

# Peace Pieces

Center Newsletter | Uppsala, Sweden | December 2019

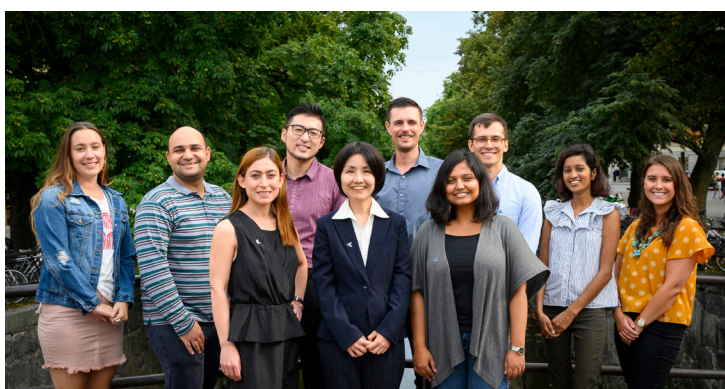
## Uppsala Rotary Peace Center

*Educating and strengthening leaders to have a positive impact on peace and conflict resolution in the world*



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## Welcome to Class XVIII

Class XVIII is the eighth cohort of Uppsala Rotary Peace Fellows. The Fellows are leaders promoting national and international cooperation, peace, and the successful resolution of conflict throughout their lives, their careers, and through community activities. We invite you to learn more about each of them below.



**Samikshya Bashishtha Bhattarai (Nepal)**

Samikshya is interested in positive peace, justice and human rights. She wants to conduct studies that will concentrate on exploring victims-centered conflict resolution mechanisms. This includes issues of timely delivery of transitional justice as well as sound mental health of conflict victims in the long run.

She equally wants to focus on finding out ways to end structural violence of human rights. Samikshya brings experience working as a social science researcher and has conducted research projects on migration, peace and conflict and mental health. She has published joint articles on the issue of shrinking civic space and delayed transitional justice in a Nepalese national daily. She also has been involved in project evaluation work. She holds a bachelor's degree in Community Development from Kathmandu University. She is sponsored by Rotary District 3292.

**Andrew Fallon (USA)**



Andrew is interested in studying restorative justice programs, both after violent conflict and within the educational and legal structures in areas not in conflict. He is also interested in the concept of reconciliation, particularly from an indigenous and religious perspective. His long-term vision is to help community-based organizations systematically measure the impacts of their programs and communicate those impacts to decision makers and funders. Andrew brings experience working with grassroots organizations, medium-sized NGOs, and multilateral institutions with extended field experience in East and West Africa. He is a practiced grant writer and researcher in the fields of peacebuilding and education. He holds a Master of Theological Studies from the Wesley Theological Seminary, a certificate in International Peace and Conflict Resolution from American University, and undergraduate degrees in Political Science and Global Policy from James Madison University. His sponsor district is 7360.



### Agha Kamil Hamid (Pakistan)

Kamil’s research interests focus on the role of education in long-term peacebuilding. He hopes to explore the acquisition of 21st-century skills by young adults as a potential mechanism for imparting conflict resolution abilities as well as introducing peace education as an academic discipline in his native country of Pakistan. Kamil has multiple years of experience in the

development sector in Pakistan. Most recently, he worked as a Storyteller for the Aga Khan University Examination Board (part of the larger Aga Khan Development Network), through which he was able to travel across the country capturing high-impact stories from students, teachers, schools, and communities affected by the institution’s mission to bring high-quality education to lower and middle-income households. He obtained his bachelor’s degree in Peace and Global Studies from Earlham College in the United States and is also a United World Colleges scholar. He was sponsored by Holly White, Rotary peace fellow alumna from the University of Bradford (Class XV, 2016-2017).



