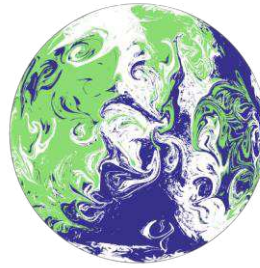




Report on the UN Climate Change Conference COP26 31stOct. to 1st Nov. 2021 Glasgow, Scotland

After 2 years of pause due to Corona, the UN Climate Conference COP 26 is finally taking place in Glasgow, Scotland. Almost 25,000 delegates, 200 ministers and heads of states, and most importantly the Brahma Kumaris delegation headed by Sister Jayanti, are coming together to find solutions to the emerging climate disaster.

[Meet the BK COP26 Team](#)



**UN CLIMATE
CHANGE
CONFERENCE
UK 2021**

IN PARTNERSHIP WITH ITALY



We found accommodation 40 km outside Glasgow in Linlithgow in the beautiful green country side, surrounded by horses and sheep. The weather is typical - cold, windy with low clouds and the occasional rain. BK has lined up almost 30 programs; before entering the climate conference we have to do a quick Covid test, upload the results and get approval from the national health service. So, there are tons of formalities

and at times, long waiting queues in the cold. Nevertheless, the message of Brahma Kumaris to change the self-first and then change the world is urgently needed.

The science is crystal clear; technology and strategy to conquer climate change is available; alas, it seems humanity lacks the power and will to initiate the required changes in lifestyle and behaviour. We are trapped in the old mindset and our message that meditation is the remedy for that comes right in time.

However, in the G20 meeting which took place in Rome last week, world leaders, including those of countries that are responsible for 80% of carbon emissions, came up with a rather lame statement without clear targets or a proper timeline. The absence of the Chinese and Russian presidents can be interpreted as a bad omen and so expectation towards the outcome of the conference are not that high. This cartoon says it all.



“The spirits say you have all the data.
Just do something.”

Pat Byrnes / CartoonStock.com

So it's our job to spread love, hope and compassion to the delegates and the world.



[What is COP26?](#) Green Zone COP26 Presentation Video including Sister Jayanti.

Sunday 31st October

COP26 Prayer and Meditation Vigil

Speaking at the Interfaith Prayer and Meditation Vigil and launch of Scottish Interfaith Week in George Square on Sunday, Sister Jayanti noted that the critical situation demands we make practical changes to our lifestyle now.



The Vigil in George Square attracted crowds despite wintry weather

Glasgow City Chambers

The Vigil's Reception took place at the Glasgow City Chambers on George Square. Guests including Sister Jayanti, Nicole and Birajit, were welcomed by a passionate and informed speech by the Mayor, who spoke about the urgency to act now in order to prevent climate catastrophe. Following was a speech by the two women who organised the Vigil, and thereafter time for the reception guests to mingle and connect.

Talanoa Dialogue

On the first day of COP26 the Interfaith Gathering in the Spirit of Talanoa Dialogue brought together individuals active in the work of climate change. There were 140 people present at the Garnet Hill Synagogue, Glasgow, and 60 online throughout the event. The participants approached climate change from the perspective of their own faith traditions, sharing about the values that bind us together as a human family, such as love, cooperation, and resilience.

Talanoa is a traditional word used in Fiji and across the Pacific to reflect a process of inclusive and transparent dialogue. Its purpose is to build trust and respect for decision making for the collective good. This was made possible through messages of hope and togetherness from many faith leaders and from individuals in 16 different workshops that addressed various subjects such as Just Transition and Adaptation. Ephraim Mirvis, Chief Rabbi of the UK and the Commonwealth said: "We are all responsible for each and every person on the planet". Food and views were widely shared, creating inclusiveness and respect in the true spirit of the Talanoa dialogue. [More details:](#)



Garnet Hill Synagogue, beautiful setting for the COP26 Talanoa Dialogue

Reception hosted by Stop Climate Chaos Scotland

Glasgow City Chambers hosted another reception organised by Stop Climate Chaos Scotland. Guests, including Nicole and Balwant from the Brahma Kumaris, were welcomed by a speech and a sharing of an indigenous woman of Africa, who spoke about the impact of climate change on her country. Guests were invited to connect, network and be informed about the various activities and ambitions of Stop Climate Chaos Scotland.

Monday 1st Nov



Today the **Green Zone COP26 Virtual Exhibition** goes live on Google Arts and Culture. World Renewal Spiritual Trust and the Brahma Kumaris exhibits:

[The Power of People Virtual Exhibition](#)

Panda Hub – Faith and Nature

Climate and Nature: The Role of Faith-Based Organizations in Securing an Equitable, Net Zero Emissions and Nature Positive World for All, [watch on youtube:](#)



Organised by: WWF and the Faith and Biodiversity UN Coordination Group in the COP26 PANDA HUB. A discussion explored the role that faith-based organisations can play in advocating for strong action on climate and biodiversity. It explored the theological and philosophical basis of the current environmental crisis, and offered insights into how humanity can re-orientate itself to being in harmony and balance with nature. Speakers:

- Karena Gore, Center for Earth Ethics
- Sister Jayanti, Brahma Kumaris
- Debra Boudreaux, Buddhist Tzu Chi Foundation
- Gopal D. Patel, Bhumi Global
- Gavin Edwards, WWF New Deal (Moderator)

5 Easy Steps for Transition from Climate Anxiety to Climate Action This in-person event was facilitated by Shantanu Mandal to explore causes and solutions for climate anxiety. Highlighting the impact of our thoughts, he shared a 5-step approach to help deal with the triggers that throw our minds into an anxious spin:

1. identifying and accepting
2. disengaging and detaching
3. realization
4. application
5. acknowledgment



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