

UN World Day of Remembrance for Road Traffic Victims - 18 November 2012

Service Report

On WDR 2012, Brahma Kumaris centres worldwide observed the World Day of Remembrance through collective meditation.

Special events were organized in some cities worldwide. Some key highlights are shared below:

- **Mount Abu, India (HQ of Brahma Kumaris)**: Three radio shows were aired on the theme of Road Safety on the community radio station '[Radio Madhuban](#)' on 16th and 18th Nov. These were aired during the shows Youth Junction and Spotlight Values. In the evening of 18th Nov, powerful meditation was held for one hour in the presence of Dadi Janki, Chief Administrative Head and Dadi Ratanmohini, Joint Administrative Head of the Brahma Kumaris.
- **Barcelona, Spain**: The Association for preventing road accidents of Barcelona invited Brahma Kumaris to share insights at an interface programme on road safety and WDR.
- **Calgary, Canada**: 'Just A Minute and Chai' was organized as a forum for people to engage in a thought provoking discussion. The chat in this caf-style event was focused on the question: What five qualities do you feel play a major role in road safety? The discussion inspired all to enjoy mindful behaviour on roads.
- **Colombo, Sri Lanka**: A two hour programme on the theme 'Good Wishes for Road Traffic Victims' was held at Dehiwala. It included a small drama,

group discussion on the theme of “Accidents and Carelessness”, a short talk on “Spirituality for Safety” and an hour of guided meditation for sharing peace and power with road traffic victims.

- **Johannesburg, South Africa:** Inspiring experiences were shared at a special two hour programme organised at Lenasia. A young survivor of road accident, Atish Lalla, now quadriplegic, shared how he dealt with this challenge in life and now inspires others to live with Love, Hope and Faith. The Chairperson of an NGO ‘Compassionate Friends’ and ‘Rehana Moosaje’ the MMC for Transport in Johannesburg also shared their experiences, crucial information and suggestions. Everyone involved in an Interfaith Prayer, followed by Meditation.
- **Khoyratty, Mauritius:** A public function was organized during which various stakeholders shared their views and experiences on the subject and subsequently joined in the collective meditation hour. Participants who addressed the group included Mr. B. Buntipilly, Special Advisor on Road Safety matters at the Special Road Safety Unit of the Prime Minister’s Office (PMO), Mr. B.Munusami, a well-known Police Sergeant at the Road Safety Unit delegated by the Commissioner of Police, Mr. Emmanuel Renard, French expert on Road Safety.
- **London, UK:** Global Co-operation House was glad to welcome Brigette Chaudhry MBE, founder of the UK Charity ‘Roadpeace’, which first started WDR. Her presence was special at the International Meditation hour dedicated to WDR.
- **Mumbai, India:** At two locations in Borivali, special meditation was held with guided commentaries. An interactive talk was held on subtle communication and on identifying the spiritual powers needed by different

stakeholders in relation to road accidents viz. victims, survivors, their families, emergency service providers, traffic personnel etc.

- **New York, USA:** Members of the local community came together at Harmony House in Great Neck Long Island to offer peace and power to victims of road accidents and natural calamities, in light of the recent devastation caused by Hurricane Sandy. Individuals with first-hand experiences narrated life-changing stories, public announcements were showcased and a poem "The Chariot" was recited to indicate the connections between steering the mind and steering a vehicle. Participants were motivated to complete a commitment card to practice road safe behaviour.
- **Orissa, India:** A rally and public function were organized on 18 November in observance of WDR. Participants included Block Development Officers – Pradeep Kumar Sahu and Gayatri Naik, Motor Vehicle Inspector – Nirmala Mahaty, Senior Journalist – Balaji Tarasia and President of Truck Owners Association – Sanjay Nanda.