### Amanda Lanigan (USA)

Amanda hopes to explore the intersection of climate change and conflict, specifically regarding migration and food security. She is also interested in researching how peace building methods can be utilized to empower marginalized groups to enhance disaster resiliency and recovery. Amanda has ten years of experience in the education

and nonprofit sectors. As an educator, Amanda aided in the development of programs designed to foster leadership, inclusivity, community service, and global citizenship. In the nonprofit sector, she has worked with community leaders to develop programs focused on education, economic empowerment, and social services for underserved populations. She has also worked to enhance sustainability and cross cultural communication in the nonprofit sector. She holds a bachelor’s degree in History, with minors in Political Science and Secondary Education from Bridgewater State University. Her sponsor district is 7950.

### Jordan Michelle Mathews (USA)

As a Rotary peace fellow, Jordan is interested in learning more about the intersection between international security and gender, as well as, the role mass media plays (or doesn’t play) in promoting conflict or peace. Jordan served in the Dominican Republic for two years as a Youth Development Volunteer in the United States



Peace Corps. There she worked with community counterparts, like the Ministry of Women and her community’s high school psychologist, to promote gender equality in the classroom. Collaboratively, she helped implement comprehensive sexual health courses in her community’s high school, taught *Chicas Brillantes* – a female empowerment group – to middle school aged girls, and hosted the region’s first Let Girls Learn Conference that trained local educational leaders on positive masculinity and how to implement these principles into the classroom. Through her work, she learned the necessity of combating toxic masculinity in order to help promote and sustain peaceful societies. Jordan holds a bachelor’s degree in International Affairs with a minor in Spanish and certificate in International Media from the University of Colorado, Boulder. Her sponsor District 5440.

### Tanushree Rao (India/Australia)

Tanushree is an Indian-Australian fellow with an interest in using data to inform statebuilding, gender equality and responses to migration challenges. Before arriving in Uppsala, Tanushree worked in Timor-Leste on communication projects that interact with technology to address health,



education and social inclusion. Previously, she was a program advisor for an Early Warning, Early Response violence monitoring program and has consulted with a number of aid and development agencies. She is also a freelance writer and photographer. Tanushree has dual degrees: Bachelor of Journalism and Bachelor of Arts in Peace and Conflict Studies and International Relations from the University of Queensland, along with a Diploma in Languages. Her Honours thesis focused on social movements and environmental activism. She is sponsored by Rotary District 9600.



### Maryam Safi (Afghanistan)

Maryam is interested in contributing to knowledge and research in the area of peace and conflict studies, particularly through developing specialization in such sub-fields as emerging security threats, gender war and peace, international interventions and protection of civilians. Maryam

has maintained and managed the elections-related global databases of International IDEA, an intergovernmental organization chaired by Sweden, in the past two years. She has experience combating sexual harassment against women in Afghanistan both by leading advocacy efforts for prevention as well as supporting civil society organizations in their projects implementation. She has also contributed to advocacy efforts for Afghanistan youth policy. She helped establish youth councils in the eight regions of Afghanistan and, through providing leadership training, encouraged youth participation in the political processes. Furthermore, she presented Afghan youth and women in national and international conferences such as the First Global Forum on Youth Policies. Maryam holds a master's degree in Social Change & Peace-building from the Future Generations Graduate School and a bachelor's degree in Islamic Laws from Kabul University. She is sponsored by Rotary District 2350.



### Jonah Simonds (USA)

Jonah is seeking to better understand how peace and conflict are shaped by the movement of people, goods, and information in a globalized world. Jonah has experience working in international trade, immigration law, and education. His work as an export controls analyst for a medical device manufacturer

has informed his interest in studying sanctions, their impact upon regular people, and their efficacy as a tool of foreign policy. He was previously awarded the Technos International Prize for promoting international understanding, and credits his former students as a constant source of inspiration. He holds a bachelor's degree in Political Science from Carleton College. Jonah is sponsored by Rotary District 5950.

