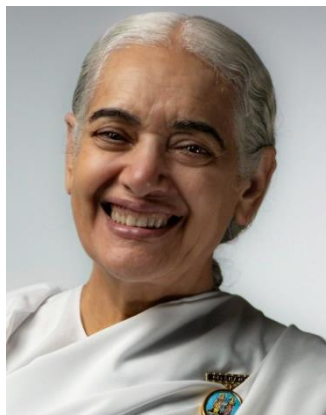


## Consciousness and Climate Change



### Sister Jayanti Kirpalani, UK

#### **Additional Administrative Head of the Brahma Kumaris**

#### **Main representative of the Brahma Kumaris to UN, Geneva**

Sister Jayanti is also the Director of Brahma Kumaris activities in Europe and the Middle East. As a spiritual teacher for over 50 years, she has dedicated her life to self-transformation and service to humanity. Since 2009, she has led the Brahma Kumaris delegation to the UN Climate Change Conferences and spoken on many international platforms about spiritual perspectives on the environmental crisis. She continues to champion the co-operative role of spiritual organisations in creating a just and peaceful world, bringing spiritual principles to the discussion tables of nearly every stakeholder of our times. Sister Jayanti sees the erosion of spiritual values as the underlying cause of the crises the world is facing today.



### Maureen Goodman, UK

#### **Programme Director for the Brahma Kumaris, UK**

#### **BK representative at the UN, Vienna**

As a presenter at several climate change and biodiversity UN conferences, Maureen has a deep interest in the spiritual and ethical dimensions of climate change and climate justice, the nature of harmony, and the connection between our inner state of being and the state of our Earth. Maureen has a long-term involvement in inter-religious dialogue and represents the Brahma Kumaris on the Board of World Religious Leaders of the Elijah Interfaith Institute and is a Spiritual Ambassador to The Living Peace Projects. In April 2022 she travelled to Ukraine with religious leaders as part of the Faith in Ukraine initiative. Maureen is part of the Strategic Circle of the Spirit of Humanity Forum, offering a safe space for dialogue among leaders.



### Golo J. Pilz, Germany/India

#### **Advisor on Renewable Energy**

Golo of German origin has practised Raja Yoga meditation since 1984. He lives most of the year at the main campus of the Brahma Kumaris in Mount Abu, India. In the early 90s, he established the Brahma Kumaris as one of the major users of renewable energies in India. More recently, Golo has directed the construction of India One, a 1MW solar thermal power plant, an innovative R&D project partly sponsored by the German (BMUB/GIZ) and Indian Governments (MNRE). He has been involved in more than 20 R&D projects on solar power for rural applications, cooking, and energy storage. Golo advocates sustainable solutions through an ethical and value-based approach. He is an experienced presenter and participates regularly in UN Climate Change Conferences.



### Sonja Ohlsson, Denmark

#### **Designated Contact Point to the UNFCCC**

#### **International Coordinator BK Environment Initiative**

Sonja is the national coordinator of Brahma Kumaris in Denmark, and is a meditation teacher with the Prison Service in Copenhagen. In 2009, Sonja was instrumental in developing the Brahma Kumaris Environment Initiative in order to add the inner dimension to discussions at the UN climate change and biodiversity conferences. She has been actively participating in the annual COP climate conferences since 2009, and the biannual biodiversity COP since 2012. Sonja conducts green retreats for the BK community around the world, and has also travelled with the lecture series on Healthy Mind, Healthy Planet.

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### **Valériane Bernard, Switzerland/France**

#### **NGO Representative of the Brahma Kumaris to UN, Geneva**

As an NGO Representative of the Brahma Kumaris to the UN, Geneva, Valériane has had an interest in spirituality all her life and has been practising Raja Yoga meditation since 1986. She is actively involved, in raising public awareness about climate change within the interfaith movement at the COPs being part of the Interfaith Liaison Committee with the UNFCCC and at the United Nations in Geneva. She has been involved in the ecological movement since Rio 1992, promoting sustainable development and the ethical and human rights aspects of climate change. She is dedicated to raising awareness to advance the standing of women, promote sustaining practices with the environment and through interfaith gatherings, broaden cultural understanding.



### **Carolin Fraude, Germany**

#### **Board member of Brahma Kumaris Germany**

#### **Coordinator of Brahma Kumaris Center in Berlin**

Carolin works for the transdisciplinary research group AMA (A Mindset for the Anthropocene) at RIFS (Research Institute for Sustainability) Potsdam. She holds a Diploma in Education Science and studied philosophy, social science and psychology at the Free University, Berlin. Her research interests include design of processes and spaces engaging with people's beliefs, values, worldviews, emotions and motivations, understood as leverage points for transformation towards a sustainable society. Since 1998 Carolin is a student of Raja Yoga meditation. Since 2013 she has been part of delegations to the UNFCCC and the Commission on the Status of Women.



