



# GBOWEE

## PEACE FOUNDATION AFRICA



### LEYMAH GBOWEE

2011 Nobel Peace Laureate Leymah Gbowee is a Liberian peace activist, trained social worker and women's rights advocate. She is founder and current President of the Gbowee Peace Foundation Africa. She was the founding head of the Liberian Reconciliation Initiative, and was the co-Founder and former Executive Director of Women Peace and Security Network Africa (WIPSEN-A). She is also a founding member and former Liberia Coordinator of Women in Peacebuilding Network/West Africa Network

for Peacebuilding (WIPNET/WANEP). Leymah is currently named a Distinguished Fellow in Social Justice at Barnard College for the 2013-2015 academic years. She travels internationally to advocate for human rights, peace, and security.

Leymah's leadership of the Women of Liberia Mass Action for Peace – which brought together Christian and Muslim women in a nonviolent movement that played a pivotal role in ending Liberia's civil war in 2003 – is documented in the award-winning film, *Pray the Devil Back to Hell*, and in *The Dream*, a short film by acclaimed director Errol Morris. *Pray* was screened in over a hundred film festivals and in over eighty countries. Her memoir, *Mighty Be Our Powers: How Sisterhood, Prayer and Sex Changed a Nation at War*, has been translated into over a dozen languages. She has appeared on numerous television programs including CNN, BBC, and France24. Leymah currently serves as a member of the High-Level Task Force for the International Conference on Population and Development. She serves on the Board of Directors of the Nobel Women's Initiative, Gbowee Peace Foundation, Federation of Liberian Youth, and the PeaceJam Foundation, and she is a member of the African Women Leaders Network for Reproductive Health and Family Planning. Leymah is an Oxfam Global Ambassador, and received the Women's Refugee Council's Voices of Courage Award in 2014. She has received honorary degrees from Rhodes University in South Africa, the University of Alberta in Canada, Polytechnic University in Mozambique, Cedar Crest College in the United States, and University of Dundee in Scotland. She holds a M.A. in Conflict Transformation from Eastern Mennonite University in Virginia, USA. Leymah is married and has six children.

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