### Mariko Yamaguchi (Japan)

Mariko is interested in negotiation and mediation as conflict resolution channels. She would like to pursue effective ways of bringing stakeholders together to talk on possible solutions, through diplomacy, international agencies, local actors or other potential approaches. Mariko

has about seven years of experience in development assistance. She was a donor coordination officer at Embassy of Japan in Bangladesh to advise on Japan's ODA and humanitarian policy focusing on the Rohingya crisis. Mariko has also served as Japan Overseas Cooperation volunteer in Kenya conducting community communications on sanitation and malaria. She has monitored local authorities' capacity-building at UNICEF Cambodia. Mariko holds a master's degree in International Development from Elliott School of International Affairs at George Washington University, focusing on peacebuilding and field research in Dadaab Refugee Camp in Kenya. She is sponsored by Rotary District 2660.



### Muyi (Jia) Yang (China)

Muyi is interested in the institutional arrangements that foster extreme violence, particularly systematic sexual violence against civilians in armed conflict. He aims to refine both his qualitative and quantitative research skills to conduct multi-disciplinary research. In addition, Muyi

aspires to hone his skills in international negotiation in conflict resolution. Muyi worked as a business representative in the import and export industry for over five years where he witnessed the exploitation of coalminers that contributed to prospering international commodity trade. After that he turned to focus on projects to empower marginalized groups including minority youth from complex backgrounds both in China and the U.S. He also established collaborative educational program to promote educational opportunities for young girls in a minority village in China. Muyi received his bachelor's degree in International Studies from Illinois Wesleyan University. He is sponsored by Rotary District 6490.



# Applied Field Experience 2019

## Updates from Class XVII

Each year Fellows are given the opportunity to put their classroom learnings into practice through a 8 to 12-week Applied Field Experience (AFE) during the summer break, between June and August. They conduct research or join in practical work related to their areas of specialty. Here are AFE highlights from Class XVII fellows. You can also read the full stories at Uppsala Rotary Peace Fellows Blog: <https://uppsalarotaryfellows.wordpress.com/>.

**Tania Estrada** interned with Front Line Defenders, an organization dedicated to protecting human rights defenders (HRD) across the world. While learning ways to mitigate risks faced by HRDs; Tania mainly supported the HRD Memorial project, which commemorates all the HRDs who have been killed as a consequence of their work since 1998 through creating their records. Tania says, “This internship allowed me to gain deep knowledge on this issue not only in Latin America but worldwide and to become familiar with ways to help those who are working to defend human rights.”



**Rebecca Dawson** interned as a research assistant with the Fund For Peace (FFP), a non-governmental research institution in Washington D.C , well known for its Fragile States Index. Rebecca worked on research, reports and policy analyses for new and ongoing projects as well as country risk and vulnerability assessments and conflict data coding for FFP’s partners in West Africa. She reflects on her AFE, “My time at FFP was invaluable for developing my knowledge and practical skills in the peace-building field and for giving me a better understanding of what I would like to do in my post-fellowship career.”

**Afaf Doleeb** devoted her summer to developing peace education programs in Rwanda. Afaf interned with Never Again Rwanda, a non-governmental organization dedicated to peacebuilding and social justice, and contributed to strengthening its program with a focus on the theme of women, peace, and security. Afaf reflects her experience, “My AFE made me realize how complex peacebuilding work is. I also realized how academic approach could make all the difference when combined with a local one! This unique experience helped me decide what I want to do in my future career.”



[Victoria Carmona](#) interned with the International Institute of Caribbean Studies (IIEC) in Cartagena, Colombia and supported their research on the implementation of the Colombian peace agreement. Her tasks focused on the territorial approach and land reform aspects of the agreement. Victoria reviewed existing literature, evaluated public policies, and analyzed national discourse on what peace means. She has also conducted interviews and field visits to Montes de Maria, one of the regions that were most affected by violence during the armed conflict, through which she learned, “land workers and community members, who live in the rural regions and were most affected by the conflict, do not feel included in the implementation of the agreement. Rural reform is necessary to achieve coexistence, which is at the heart of the peace agreement. And the government and the political elites must recognize that peace cannot be achieved until the rural communities have secure means of production.”



