

# 'Spirituality - answer to world's ills' say leaders & academics

## 3-Day Platinum Jubilee Grand Finale of Brahma Kumaris Concludes

**Abu Road, October 7:** Spirituality provides the answer to the various problems faced by the world today, as it helps individuals rise above man-made divisions, foster their innate virtues and overcome negative traits, **Member of the Upper House of Indian Parliament (Rajya Sabha), Mr. Amar Singh** and several other MPs, Ministers and Academicians said at the concluding day sessions of Brahma Kumaris' Platinum Jubilee Grand Finale on role and relevance of spiritual wisdom, here today.

**Mr Amar Singh**, who was visiting the Brahma Kumaris campus here to take part in the Valedictory Session of the 3-day grand finale of the institution's platinum jubilee celebrations, was all praise for his hosts, saying there was no discord between words and deeds in the institution, which was run by women, who had historically been downtrodden by male dominated society.

Saying that the world was passing through the final phase of Kaliyug, when even religion gets degraded, he said it was the time, according to the Bhagavad Gita, when God comes to this world. At such a time, the Brahma Kumaris were uplifting humanity and spreading the light of India's ancient culture, which was vanishing, he said.

Politicians were responsible for the present sorry state of affairs in India. Politicians of all parties in the country should learn from the Brahma Kumaris what Indian tradition and culture is. The Brahma Kumaris exemplify what '*vasudhaiva kutumbakam*' means as they truly treat everyone in the world as part of their family, he said.

**Film Star and Member of Parliament Ms. Jaya Prada** said today people had the will and time to do everything but had no time to remember God. She said the Brahma Kumaris were trying to build a bridge between man and God. "A mother sustains a baby in her womb for nine months so that the baby is born ready to survive in the world. This institution is preparing humans to lead a noble life."

Earlier, **Mr. Anil Sahani, Member of Indian Parliament from Bihar**, said peace could be established in the world only through the Brahma Kumaris. "Humanity is under threat from terrorism and extremism. Today, people's thinking has become corrupt. There is no positive thinking. The Brahma Kumaris teach how to think positively," he said, adding that the institution should reform extremists and bring them to the right path.

Referring to the theme of the valedictory session, '**God's Power for Golden World**', **B.K. Mohini, Regional Coordinator of the Brahma Kumaris in the Americas**, in her blessings, said God's powers are not manifested in the form of magic or miracles. God works through humans and transforms them to change the world, she said. Once people experience the energy, joy and happiness of the Golden Age in the behaviour and goodwill of people in the Brahma Kumaris, they don't feel like returning to the world of sorrow and vices, she said.

She urged everyone present to create the thought that they will help God in the task of creating a golden world, and for that they will transform themselves. Such self-transformation will bring about world transformation, she said.

**Mr. G. Alihasan Ali, Rector of Azerbaijan University**, in his speech said the Brahma Kumaris was the only institution where clear knowledge of the soul and God, and how the two can connect, was given. The institution was working for peace and non-violence worldwide, he said, and expressed the wish that it would work to bring peace to his Azerbaijan.

Several other speakers including **B. K. Mruthyunjaya, Executive Secretary of Brahma Kumaris, Mt. Abu, B. K. Golo, Engineer, Solar Energy Project, Abu Road, Sister B. K. Meera, National Coordinator, Brahma Kumaris, Malaysia** also spoke on the occasion.

During today's morning session, several MPs, Ministers, Industrialists and Academicians addressed the plenary session on '**Future Belongs to Spiritual Wisdom**' at the same venue here.

**Mr Arjun Roy, Member of Parliament (Lok Sabha) from Bihar**, said going to temples and mosques looked naïve once one realized the soul. "One needs to introspect and look at the soul. Once one realizes the soul, one does not need prayers," he said. The Brahma Kumaris was one place where one learnt what spirituality was, he said, adding that it was also the best place for women's empowerment.

Continuing the theme of women's advancement, **Mrs. Mamta Sharma, President of the National Commission for Women**, said the Brahma Kumaris had shown that women could be capable leaders and administrators. Dwelling on women's and social issues, she said no single individual could bring about social change, and the entire society should work to end atrocities against women and other social ills. For this, it was vital to connect the minds of children to India's ancient culture, she said.

**Mr. Man Pal Singh Verma, Minister of Transport, Uttar Pradesh**, wondered aloud why people were burning in the fire of hatred and animosity when all humans were the children of the same Supreme power, by whatever name they called him. Today, people are trying to fly the flag of religion while talking irreligiously. In contrast, he said, "The Brahma Kumaris sisters are like deities. In their company, the behaviour of ordinary people also changes. The knowledge they give links the soul with God." Today, people practiced yoga only to stay physically fit. The true value of yoga lay in removing negativities from the mind and experiencing virtues like love and peace, he added.

**Mr. Prem Kumar, Minister of Urban Development, Bihar**, said the Brahma Kumaris' effort to change people's mindset was showing results. "Through Rajyoga, by controlling vices, we can do something for society. In the coming times, we can show the world the right way to face challenges," he said.

**Mr. Wajahat Habibullah, Chairman, National Commission for Minorities**, who is a follower of the Dalai Lama, said after discussions with the Dalai Lama, he had reached the conclusion that the foundation of India's traditions was compassion. Man was today misguided, he said, noting that nuclear science, which can do a lot for mankind, had been used to make weapons of mass destruction. "Will we keep fostering mutual hatred," he asked, adding that the Brahma Kumaris were showing what unity in diversity means.

**Mrs. Roza Abzalova, Director, Centre of Family Health, 'Demeu', Kazakhstan**, said whatever religion people followed, all were souls, with purity and peace as their innate qualities. She had realized this truth after coming in contact with the Brahma Kumaris in 2004, she said, adding that spiritual wisdom was vital to ensure a bright future for humanity.

**B.K. Charles Hogg, Director of Brahma Kumaris activities in Australia**, said when he was young, he travelled the world and lived with various religious communities in his search for wisdom. Wisdom, he said, was living the truth in one's life. When he came across the Brahma Kumaris, he instantly felt that people in the institution lived what they preached. That started his 35-year-old association with the institution.

Several other speakers, including **Dr. H. Maheshappa, Vice Chancellor of Viswesvarayya Technological University, Belgaum; Dr. T.R. Dhinakaran, Founder, Ramalinga Group of Mills, Tamil Nadu; Dr. R. Krishna Kumar, Vice Chancellor, Yashwantrao Chavan Maharashtra Open University; and Mr. Purushottam Agrawal, Chairman, Agrawal Group of Companies, Indore**, stressed on the need for a spiritual awakening of the masses in order to develop a society based on humanism.

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