



## 3<sup>rd</sup> Report on the UN Climate Change Conference COP28

1<sup>st</sup> - 2<sup>nd</sup> Dec. 2023 – Dubai, UAE

Today, more than a hundred world leaders attended the high-level opening ceremony at COP28. UN Secretary-General António Guterres challenged them to demonstrate real climate leadership to prevent a planetary crash, emphasizing that "humanity's fate hangs in the balance". King Charles III addressed the conclave with an emotional speech that made headlines, stating that the Earth does not belong to us, but rather, we belong to the Earth.



### Global Climate Action Hub

Sister Jayanti participated in the Interfaith Dialogue titled 'Faith - **The missing piece in climate discussions and for climate action**'. The participants discussed how there is all the science explaining how people are changing the climate, there is the Paris Agreement, and yet emissions are still rising. What is missing? We lack the will to change. A group of spiritual figures and clergy from various faiths shared about how to promote faith-based climate action. Panelists agreed that faith and love for all creation are missing pieces in the current climate deliberations. Faith is at the heart of sustainable change as it brings courage, strength, enthusiasm, wisdom, and much more. They urged religious communities to be more active and work together towards a sustainable planet for future generations.





*Speakers: Haposan Cornelius Sinaga, Youth Representative Indonesia; Archbishop Peter Loy Chong, Philippines; Sister Jayanti; Rabbi Yonatan Neril, Director, The Interfaith Center for Sustainable Development; Valeriane; Rev. Einar Tjelle, Church of Norway and moderator Monique Nardi, UNFCCC secretariat.*

### **Interview**

After the faith program Sister Jayanti was interviewed by Amy Rennie from Greenhouse Agency in the Faith pavilion.

### **The Voice of Youth in the Faith Pavilion**

Lutheran World Foundation ran a session focused on the value of faith-based organizations' practices, contributions, and groundwork in implementing climate adaptation and resilience measures. Shantanu participated on behalf of the Brahma Kumaris and UNEP major group for children and youth. The emphasis was on instilling core values like love, peace, and compassion from a young age. The expression "Charity Begins at Home" underscored the importance of teaching these principles to our children. "Casual attitude will lead to Casualties".





The Church of Sweden ran an interreligious youth dialogue on resilience and hope between youth representatives from different faith traditions and geographical regions. Priyanka and Shantanu participated and raised the spiritual youth voice and the need to reconnect with nature to restore faith and foster a stronger relationship with the environment. Another participant highlighted the importance of having our voices heard in advocating for greater youth involvement at the international and global levels. Additionally, it was pointed out that financial support is crucial for implementing these ideas. The lack of funding poses a challenge in actively engaging with various proposed solutions.



### **Care, Share and Inspire - Climate Wisdom**

The COP28 agreed on a major breakthrough to operationalize a fund for the loss and damage caused by climate change, as shared the moderator for the live studio, Golo.





The other experts on the panel were Allen Ottaro - Director of Catholic Youth Network for Environment Sustainability in Africa, Elena Cedillo - Program Executive for Climate Justice, Lutheran World Federation and Sister Jayanti.

Allen is an important representative of the youth in Africa who wishes to see how global commitments are implemented at grass roots. "We are watching the commitments that the government is making and will hold them accountable in our communities after the cameras are gone," he stated. His endeavor is to shape an ecological citizenship where youth are holistically formed and understand their responsibilities towards each-other and for all of creation.

Elena is a strong advocate in creating climate change awareness and the LWF is taking many initiatives to reduce pollution, influence COP at a global level and to ensure that change happens at a local level. LWF has set a target for themselves to be carbon neutral by 2030.

"I have hope that people will recognize the interconnected of all creatures and that we all need each other, only then will we have solidarity and find a solution to our problems," she said.

Sr. Jayanti shared an interesting analogy of how it is okay for boat to be in the water, but it will be dangerous if the water were in the boat, similarly, the inner being that is peaceful and pure must not allow things from outside to penetrate inside. We must strengthen the inner being through silence and meditation and from that powerful place influence everything outside.

The experts summarized their good wishes for this COP in three words - urgency, commitment and responsibility. After the program, the Raja Yoga centre provides fantastic vegan food made with love.



## Meetings

The COP is where service can happen anytime, even on the way to some event. Yesterday, Carolin met Tanja Bryer and shared a blessing card and spiritual thoughts with her. Tania has become known as one of the UK's most popular and most trusted Broadcasters. She regularly makes the news by interviewing the world's most famous faces on her hugely popular hit show 'CNBC Meets', for which she is also Executive Producer.