[Karim Issifu](#) spent the summer in Kigali, Rwanda working with Search for Common Ground (SFCG), an international non-profit organization that promotes peaceful conflict resolution. Karim engaged in various aspects of the organization’s work, including report-writing, logistics, communications, data collection, conflict analysis, and proposal writing among others. Karim reflects, “Working with SFCG on conflict resolution and peacebuilding projects, I have gained practical skills and innovative ideas, including the more cooperative solutions to resolving conflict that result in non-zero-sum outcomes. All of these will help my career development, as I plan to pursue higher education in the field of peace and conflict resolution.”

[Roli Mahajan](#) literally traveled around the world during the summer, doing her AFE. She spent the first half in Ecuador and Peru conducting independent research, exploring the ways in which indigenous communities fight for their rights to their natural environment against commercial oil extraction and other mining activities. For the second half, early July to August, Roli was in South Korea with a short visit to China, participating in a Summer Fellows’ Program organized by the Nuclear Non-Proliferation Education and Research Center (NEREC), learning about different aspects of nuclear technology, non-proliferation, and the surrounding politics. Roli reflects, “The time I spent in Ecuador and Peru served as an ethnographic journey wherein I was able to learn so much about these countries and also the

challenges of conducting independent research as an individual researcher. The program in South Korea was a rich experience that enabled me to meet some very inspiring individuals. I learnt a lot not only about East Asian politics and nuclear-related issues, but also about the current international security trends as a whole.”



**Bijay Shrestha** worked for a non-governmental organization, Tevel b'Tzedek (Tevel), in Zambia with its agriculture-based community development projects. Bijay was responsible for conducting baseline assessments, designing an intervention plan based on the assessment results, and training a local community organization while also developing networks with various stakeholders including the local and national government officials and local Rotarians. Bijay says, "I have enjoyed my time working in Zambia, and it was meaningful to share my knowledge and experiences with the community members through Tevel's work as well as with local Rotarians, who are now more aware of the situation of these vulnerable farmer villages."



**Ayako Tsujisaka** worked at the Stockholm International Peace Research Institute (SIPRI) to co-write a background paper on the contributions of South Korea and Japan in implementing the Women, Peace and Security (WPS) agenda. Ayako was involved in the whole research process, from collecting relevant policy documents to developing interview questions, traveling to Japan to conduct interviews, and to drafting the paper. Ayako reflects, "this internship experience allowed me to discover and study a new topic on which I would like to write my master's thesis and continue working after the fellowship. It gave me an excellent opportunity to contemplate my future professional goals."

## Alumnus Highlight *by Ognjen Gogic (Class XVI)*

After completing the fellowship, I returned to my home-country, Serbia, and immediately resumed my peace work with the vigor that the journey of Rotary Peace Fellowship aroused in me. Learning about other conflict situations and experiences of other peace fellows enabled me to see as clear as never before how the region of former Yugoslavia was still trapped in its war trauma. However, I realized that the main cause lies in the political rhetoric, which constantly opens up the old wounds and provokes anxiety as if the war never ended.

The main initiative I got involved in was the project "Responsible towards Past, Responsible towards Future," which I actually developed myself during the final semester in Uppsala. The aim of the action was to bring together youth from Croatia and Serbia to jointly explore ways of coming to terms with the burden of

wartime past so that it would not affect the future. The project made me hopeful that the young generations do not see their future as destined to repeat the old antagonisms.

My next chapter takes me to Kosovo where I will be working on minority rights and reconciliation between Serbs and Albanians.



## Words of Gratitude *by Class XVIII*

Moving to a completely new country and starting a new journey, it is never an easy ride. Yet, the transition can be made smooth with the presence of a supportive and welcoming community. Even before coming to the country, we found multiple such communities available for us. Fellows of Class XVII, the Rotary community including host counselors (families) and the host area coordinator's (HAC) committee, Uppsala Rotary Peace Center, and our buddies from senior years became those communities for us.

