## **Diwali celebrations 2009: Trafalgar Square, London**

## **Sunday 4 October 2009**

The Brahma Kumaris were among the 11 key organising partners on stage at London's famous Trafalgar Square to launch the Mayor of London's annual 'Diwali on the Square' celebrations on Sunday 4th October. Thousands of people were present of all ages and countries to join the festivities with sari wearing, garba dancing and music. A spiritual message by the Head of the Brahma Kumaris, Dadi Janki, was projected on the big screen, together with the animation of the Experiencing Inner Power and Protection project.

Speaking on behalf of the Brahma Kumaris, Sister Maureen addressed the crowds with a simple message: "May this Diwali usher in an era of non-violence and respect and peace and may there be the light of love in every home. Om Shanti".

Swami Ramdev gave the keynote Diwali greetings and met Sister Maureen, Sister Jaymini and other BK representatives afterwards.

Among the other Hindu organisations represented on stage were: BAPS Swaminarayan Sanstha, ISKCON UK, Brahmin Society North London, The Art of Living Foundation, Chinmaya Mission UK, Oshwal Association UK, and the Sathya Sai School of Harrow.

The evening culminated with the crowds being entertained by live performances from artists provided by the event's media partners Star TV and the BBC Asian Network.