

## How to reach the House of Religions Contacts

We are happy about your inquiries, and we are glad to help you.



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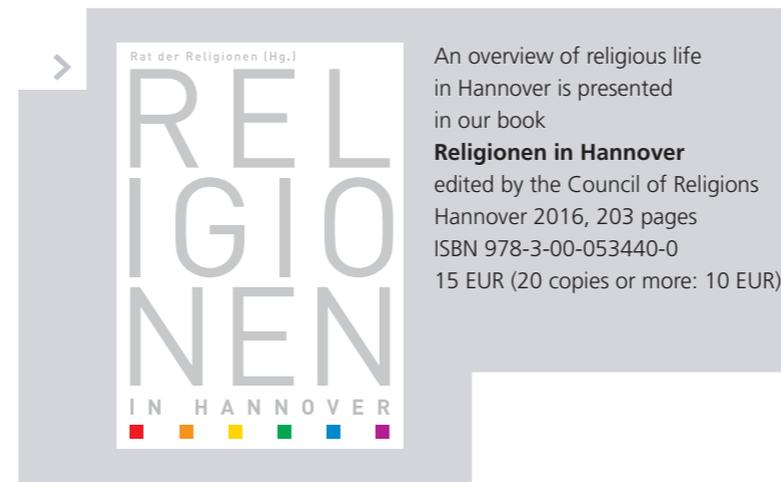


# Haus der Religionen

www.haus-der-religionen.de

## We are offering

- Exhibition: „Religious Communities in Dialogue“
- Guided tours for children, youth, and adults by our team of pedagogues
- Excursions visiting religious communities in Hannover
- Guided city tours with the focus on different religious communities
- Continuing education for Kindergarten-teachers, for teachers in public schools, and for employees in public administration, social services, health, as well as volunteers
- Counseling and advice on questions arising from a multi-religious community, on multi-religious ceremonies and festivities, etc.
- A wide spectrum of events: discussions, lectures, series of conversation and of dialogue



An overview of religious life  
in Hannover is presented  
in our book  
**Religionen in Hannover**  
edited by the Council of Religions  
Hannover 2016, 203 pages  
ISBN 978-3-00-053440-0  
15 EUR (20 copies or more: 10 EUR)

Deutschland  
Land der Ideen



Special Award 2013/14

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Welcome to Germany's first  
**House of Religions**  
Hannover

„A program  
for the future“  
Stefan Schostok,  
Lord Mayor of Hannover

„The House of  
Religions emphasizes  
tolerance for diversity“  
Frankfurter Allgemeine Zeitung



„Close to being  
a sensation“  
Neue Presse



Haus der Religionen

Haus der Religionen  
Zentrum für interreligiöse und  
interkulturelle Bildung e.V.  
Böhmerstraße 8  
30173 Hannover

## Many religions – one house

Among the citizens of Hannover nearly all religions are represented. In 2005 six local religious communities have founded the „House of Religions“, which was the first of its kind in a German speaking country. The six faith communities want to get to know each other better and they want to work for peace together.



More than 225 000 people in Hannover confess to be Christians. Among them are 166 000 Evangelical-Lutherans, 72 000 Roman-Catholics, 12 500 Orthodox, 5 000 members of Free-Churches and 2 750 Reformed Protestants. The severe conflicts of the time of reformation, which put their stamp on Hannover 500 years ago, have given way to ecumenical cooperation, expressed in many languages.



Around 45 000 people of Hannover are muslims. They meet in nearly 30 mosques. Sermons are given in German, in the Turkish language, in Arabic, Albanian and many other languages. A majority of the muslims are Sunni. However, there also are four Shiite mosques, an Ahmadiyya congregation as well as an association of Arabic Alawites (Nusayri).