Muyi reflects on how his host family helped him to avoid a bumpy start in this new chapter of his life. "From making sure that I settled in safe and warm, to introducing me to multicultural beauty of Uppsala, to connecting me with other Rotary club activities, my host family 'deprived' me of the 'opportunity' to suffer from cultural shock and quickly facilitated a smooth and homey start of my two-year journey in Uppsala," says Muyi. Seconding his thought, Jordan also adds how she finds her host family to be just a Swedish version of her American family. She likewise acknowledges the hard work her host family has done to make her feel right at home. Samikshya feels the same and shares how both her host mothers on two different occasions went to lengths to prepare food she could eat and enjoy, taking into consideration her food restrictions.

Tanushree is happy to find close friends among other peace fellows with whom she can share anything she finds, ranging from something hilarious to something that makes her uneasy. The group has managed to create their own mini support system among them. "There will always be someone ready to help you whenever you pose a question in the group chat, no matter how trivial or consequential it is. But the best part about us is the way we look out for each other. My fellow fellows, thank you for having my back!" says Samikshya recalling all the times her peers have been

there for her. However, her thank you note does not stop at her cohort. She is also grateful to the seniors, especially to her assigned buddy from class XVII, who has been there to answer all her questions, to clear all her confusions and to provide help with any issues faced.

Mariko thanks the HAC committee for coordinating fellows' participation at district conferences and helping them to expand their networks and learn about Rotarians and their activities in Sweden. Fellows also did not forget the welcoming dinner organized by the committee and thanked them for starting their journey with such warm gesture.

Voicing all her fellow fellows' thoughts, Mariko likewise says, "I highly appreciate the fact that Uppsala Rotary Peace Center is always there to answer whatever questions I have such as on academic courses, stress management, general life issues (banking, medical service, etc.)". Amanda further adds, "I am so thankful for all the help they have provided in making the transition back to student life an easy one."

All in all, Class XVIII peace fellows are grateful to find the warmth in this country widely famous for its dark and cold winter.

A welcome dinner hosted by the HAC committee in September: (from top left clockwise): Kamil, Maryam, Mariko, Tanushree, Muyi (all peace fellows), Ulrica Ståhl, Anna Karin Höök Spector (both HAC committee), Tore Samuelsson (HAC), Bibbi Smide (HAC committee), Samikshya, Jordan, Jonah, and Amanda (all peace fellows)



# Interview: with the Uppsala Host Area Coordinator (HAC)

## Tore Samuelsson

*Tore Samuelsson is the third Uppsala Host Area Coordinator (HAC) appointed in 2018. Tore is a journalist with a background in Development Studies and Religion, Conflict and Peace. He served as the Communications Director of the Uppsala-based Life & Peace Institute between 2001 and 2017. Tore joined Rotary in 2002 as a member of Uppsala Rotary Club. His involvement with the Uppsala Rotary Peace Center (URPC) at Uppsala University started in 2016 when he became a member of the HAC committee. Over a year into his service as HAC, he reflected his experience and shared his future ambitions with us.*

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### What motivated you to join HAC Committee and take on a role as the Uppsala HAC?

It was a combination of several things. First, I saw the work of the HAC (committee) as a way to stay involved in peacebuilding activities, as I had done in my professional career before retiring. I was interested in staying in touch with the work and faculty members of the Department of Peace and Conflict Research at Uppsala University, as well as meeting interesting and ambitious peace fellows who would come from around the world. Second, I was also interested in learning about other Rotary Peace Centers' work, which I get to do through tele-conferences organized twice a year with the host area coordinators of five other Peace Centers. I thought serving in the committee and as HAC would be a perfect way to bridge Rotary and the peace work at the university.

