

Special Edition



Sayings of Sant Kirpal Singh

1 / 2008

World Conference
on Unity of Man
1 – 10 December, 2007

Second Edition: 2021

Published by:

UNITY OF MAN – Sant Kirpal Singh

Steinklüftstraße 34

A-5340 St. Gilgen – Austria / Europe

Report of the
World Conference on Unity of Man
1 – 10 December, 2007

World Conference on Unity of Man

1 – 10 December, 2007

In the year 2007, the 25th Jubilee of Kirpal Sagar was celebrated with the “World Conference on Unity of Man” on the occasion of the 75th Birth Anniversary of Dr. Harbhajan Singh, the builder of the Project Kirpal Sagar.

His birthday on 10 December was dedicated to the inauguration of the Symbols on the top of the central building of Kirpal Sagar: Models of a Gurdawara, a Temple, a Mosque, and a Church. Each of these models symbolizes the human body, which in the scriptures is called the, ‘true temple of God’. Side by side, the Symbols remind that God made man and man made religions.

This is a review of the event, which brought together people from all over the world committed to creating a peaceful future, based on spiritual and ethical values. Supported by a manifold programme, the World Conference on Unity of Man took place from 1-10 December. It was a convention with different fields of attention, corresponding to the multiple aspects of the Project Kirpal Sagar.

With regard to the spiritual base of Kirpal Sagar, one field of attention was the inter-religious dialogue, as religious tolerance is a must in a growing multicultural world community. A further field of attention was the charity programme, which was to set a practical example: Goodwill should lead to action. As Sant Kirpal Singh had initiated the work for Kirpal Sagar at Nag Kalan near Amritsar at the time of Dr. Harbhajan Singh, a complementary conference programme took place in Amritsar and Nag Kalan. From there a procession of buses and cars proceeded to Kirpal Sagar on 8 December, where the main programme began in the evening with a great welcome function.

Beside attendees from all over India, people from about twenty other nations participated: Austria, Germany, Switzerland, Netherlands, Sweden, Hungary, Belgium, Canada, France, England, Italy, Australia, Croatia, Slovenia, Romania, Paraguay, Kenya, Czech Republic, Spain, Syria, Montenegro and Bulgaria.

More than thirty invited speakers treated various aspects of world peace and universal brotherhood from their angle of vision: religious leaders from different religions, repre-



representatives of inter-religious organisations, human rights activists, social reformers and personalities of the public life.

The inner and outer beauty of the venue Kirpal Sagar created an atmosphere that let everybody feel peace and harmony. May this spirit of the moment continue to spread throughout the world which was so easy to achieve during these days: to be good, to do good, and to be one.

Aims of the Conference

- To strengthen the unity of mankind on the common ground of service to fellowmen and faith in the divine power;
- To further religious tolerance and inter-faith communication by pointing out the common essence of all religions;
- To explain what man is: a conscious entity, gifted with the capacity for Self- and God-realization, endowed with discrimination power and able to take responsibility for his actions;
- To regenerate and revive the ethical teachings common to all religious traditions so that they may become a collective guideline for the welfare of individuals and humankind as a whole.



Opening Ceremony of the World Conference

In the morning of 1 December, a traditional prayer in one of the corner buildings of the Sarovar prefaced the inauguration of the Conference. Then all attendees gathered at the nearby 'Chowk', the pavilion at the crossroads of the Project.

Here Mrs. Biji Surinder Kaur, president of Unity of Man, uncovered a plate depicting milestones of the history of Kirpal Sagar: Sant Kirpal Singh's visit of the farm in 1973, the laying of the foundation stone of Kirpal Sagar in 1982, and the World Conference 1994, during which the foundation stone for the central building in the Sarovar was laid.

Thereafter, as a symbol for peace, two pigeons flew up in the sky.

Left: Partial view of the Sarovar

Right: Opening Ceremony at the Chowk





Today we are going through the spiritual teaching; we are going to cross the door of His grace. Sant Kirpal Singh Ji has now opened the door of His grace – only the awakened soul can cross it.

Sant Kirpal Singh Ji gave the parshad of Kirpal Sagar to Dr. Harbhajan Singh (Bhaji). This was done on the land of Amritsar. Master asked, “Dr. Sahib, Guru Gobind Singh had five battalions to work, how many can you give me?” He replied, “Master, I do not have that much. You can use me for Your cause.” Master was speaking to Bhaji, but looking at me, “I need only one with right understanding.” These words were told by Master in the month of December, and today we also enter the month of December.

Once Bhaji was asked to write the biography of Sant Kirpal Singh. When he was asked how far he had written, he replied, “I am writing very fast, so fast that I become a part of it. Master is so near to me that (by comparison) this shirt is even far away from me.” By building up Kirpal Sagar Bhaji wrote his own history.