About 5 500 Jews live in Hannover. The Jewish Congregation of Hannover dates from the 13th century. After the shoa, it was founded anew. The Liberal Jewish Congregation of Hannover was founded in 1995. Part of the Jewish-Bucharic-Sephardic Center is the first „blue“ oriental synagogue in Europe. The Jewish Center Chabad represents a world-wide orthodox movement.



Around 2 000 people in Hannover live according to the teachings of Buddha. Locally the traditions of Theravada and Mahayana are present, incorporating the Pure-Land-School, Zen-Buddhism, Social Buddhism, and Tibetan Traditions of teaching.



Approximately 1 000 inhabitants of Hannover are Hindus. Tamil Hindu families, who came from Sri Lanka as refugees, built the temple of the goddess Muthumariamman in Badenstedt and later the temple of the god Ganesha in Vahrenheide. Today many Indian Hindus come to Hannover as university students and academics.



The Baha-congregation counts about 60 families as members. Their cultural roots are quite diverse. Many have their roots in Germany or in Iran. The congregation was founded in 1957. In 2017 it opened a community hall in Bothfeld. The dialogue among religions is at the core of their faith.

More than 207 000 people in Hannover do not adhere to any of the established religions. Their interests, by an agreement with the state of Lower-Saxony, are taken care of by the Humanistic Association. Together with the religious communities the Humanistic Association actively participates in the Forum of Religions.

Religious diversity is growing: in Hannover Alevites, Ezidi (also Jesidi, Yezidi), Sikh, Zoroastrians, Druse, and many others live according to their faith. The House of Religions is open to all, who accept the Basic Law as the foundation of the Federal Republic of Germany and who respect the followers of religions or philosophies different from their own.

Religions - do they bring peace or do they promote conflicts?

### Does God fit into today's world?

Pious Muslims, Christians or Baha'i - how do they tick?

The House of Religions wants people to talk to each other. We like it better to talk with each other rather than to talk about each other. That is why we make face to face encounter possible:

- When visiting the House of Religions, people, who might spend a whole day together at school or at their work-place, for the first time address issues of their faith and engage in a conversation about them.
- During excursions local residents and guests learn about the variety of religions in Hannover.
- People, who have come to Hannover as strangers, share stories about their own traditions and about living between different cultures.

In the early 1990's, religious communities in Hannover took first steps to meet each other. What brought them together was protest against violence targeting foreigners as had happened in Mölln, Rostock and in other places. Also, the desire for peace in facing the first Irak-war brought them together. This cooperation led to the creation of the Forum of Religions, creating space for regular meetings of religious communities and adherents of different world views. From their midst delegates to these meetings select the Council of Religions, which manages the House of Religions. It also presents issues and demands concerning all the religious communities who participate in the dialogue to the political arena and to the citizens of Hannover.

The legal entity representing the House of Religions is the registered, non-profit association „House of Religions – Center for interreligious and intercultural education“. The association is governed by a multi-religious board. The association keeps ties of friendship to the religious communities, however, in its work it is independent from them. The Lord Mayor of Hannover is patron of the House of Religions.

#### Supported by:

The City of Hannover  
Hannover Region  
Association of Evangelical-Lutheran congregations of Hannover  
Roman-Catholic church of Hannover region  
Dr. Buhmann Foundation for interreligious understanding

## Yes,

I would like to support the work of the House of Religions.

- I will support the House of Religions with a donation of \_\_\_\_\_ EUR
- once     monthly     once a year

Please, debit the donation from my bank-account.  
 I need a receipt for my donation for tax-purposes.

- I want to become a member of the friends of the House of Religions. I will pay my dues of support once a year.
- 60 EUR     100 EUR     200 EUR  
 \_\_\_\_\_ EUR

Please, debit my bank-account with that amount on March 1st every year. You will send me a statement concerning the transaction.

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Street

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Postal Code/Town

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I hereby authorize the registered, non-profit association „House of Religions – Center for interreligious and intercultural education“, to collect the debit from my bank-account. At the same time I am giving instructions to my bank, to pay the debit to the House of Religions – Center.

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