### How has your experience been so far? Any particularly memorable moments or experience?

My experience has been very positive! Meeting peace fellows has provided such rich encounters. They are extremely motivated, curious, and friendly students with diverse cultural and professional experiences. The highlight of my work as HAC has been the matchmaking between fellows and their host counselors. Ulrica Ståhl, our focal point for this, and I take great pleasure in recruiting host counselors and preparing them to welcome the fellows. As the reputation of the URPC and the past fellows builds up, the expectations by the Rotarians have also grown. Host counselors are truly

excited and motivated to welcome and support the fellows. At the same time, it is an important part of our task to remind them that this is not a youth exchange program and that the peace fellows are very experienced professionals so they should be treated accordingly. It can be challenging to meet the expectations of both sides. We always strive to create awareness – especially in terms of cultural sensitivity – so the peace fellows are supported in the best way possible.

### How do you see the HAC committee's role develop in the future? What is your goal as the HAC?

We want to broaden Rotarians' engagement with the URPC. And we are in touch with Rotarians from other European countries such as Norway, Finland, Denmark, France, the Netherlands, and Italy, who show interest in supporting the URPC. This development is wonderful, but we also want the whole of Rotary-Sweden – not just Uppsala and Stockholm but all ten districts – to be involved in supporting the URPC and peace fellows and learn from their experiences. So I am encouraging all districts to sign up for a three-year commitment to more closely tie clubs to the program. This commitment would allow two district representatives to be invited to the Annual Seminar dinner and one peace fellow to be connected with the district through presenting their previous peace work as well as work at the university and during their AFE among others throughout their fellowship programs. Three districts have signed up so far, seven more to go!



Host Area Coordinator, Tore Samuelsson, at the sculpture of "The Knotted Gun" in Malmö.



## Cultural Clashes *by Class XVIII*

For the newest class of Uppsala Rotary peace fellows, moving to Sweden has certainly been an adventure. From snacking manners to public transportation etiquette, the Fellows have found themselves fully immersed in the cultural nuances of life in Sweden.

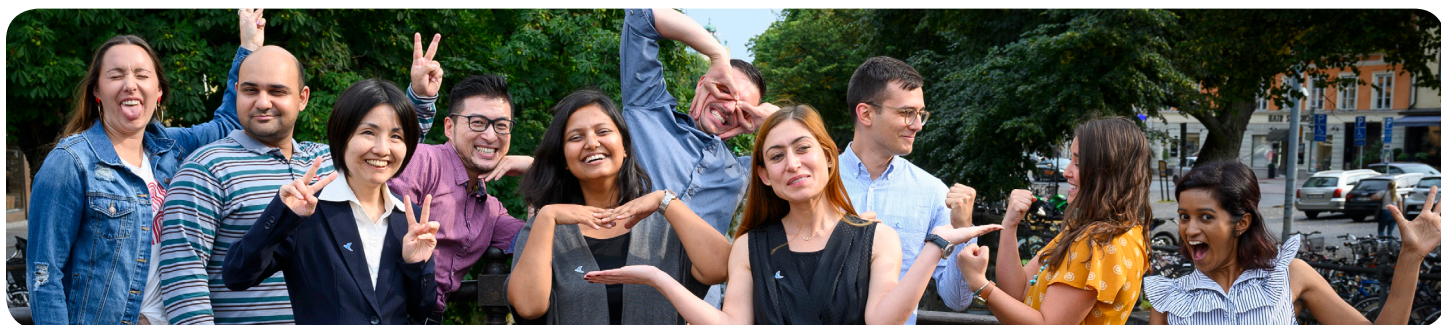
Transportation has been a wild but very well regulated ride for the peace fellows. Mariko pointed out that the rules for cycling are way stricter than home. She confessed that she was even “scolded” on the road a few times for her biking habits. Meanwhile, some fellows have chosen to live the bus life and found themselves having to adjust to the Swedish bus culture. Muiyi, ever a lover of small talk, was shocked the first time he stood in line for the bus. “Everyone stood so far apart, and no one wanted to make small talk,” he said. Nevertheless, the reliable public transportation system and safe cycling roads have made life much easier for the peace fellows.