Bhaji used to say, “Live and let live.” Our thoughts should be very clear and pure. We all have to develop ourselves and help others to develop themselves. ‘Self knowledge precedes God knowledge.’

Now nine days are left till 10 December 2007, the day for which we all have worked very hard.

Lovable words of thanks to all labourers and volunteers concluded the speech.

(Extract of Mrs. Biji Surinder Kaur’s opening address)

Supporting Programme

Charitable, Cultural, and Sports Activities from 1-6 December, 2007

Saturday, 1 December

Opening of the Medical Camp and the new surgery and intensive care unit
Start of the Medical Highway Service

Sunday, 2 December

Morning:

Shabad Competition

Evening:

Cultural Programme with Quawalis (Banwari Lal and Bakshi with their party)

Monday, 3 December

Morning:

Opening Ceremony of the Dr. Harbhajan Singh Memorial Interschool National Volleyball Tournament

Evening:

Cultural Programme with Quawalis (Mohammad Sherif Qwaal, Malerkotla)

Tuesday, 4 December

Morning:

Continuation of the Volleyball Tournament

Night:

Historical drama with scenes from the time of Guru Teg Bahadur, Guru Gobind Singh and the Moghul Emperor Aurangzeb

Wednesday, 5 December

Morning:

Continuation of the Volleyball Tournament

Afternoon:

Final match and closing ceremony of the Volleyball Tournament and Prize Distribution

Night:

Cultural Programme

Thursday, 6 December

Charity programme – Wedding ceremonies for couples from disadvantaged families



Opening of the Medical Camp

On 1 December, the opening of the Medical Camp and the new surgery and intensive care unit took place. So did the start of the Medical Highway Service.

Hon. S. Rajit Singh Brahmputra, Cabinet Minister of the Punjab, opened the free 'Medical Camp' (Medicaid) which continued until the month of January. He further inaugurated the new operation and intensive care tract of the hospital. As the duties of Hon. S. Rajit Singh Brahmputra include the development of the rural space, he showed great interest for the new operation theatre and the medical equipment, which partially had been donated by German and Austrian companies. During the Conference, the team of the Kirpal Sagar Hospital was supported by doctors and nurses of the K. H. Memorial Hospital, Nag Kalan, to meet the demands of the expected crowds of patients.

Hon. S. Rajit Singh Brahmputra also opened the Medical Highway Service. Waving a green flag, he gave the start for the first ambulance which will take up duty on a highly frequented part of the Amritsar – Delhi highway.





Left and above right: Hon. S. Rajit Singh Brahmura inaugurating
the new operation theatre and intensive care tract
Below: Opening the Medical Highway Service



Interschool Shabad Competition

On 2 December, the Shabad Competition took place

At 10 a.m. the Interschool Shabad Competition started. Groups from seventeen schools from the surrounding area participated. These traditional songs take up verses and hymns from the Holy Scriptures, expressing love and devotion to God.

The chief guest, Hon. Sarwan Singh, Chief Parliament Secretary, welcomed the audience on behalf of the Government of Punjab and expressed his esteem for Kirpal Sagar as a place where all religions are respected.

The contest was won by a girl group of Ludhiana.

Below: Mrs. Biji Surinder Kaur awards the first prize to the winners of the Interschool Shabad Competition



My Dear Children,

We all live under the grace of Sant Kirpal Singh Ji. In October 1973, He came to this place. The decision to make Kirpal Sagar was taken during His last tour to Amritsar. When Sant Kirpal Singh came here, He said to Bhaji, "If we do not get the place in Amritsar, this land here is also good. One day you will require nine maunds (= 40 kg) of Dal for the Langar (common kitchen). Many, many people will come."

The words spoken by a Godman do not go to waste. Master also told, "Dr. Sahib, make a common platform for the whole humanity so that everybody can come and remember the Lord!"

Bhaji did it practically. Today the Sangat has come from different parts of India and my brothers and sisters from the West have also come to attend the Conference. The same God Power is working in all of us. We are not in a position to see this Power with our outer eyes, but this Power is every moment here.

The human soul remains all the time young. My dear children, your body is young. One day we were also young; it is the body which gets old in course of time. The words of the Lord which we have heard should be put into practice. By doing so, we all can attain His grace which is overflowing. If we make mistakes but correct them, there is no problem; the problem is solved there and then. Then we all can live in oneness.

Those who have come to attend the Conference are eagerly waiting for the 10 December. We all are speaking the same language of oneness, even if different languages are spoken (my fellow brothers and sisters from the West use different languages to express their views). I speak His words. The throat belongs to me, but I do not say any word of my own.

