

Copenhagen Climate Change Conference - BK Report ,Monday 14th December, 2009

Christiana Climate 'Bottom' Meeting - Windows of Hope

This is the meeting that is parallel to the Climate summit, primarily taking place at Christiana Brother Golo was one of the speakers of a morning programs on Sustainable Energy. In the introduction to the event it was mentioned that solar, wind, hydro-electrical, geo-thermal and biomass energy together with energy conservation should be a central part of the energies policies of the future. This is the way to achieve a CO2 neutral society, where growth is measured in "soft" and immaterial values. It was held in the main tent and was attended by about 60 people.

Golo informed the audience about the latest solar development scheme in India to install 20,000MW until 2020. . He then gave a power point presentation and spoke of the Brahma Kumaris activities in the field of renewable energies and finished the presentation by saying that lasting change can only be achieved by a change in consciousness and practicing values

Climate Change TV arranged and interviews with Sister Jayanti and Sonja at the Brahma Kumaris stand at the Klimafourm, along with a well known Danish musician Peter Bastian and Allan Alfred Hensen from "We Collaborate" - the organization that was facilitating these interviews. The general theme was how to continue after COP15.

GOP 15

In the afternoon Mr. Al Gore was scheduled to speak at a side event called "Melting Snow and Ice: A Call to Action" which was to be held opposite our stand, and over a period of about half an hour a crowd started to build with many press. By the time Mr. Gore arrived a few hundred people had collected outside the room unable to enter the already packed hall. Many milled around waiting for him to come out of the room for a glimpse or photograph, the result was that some wandered to our stand where Julia and Golo had the opportunity to tell them about our perspective. One such person was a young woman from an organization called "Creative Climate", who interviewed Golo. Creative Climate is a diary project that will record how people understand and respond to environmental change over the next decade. It is a project hosted by the Open University and includes linked broadcasts by the BBC.

On leaving the Bella Center we were given a piece of paper being given to all NGOs by security informing us of further restrictions . . . from Wednesday only 7,000 NGOs would be admitted due to capacity restrictions - 15,000 capacity - 45,000 registrations!

Time to Change

On a dark and cold night over 200 people in contact with the local BK centre, gathered in a beautifully decorated hall in the centre of Copenhagen to listen to sister Jayanti speak on the theme "Time to Change".

She shared the highlights and impressions she gathered from the different events she participated in during her days in Copenhagen and the Climate Change meetings. She mentioned Mr. Yvo de Boer, Executive s Secretary of the UNFCCC has said "This crisis is not a climatic crisis but a moral crisis". Sister Jayanti continued by explaining how values and morals are part of the inner being and this is

what people can change through understanding the self more deeply and through experiencing the very core of their being through meditation. She also shared how people are now talking about systemic change, or system change however, history shows, change happens, as Margaret Mead a social scientist has said, "Only when a small group of committed individuals make it happen". Sis Jayanti explained a system cannot transform itself, but a small group of committed people can change a system. The change has to happen in me - When I change the world changes. If I am in touch with my inner core I'll respond peacefully.