

## Climate Change Conference – Copenhagen, Denmark

The long-awaited UN summit on climate change opened today, Monday 7<sup>th</sup> December, with delegates from 192 countries attending. Some scientists have described it as the most important conference the world has ever seen. About 100 leaders are to attend over the next two weeks, 34,000 participants in all. To stress the importance of the summit, 56 countries in 45 countries have published the same editorial on their front pages!

**We will be writing daily reports to keep you updated and for our UN records:**

### **Sunday, December 6<sup>th</sup>**

Arrivals of the BK delegation to Copenhagen began from Friday 4<sup>th</sup> December and will continue at intervals through the 2 weeks of the conference. There will be 17 members of the delegation in all from diverse countries. As of today the delegation consists of:

Head of delegation, Sister Jayanti

Sisters:

Julia UN office in New York;

Sonja, National Coordinator of the Danish Centers;

Patricia, former government Climate Change negotiator, Peru;

Brothers:

Renaud, Quality Security Environment Manager, France,  
and Arnold the Netherlands.

### **Pre Conference planning meeting:**

Sonja went through some logistics for our 2 weeks together and presented some of the materials we have produced for the conference:

- BK Position Paper: “*Consciousness and Climate: Confluence of Two Living Systems*”
- Flyer speaking of our inner climate and some information on our spiritual headquarters and our pioneering efforts in solar energy called “*Mind and Matter Confluence of Two Living Systems*”.
- Program of our Public Events: “*Brahma Kuamris World Spiritual University: Environment Initiative*”
- Calling Cards/business Cards – 8 versions each with a different lifestyle slogan

Patricia began the meeting with a very clear and helpful synopsis of the history and present position of the Climate Change negotiations, highlighting the main areas of discussion:

- Targets to curb greenhouse gas emissions, in particular by developing countries
- Financial support for mitigation of and adaptation to climate change by developing countries
- A carbon trading scheme aimed at ending the destruction of the world’s forests by 2030

Then we all shared ideas of our BKs message:

- Clean energy solutions from matter will be created from the clean energy source of our minds.
- Solutions to climate change in the world are being sort with questions of how we can organize the production and use of energy in a way that is both equitable and sustainable. To adopt the solutions needed and bring into reality any shared vision we will need to use the energy of pure thoughts and simple lifestyles.
- We are specialists in creating a harmonious and peaceful atmosphere. We should pay special attention during these 14 days of the conference to our thoughts and feelings so that the, so often, stressful debates, negotiations, and negotiators themselves can be benefited.
- A question that BKs often raise – why are we interested in the environment if we know that the world will be transformed soon anyway? It is important to realize that we are the ones who, with Gods directions and power, are creating the new world and we are creating the sanskaras needed for the new world now – in the confluence age – these sanskara's of pure thoughts and simplicity are being created now at the confluence age.

**Hosted a lunch at the BK Center for the volunteers of *The Global Peace Initiative of Women***, the organization who we are working with to bring religious leaders to Copenhagen for a parallel meeting.

### **Christinana Climate Bottom Meeting – Windows of Hope**

This is a meeting that is parallel to the Climate summit, primarily taking place at Christiania – an alternative living area in Copenhagen, started in an abandoned army barracks in Copenhagen, in 1971 As self-proclaimed autonomous neighborhood, the current government is not particularly sympathetic with the aims and achievements of Christiania, since soft drugs have been part of the experience.

During this conference their aim is to create a Climate Bottom Meeting where in a casual/relaxed atmosphere “Windows of Hope will be presented to the world. These windows of hope will include a number of practical sustainable cities and eco-village initiatives around the world, showing different solutions to overcome the world's ecological, social, spiritual and economic challenges.

Since the Brahma Kumaris message is for all peoples we are taking part in the Climate Change conversation at many levels. In the afternoon our delegation set off wrapped up in our coats and scarves and hats to the tent where the main presentations were taking place. Sister Jayanti was a speaker under the day's theme of “Worldview, Culture and Spirituality” Sister Jayanti followed 2 well known Danish writers and a Brazilian Ecologist.

The first writer, **Tor Norretranders** spoke of how the matter of our body is not fixed but is an ever changing ‘reincarnated’ form – the body we are born with is not the one we

have now, or in the future, most of the atoms have changed. Most people believe that we bury our body at the end of our lives, giving back our bodies to the earth, but this is not so, our body is being slowly replaced every day in a process where we consume matter which becomes part of us and then disregard the waste which is not needed, this waste matter is then used by other living beings and what they do not use, is discarded as waste and used by another living system – so all are connected in an ever flowing natural cycle of consumption and waste. It is only when human beings decide to use matter which is not part of this natural cycle – such as oil, coal, minerals which we dig out of the earth and consume and the waste that is produced is unusable by any other living being and so is piled up as waste and creates the problems we have today.

The second writer, **Carsten Jansen**, spoke of “Why our children Hate Us!” He read a paper which was very comprehensive but basically said we are a generation that can teach our children nothing. Other parents have been able to prepare the future generations and teach them things, traditions which will be useful to them, but since we have such an uncertain future there is nothing for us to teach them. We are too attached to our middle class way of life we are unable to take the huge step or jump that is needed to make the necessary changes to survive. We are too attached to our way life and our identities. He asked the question of how long we could continue not to adapt .

**Victor Andes** from Brazil, spoke of “The Relation Between Ecology and the South American Spirit” made a nice segue for Sister Jayanti when he spoke of the importance of a positive vision and to take inspiration from the values of community living of some of the South American traditional ways of life; such as sharing, helping one another, renewal and love.

All three presentations opened up the perfect “window of insight” for those present. Having heard of the living systems of matter, the importance of not being attached to our false identities, and no longer had the courage or strength to change, and the importance of love, **Sister Jayanti** told everyone that our true identity was of spirit and not matter. That with this recognition we would have the power to make the changes necessary; with the power of our minds, our pure thoughts, we could transform matter. She then led everyone in a powerful meditation.

### **Evening Program at the Center – “The Spirit of Service”**

A warm invitation was sent to all volunteers of our (Copenhagen’s) BK Climate Change Group and financial support team; for an informal meeting with sister Jayanti to start of the climate Summit. Sister Jayanti spoke of how do provide help to others, managing our time without using up our own energy -- taking power from God and being an instrument. She also answered a list of very practical questions from a women who trains young volunteers who go aboard. Rasa, the Ambassador of Lithuania to Denmark and part of our Call of the Time network spoke afterwards of how helpful and practical she found the talk, having come back from Madhuban with many spiritual experiences she felt that questions she had about how to bring what she had experienced more into her practical life had been answered. About 50 people attended.