For Samikshya and Amanda, the biggest culture shock was the noise...or lack thereof. Chatting over cinnamon buns in the IKEA café, they both remarked on how quiet Sweden is compared to home. “My ears were ringing from the silence,” said Samikshya, while Amanda

confessed that she always feels like she is a few decibels louder than her Swedish counterparts. Both have come to love the peace and quiet.

Meanwhile, Kamil took the smart route and came well prepared. “I took the time to do a lot of reading about Swedish customs/traditions in both formal and informal contexts...which meant I was prepared for some of the challenges I faced upon my arrival,” he said.

Despite the minor differences they have encountered, the fellows have all found Sweden to be a wonderfully welcoming place. Coming from all corners of the world, the organization and reliability of Swedish society have made the transition easier for the fellows. Always ready to help, our Swedish classmates and host counselors have made the move to Sweden as easy as possible. “Swedes are some of the most generous people you will ever meet, but don’t take the last cookie from the plate or you will be judged harshly,” remarked Jonah. In contrast to the cold outside, the warmth of Swedish culture has made Sweden feel more like home for the fellows. Singing, exploring the outdoors, and enjoying home-cooked meals with their Swedish classmates has made life in Sweden a joy for the fellows.



## Save the Date: 2020 Annual Seminar

Each year, the Uppsala Rotary Peace Center hosts a seminar for peace fellows to share their experiences, research, and reflections from their fellowship. In addition to featuring Class XVII fellows, we are very pleased to welcome keynote speaker Professor Roger Mac Ginty, Durham University, a prominent peace scholar widely known for his work on the “Everyday Peace Indicators” project and the intersection between top-down and bottom-up peacebuilding approaches. We invite you to mark your calendars and join us. More information and instructions for registration will follow

in the spring. For questions, please reach out to us at the center (the center’s contact information can be found on the last page).

**Uppsala Rotary Peace Center**  
**Annual Seminar**  
**9 May 2020**  
**Uppsala, Sweden**

# Peace Fellows in Action

## Afaf Doleeb Awarded the Martin H:son Holmdahl Prize

Afaf Doleeb (Class XVII) is being recognized for her commitment to peaceful development in her home-country, Sudan. Afaf has been active in the peaceful protests that took place in Sudan in 2019 when Sudan's dictator was ousted in April, and a power-sharing agreement was signed between the military and the pro-democracy movement in August. Afaf has been closely involved in the pro-democracy movement including from Sweden, and has consistently worked to support a peaceful transition based on human rights and the rule of law. In Sweden, Afaf, together with others, has visited the Swedish ministry of foreign affairs and contacted various media agents to provide up-to-date information on the developing situations in Sudan and to solicit support for the movement. She, together with others, has also been monitoring human rights violations while helping human rights defenders facing risks to relocate to safer places. Most recently, Afaf is translating 100 stories of female participation in the movement and creating awareness-raising materials for the people in Sudan, including a special Facebook group that actively monitors the new government's compliance with the August agreement. Afaf will receive the prize from the Vice-Chancellor of Uppsala University on 31 January 2020. Congratulations!

## University Life

Tania Estrada and Rebecca Dawson (both Class XVII) signed up for the Institute for Economics and Peace (IEP) Ambassador program last spring. On 4 December, in their role as Ambassadors, they gave a presentation and Q&A on the recently released Global Peace Index and the Positive Peace Report to first year students of the Peace and Conflict Studies Master Program. Tania and Rebecca reflect on their participation in the program, "Through our participation in the program, we have come to reflect upon the research avenues we can pursue when we focus on peace instead of conflict. Also, to



think of the challenges that the perspective of positive peace presents to nations that are not facing armed conflict."

## Rotary Club Visits

*The peace fellows have been busy spreading the word about the peace fellowship program and sharing their aspirations for peace to Rotary clubs near and far.*

**Zambia** - While on his AFE in Zambia, Bijay Shrestha (Class XVII) presented to the Rotary Club of Lusaka on the Rotary Peace Fellowship and his AFE work.



