



Christian Conference of Asia

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CCA Statement on International Youth Day 2026

As we observe International Youth Day 2026 under the theme, "Different Contexts, Common Aspirations" we remember that while young people inherit vastly different realities, they share a common longing: for dignity instead of exclusion, justice instead of oppression, peace instead of violence, and hope instead of despair. For Christians, this solidarity is rooted in our identity as people created in the image of God (Genesis 1:27), a dignity that no war, prejudice, poverty, or political system can erase.

Across Asia and beyond, many young people bear burdens they did not create, wars they did not start, economic systems that deny them opportunity, and an ecological crisis they are not responsible for. Too often, they face structures that silence rather than empower them. These realities were powerfully articulated at the recent CCA Asian Ecumenical Youth Assembly in Chiang Mai, where young people reflected on the many "yokes" that burden their lives and renewed their commitment to dismantling these structures of injustice through faith, solidarity, and collective action.

The Gospel calls us to resist injustice, to heal broken relationships, to restore wounded communities, and to anticipate the reconciliation of all creation in Christ (Colossians 1:20). Across Asia, young people embody this hope through courageous leadership, resilience, and creativity as they strive for peace, ecological justice, democratic participation, and social transformation, often at great personal cost.

The Christian Conference of Asia affirms that the Church is strongest when young people are trusted not merely to participate but to lead, question, discern, and serve alongside every generation. Through leadership formation, ecumenical engagement, theological education, and advocacy, CCA remains committed to nurturing spaces where young people can grow, lead, and shape the future of the Church and society.

On this International Youth Day, echoing the call of AEYA 2026, we urge our member churches and councils to invest boldly in young people and to make space for their voices at tables of discernment, to share authority rather than merely responsibility, and to listen not because youth are the future, but because the Holy Spirit is speaking through them today.

To the young people of Asia, may your compassion break down the walls of hatred, your love overcome fear and division, your hope bring life where despair prevails, and your witness bear the fruits of justice and peace.

Rev. Jung Eun Grace Moon
General Secretary
Christian Conference of Asia