



RELIGIONS FOR WORLD UNITY
Beyond Religious Coexistence –
Towards an Inclusive, Transformed Society

8th International Interfaith Conference

Theme: “Unity of thought among Religions, for a better world”

14th to 16th July, 2023

Venue: CMS Kanpur Road Auditorium

Organiser:

Mrs. Trapti Dwivedi

Principal, CMS Ashrafabad Campus

City Montessori School

Ashrafabad Campus, Unity Building, Lucknow, India

Phone: +91-522-2654840, 2653661

Email: interfaith@cmseducation.org

Website: www.cmseducation.org/interfaith

Programme

Friday, July 14

- 4:00 pm **Cultural Presentation**
Students of Asharfabad Campus
- Inaugural Speech**
Hon. Justice Dr. Dr. (h.c.) Adel Omar Sherif
- Chief Guest Address**
Hon. Minister Danish Azad Ansari

Saturday, July 15

Master of Ceremony: *Mrs. Shipra Upadhyay*

- 9:15 am **School prayer**
- Welcome Address**
Mrs. Trapti Dwivedi
- Introduction of the conference**
Prof. Geeta Gandhi Kingdon
- Keynote Address**
Hon. Justice Dr. Dr. (h.c.) Adel Omar Sherif
- Welcome Dance**
- Introduction of Chief Guest**
Dr. Jagdish Gandhi
- Lighting of the lamp**
- Chief Guest**
Hon. Dr Dinesh Sharma,
Former Deputy Chief Minister and MLC, UP
- Guest of Honour Address**
Hon. Dr. Sudhanshu Trivedi
- Guest of Honour Address**
Hon. Mr. Prabhu Chawla
- 11:00 am **Panel 1: Religion and Conflict**
Moderated by *Ms. Rubika Liyaquat*
- *Maharishi Brighu Peetadeshwar Pujya Gurudev Goswami Sushil Maharaj Ji*
- *Maulana Dr Syed Kalbe Jawad Naqvi*
- *Mr. Muazzam Naik*
- *Rabbi Ezekiel Isaac Malekar*
- 12:00 pm **Break**

Saturday, July 15 (Continued)

- 12:30 pm **Panel 2: Religion, Gender and Education**
Moderated by *Mr. Rahul Dev*
- *Hazrat Syed Naseruddin Chishty*
- *Mr Afzal Mohammad Farooqui Safvi*
- *Ms. Rubika Liyaquat*
- *Ms. Lalitha Kumaramangalam*
- *Reverend Father Sebastian Kollithanam*
- 1:30 pm **Lunch**
- 2:15 pm **Music Teachers' presentation**
Led by *Mrs. Jinous Yegan*
- 2:30 pm **Panel 3: Religion, the Climate Crisis and Sustainable Development**
Moderated by *Padmashri Dr. Janak P. McGilligan*
- *Acharya Vivek Muni ji Maharaj*
- *Dr. Madhu Khanna*
- *Bhadant Shanti Mitra*
- *Mr. Arjit Mishra*
- *Student Astha Mathur*
Medley of Hymns by Students of Ayodhya Road Campus
- 3:30 pm **Panel 4: Role of Media and Parliamentarians in Interfaith Dialogue**
Moderated by *Dr. Ali Merchant*
- *Shri Paramjit Singh Chandhok*
- *Mr. Rahul Dev*
- *Dr. Sally Hammoud*
- *Maulana Mohammad Mirza Yasooob Abbas*
Medley of Hymns by Students of Golf City Campus
- 4:30 pm **Panel 5: The Role of Judicial and Legal Traditions in Enhancing Interfaith Dialogue**
Moderated by
Hon. Justice Dr. Dr. (h.c.) Adel Omar Sherif
- *Dr. David E. Risley*
- *Pir Farid Ahmed Nizami Syed Bokhari*
- *Student Guneet Kaur*
- 5:30 pm **Closing of the day**
Mrs. Trapti Dwivedi

Sunday, July 16

Master of Ceremony: *Mrs. Shipra Upadhyay*

9:30 am **School prayer**

Welcome by

Mrs. Trapti Dwivedi

Talk- Universal Religious Unity- For Peace

by Bhandant Shanti Mitra

The Relevance of Interfaith Harmony in contemporary world

- *Swami Muktinathananda*

- *Maulana Khalid Rasheed Farangi Mahali*

- *Bhante Gyanalok*

- *Shri Veer Shailendra Kumar Jain*

- *Sardar Harpal Singh Jaggi*

- *Dr. Anil Sarwal*

- *Reverend Dr. Father Denis Naresh Lobo*

10:50 am **Panel 6: Religion and an ethical code for technology**

Moderated by *Mr. Rohit Mishra*

- *Dr. Divya Gupta*

- *Dr. Ajit Kumar Shasany*

- *Reverend Dr. Father Denis Naresh Lobo*

- *Student Jaya Singh*

12:00 pm **Break**

12:20 pm **Panel 7: Youth Interfaith Forum**

Moderated by *Dr. Sally Hammoud*

- *Mr. Shahzad Alam*

- *Dr. David Risley*

- *Student Mujtaba Ali Khan*

- *Student Anaika Pathak*

- *Student Bhuwan Jaiswal*

1:30 pm **Prize Distribution**

1:45 pm **Closing Speech**

Hon. Justice Dr. Dr. (h.c.) Adel Omar Sherif

1:55 pm **Vote of thanks**

Dr. Bharti Gandhi

2:00 pm **Closing of the event**

Mrs. Trapti Dwivedi

Chief Guests

Hon. Dr Dinesh Sharma, 15 July

Former Deputy Chief Minister and MLC, UP

Hon. Shri Danish Azad Ansari, 14 July

Hon'ble Minister of State Minority Welfare Minority Welfare & Waqf

Guests of Honour

Hon. Justice Dr. Dr. (h.c.) Adel Omar Sherif

First Deputy Chief Justice, Supreme Constitutional Court of Egypt

Hon. Dr. Sudhanshu Trivedi

Member of Parliament & National Spokesperson, BJP, New Delhi

Hon. Shri. Prabhu Chawla

Senior Journalist & Editorial Director, The New Indian Express, New Delhi

Eminent Participants

(In order of appearance)