I still remember Master's words spoken in Amritsar in 1973. It was His decision to build Kirpal Sagar, and we are putting His words into practice. His words are everlasting. We are very thankful to Him for His grace. His words will never be in vain.

My dear children, I am happy that I have heard your voice, your devotion with which you have sung. I request all of you to put the meaning of the Shabads into practice – then you will see for yourself His grace coming. Our job is to do the best, the rest lies in His hand.

(Extract of the address by Mrs. Biji Surinder Kaur after the Childrens' Shabad Competition)

National Volleyball Tournament

XII. Dr. Harbhajan Singh Memorial Inter School Volleyball Tournament

took place from 3 - 5 December

The annual national Volleyball Tournament for boys started in the morning of 3 December with a ceremony, in which all students, teachers and guests participated.

The Chief Guest, Hon. Padam Shri Pargat Singh, Director Sports, Punjab, was welcomed in the morning in the sports ground with an impressive horse show. Students of the Kirpal Sagar Academy showed their skills at a breath taking speed.

After a display of the school orchestra, the younger students of K. H. Public School, dressed in colourful costumes, presented dances from Punjab and Rajasthan.

Then 18 Volleyball teams from the North of India lined up on the sports ground. Hon. Padam Shri Pargat Singh addressed them in a short speech and declared the games open.



Above: Mrs. Biji Surinder Kaur welcomes the Chief Guest,
Hon. Padam Shri Pargat Singh

Right: Supporting programme performed by students
of the K. H. Public School and K. S. Academy





On 4 December, 10 a.m. the matches of the group phases went on until evening. 18 teams played in four groups on two fields.

On 5 December, the tournament ended with the semi finals and the final match. Chief guest of the day was Hon. S. Gulzar Singh Ranike, Cabinet Minister of Punjab, responsible for sports. He addressed the audience and handed out the awards to the teams, assisted by Mrs. Surinder Kaur and representatives of Unity of Man.

In the end the team of Bhiwani was the winner of the tournament. Dances, songs and gymnastics surrounded the official programme. Another guest of honour, Mr. D. P. Malik, Director of All India Radio, concluded the tournament in the evening at 6 p.m.

Below: Presentation of prizes of the National Volleyball Tournament



Charity Programme – Weddings

On 6 December, there was Charity programme with wedding ceremonies for couples from disadvantaged families

In India the marriage ceremony is important, but also very expensive. Consequently, Unity of Man supports disadvantaged families by sponsoring the wedding for their daughters.

In the morning of 6 December, twenty-eight bridal couples arrived in Kirpal Sagar. They came along with their families from different villages and towns within a radius of 200 km around Kirpal Sagar. The marriage ceremonies were celebrated according to the religious belief of the couples, in this case the marriage rites of the Sikhs. The guests of the Conference were invited to attend the ceremony. The newly married couples received basic equipment needed for a new household: a fully equipped bedroom, furniture for a living-room, kitchen utensils as well as clothes and watches, everything sponsored by Unity of Man.



Left: Indian bridal couples

Above right: Mrs. Biji Surinder Kaur awards basic equipments for the new household

Below right: Wedding ceremonies

All couples and their families expressed their heartfelt thanks to Mrs. Biji Surinder Kaur for the selfless support which will enable them to start a successful future.





India-wide known group named "Bakshi"



Girls of the Kirpal Sagar Academy performing the Deepakdance



Famous Punjabi Sufi singer Hans Raj Hans



Known group of Quawali singers



Religious drama



The party Banwari Lal, Amritsar

Culture Programme

1 - 10 December

The Conference programme was supported by a great variety of cultural events.

Diverse musicians with their bands performed religious songs from the Hindu-, Sikh-, and Sufi tradition. Dramas with religious and historical background, traditional dances and other performances rounded out the programme and gave a colourful picture of India's many-faceted culture.



Main Programme

Interreligious dialogue and Celebrations of the 75th Birthday of Dr. Harbhajan Singh and the Silver Jubilee of Kirpal Sagar, 7 - 10 December, 2007

Friday, 7 December

Complementary Conference Programme in Amritsar

Saturday, 8 December

Morning:

Reception in Nag Kalan near Amritsar, Procession to Kirpal Sagar

Evening:

Welcome Function at Kirpal Sagar

Ras Leela – Scenes from the Life of Lord Krishna with Gopis

Sunday, 9 December

Morning:

Conference Session I

Speeches of the delegates

Afternoon:

Conference Session II

Discourses

Night:

Sufi songs – Hans Raj Hans

Monday, 10 December

Celebrations of the 75th Birthday of Dr. Harbhajan Singh and the Silver Jubilee of Kirpal Sagar

Morning:

Conference Session III

3 p.m. Inauguration of the Symbols

Evening:

Concluding Session of the Conference

Press-Conference

Fireworks



ਮੰਗੀ ਜਾਣ ਮਨੁੱਖੀ

ਸਰੋਵਰ ਵਿੱਚ ਹੋ
ਸਾਉਣਾ ਮਨੁੱਖੀ

Complementary Function in Amritsar

As the **Project Kirpal Sagar** took its begin from Amritsar, a function in Amritsar preceded the main programme of the World Conference in Kirpal Sagar. Organized as a conference on a smaller scale, it took place at the well-known 'Guru Nanak Bhawan', the main conference hall of the city.