### **Aneta Loj, Poland/India**

#### **Brahma Kumaris Focal Point to UNCCD**

Aneta's professional career took her to various countries in Europe and she has lived in Hong Kong, Japan, China and India. She has been associated with Brahma Kumaris since 2006 and is today a member of its National Coordinating Team in Poland. Her genuine interest in spiritual truth and benevolence led to her involvement in projects that benefit communities through sustainable development and capacity building. Since 2011, she has been providing her service at "India One" Solar Thermal Power Plant. She coordinated the activities of Awareness Cum Training Center on Concentrated Solar Thermal Technologies of UNDP - GEF - MNRE, Government of India.



### **Birajith Baskaran, UK**

#### **Youth Representative Brahma Kumaris Eco Initiative**

Birajith is an aerospace engineering graduate, who is looking to bring a sustainable future in the field of engineering. He is someone who is passionate about nature and loves to spread awareness about the importance of looking after mind as well as the nature. Have attended a Live FM radio show in Lagos Nigera to answer questions about the mentality of young people in this generation, at the same time, gave talks on Mental Health and Hygiene. Attended COY16 in 2021 and supported the VCOY team as a volunteer.

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**Olga Eremina, Azerbaijan****Representative of BK Environment Initiative, Azerbaijan**

Olga is a Tourism and Hotel Management graduate. She has been associated with Brahma Kumaris since 2010 and has been actively participating in spiritual values education activities of the Youth Wing and BK Environmental Initiative. Olga practices and teaches Raja Yoga to spread the message of a positive way of thinking, a healthy lifestyle, vegetarianism, the art of self-control, and attaining inner powers. She is convinced that self-transformation is the way to world transformation.

**Natalia Vorontsova, Georgia/Ukraine****BK Program coordinator in Tbilisi, Georgia**

Natalia is a graduate of Tourism Business Management, and her interest has always been in sustainable human interaction with nature. Associated with the Brahma Kumaris since 2007, she took an active part in youth service activities in the field of spiritual values education. She worked as a language teacher, translator and manager of the international relations department at Donetsk Institute Tourist Business, implementing spiritual solutions to professional challenges. Today, she is a member of the National Coordination Team of Brahma Kumaris in Ukraine and a Program coordinator in Tbilisi, Georgia.

**Vini Goyal, UK****Brahma Kumaris Youth Representative at UNEP Faith for Earth Youth Coalition**

Vini is a Chartered Accountant with a strong background in providing financial and non-financial assurance services, including experience in carbon reporting. Since being inspired by the teachings of the Brahma Kumaris in 2011, through the program "Awakening with the Brahma Kumaris," Vini has dedicated herself to inspiring other young people to use spiritual tools in their day to day life. Vini plays an active role as a member of the UNEP Faith for Earth Youth Coalition, and has recently joined the Spirit of Humanity forum.



## Consciousness and Climate Change

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### Collaborating with Media Partner Radio Madhuban

Community Radio Madhuban 107.8 FM at Brahma Kumaris Headquarters in India will be at COP29, marking the radio's second broadcasting of COP.



#### **Shantanu Mandal, India**

**Deputy Chair- ReSpECC (CEESP IUCN)**

**Nature based education Task Force (CEC IUCN)**

Shantanu is a radio presenter on Radio Madhuban with one of the prime-time shows Yashasvi Bharat where he interviews dignitaries who are Civilian Award winners of Bharat (India). He is involved in developing environmental programs on the Radio. Shantanu has practiced Raja Yoga for over 20 years. He has a background in fashion design and holds a second bachelor's degree in fine arts. He has represented the Brahma Kumaris Youth at several high-profile environmental conferences. He is also involved in UN Food Systems, lives a vegan lifestyle and believes that "Simplicity is Kindness".



#### **Burhanuddin Ali, India**

**Technical Head at Brahma Kumaris, Mount Abu, India**

Burhan has been associated with the Brahma Kumaris for over two decades, following a vegetarian and spiritual lifestyle. He currently serves as the technical head at Brahma Kumaris. He is also a professional cinematographer. He has created a TV show and several documentaries and short films on environmental issues and sustainable farming. Additionally, he manages social media for Brahma Kumaris and Radio Madhuban. For many years, he has inspired schoolchildren to take an active interest in environmental conservation.

[www.eco.brahmakumaris.org](http://www.eco.brahmakumaris.org)