



Climate Change Conference COP22 in Marrakech, Morocco

Wednesday 16th Nov. 2016

Women Leaders!

Staged at the Palmeraie Golf Palace, the "Women Leaders and the Global Transformation Summit" attracted an impressive gathering of active women leaders from many different sectors of human activities (business CEOs, City Mayors, NGO activists, Politicians, Scientists etc.). The main objective of the summit was to show how women can be strong solution providers and how collaboration with other women and proactive men can further the causes of sustainable development and de-carbonization.

Irina Bokova, Director General of UNESCO, talked about the required shift in the mindset and attitude. Nicolas Hulot, a well-known French environmentalist emphasized that the world doesn't need more science and technology, but needs wisdom and conscience. The feminine principle of humility is the need of this time. The famous actor Christopher Lambert and youth icon Akon delivered inspiring and heart moving messages. Sister Jayanti shared the table with Irina Bokova and other high profile women from the UN.



In her talk, Sister Jayanti said that BK is the largest women-led NGO in the world catering for women and



men. She described the extensive renewable energy projects of BK and added that: "Spiritually is not only at the heart of all traditions, but at the heart of human beings itself, as we are spirits. Men and women together "hold up the sky". As we embark on the inner journey we can access divine peace and thus together create a better world. Sister Jayanti closed the event with a short meditation. This was followed by a beautiful live performance by Desert Rose that raised the audience to their feet.



COP22 Interfaith Statement

230 faith leaders from 44 countries, including the Dalai Lama and Archbishop Desmond Tutu, have agreed an interfaith statement which calls for global financiers to divert investment away from fossil fuels towards clean technologies.

The Statement was handed over to Cynthia Scharf, a senior member of the UN Secretary General's Team. The Interfaith delegation which presented the statement included Sister Jayanti, Valérieane, Imam Saffet



Catovic from Iranian Students News Agency, Ciara Shannon co-founder of the Global Catholic Climate Movement and Rev. Fletcher Harper, Executive Director of GreenFaith.

The interfaith statement can be read under:

http://www.interfaithstatement2016.org/home/#home_page_new_petition_signature_form

Green Zone Side Event

The Green Zone is open for the public and is where hundreds of organisations and businesses display their solutions for climate change. Even though it was a late afternoon and the conference is coming to an end, around 30 people turned up for the BK program: "Transition to innovative and clean technology demands a new mindset."

Moderator Curtis Doebbler, Professor of Law, opened the

session by saying that we have to move away from talking about principles and that we need more actions based on those principles. The 3 key actions needed are finance, capacity building and access to technology.

Paul Allen, from the Centre for Alternative Technology in the UK, presented informative slides showing how the sun sends energy to earth and that, in the old days, humans used exactly that share of energy for their daily life. Over the last 150 years, energy consumption per person has multiplied many times and reached totally unsustainable levels. He talked about his initiative "Zero Carbon Britain" and how various technologies, combined with proper education, can reverse the trend.



Golo presented slides describing the Brahma Kumaris organization and our solar projects in India. He then linked our work with spirituality, values and ethics. "Meditation and our thoughts are the key to change the world."

