

SEASON'S GREETINGS FROM THE GRAND MASTER AND HEAD OF THE STATE TO ALL KNIGHTS AND DAMES OF KMFAP

Our State of Knights and our Sovereign Order is a space of Peace, Dialogue and Tolerance and instead of building walls builds bridges between people, cultures and religions and has among its Knights and Dames followers of many different religions. This is why in December we celebrate the following festivities: *Muharram* in the Islamic calendar; *Hanukkah*, the festival of LIGHT for the Jewish religion; *Sun Feast* – also known as the Winter Solstice – for many traditional religions in the Northern Hemisphere; *Rohatsu*, or Bodhi Day for Buddhists is the day that Gautama Buddha attained enlightenment; and, of course, *Christmas* for the Christians, celebrating the birth of the Saviour, Jesus Christ. Not to mention the *New Year*, which is celebrated in most countries around the world.

This is for all religions a Season of Peace (during Muharram warfare is forbidden), a Season of Light in our spirits and of Love in our hearts, and the New Year always brings Hope for a better future, however we continue seeing war, darkness, hatred and despair all over the world.

Everybody speaks about ceasefire and peace, forgetting that peace is not the absence of war: Peace is the absence of Violence and Poverty, Misery, Starvation, Illness, Illiteracy, Intolerance, Fundamentalism, Corruption, Drugs, Disrespect for Human Rights, Child Abuse and Discrimination in its many facets, all are forms of violence, so we are very far from Peace...

In the midst of all this violence, our Sovereign Order and State (KMFAP) remains a beacon of Tolerance among the intolerants, of principles of Honesty among the corrupt, of Humanity and Care among cruelty and mercilessness, of respect for Freedom among dictatorships, and of Love among hatred. We owe this to our Knights and Dames, this is why we wish you all, from the bottom of our hearts a Season full of Peace in your hearts, good Health, Happiness and Love together with your beloved ones, and we sincerely hope and expect that you will continue helping our Sovereign Order and State (KMFAP) to remain *an Island of Peace and Sanity in an Ocean of War and Madness.*

Considering that in 2025 we will celebrate the 20th Anniversary of our current leadership, we present our BEST WISHES to all of you!

His Most Eminent Highness José, Prince

Grand Master and Head of the State