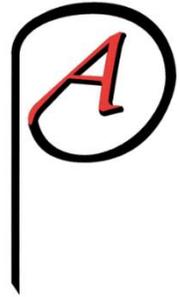


Progressive Atheists Inc.

Est. 10 Jan 2010 Reg: A0054119U Member of AAI

"Your participation is PA's future"



July 2015

... we seek to go beyond divisive racial, religious, tribal, and sectarian constructs, and instead, contribute to a universal humanity.

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Progressive Atheist Inc. | Headlines

Report: Solstice Party 22nd June 2015

Progressive Atheist members were among the diverse 25 people at the most enjoyable Atheists' Winter Solstice party in Melbourne last week. Atheists originally from Argentina, Bangladesh, Dominican Republic, Israel, Pakistan, Philippines, Sri Lanka, United Kingdom and probably

other countries, shared food and friendship



Old friendships were renewed and new friends made. Atheist solstice parties have been a tradition in Melbourne for 2 decades.

To make sure you get your invitation to the 2015 December Summer Solstice party, please email or otherwise contact Andrew Rawlings <vicepresident@progressiveatheists.org>



Campaign:

Help Taslima Nasrin: Secular Activist's Life Threatened by Islamic Radicals

Donate to the Freethought Emergency Fund



A champion of free expression needs your immediate help. Islamic radicals reportedly linked to al-Qaeda, the same violent extremists who claimed responsibility for the recent murders of freethought writers **Avijit Roy**, **Washiqur Rahman**, and **Ananta Bijoy Das**, have been threatening the life of **Taslima Nasrin**.

Read more and about how you can help here:

<https://secure.centerforinquiry.net/emailviewonwebpage.aspx?erid=384819&trid=50a4f086-f9bb-4d5a-b5ca-ad8743e7ef1e>

Report:

Brian Whitaker
Against the
grain. Religion,
politics and Arab
atheists

Read the full
article here:

<http://www.eurozine.com/articles/2015-05-29-whitaker-en.html>



Mosque, Iraq. Photo: Robert Couse-Baker. Source: [Flickr](#)

In the Middle East, the God question is far more than a matter for intellectual debate; apostasy is punishable by death in six Arab countries. And yet, writes Brian Whitaker, there is a perception that Arab atheists are becoming more numerous; and more visible too, thanks largely to social media.

Religious disbelief is viewed with alarm in most Arab countries. Two government ministries in Egypt have been ordered to produce a national plan to "confront and eliminate" atheism. In Saudi Arabia, the most recent anti-terrorism law classifies "calling for atheist thought" as a terrorist offence.

At present, Arabs who reject religion are too small in numbers to pose an actual threat to these regimes but the regimes would like to keep it that way. Their fears, absurd as it might seem to outsiders, are not without foundation.

Report: The PATAS Convention from AAI Director Elida Radig

May 31, 2015, Sunday. Metro Manila, Philippines

On arriving I could see a large queue of young people waiting to register. The organisers took me to the special table prepared for the AAI display. From the Australian side, the AFA stocked a good stand and Michael Boyd did an excellent presentation making the Australians that were present, very proud. Eric Palsis, as member of Progressive Atheists, gave cards to anyone interested.

The presenters did a good job by thanking the sponsors before introducing every speaker. Excellent group of speakers, interesting subjects and good presentations. I was sharing the table with three members of HAPI and three of IHEU plus PA.

When it was the time for the sponsors to speak, Michel Boyd shared with the convention the situation being experienced in Australia with the Royal Commission on Child Abuse by the Catholic Church. He pointed out the importance of having a high rank politician prepared in opening the big, secret door. In this case the then Australian Prime Minister, Julia Gillard.

By the time I was invited to speak, I was well aware that the majority of the people attending the convention were young, some were teenagers. So my message was that the future is theirs. I encouraged them to take the strong message of the convention; make it stronger and take it into the future of the country. I invited them to join the AAI.

I do consider the PATAS Convention a successful event.

I don't think that a one day convention with speaker after speaker has enough time to achieve:

The interchange of ideas among attendees.

To get to know people and to be able to network.

And the most important: There is no time to reach a resolution. Without a resolution there is no path to follow; no homework to consider; no continuation to the next convention and no mandate.