### **Dubai Youth team**

Sister Jayanti met with the local youth group. Hopefully many of them will engage in environment related activities in the future!



*Shishir, Biru and Priyanka - Creators of impact!*



**2nd Dec. 2023 – Dubai, UAE**

### **Press conference**

Our first press conference **Amplifying voices of hope and resilience** was held Saturday morning. It was concluded that all projects give hope, action in itself is creating hope. Any person can become a catalyst for change, and influence many others. The 30 minute livestreamed session can be viewed on this [Press Conference link](#)



*Sonja moderated the session with Sister Jayanti, Golo Pilz, and guest speaker Lindsey Fielder Cook, Quaker UN Office, Rep. for the Human Impacts of Climate Change*

### **Care, Share and Inspire - Climate Wisdom**

Tonights guests at the livestream were Dr. Vera Rodenhoff, Head of Division, German Ministry, Environment, Nature Conservation Build. & Nuclear Safety and Carlos Zepeda, PhD, Assistant Director of Policy and Practice, at the Laudato Si 'Research Institute. The evening starts with refreshments and dialogue hosted by the Raja Yoga center.





**Carlos** emphasized the need to listen deeply to the cry of the poor, the marginalized, the vulnerable and also the cry of the earth. Indigenous people, he said, have a unique perspective. They see everything as interconnected. They see a tree, not wood, but as life. **Dr Vera** reminded the audience that this climate crisis is one of the worst that humanity is facing; she likes to hike and loves people and nature like most of us and if we do not do anything to protect it, we will be in trouble. **Sister Jayanti** highlighted the injustice happening at a global level, not just with climate change but in inequality of gender, race, and so on and sincerely believed that only spirituality can resolve the injustice. "We have eliminated spirit from what we are doing, and we need to bring it back into our hearts and conversations."

### Role Play with the Lutheran World Federation Youth Group

The Lutherans brings many youth delegates from all over the world. They give them training in advocacy and how to meet the press and the politicians. They could use the Raja Yoga Center daytime for role play on Saturday, and had a constructive session.



### Well-Being at COP

International Climate Negotiations can be demanding and overwhelming. Nurturing our inner self during these two weeks of COP28 is essential to maintain our well-being. This will also support our efforts on Climate Action. The Research Institute for Sustainability (RIFS Potsdam) German Center for Geoscience (GFZ) hosts the Co-Creative Reflection & Dialogue Space (CCRDS), which is also Carolin's professional work. This a pavilion space used for transformative communication sessions to bring the inner dimension



into sustainability science. The Brahma Kumaris is invited to host daily guided meditations. Sister Jayanti, Medilyn, Birajith, Aneta, and Carolin offer meditations in the first week.

# Nurture your INNER ENVIRONMENT with daily MEDITATIONS

**Join us whenever  
you can at the  
Co-Creative Reflection  
& Dialogue Space  
(CCRDS)**



**Friday, 01 December**  
16:00 - 16:30 Meditation: From Self Care to Nature Care. Medilyn Singh, Brahma Kumaris Environment Initiative (BKEI)

**Saturday, 02 December**  
10:45 - 11:15 Meditation: Inner Power for turbulent times. Sister Jayanti, Senior Spiritual Leader and Global Director of Brahma Kumaris

**Sunday, 03 December**  
16:00 - 16:30 Meditation: Inner Stocktake of love. Aneta Loy, BKEI

**Monday, 04 December**  
11:00 - 11:30 Meditation: Connecting with land and place. Luea Ritter, Collective Transitions  
16:00 - 16:30 Meditation: Inner Empowerment. Birajith Baskaran, BKEI

**Tuesday, 05 December**  
11:00 - 11:30 Meditation: Connecting with land and place. Luea Ritter, Collective Transitions  
16:00 - 16:30 Meditation: Letting go and recharge. Carolin Fraude, RIFS, BKEI

**Wednesday, 06 December**  
11:00 - 11:30 Meditation: Inner Empowerment. Carolin Fraude, RIFS, BKEI  
16:00 - 16:30 Meditation: Connecting with land and place. Luea Ritter, Collective Transitions

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Offered in collaboration with our partners:



THE  
BRAHMA  
KUMARIS  
DEUTSCHLAND

COLLECTIVETRANSITIONS



Find the way  
to the CCRDS  
with this QR  
Code

The CCRDS is a project of the Research Institute for Sustainability (RIFS Potsdam) German Center for Geoscience (GFZ) [www.rifs-potsdam.de/en/CCRDS-COP28](http://www.rifs-potsdam.de/en/CCRDS-COP28)





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