

PRESS RELEASE



Fiji TRC Expands Awareness at Methodist and AOG Annual Conferences

Wednesday, 27 August 2025: The Fiji Truth and Reconciliation Commission (FTRC) is strengthening its outreach to faith communities this week, creating awareness and presence at two of the country's largest religious gatherings, the Methodist Church of Fiji and Rotuma annual conference at the Vodafone Arena in Suva and the Assemblies of God (AOG) annual conference in Saru, Lautoka.

FTRC Commissioner Ana Laqeretabua said: "The FTRC is mindful that the daily work of healing and reconciliation within families, with individuals and communities is led by Faith Based leaders across the country. The Commission is grateful for the opportunity to partner with the Methodist Church and the Assemblies of God church at this crucial stage of our work as a Commission as this gives us the opportunity to share our mandate widely and to also invite the churches to engage with the processes put in place. The work of fostering unity and trust in order for a diverse society to function harmoniously requires the buy in and commitment from all."

At the Methodist conference, which runs from August 25–29, the Commission has established a booth to share the FTRC information materials and contact forms for submissions. This opportunity arose from a one-to-one meeting held with the President of the Methodist Church of Fiji, Reverend Dr Semisi Turagavou, on July 16, where the Commissioners discussed the Commission's mandate, work carried out to date, and future plans.

He further offered the Commission a space at the conference venue, a gesture warmly welcomed by the FTRC. The Commissioners acknowledged the Church's important role in promoting truth-telling and reconciliation, especially through its youth, women, and community networks.

At the same time, the FTRC will also be present at the Assemblies of God annual conference in Lautoka. The Commission was invited following a dialogue workshop with the Pentecostal church leaders at the AOG Nasinu Revival Church in Laqere in July, where Reverend Filikesa Koroivueta, General Secretary of AOG in Fiji, extended the invitation. The Commission's presentation at the AOG conference will outline its mandate, progress, and opportunities for church members to support reconciliation efforts.

Both the Methodist Church and AOG have been recognized as playing vital roles in Fiji's reconciliation journey. By using their platforms to promote truth-telling and support survivor participation, they are helping to build stronger, more resilient, and united communities grounded in healing and peace.

About FTRC:

The FTRC is an independent entity set up for truth-telling, reconciliation, and national healing. The mandate of the FTRC is to examine past political upheavals and their impact on people's lives. The Commission is looking at the physical and emotional harm, loss of life and property, and systemic injustices on people.

The purpose of this work is to foster unity and social cohesion in a society where everyone feels safe, equal, included and able to thrive. The Commission seeks to honour the lived experiences of survivors by providing a platform for voices to be heard, validated, and acknowledged.

The Commission emphasises that truth-telling is not about retribution. It is about recognition, healing, to ensure that history is not repeated. Through reconciliation, the Commission aims to build a stronger, more just, and peaceful Fiji for future generations.

Note: The Commission is encouraging members of the public to contact us in relation to any of the above. We look forward to hearing from you. Reach us by phone, email, or through our Facebook page, where a contact form is also available.

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Source: Fiji Truth and Reconciliation Commission

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