**Ireland** - During her AFE in Ireland, Tania Estrada (Class XVII) visited the Rotary Club of Dublin to talk about her AFE work on the dangers that human rights defenders face across the world.

**USA** - Rebecca Dawson (Class XVII) attended a morning meeting of the Rotary Club of Capitol Hill in Washington DC during her AFE. Rebecca presented on the peace fellowship, university program, her past work experiences, and her research interests moving forward towards writing her thesis.

Also in the USA, Abdul Karim Issifu (Class XVII) visited two Rotary Clubs in two different states as he attended a peace conference organized by the Alliance for Peacebuilding and the United States Institute of Peace. Karim presented on the theme of training young peacebuilders to the Falls Church Rotary Club in Virginia and on humanitarian and peace advocacy work in Ghana to the Rotary Club of Gaithersburg in Maryland.



**Sweden** - In September, fellows from both Class XVII and XVIII attended the District 2350 Conference in Stockholm. Along with representing the peace fellowship program, they also networked with the Rotarians present.



In October, Kamil Hamid (Class XVIII) shared his journey as a student, peace activist, and storyteller in his home



country of Pakistan with Uppsala-Carolina Rotary Club. Kamil shared his vision of developing a new generation of peace activists through education.

Jordan Mathews, Andrew Fallon, and Samikshya Bhattarai (all Class XVIII) attended a Uppsala Rotary Club meeting and shared their stories and the aspirations that led them to the Rotary Peace Fellowship.



Mariko Yamaguchi (Class XVIII) presented during a Uppsala-Carolina Rotary Club meeting, which she reflects was an interesting opportunity to meet Rotarians from various backgrounds. Mariko also attended a Rotary district conference in Mariefred along with Rebecca Dawson and Ayako Tsujisaka (both Class XVII).



Andrew Fallon journeyed north to Ornskoldsvik with Host Area Coordinator, Tore Samuelsson. At the District 2320 Conference, Tore shared information about the Rotary Peace Center and introduced Andrew as the “ambassador” to the district. Andrew shared his



motivations and goals for the peace fellowship. Most of the district attendees were not familiar with the program and were very interested in learning more.

**Italy** - In November, peace fellow alumnus Juan Diego Duque (Class XVI) was invited to share his experience by Rotary Clubs in Italy. At two District 2080 Conferences in Cassino and in Sassari, Juan Diego presented his motivation to apply for the fellowship, his personal and academic growth through the program at Uppsala University, and his career path after the fellowship, continuing his research at the Department of Peace and Conflict Research at Uppsala University.



## Rotary Peace Centers Conference 2020 in Cairo, Egypt



The Rotary Peace Centers Conference 2020, “Peace, Conflict and Development: Engaging in Challenges, Opportunities and Innovations,” will be held in Cairo, Egypt on 4 – 6 February, 2020. Organized by the Rotary Peace Center at the University of Bradford, the conference is open to anyone interested in the theme. For more information, registration, and paper abstract submission, please visit: <https://www.bradford.ac.uk/mlss/rotary/rotary-peace-conference/>




# About the Uppsala Rotary Peace Center



Since 2011, the Department of Peace and Conflict Research at Uppsala University has hosted one of the six Rotary International Peace Centers. Students from around the world can apply for Rotary scholarships to the Master Programme in Peace and Conflict Studies. The Uppsala Rotary Peace Center selects and educates Rotary Peace Fellows to have a significant, positive impact on peace and conflict resolution in their future careers. Stay updated on the fellows, hear about special events, and learn more about the Rotary Peace Fellowship online or contact us at:

Uppsala Rotary Peace Center website: <http://www.pcr.uu.se/education/uppsala-rotary-peace-center/>  
Uppsala Rotary Peace Fellows blog: <https://uppsalarotaryfellows.wordpress.com/>

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