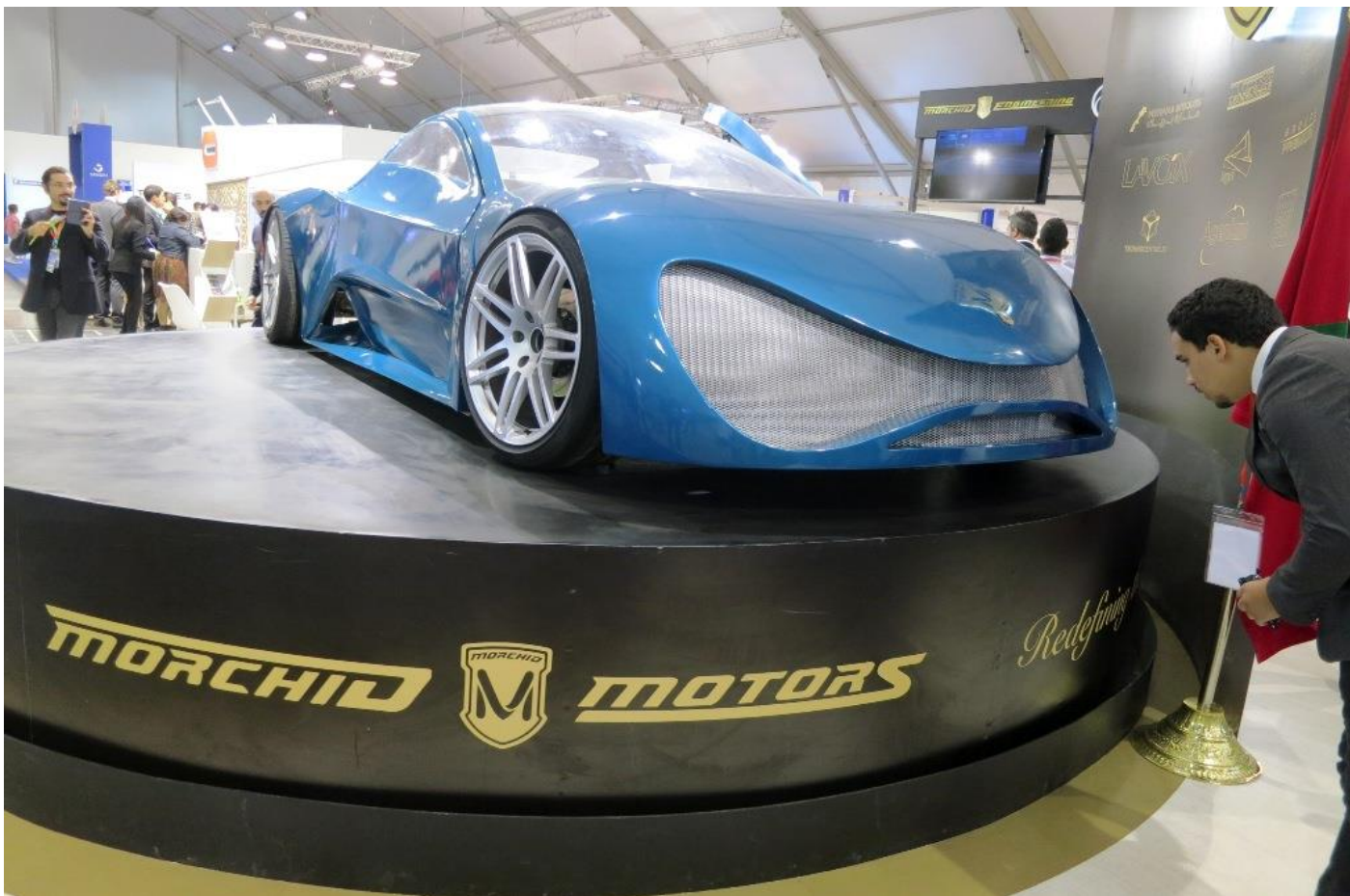
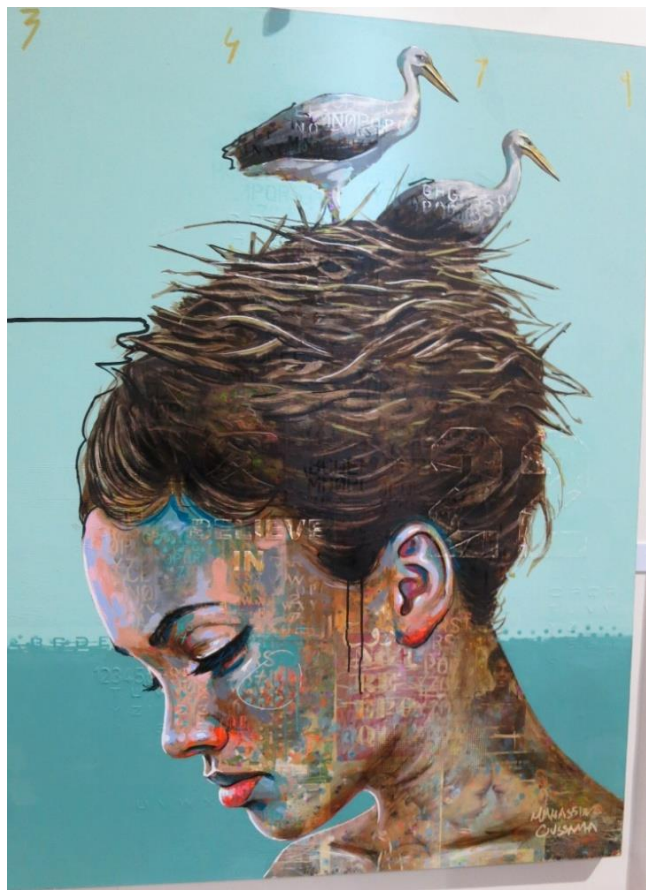
Sonja ended the program sharing her views on the indicators of a transition time. She said that care and kindness can give hope and meaning and thus help us to improve our minds and actions. She explored what a mindset close to nature means – a natural mindset without waste and in balance.

Art Exhibition

After the program Golo and Sonja took the chance to visit the Art exhibition in the green zone about climate change and were quite impressed with some of the displays. Some impressions are given here.







Read more: www.eco.brahmakumaris.org