

DRAFT

THE PEACE POLE PROJECT



WHAT IS A PEACE POLE?

A Peace Pole is a hand-crafted monument that displays the universal message “*May Peace Prevail on Earth*” in different languages on each of its four or six sides. The Peace Pole Project originated in Japan in 1975. There are now tens of thousands of Peace Poles in over 180 countries all over the world dedicated as monuments to peace. Peace Poles also provide powerful gathering places for communities and organizations. They serve as constant reminders for us to visualize, pray for and or meditate on world peace.

When you plant a Peace Pole in your community, you are linking with people all over the world who have planted Peace Poles in the same spirit of peace.

HOW DO WE GET A PEACE POLE?

Peace Poles may be purchased or hand-crafted at the World Peace Sanctuary in New York, displaying the languages that are meaningful to your organization. Each Peace Pole can be dedicated in a ceremony that can commemorate a special occasion (such as the founding of your organization or the UN International Day of Peace, Sept. 21). You can order a Peace Pole from <http://www.peacepoleproject.org/order.html>.

HOW DO WE DEDICATE A PEACE POLE?

A Peace Pole dedication ceremony can be an exciting and meaningful event, whether it is planned for a public place where hundreds of people will attend or a private backyard. Every dedication ceremony is a unique outcome of the shared experience of those who plan the program, as well as those who attend.

Some Peace Poles are already placed in the ground prior to the ceremony and unveiled during the dedication, or you may choose to have a group planting. A dedication plaque is particularly appropriate for Peace Poles in public places, so that everyone will know what your Pole stands for.

Remember that your Peace Pole dedication or re-dedication can include any elements you bring to it. Whatever you do, the important part is to hold a prayer/meditation for world peace in your heart and send it around the world. Other elements can include:

- Remarks of a dignitary or other prominent person
- A song of peace
- Student readings – for example, original poems or quotes from famous peacemakers
- Assign students from different countries or heritage to say “May Peace Prevail on Earth” in their (or their parents’ or grandparents’) language
- Have everyone circle the Peace Pole for a minute of silence where they send their wishes for peace “into” the pole – so that it radiates their message to all who pass by
- Lead all those assembled in “*May Peace Prevail on Earth*” three times
- Consider re-dedicating your Peace Pole each year
- Make sure to invite the local press – and take lots of pictures!

For more information about Peace Poles, or to order one for your community/ organization, go to: <http://www.peacepoleproject.org/>.