

There can only be a future if together, religious and non-religious, believers and nonbelievers, become witnesses and bearers of peace.

Sheikh Bentounes

Spiritual leader of the Sufi Order Alāwiyya, Sheikh Khaled Bentounes is Honorary President of AISA International NGO.

He is the great-grand-son of Sheikh Ahmad al-'Al $\bar{a}$ w $\bar{\iota}$  (1869-1934) recognized as one of the greatest sages of the 20<sup>th</sup> century.

UNESCO paid tribute to Sheikh al-'Alāwī on September 2015 in Paris at the conference "Spiritual Islam and Contemporary Challenges".

The decision of UNESCO, during its 37th General Conference, in November 2013, declared: "The Alāwī Sufi Order, founded by Sheikh al-'Alāwī has made the promotion of interreligious dialogue its priority. The Order shows how to better serve humanity, how to try to harmonize and beautify the world."

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Our Message | **Hope**Our Way | **Peace**Our Choice | **Living Together** 

## Excerpts from letters received:

"Mrs. Calmy-Rey instructed me to thank you for your letter. I also hold to congratulating you for your action in favour of dialogue and peace."

Jean-Daniel Ruch, Ambassador and Special Representative to the Middle East | 12/27/2011

"The Holy Father encourages you in your commitment to the service of dialogue and peace, in a spirit of truth and fraternity."

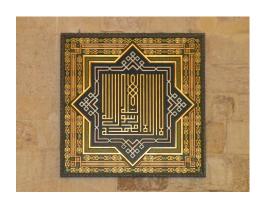
Bishop Peter B. Wells, Assessor within the context of the International Feminine Congress for a Culture of Peace - Women's turn to Speak, Algeria I 08/14/2014

## "I wish you complete success for this event."

Didier Burkhalter, President of the Confederation under the Trek for a Culture of Peace | 05/23/2014

"I'd like to congratulate you on your commitment and hope that the Conference, Spiritual Islam and Contemporary Challenges was successful."

Didier Burkhalter, Federal Councillor under the Conference at UNESCO, Paris I 10/12/15



The International Association Sufi Alāwiyya (AISA Switzerland) is part of the international network of AISA NGO. Its mission is to build relationships, to cultivate a spirit of openness and dialogue while focusing on building a world of peace.

The heart of Islam, Sufism, is a school of wisdom and spiritual humanism which takes its roots and energy from the Prophet Muhammad, who defined a Muslim as "one that does no harm to others, neither by act, nor by word."

The Sufi Alawiyya Order has existed in Switzerland since 1934. It is committed to the Culture of Peace in order to build a society of "Living Together".

## Our concrete actions:

<u>Lausanne, May 2007</u>: Conference, **The Spirituality of Service to the City and to Peace**, the example of Nicolas de Flue.

Geneva, October 2010: Conference, *A Spiritual Islam Free and Responsible* at Palexpo (over 800 people from 25 countries) wishes of full success from Mr. Josef Deiss, President of the General Assembly of the UN.

May-June 2014: **Walk for a Culture of Peace** across Switzerland (Geneva, Walk from Flüeli-Ranft in Bern, Sierre, St-Maurice); organized by several associations working in the same direction.

Currently AISA Switzerland launched a think tank for the creation of an **Academy** for **Peace**.