COMMUNICATIONS SUBCOMMITTEE - ORGANIZING COMMITTEE OF THE FESTIVAL FOR PEACE - 2024

PRESS RELEASE Activities for the Festival For Peace - 2024

With the approval of the Prime Minister, Quang Tri Province organizes the Festival For Peace – 2024 with the theme "*Joining hands to create a world of peace.*" This festival of peace advocacy is held for the first time in Quang Tri and Vietnam, to honor the value of peace, pay tribute to heroic martyrs, and commemorate the victims of war. It will contribute to enhancing the position and image of Vietnam and its people, as well as to the development of Quang Tri as a cultural space for Peace, a destination for peace, and a meeting place for peace-lovers around the world.

Particularly, in the current context of constant conflicts in the world, the Festival for Peace, taking place in Quang Tri - a land that has suffered immense pain, loss, and destruction from war, now becoming *"a land blossoming with peace"* - would convey a powerful message about the resilient and peace-loving spirit of the Vietnamese people. It calls upon humanity to join hands in building sustainable peace for the whole world.

The Festival For Peace is first held on the occasion of the 70th anniversary of the signing of the Geneva Accord on cessation of hostilities and restoration of peace in Indochina (July 20, 1954 - July 20, 2024), the 77th anniversary of War Invalids and Martyrs Day (July 27, 1947 - July 27, 2024), towards the 50th anniversary of the complete liberation of the South and reunification of the country (April 30, 1975 - April 30, 2025). This festival is a cultural, sports, and tourism event on the national and international scale for 2024-2025, according to Decision No. 3032/QD-BVHTTDL dated October 16, 2023, by the Ministry of Culture, Sports, and Tourism.

The festival will commence on the evening of July 6, 2024, at the special national relic site of Hien Luong - Ben Hai Riverbanks. It will feature a series of meaningful activities and outstanding performances hoping to create emotional highlights with the message "Bringing the World of Peace to Quang Tri" - a land that has become a symbol of the aspiration for peace, reconciliation, and revival. The Festival for Peace – 2024 will stand as a powerful testament to that aspiration, as Quang Tri welcomes international friends, working together to build a future of peace, solidarity, and development, transforming the pain of the past into a motivation for the future.

The following main activities are included in the framework of the Festival For Peace -2024:

- 1. "Cycling for Peace" Day
- *Time:* June 29-30, 2024

- *Venue:* Special national relic sites of Hien Luong - Ben Hai Riverbanks and Quang Tri Citadel.

(Participants: Approximately 1,000 athletes from cycling clubs nationwide; cycling club of Quang Tri Province and clubs of Salavan, Sanavakhet, Xekong (Lao PDR); Ratanakiri (Cambodia); Mukdahan, Nakhon Phanom, Sakon Nakhon (Thailand).

- Program:

+ June 29, 2024: Parade themed "Cycling for Peace" along the route Hien Luong - Ben Hai Special National Historical Relics -> Truong Son National Martyrs Cemetery -> Fidel Park, with many other meaningful activities.

+ June 30, 2024: A bicycle race around Quang Tri Citadel themed "Destination of Peace" with 300 participants.

2. Opening Ceremony of the Festival For Peace – Special Performance themed *"Connecting Bridges"*

- Time: 8:00 PM 9:30 PM, July 6, 2024
- Venue: Special national relics of Hien Luong Ben Hai
- Program:
- + Opening performance;
- + Introduction;
- + Speech by Quang Tri Province leaders;
- + Speech by Party and State leaders;

+ Message of Peace from the Director-General of United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO);

+ Festival rituals;

+ Special performances;

+ Fireworks.

3. Cultural - Culinary Fair ''Flavor of the Sun Land''

- Time: July 12-14, 2024

- Venue: Cua Viet Beach Tourist Area, Gio Linh District, Quang Tri Province

- Program:

+ Opening Performance;

+ Culinary activities of 100 booths displaying specialties of various regions and localities;

+ Visual culinary experience;

+ International kite flying on the beach;

+ Other activities: Cooking and kite-making tutorials for tourists, contests, games, etc.

4. Concert "Melodies of Peace"

4.1. Trinh Cong Son Music Night "Songs of Peace"

- Time: 8:00 PM, July 13, 2024

- Venue: Fidel Park, Dong Ha City, Quang Tri Province

- Program:

+ Introduction;

+ Music Performance;

+ Closing Ceremony.

4.2. International music show "Melodies of Peace"

- Time: 8:00 PM, July 20, 2024

- *Venue:* Quang Tri Provincial Culture and Cinema Center, Dong Ha City, Quang Tri Province

- Program:

+ Opening performance;

+ Introduction;

+ Music Performance;

+ Dance for Peace;

+ Closing Ceremony.

5. Program "Wishes for Peace"

- *Time:* 6:00 PM, July 26, 2024

- Venue: Quang Tri Town, Quang Tri Province

- Program:

+ Commemoration ceremony (Quang Tri Citadel);

+ Grand Requiem Ceremony (Liberation Square);

+ Lantern floating ceremony (South bank of Thach Han River).

Currently, the People's Committee of Quang Tri Province and the Organizing Committee of the Festival For Peace – 2024 are preparing for the festival. Information on the festival program is regularly updated on the Quang Tri Province Portal at <u>https://www.quangtri.gov.vn/</u> and the Festival For Peace – 2024 Fanpage at <u>https://www.facebook.com/vihoabinh2024</u>.

For further information about the 2024 Peace Festival, please contact:

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