

Mumbai, 4<sup>th</sup> May 2014

## **Decennial Celebrations of Prabhu Upvan, Rajyoga Retreat Center, Borivali (E)**

A star studded event marked the Decennial Celebrations of Brahma Kumaris Rajyoga Retreat Center known as 'Prabhu Upvan' located at Ekta Bhoomi Gardens, Borivali East, and conducted at Sheth Gopalji Hemraj High School grounds, Borivali East, on the evening of 4<sup>th</sup> May, which was graced by Senior Brothers and Sisters of this global NGO and recipient of UN Peace Messenger Award (1986), with their subtle messages.

The theme of this evening's programme which commenced at 04:45 pm was titled:-

### **'Aao, Prabhu Sharan Aao**

**An evening to experience -The Power of Spiritual Love.'**

The celebrations, which were held on a spacious dais, splendidly decorated to suit the occasion, opened with melodious renderings of popular lyrics and hymns, by three singers of 'Indian Idol' fame Viz. - Harish Moyal, Vishal Kothari and Bhumi Trivedi, followed by a welcome dance performance, welcome address by Sister BK Sangeeta, accompanied by presentation of bouquets and pins to the guests and invitees, which included Film Director Subhash Ghai, Music Director Sameer Sen, Tennis Star Padma Bhushan Leander Paes (Chief Guest), Rajyogi Brother BK Brijmohan, Rajyogini Sisters BK Dr. Nirmala Didi and BK Santosh Didi.

This evening's Keynote address was delivered by Brother Brijmohan, who is the Joint Secretary-General of Brahma Kumaris. He conveyed a subtle message, that the decreasing sportsman spirit in facing the challenges of today's life, could be regained by acquiring the traits of Brotherhood of Man and Fatherhood of God, as expounded in our spiritual texts, to attain a state of stability from success or failure, by churning out the cream out of our Higher Self from within ourselves.

Among those, who left lasting imprints in the minds of the nearly about 7,000 strong congregation, was veteran Film Director Subhash Ghai, when he pointed out, that intellectual poverty was at the roots of destruction of our national character and lack of happiness, peace and love in contemporary society. Practice of applied spirituality was the only recourse to restore our lost glory, was his concluding message.

During the course of the programme, which was interspersed with silent meditation and inspiring discourse by the Sub-Zone-in-Charge and Founder visionary of Prabhu Upvan- Sister BK Divyaprabha, who shared divine insights

and practical applications of RajYoga Meditation in personal, professional and spiritual life, the event culminated to a scintillating candle-lighting ceremony and releasing of balloons which lent a festive atmosphere to the celebrations.

Padma Bhushan Leander Paes, who was the Chief Guest at the function, shared his Valuable Thoughts, after a felicitation ceremony. While extolling the serene premises and pleasantly peaceful precincts of Prabhu Upvan, he shared the legend by Rudyard Kipling titled "IF" above the center court at Wimbledon-Quote,"If you can handle triumph and disaster and treat these imposters just the same", unquote. He also conceded that success and failure are two sides of the same coin, and the need for happiness and peace in today's stressful life was paramount, and congratulated the Brahma Kumaris for taking up this great cause and spearheading this movement for global peace. He described himself as a humble patriot playing for national pride and glory of our nation.

A brief ceremony of release of the Souvenir, on the occasion was followed by a short video presentation of the premises and orientation of the activities of the Retreat Center - Prabhu Upvan.

Special invitees, who sent their compliments and best wishes for the occasion, as they could not attend the ceremony, included Pujya Namra Muniji, renowned choreographer Saroj Khan and Actress Raveena Tandon. Finally, blessing message by Rajyogini BK Dr Nirmala Didi, Director of Brahma Kumaris' Academy for a Better World at Mount Abu, International Headquarters, followed by messages of good wishes by Shri Gopal Shetty, sitting MLA, brought the event to close for the evening.

Commendable arrangements for conducting the guests including VIPs, adequate Police security and traffic regulations, media were handled by the volunteers of the organisation and were acknowledged by Sister BK Sangeeta, who led the audience deftly throughout the celebrations. The glittering decennial celebrations would go down in the annals of history and cherished by the community of BK Brothers and Sisters and the invitees alike.

In conclusion, 'The Power of Spiritual Love' engulfed all those present at the venue for this unique occasion.