



Celebrating Best Practices

Hollywood, Florida.
Sunday March 24th, at the ArtsPark in Hollywood Florida, the Brahma Kumaris hosted "Peace in the Park", a successful fair, that had an estimated 2000 attendees. At this fair there were fantastic performances, meditation experiences, and various activity tents.

One of the tents was the Earth-care tent where participants learned about the connection between consciousness and the environment. The participants were invited to plant seeds whilst keeping a virtue or value in their awareness. They took the planted seeds home to nurture it further with their love and care.

Participants were then invited to plant a seed of change by adding a new commitment they were willing to make, to be more green, to the tent's rainbow.

Words from the Environment Team: Why are you passionate about spirituality and the environment?

Being in harmony with the environment is Nonviolent. We all know about the mainstream lifestyle and how damaging it is to the earth and the spirit. The industrial mindset is at war with nature. We can live in very simple, loving ways that are full of happiness and purpose. A yogi life is at peace with this place (the planet).

~ BK Gordan Lawrence

Nothing provides for us as unconditionally as Mother Nature. She doesn't discriminate between species and sustains each and every of God's creation unconditionally. We chop down Her forests, we drink Her water, burn Her fields, and yet She still gives. Without a thought we take from Earth, and only after much thought do we ever give back. As children we are closest to Earth, rolling in Her mud, sledding down Her hills, chasing Her butterflies. "Mama" Earth has taught me, by example, how to serve selflessly and with love. I see the path forward as we grow worldwide spiritual awareness in caring for the Earth that connects us All.

~ BK Shubhra Goel

Nature is a full partner and companion in our lives. For too long, humanities self-involved 'needs' and 'greeds' have bankrupted this relationship to such a degree that we have become disconnected from our own selves as well as from the environment. We have

lost our relationship of harmony with nature and so now all are suffering; people, the environment, and all other living beings. We quite rightly consider our human rights worth standing up for, but few consider the rights of nature. I believe that the essence of life is the harmonious connection and interplay between the human soul, God and nature. If we are to create a world of peace, prosperity and happiness for all we must begin with ourselves by re-establishing a respectful and loving relationship with the natural world.

~ BK Julia Grindon-Welch

We human beings have taken so much from Mother Nature, yet, we hardly give back. The plants, elements, insects and animals all give back and serve. In the last few centuries we have been taking more than what we need. In fact we have disrespected the laws of nature by disturbing the peace, stealing the beauty, polluting what was pure and stealing its power to recover. We have violated the laws of nature. The results are now evident. Now it is time to give back and create a Golden Paradise once again through our thoughts, words and actions. Then it will only be natural that the five elements serve us because we created the karma and sanskars of respect, purity and love for the world. It is only natural that the environment would give in return.

~ BK Elizabeth Padilla



"One approach is to keep things in order with force, but another is to keep things in order with love. If someone tries to force things to work a certain way, it is not pleasant, but when nature stays in order because of love, it is very powerful."

~ Dadi Janki

THE BHAGAVAD GITA AND THE ENVIRONMENT

Forces of Nature
All actions take place in time by the interweaving of the forces of Nature; but the man lost in selfish delusion thinks that he himself is the actor.

Conscience and Choice: Awakening Your Green Angel BK Environment Retreat

June 21-23, 2013
Peace Village

We would like to encourage you to spread the word to interested BKs and BK teachers to explore the link between spirituality and the environment and to inspire an elevated consciousness that will allow us to 'see the trees' of our future home - the Golden Age.

We will be showcasing some of our best practices, setting a solid foundation for our future service, and also investigate ways to create healthy, green, and more environmental friendly lifestyles as individuals and at our centers.

We will be participating in an 'Awakening the Dreamer' workshop as a public event on Sunday as part of a training experience. Materials and coaching will be presented providing an easy way to bring this workshop back to our centers and local communities.

This will be a balanced weekend with time for the self, nature,

and service, and we are also anticipating a rich interview with one of our seniors where we can immerse ourselves in ocean.

This retreat is essential for coordinated action in North America and our aim is to have one person identified at each center as a "Green Angel". So don't let your center miss out!

Please register your BK teachers/students as soon as possible and send this information to Peace Village, at registration@peacevillage.org so that both Peace Village and the Green Retreat Coordinators can properly prepare for the registrants participation.

Arrival: Friday, June 21, from 5-9 p.m. - **Departure:** Sunday April 23, after 4:00PM (or Monday Morning).

BK Gordan Lawrence and BK Shubhra Goel will be coordinating this retreat with the support of BK Elizabeth from Anubhuti and BK Julia from our UN office in New York.

What vision are we holding for the future?



The Awakening the Dreamer Workshop is a collaborative effort between the Pachamama Alliance and the Brahma Kumaris.

This workshop is a profound inquiry into a bold vision to bring forth: An environmentally sustainable, spiritually fulfilling and socially just human presence on earth. It has been presented in Brahma Kumari Centers in 19 countries. It is designed to awaken the sleeping giant of ignorance among humanity.

Next workshops in the USA:
May 4, Anubhuti Retreat Ctr
June 23, Peace Village
June 23, San Francisco Ctr.