Brahma Kumaris Environment Initiative

Report on the UN Climate Change Conference COP26

9^{th-}10th Nov. 2021 - Glasgow, Scotland

The conference is coming towards its end. There is an intense buzz and last-minute announcements, but at the same time there is frustration at the minimal progress being made.

Welcome to listen to a short snippet from our exhibition:

Voices from the Green Zone - Faith, Religion and Beliefs...

We now have the <u>full video from the Interfaith Talanoa Dialogue</u> on the 31 of October.

Tuesday 9 Nov.

Healthy Minds, Healthy Planet

In front of an audience of 100 plus at the Trades Hall, Glasgow, the Brahma Kumaris assembled a strong line-up to discuss the link between the way we think - and therefore behave – and the health of the planet. Held on a rainy November evening, the event was organized by Inner Space, Glasgow and Marilyn introduced the speakers.

Golo started bydrawing from his experience in India to underline the power of the mind to find solutions. Arriving there from his native Germany in the 1980s, he quickly grasped that renewable energy could provide a reliable source of power to the BK community in Mt Abu. Whenever a challenge arose, the senior spiritual leaders advised him to visualize the solution.

Dr. David Hamilton, writer, speaker and "kindness scientist" advocated "kindfulness rather than mindfulness". "If I am kind to one person, it's more likely I'll be kind to others," he noted.



Sister Jayanti said we are more comfortable when we bring our original qualities of peace, love, joy and truth into our awareness. This connection with our deep, inner consciousness influences how we interact with the world. "Tread lightly on the earth. Don't walk with heaviness – feel light and easy," she advised. More pictures at the end of this report.

Climate Justice

Christian Aid and <u>Make COP Count</u> invited faithleaders to share on the topic of climate justice in a series of talks. Sister Jayanti shared a panel together with Lowell Bliss, Director of Eden Vigil, and Alton P. Bell, Pastor of Wembley Church on the questions: Why is climate justice an issue for you and what are the issues that are close to your heart?How can people of faith play a role in working for climate justice?



Panelists Christian Aid Program

Wendesday 10th Nov

Stockholm + 50

In June2022 UNEP will commemorate the 50thanniversary of the UN conference on Human Environment which took place in Stockholm. A youth task force was established during COP26 in order to bring the voice of youth to the conference. Shantanu, who is the facilitator of the youth group at UNEP was invited to facilitate an intergenerational panel. Mr. Per Bolund, Deputy Prime Minister, Minister for



Environment and Climate, Sweden, and Ms. Inger Anderson, Executive Director UNEP, appointed as the Secretary General for Stockholm+50, amongst others, participated in the online event hosted at the EU pavilion.



Co-Creative Reflection & Dialogue Pavilion Space

The Brahma Kumaris hosted several sessions at the Co-Creative Reflection & Dialogue Pavilion Space of the Institute for Advanced Sustainability Studies (IASS). The overall intention of the pavilion is to foster an integrative communication culture to support delegations in their work and to build networks for change. This is connected to a research project, more information here. Some programs were:

Shifting Consciousness and Paradigms towards a Sustainable Future - Maureen and Carolin facilitated a reflective process to enable deeper understanding on the nature of paradigms that need to shift and how these interrelate with the needed change in consciousness.

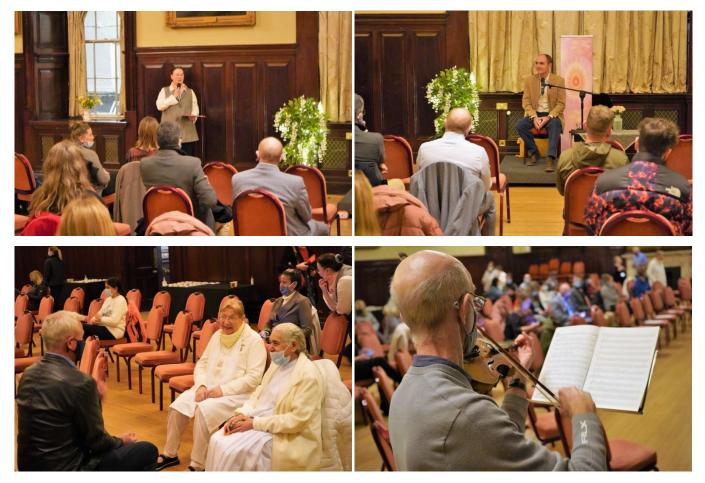
Feminine Leadership - moderated by Carolin and Lisa Planner with Sister Jayanti as a guest speaker. The topic of "Serving Leadership" was taken up, considering all the selfishness around. Instead, by becoming an example for humility, we can see what is really needed for others.

Spirit of Humanity Forum & IASS - Is COP 26 leading us towards a loving world? This was the question posed to a small dialogue group at the Co-creative and reflective dialogue space at the pavilion of IASS. In a reflective dialogue, hosted by Maureen Goodman and Tom Bruhn, the group discussed the tensions that arise when we work in silos and 'fight' for a cause. We understand love through its many expressions including empathy and generosity. A holistic vision enables healing and a movement towards flourishing for all life on earth. As a basis for decision making, one needs a balance of head and heart and a vision of equal value for all beings. The group expressed a deep motivation to honour the importance of a spiritual practice to empower actions.



While trying out the Virtual Reality Headsets Sister Jayanyti and Golo got lost in outer space.

Fotos from Healthy Mind, Healthy Planet program:





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