

## PROJECT ABRAHAM LAUNCHES 2007

Project Abraham, funded by the Australian Government's *Living in Harmony Programme*, officially launched its 2007 Programme on Harmony Day, March 21 in conjunction with the City of Onkaparinga and the City of Marion.

The City of Onkaparinga's Mayor Lorraine Rosenberg and Justice John Sulan, the chairman of Project Abraham officiated at the launch in the Noarlunga Centre. Both spoke of the importance of Multiculturalism in the society we live in. Mayor Rosenberg then opened the exhibition, "A Conversation Between Muslims, Christians and Jews." The exhibition features religious artefacts from the three Abrahamic faiths as well as maps and photographs.

Outside, students from Noarlunga TAFE had a display of cultural treasures from their countries of origin. All in all, a Multicultural Experience indeed!

The following evening, a Cultural Diversity Seminar was held at the City of Marion. This formed the second half of our Programme Launch. The featured speakers were Father Charles Gauci, a representative of the Ministers' Fraternal, Rabbi Shoshana Kaminsky from Beith Shalom Synagogue and Imam Khalid Yousuf from the Adelaide Mosque. Father Gauci spoke about the importance of reaching out to communities from different religious backgrounds. Rabbi Kaminsky noted that Judaism emphasises the importance of welcoming the stranger in its traditions and Imam Yousuf quoted passages from the Qur'an, which instructed Muslims to be tolerant and respectful of followers of other religions.

Both functions were well attended by people from across the spectrum in regards to age and culture. Project Abraham wishes to thank all those who assisted with the launch and seminar.



Justice John Sulan and Mayor Lorraine Rosenberg.

Mrs Katherine Goode, Rev Vikki Waller and Rt. Rev. Dr. Stephen Pickard

