



Om Shanti

Inter Faith Religious Meet - Chennai
15th February 2010

Service Report

In commemoration of the 74th Shiv Ratri celebrations the Brahma Kumaris, Chennai have organized an Inter Faith Religious meet under the theme “**Awakening Inner Peace for Harmony in Society**” on 15th February, 2010 at 5.30 p.m. The program brought together around 15 religious leaders from various faiths like Hinduism, Islam, Christianity, Buddhism, Sikhism, Jainism etc.

The main religious and spiritual leaders from various faiths include

1. Sivachariyar Sambamoorthy, Sri Kapalishwarar Temple, Mylapore
2. Shri Madhusudan Maharaj, Secretary, Gaudiya Mutt
3. His Grace Sumithra Krishna Das, Temple President, ISKON, Injambakkam
4. Kaja Mohideen Omri Imam, Ashok Nagar Mosque, Chennai
5. Ven.A.Wathwa, Chief Buddhist Monk, Indo-Burma Buddhist Temple
6. Rev.Fr.P.Pragasam, O.M.I, Parish Priest, St.John, The Baptist’s Church. Poonamalle
7. Shree Lakshmi Sema Pattacharya Pattarahar, Jain Madathipathi, Sithanoor, Dindivanam Taluk
8. Sr.Poornimaji, Guruji Sri Muralidhara Swamigal Mission, Chennai
9. Sardar Sheethal Singh, President, Gurunanak Sath Sang Sabha
10. Srimath Swamy Prabhu Theerthar, Sri Narayana Mandiram, Chennai
11. Rev.Fr.Susairaj, St.Mathews Church, Chennai
12. Padam Tatia, General Secretary, Karuna International, Chennai
13. Pastor Des Arul Chandran, Annanagar Lutheron Church, Chennai
14. Sardar Harban Singh Anandhji, General Secretary, Gurunanak Sath Sang Sabha
15. Dawood Ali, Ashok Nagar Mosque, Chennai

The program started with welcome address by Sister BK Pondy Aparna. The spiritual leaders and senior Brahma Kumari sisters inaugurated the function by lighting the ‘Kuthuvilakku’(Sacred Lamp). The guests were then honored with flower bouquets and shawls by senior brothers.

In her keynote address Rajyogini B.K.Kalavathy, Director, Museum and Retreat Center shared her views on how to bring peace and harmony. “Though there are many religions, we are not aware of the religion of the self, which is peace. Humanity is now in tension, stress, depression and the reason being unaware of the true self. She also cited that as souls, all of us are the children of the One Father, Almighty Authority, Supreme Soul”.

Rajyogini B.K.Beena, Service Coordinator, TamilNadu, mentioned that by inculcating values like Love, Tolerance, Co-operation and Patience, we can bring harmony in our life. Individual harmony will lead to Social and Universal Harmony.

B.K.Muthumani, Senior Rajayoga teacher then guided the guests with a meditation commentary which gave the experience of inner peace.

Excerpts benediction address of the leaders :

Shree Lakshmi Sema Pattacharya Pattarahar mentioned that moral education has been removed from school and colleges. We should bring this to the government notice and ensure that moral education is brought back to them.

Shri Madhusudhan Maharaj, Secretary, Gaudia Mutt expressed that the Brahma Kumaris are doing an excellent work. He has also visited Mt.Abu, head quarters and experienced the peace and purity prevailing over there. Administration of such a big organization by women also needs to be appreciated.

Ven.A.Wathwa, Chief Buddhist Monk emphasized that the Real Peace can be experienced by practising Meditation, being in inner silence.

Mr. Kaja Mohideen Omri Imam spoke: "Such meetings need to be organized by each of the participants in this gathering. The word "Allah" in Arabic means that God is one and common for all. The Holy Quran cites that all of us are brothers and sisters. With this consciousness the difference / friction between religions will reduce. In this regard the Brahma Kumaris also convey the same fact that we belong to the one.

Sr.Poornimaji, Guruji Sri Muralidhara Swamigal Mission stressed that each religion along with tolerating others, we should have acceptance also. This will bring in the harmony.

Sardar Sheethal Singh, President, Gurunanak Sath Sang Sabha said that God is common for all religions. 'kurbani' means to really surrender the mind and the heart to God.

Rev.Fr.Susairaj, St.Mathews Church, Chennai shared his views such kind of gathering will quickly bring in the harmony that we are expecting.

Sister Kalavathy presented memento to the guests followed by Bro.Pandian proposing the vote of thanks. The program ended with World Peace Meditation for a minute. Bro.B.K.Sundaresan compered the entire program.