



**FAIR TRADE  
CAMPAIGNS**

# Fair Trade Congregations

## *Scripture & Quotes*

### From the Bible

- **Isaiah 58:6** God declares “See the fast that pleases me: to break the fetters of injustice and unfasten the thongs of the yoke, to set the oppressed free and break every yoke ... Then will your light break forth as the morning and your healing will come speedily...Then you will call and Yahweh will answer”
- **Matthew 7:12** when asked how we are to live, Jesus gives a two sentence summary. “Therefore treat others as you would have them treat you. This is the whole meaning of the Law and the prophets.”
- **Deuteronomy 24:14-15** You shall not abuse a needy or destitute labourer, whether a fellow countryman or a stranger in one of the communities of your land. You must pay him his wages on the same day, before the sun sets, for he is needy and his life depends on it; else he will cry to the Lord against you and you will incur guilt
- **Leviticus 25:35-36** When your brother begins to slip into poverty and his hand becomes shaky next to you, strengthen him even though he may be a stranger or sojourner, so that he may live with you. Do not take from him interest or increase his debt, and fear your God; and your brother will live with you
- **Proverbs 31:8-9** Make your views heard, on behalf of the dumb, on behalf of all the unwanted; make your views heard, pronounce an upright verdict, defend the cause of the poor and the wretched.

### From the Quran

- **Quran 2:279** Deal not unjustly, and you shall not be dealt with unjustly
- **Quran 49:9** God loves those who are fair and just
- **Quran 17:35** And give full measure when you measure out, and weigh with a true balance; this is fair and better in the end

- **Quran 11:85** Do not withhold from the people the things that are their due and do not commit mischief in the land, causing corruption
- **Quran 4:135** O you who believe! Stand out firmly for justice, as witnesses to Allah, even if it be against yourselves, your parents and your relatives, or whether it is against the rich or the poor...

### Modern-day Faith leaders

- It is good for people to realize that purchasing is always a moral – not simply economic – act. Hence the consumer has a specific social responsibility, which goes hand-in-hand with the social responsibility of the enterprise. *(Pope Benedict XVI)*
- The economy should work for people, and not the other way around *(Pastoral letter of the US Catholic Bishops)*
- Every economic...action must set about providing each inhabitant of the planet with the minimum wherewithal to live in dignity and freedom, with the possibility of supporting a family, educating children, praising God and developing one's human potential. *(Pope Francis)*
- Practice stewardship from a global perspective by becoming informed about global implications of production and consumption. Become responsible consumers by understanding the true costs of the products we buy and supporting fair trade, local growers, and local businesses. Support global development efforts that help provide for all, such as micro-finance, women's empowerment, community development, equal access to education, food security, and access to clean water. *(Resolution of the Evangelical Covenant Church)*
- Creation is not a property, which we can rule over at will; or, even less, is the property of only a few: Creation is a gift, it is a wonderful gift that God has given us. So that we care for it and we use it for the benefit of all, always with great respect and gratitude *(Pope Francis)*
- Whereas a little extra money paid at the store will allow farmers and farm workers to invest in life-changing projects ranging from clean drinking water, education and health care services to housing, reforestation and organic certification, all of which benefit entire communities; and

Whereas Fair Trade encourages farmers to take a long-term approach to agriculture, embracing sustainable practices that conserve natural resources. Therefore be it resolved that the Rabbinical Assembly encourage its members to educate their communities about Fair Trade. *(Resolution in Support of Fair Trade Practices from the Rabbinical Assembly)*

- One of the foundational principles in our religion (Islam) is that the human being is responsible and we have choices that we make. We make spiritual choices, but we also make worldly choices, and in those choices we seek not only the good for ourselves, but faith tells us that we seek the good for ourselves and for others. And that none of you truly believe until they wish for others of the good as they wish for themselves. *(Sheikh Faraz Rabbani, Founder of SeekersGuidance)*