

Nurturing the Inner Landscape

Public Programme with Dadi Janki

26.12.2009 -India Social and Cultural Centre, Abu Dhabi

On the evening of December 26, under the ongoing umbrella theme of Experiencing Inner Power and Protection, a public talk by Dadi was organised on the topic 'Nurturing the Inner Landscape'

The Chief Guest for the evening was Prof. Dr. A. H. Dawood Al-Azdi, environmentalist and former Minister of Foreign Affairs of the UAE. Other dignitaries included Mr. Sudhir Shetty, President, ISC and Chief of the UAE Exchange and Dada Jashanmal, Chairman, Jashanmal Group of Companies. The programme was compeered by Brother Sanjay of Abu Dhabi.

After a welcome dance, the Chief Guest Dr. Al-Azdi delivered his speech after bowing and doing a 'namaste' to Dadi. He spoke of his happiness knowing that Dadi had spent time in Pune, as his grandfather had owned a farm there and he had been regular visitor to India in his youth. He also shared his own experience with hatha yoga. A believer in the compassionate way of life, he said that, though we have always spoken of peace in the world, we have never been able to establish peace. Speaking of the rapid technological changes that the world is witnessing and the advantages of science, he said that we nevertheless should not take these for granted and should remember that life cannot be prolonged by fast movement and cleverness. He exhorted all to seek peace and silence and said that life will always prosper, if we can be clean of heart. Sister Jyoti of Dubai carried the theme further by saying that we can experience this inner peace by becoming soul- and God-conscious, as practiced in Rajayoga.

Speaking on the occasion, Mr. Sudhir Shetty said that what is more significant is not so much what is happening in the world but what is happening within us. He said that we are in a confused state of affairs and do not have time for ourselves, let alone time for others - constantly comparing ourselves with people we consider better off than us and trying to reach where they are. Although in terms of physical comforts we are far better off than we ever were, he asked: Are we comfortable within? Reflecting on the state of affairs that humanity finds itself in, he said that earlier we used to have smaller houses but better understanding, now we have bigger houses but poorer understanding. Four people sit at home in the same room and talk on 4 different phones but have no time for each other. He expressed his happiness that the Rajayoga centre was present in the UAE, so that people can avail of its services as it has come at a very appropriate time.

Dadi was introduced as a founding member of the Brahma Kumaris, one of India's first women spiritual leaders, a spiritual entrepreneur, instrumental in spreading spirituality across the world by establishing Rajayoga centres worldwide and enabling leaders from various fields to connect with their spiritual selves and with the supreme. She spoke of the importance of truth, courage and faith in nurturing our inner selves. Sister Bharati of Abu Dhabi gave the Vote of Thanks and the programme concluded with meditation conducted by Sister Anna from Lebanon. At the end of the meditation, it was quite enchanting to observe the absolute stillness and a deep silence in the hall for a couple of minutes even after the music and commentary stopped.