

## Global Summit-Cum-Expo in Shantivan, Abu Road, India. 29 September - 1 October 2018

### Science, Spirituality & Environment – the role of human beings in creating a better world



Around 500 participants took part in the three-day conference in Shantivan. The program was rich with panellists from all walks of life - science, spirituality, environment, politics, arts and many more.

Dr Vandana Shiva from India was the Guest of Honour at the morning session on the last day. She made a powerful speech on the topic of *Enlightenment for the Golden Age* about the world not being made of hard stuff, of matter, but it is made of energy. Therefore, modern science teaches us to go beyond matter and materialism to a world of energy, to the world of interconnectedness. Spirituality is also a world of interconnectedness; we are one family. BK's are leading the way to Golden Age with love, compassion and selflessness.



Sonja was invited, on behalf of BK environment initiative, to share her insights. She spoke of how we create Golden Age within ourselves first. Every day and every minute, we have an opportunity to create a golden age and within that a chance to create a better world, not only for myself but for everybody including the animals. How would you like this new world to look? How would you like to feel in the Golden Age? I am sure we all know, it is our childhood dream, it is what we dream about – a world full of harmony, beauty and joy, full of love. There is beauty and joy inside us, in our relationships, in nature.



Therefore, every time we have a negative thought, we delay the arrival of the Golden Age. Every time we feel stress, the new era of harmony and joy is stalled. The pollution in our mind is reflected in society. We can replace the inner pollution with trust, and with faith in the goodness of all things. Is it possible for us to trust that all that happens is for the good, to trust in help from God?

In the Golden Age we will be childlike, innocent and happy. We are spontaneous, open and creative. There is only goodness and love. We can start to practise this now – from today, forget the critical and hard voice and embrace your golden aged divine, pure child.

The valedictory session was called God's vision and mission for a better world. Golo was invited to share his experience and was congratulated on all the solar work he had contributed to institutions.



Golo spoke of his personal story of how he came to India 35 years ago in search of love and truth. At that time, it was a pollution free India and the cities were beautiful. Today the picture has changed, and the massive pollution and traffic is very stressful for the soul and body - it is a worldwide problem. He started the research and development in solar clean technology. Today the Brahma Kumaris in India has 20 projects with solar cookers and 300 photo voltaic systems. We are now one of the largest single users of solar in India and recognized by the government as a research and development institution in solar power technology.

This is not enough however. The inner world and the outer world are connected. Meditation is a very powerful tool for change and to purify our thoughts and emotions.

We participate in all UN Climate Change Conferences and inspire people to understand the connection between these two worlds, the inner and outer worlds, and to inspire change. We have two new initiatives on the way – to make our institution plastic free and to make CO2 compensation for travels. It is my heartfelt wish that we all join hands in the work to create a better world. With love and peace, with guidance from the Almighty Divine, we can change the violent and polluted atmosphere and bring the golden age to this world. You are all invited to join hands.



From the exhibition on yogic farming:

Arranged by the Brahma Kumaris Education Wing.