat Samaj” (1977) and founding member and president of “Jain Center of Minnesota” (1979). He is Emeritus and Honorary Council Member at Minnesota Historical Society. He serves as Honorary Board at India Association of Minnesota, as Lifetime Trustee at Hindu Society of Minnesota, at TCNV Steering Committee and as JAINA Director.