There is no doubt in my mind that the change in Ireland is due to the years and years of important resolutions and strategies adopted by Atheists at their conventions. Also there is no doubt in my mind that the Atheists have to organise in a global plan of action in education, politics



and the personal. Religion belongs to the past and Atheism is the future. Maybe one day, these young people will be able to attend a global Atheists' youth congress to compare

progress.

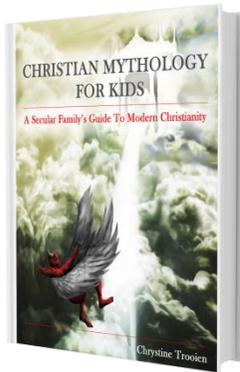
Why not watch the opening remarks from the conference here:

PATASCON2015: Dr. Tess Termulo, PATAS President

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=fePv-DkY7cw>

For further information, visit the PATAS Facebook page:

<https://www.facebook.com/events/347428828786602/>



Report: Book project - Christian mythology secular

Today, more than ever before, parents are raising their children free from religion. We have very few secular tools to teach our children about the Christian religions that still surround us. Secular children encounter bible stories from their peers, through pop culture, and from well-intentioned relatives. Oftentimes the message that is delivered along with these stories is one of fear, promises or simply trying to convince young minds that these stories are somehow historical.

We wanted to introduce our children to christianity in a way that doesn't threaten them or coax them into thinking these stories are real. Children's books about Greek and Roman Mythology are wonderful, exciting stories that inform and entertain. *Christian Mythology for Kids* follows this format, but with a religion that some people still view as true.

THE BOOK-

Christian Mythology for Kids will be a soft cover book, approximately 130 pages in length with many full page illustrations and some spot page illustrations. There will be 1-2 illustrations for each story.

ABOUT THE AUTHOR - Chrystine Trooien

I am an enthusiastic atheist and mother of two handsome boys. Three years ago, my husband and I started a secular meetup group for families when our oldest was just a baby. We wanted to connect and create a community of families who were secular. This Phoenix based group has grown into 200+ families that meet 4-5 times a month!

I was raised in a fundamentalist Christian religion and am well versed in the beliefs and stories of Christianity. I found my own voice and opinion when I was 19 years old and have been on an enlightening journey of free-thought ever since.

SEE MORE: <https://www.kickstarter.com/projects/1465829500/christian-mythology-for-kids/description>

The Progressive Atheists' organisation and some of its members are actively involved in global campaigns to help and free the victims.

There is a lot more that we can do but we need your help.

Want to assist with this campaign? Email Progressive Atheists at campaigns@progressiveatheists.org

To make a donation for a banner to be used outside the Saudi Embassy, please donate on the Progressive Atheists website:

<http://progressiveatheists.org/products/donations/raif-badawi-campaign/>

Notice: Membership Renewals are due for Term 2016 (1 July 2015 - 30 June 2016)

MEMBERSHIP

Term 2015: 1 July 2014 – 30 June 2015

*** ONLY \$20 Annually ***

Purchase Membership Online:

<http://progressiveatheists.org/product-category/membership/>

CONTACT PROGRESSIVE ATHEISTS INC.

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Vice President – Andrew: 0438 043 050

Secretary: secretary@progressiveatheists.org

Website: progressiveatheists.org

Facebook: www.facebook.com/ProgressiveAtheistsInc

Twitter: twitter.com/ProgAtheistsInc

Dear Members,

Thank you for your continued support, we very much value your continued membership of Progressive Atheists Inc. We are again coming up to the 1st July and renewal of membership is due. Our membership fee is \$20 with a \$10 concession amount for those on a low income.

The membership fees are used to maintain the Progressive Atheists website and to pay for basic running costs of Progressive Atheists.

You can renew your membership on the website via paypal, which also includes the ability to pay by visa card. Or you can renew your membership in person at the Open meeting on the 4th Saturday or at an atheist meetup with a committee member.

<http://progressiveatheists.org/product-category/membership/>

If you have any questions or difficulties with renewing your membership please contact our membership officer Phillipa Toia via email: membership@progressiveatheists.org

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Thanks and regards,
Alice Carr
President

Progressive Atheists Inc.

'Proudly Atheist' T-shirts & Badges

T-shirts ONLY \$15 for members!

Badges \$2.50 each ~ 2 designs / 3 colours

Order your t-shirt or badge on our website:

<http://progressiveatheists.org/products-for-sale/>

Sales Rep. Elida Radig: sales@progressiveatheists.org

