

**DADI JANKI in the San Francisco Bay Area (California, USA)  
on June 9th and 10th**

At 6.30 p.m. on Wednesday June 9th, there was standing room only at the Anubhuti Meditation and Retreat Center located in Bel Marin Keys, Novato, California. The program included award-winning composer/producer Gary Malkin; former world champion and university professor and author Dan Millman (The Way Of The Peaceful Warrior); award winning director, musician and composer, Founder of the Global Oneness project Emmanuel Vaughn-Lee; and special guest Dadi Janki, Spiritual Leader and Administrative Head of the Brahma Kumaris from Mt. Abu, India.

The title for this evening's program was: 'Courage and Compassion' which Dan Millman opened with: We strive to live with a peaceful heart, but it takes courage to live in this world. Mr. Millman shared how feelings change all the time like the weather. He quoted Huston Smith a long time friend of Aldous Huxley (Brave New World 1932) who asked Huxley to summarize what he had learned. Huxley replied: "I can in six words. Try to be a little kinder." Gary Malkin's melodious voice reminded the audience of the deeper self, that feels courage and engages compassion to find answers to life's individual journeys. The music and lyrics created a special space in the evening. Excitement followed with a short film clip from Emmanuel Vaughn-Lee which captivated the audience by reminding us that it is an interconnected world, and how being true to ourselves allows truth to become a part of who we are.

Sister Kala from New York (a renowned pediatrician) acted as translator for Dadi Janki who spoke in Hindi. Dadi Janki who is 94, said that people ask how she can be so light at this age: "They don't understand who is running me. It is the might from the Almighty that makes me light." Dadi shared some gems which included knowing that success is your birth right. Dadi Janki was emphatic about the fact that if you have courage but don't have compassion or if you have compassion and not courage "how can we live as one." At this time in the world what is needed is newness. Deep love brings newness, because if the heart is happy the head will be cool.

In conclusion Dadi reminded us that "we should not hold on to situations as some situations will hold on to us. Be free from it today. Not careless, but carefree." In the quiet of meditation the evening came to a close, and with it the traditional Brahma Kumaris sharing of drishti (eye contact), toli (a sweet) and powerful words in a blessing card.

### **Thursday June 10th.**

On Thursday June 10th, Dadi Janki, the Spiritual Leader and Administrative Head of the Brahma Kumaris in Mt. Abu India, met with Cassandra Vieten, Director of Research at the Institute of Noetic Sciences, to explore science and spirituality as a pathway to happiness. This meeting was held in a beautiful Romanesque cathedral, the First Unitarian (1889) on Franklin Street, in San Francisco.

Over 300 guests enjoyed the evening which began with an exquisite musical performance by Karamo Susso on kora, a 21 stringed African lute accompanied by two musicians on gourds playing in rhythmic and complex synchronicity. Rev. Canon Charles Gibbs entertained the audience with his wit and humor as moderator and brought additional lightness to the program. Rev. Gibbs began the discussion with a very brief clip based on the life of Dadi Janki, and why she was given the United Nations prestigious award as one of the 'Keepers of Wisdom.' After this introduction Dadi Janki, a diminutive figure dressed in a simple robe, shared a connected moment with the audience. She stood to return their gaze with drishti (spiritual eye contact) to calm the energy in a 'shift to happiness.' It seemed to work as the discussion began with humor, smiles and laughter.

To close the evening of music, song, meditation and some ways to enable a Shift to Happiness, Dadi Janki was joined by Sister Chandru, Director of the West Coast Brahma Kumaris. With the fabulous music of Karamo Susso's trio playing in the background, Dadi Janki once again gave each person in the audience drishti (spiritual eye contact) shared a toli (sweet) and handed out powerful messages in a blessing card.

### **Photo 1 - Anubhuti Retreat Center (Novato - San Francisco)**

Dan Millman, World champion gymnast and author taking blessing from Dadi Janki, administrative head of Brahma Kumaris while sis.Chandru (right), Vice President of Brahma Kumaris USA, Dr.Kala (left) from Peace Village and sis.Hema (center) from Anubhuti Retreat Center look on.

### **Photo 2 - San Francisco**

L to R - Rev. Charles Gibbs, Exec. Director of United Religions Initiative, Dr. Kala Iyengar, Dadi Janki, administrative head of Brahma Kumaris World Spiritual University, Dr. Cassandra Vieten, Director of Institute of Noetic Sciences.

### **Photo 3 - View of the audience during 'Shift to Happiness' with Dadi Janki**