

Brahma Kumaris Los Angeles Organized Shivratri Celebrations **at 4 different locations.**

At Chinmaya Mission Phoenix

The event started with an Exhibition on Soul, Supreme Soul, Cycle & Kalpa Tree explanation followed by a mother-daughter dance by Sister Shefali & daughter Aarya, talk on spiritual significance of Shivratri & an experiential exercise called Tree of Blessings by Sister Vino and a guided meditation by Sister Shruti. In the end, everyone received a packet of toli, savory snacks, blessing and boxed lunches.



Live Shivlingam darshan & Raja Yoga Course Exhibition



MC Sister Itty



Registration & Ushering team



Mother-Daughter Dance by Sister Shefali & daughter Aarya



Spiritual talk & Tree of Blessings Activity by Sister Vino. Attendees formed a big circle at the back of the hall and given a blank card. They were then led into a brief meditation and instructed to come singularly and pick a blank card and a pen from the table; and write a heartfelt blessing on the blank card. These cards were pre-threaded. After everyone had written their blessing on the blank card, they were asked to come individually and hang it on the tree. Once the tree was decorated with all the blessings; each attendee was requested to come and pick one hanging card for themselves. Each attendee got a card with a blessing that someone else had written. When asked how they felt, attendees said they felt happy and generous when writing the blessing and as if the blessing they received was exactly what they needed. Sr. Vino then wrapped



up the exercise by explaining that we are all part of the same human tree and God is the seed of all of us despite all our external differences.



Then, Sister Shruti guided everyone into a meditation which allowed attendees to experience God's love and presence; and encouraged everyone to pass on God's love to everyone they interact with. The event concluded with toli, blessing & boxed lunches.



Phoenix Sevadhari Team

At Oasis Community Center, San Diego

The celebration began with meditation using light music to establish a deeply meditative atmosphere and Drishti by sister Elizabeth and sister Tina to all.



Sister Aishwarya was the host for the evening who shared the Brahma Kumaris history before starting the cultural dance performance.



Followed by inviting Eveleen, a 10-year-old who is in fourth grade performed a beautiful cultural dance on Shiva. Followed by playing a video that signifies the importance of Shivaratri and explaining the 12 jyotirlingas in India.



Sister Gita who is lead coordinator of Brahma Kumaris Southern California shared a talk on essence of Shivaratri with all about God's message for us all at this time is to renounce the vices and become pure by connecting with the Supreme Soul and remembering we are all Souls, child of God. Followed by a video on God which delivers the visual message of we are all child of God and now must connect with God in his true form.



Sister Vino engaged all in a beautiful activity sharing the glimpse of Kalpa tree. The activity involved guided meditation to remember and be grateful for lifetime blessings, and sharing blessing cards hung on a tree. Then everyone had to pick a different blessing card from the tree. This helped everyone understand the importance of gratitude in our life.



Sister Dimple who is a classical singer and plays instruments sang a beautiful song of “Tar man ke tumhi se judi hi rahe” using her musical instruments gave a beautiful performance elevating the energy in the hall and helping all feel the connection with God.



Sister Sneha took all of us into a meditative state with the guided meditation that helped all realize the divinity within each one of us and allowing us to maintain it.



Sister Gita, Sister Rozy, and Sister Elizabeth shared Toli, Blessing card and Dristi to all the attendees.





San Diego Sevadhari Team

At Brahma Kumaris Cerritos Center

The event was held for 7 hours. Attendees were first walked through the 12-jyothirlingam exhibition in the backyard. People walked in for the exhibition in groups throughout the event.



Then they entered the classroom for a Live Shivlingam darshan where the spiritual significance of Shivratri & the rituals were explained.



After that, they were guided into an experiential meditation and given toli, savory snack and blessing as they left.



Attendees inquired regarding the Raja Yoga Courses and workshops.





Cerritos Sevadhari Team

At Brahma Kumaris Los Angeles Center

The event started with a 15 minutes meditation followed by welcoming by the MC, Brother Art. Then there was a skit “Unity in Diversity” where most of the important religions were represented and each one had a different way to remember GOD. When they were praying, there was a Voice of God that said that ‘I AM known by different names, but I AM One’. They all realized that there is something common, even in their religions that He is ONE and there is importance of Light. In the end, they meditated together as they are children of ONE God



Sis Diane, Director of Brahma Kumaris Seal Beach shared the significance of ShivRatri. She said that we are in the period of darkness, due to lack of consciousness/awareness. She also shared how meditation can bring power of tolerance to live peacefully in the society and make this a better place to live. Time has come where we need to become light houses to transmit Light.



Then, a video was played on “Remember who we are?” Followed by an engaging activity called “Tree of Blessings”. It was conducted by Sis Vino. Everyone enjoyed writing a Blessing for themselves.



Special Guest for the evening was Dr. Lo, Director of Guibord Center. She shared the message that this is the time of darkness and time of sorrow in the whole world. We have Billionaires in this world, but no Love. She also gave an example about cancer, where the doctors declared the patient cancer free and celebrated, but the patient couldn't heal herself. It was only after she felt the Light, that she got healed. It was that Light. Every Faith talks about Light. We are not here to do tasks, but we were born for a purpose.



Then there was another skit, performed by Sis Hana and Sis Sneha with a strong message. The skit was named “Not enough time for God”.



Sister Gita led the audience in Om Chanting for 3 times and shared how we have lost our inner world and focused on our outer world. We started asking “Why, What, Where and How?” That led us to search for God. She also shared that bodily Religions are many, but religion for the Soul is only one - PEACE.



The program ended with an Experiential meditation by Sister Sneha accompanied with singing bowls music by Sister Sylvia. Snack packets with Toli, Blessing card and packed vegan dinner were given to everyone on their way out.