



## PRESS RELEASE

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### **What is the role of women in religion today ?**

Montréal, May 26 – For too long, women have remained invisible within organized religion. Today's struggle for equality between the sexes in the religions of the world leads us to ask the question: Do religions have the inner resources to transform the relationship between the sexes? Or will they have to change themselves to deal with this issue?

From September 11-15, 2006 in Montreal, the global congress *The World's Religions after September 11* will be a place of reflection on the role of religions of the world in the 21<sup>st</sup> century. Participants will explore the numerous dimensions of religion today including human rights, spirituality, healing and science, religious freedom, the media, the role of women and war.

Speakers will include Karen Armstrong, Deepak Chopra, Shirin Ebadi and Huston Smith.

This is an official post-parliament event of the 2004 Barcelona Parliament of World Religions as declared by the Council of a Parliament of World Religions. A draft version of the UNIVERSAL DECLARATION OF HUMAN RIGHTS BY THE WORLD'S RELIGIONS will be the cornerstone of this Congress. Nobel Peace Laureates His Holiness, The Dalai Lama, Archbishop Desmond Tutu, Bishop Belo and Shirin Ebadi are patrons of this historic document.

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