Ms. Rubika Liyaquat

Vice President, Bharat 24 News Channel, New Delhi

Maharishi Brighu Peetadeshwar Pujya Gurudev Goswami Sushil Maharaj Ji

National Convenor of Bhartiya Sarva Dharma Sansad, New Delhi

Mr. Muazzam Naik

President, Center for Studies of Plural Societies (CSPS), New Delhi

Rabbi Ezekiel Isaac Malekar

Head Priest of Jewish Community in India, Delhi Synagogue

Mr. Rahul Dev

Senior Journalist, New Delhi

Hazrat Syed Naseruddin Chishty

National Sufi leader & Sajjadanashin of Dargah Ajmer Sharif, Ajmer, Rajasthan

Mr. Afzal Mohammad Farooqui Safvi

Sajjadanashin Dargah Makhdoom, Sahab Shafipur & State President, All India Sufi Sajjadanashin Council, Unnao

Ms. Lalitha Kumaramangalam

Senior BJP Leader, Bengaluru, Karnataka

Eminent Participants (In order of appearance)

Rev. Father Sebastian Kollithanam

Director of Kusht Niyantaran Evum Unmoolan Samiti (KNEUS), Greater Noida

Mrs. Jinous Yegan, Music Teacher, CMS

Padma Shri Janak Palta McGilligan

Director, Jimmy McGilligan Centre for Sustainable Development, Indore, Madhya Pradesh

Acharya Vivek Muni Ji Maharaj

Founder President, Acharya Sushil Muni Mission, N.Delhi

Dr. Madhu Khanna

Professor of Indic Religion, Centre for the Study of Comparative Religion & Civilizations, Jamia Millia Islamia University, New Delhi

Bhadant Shanti Mitra

Chairman (State Minister) Antarrashtriya Baudh Shodhh Sansthan, Lucknow

Mr. Arjit Mishra

Lead Water Security, Worldwide Fund for Nature (WWF)

Astha Mathur, Student, CMS Gomti Nagar I

Dr. Ali K Merchant

General Secretary, Temple of Understanding India Foundation; Secretary, The Spiritual Assembly of the Baha'is of Delhi NCT

Shri. Paramjit Singh Chandhok

Chairman Gurudwara Shri Bangla Saheb, New Delhi & Advisor, Delhi Sikh Gurudwara Management Committee (DSGMC), New Delhi

Dr. Sally Hammoud

Consultant, Communication and Digital Media Specialist, Lebanon

Dr. David E. Risley

Founder, 'Justice Voices' & 'God Unites', the USA

Maulana Dr Syed Kalbe Jawad Naqvi

General Secretary, Majlis-e-Ulema-e-Hind & Muslim Cleric

Maulana Mohammad Mirza Yasoob Abbas

Islamic Cleric & Speaker, All India Shia Personal Law Board General Secretary, Shia College, Lucknow

Pir Farid Ahmed Nizami Syed Bokhari

A Sufi Missionary, Custodian & Sajjadanashin, Dargah Hazrat Nizamuddin Aulia, New Delhi

Student Guneet Kaur, CMS student, RN-I

Swami Muktinathanand Ji

President, Ramakrishna Math, Lucknow

Maulana Khalid Rasheed Farangi Mahali

Head, Islamic Centre of India, Lucknow

Bhante Gyanalok

President, Mahabodhi Society of India, Lucknow

Shri. Veer Shailendra Kumar Jain

National Vice President, Bhartiya Jain Milan, Lucknow

Sardar Harpal Singh Jaggi

President of Gurudwara Sadar General Secretary Lucknow Gurudwara Prabandhak Samiti

Dr. Anil Sarwal

Bahá'í Faith, Associate Professor of English (formerly)

Reverend Dr. Father N. Lobo

Vicar General and Vice President, Catholic Diocese of Lucknow & Rector, St. Paul's Seminary, Lucknow

Mr. Rohit Mishra, CMS teacher, GN 1

Dr. Divya Gupta

Director, Experiome Biotech Pvt. Ltd., Lucknow

Dr. Ajit Kumar Shasany

Director, National Botanical Research Institute (CSIR-NBRI)

Student Jaya Singh, CMS student, Aliganj I

Mr. Shahzad Alam

National Coordinator for Program for Youth and Protection of the Environment

Student Mujtaba Ali Khan

Student, CMS Chowk Campus

Student Anaika Pathak

Student, CMS Kanpur Road Campus, CEO- Yuva Yodha-NGO

Student Bhuwan Jaiswal

Student, CMS Kanpur Road Campus, CMO- Yuva Yodha-NGO

Host Team Participants

Dr. Jagdish Gandhi

Founder-Manager, City Montessori School, Lucknow

Dr. Bharti Gandhi

Founder-Director, City Montessori School, Lucknow

Prof. Geeta Gandhi Kingdon

President and MD, City Montessori School, Lucknow

Mrs. Shipra Upadhyay

CMS Principal, Jopling Road Camups

Mrs. Trapti Dwivedi

CMS Principal, Asharfabad Campus