Representatives of different religions emphasized the common core of their believes and pointed out that all the founders of the religions would stress on the practical realization of their teachings in the daily life. After an address of Prof. Gursharan Singh, head of Guru Nanak Studies, Guru Nanak Dev University Amritsar, the chairman of Unity of Man Austria held his address and Mrs. Bij Surinder Kaur, President of Unity of Man, India, spoke words of thanks for all the contributions.

Below: Partial view of the Amritsar-Centre

Right: During the complementary function in the Guru Nanak Dev University, Amritsar







Nag Kalan

On 8 December, the attention focussed on the procession to Kirpal Sagar, starting from Nag Kalan

The day began with a visit in the village of Nag Kalan, where Dr. Harbhajan Singh and his wife Surinder Kaur lived before they moved to Kirpal Sagar. Nag Kalan is located in a distance of about ten kilometers from Amritsar. Here Sant Kirpal Singh laid the foundation stone of Dr. Harbhajan Singh's hospital in 1973, stating that it was the foundation of the future Manav Kendra ('Man-Centre', means Kirpal Sagar).



Foundation stone of Dr. Harbhajan Singh's hospital



Reception in the house of Dr. Harbhajan Singh, Nag Kalan



At a nearby public stage donated by Unity of Man to the people of the village, several speakers shared their remembrances of Dr. Harbhajan Singh's work as a doctor. All expressed their deep respect and support for the aims Dr. Harbhajan Singh stood for.

After the function, the procession formed up with numerous coaches, cars, and motorcycles and started its way to Kirpal Sagar.

Left: Donating the public stage

Right: Some scences of the procession







Shortly before the arrival at Kirpal Sagar, all got off the cars and the procession formed an impressive parade where people from all participating nations, colours and creeds marched happily together and made everybody feel the spirit of unity.





Mrs. Biji Surinder Kaur welcoming all participants at Kirpal Sagar

In the huge conference tent, students of the Kirpal Sagar Academy performed a delightful welcome song and Mrs. Biji Surinder Kaur, President of Unity of Man, India, gave a warm welcome speech:

Today we sit with all the Rishis travelling the path that was set for us by our Masters. This is the shining of the Amrit (inner water, grace) which is very difficult to explain in words. Who has brought us to this stage at present, while He (God Power) sits beyond the reach of these physical eyes? There are no words that can explain His true being. We are travelling His path destined for our birth and work in this life.

When this Power leads, it leads by a line for all to follow. That is in this time that you have to be there to fulfil His duties. This is not our greatness, but we are only travelling in His

will. He has given us the power in the physical form, but the time of birth and death is still in His hands. This key He has not given to anyone else.

When Bhaji was blessed by Master with this Parshad (Kirpal Sagar) as his duty, it was his question, “Hazur, it is all your work, ours is only our name.” When Master then came physically there (to the farm which is now a part of Kirpal Sagar), He gave His blessing and said that one day there would be a time of blessing of Amrit at this place. As a king always wishes, the true God Power, the King of kings, also wants that one day His son, too, becomes a king. Today to that God Power I can only pray that one prayer, “Such sewa (selfless service) each country and member has given from all over the world, all this is Your doing, we are only the ones who give You voice.”

When Sant Kirpal Singh came into this world, He came with the blessing of the God Power. Many Swamis and members have come, most of them are new, and it is our duty to tell them why it was His mission to build this Kirpal Sagar. At that time Master said, “Dr. Sahib, make this one common stage where people of all faiths can come and be able to sit together.” And today we are all here on that occasion to fulfil His mission.

We have travelled a long day from Nag Kalan and these members have done all they could for the mission, and we can only say how hard they have worked for it. And by His greatness He is capable of giving His spiritual treasures to them.

As we were travelling, I saw in the cars and buses that all had such great love for Master and Kirpal Sagar that there was no thought of tiredness amongst them, and with that great love I watched them all coming here. And of whom those have got power and blessing who have worked to build this God-house, with His strength and His love we have all reached here. Master always said, “We are all one.”

And with this I finish by saying that you have all been here sitting in the cold with good, steady minds and I can say to you that He is here, watching all of you, as He is the King of kings, He can give you everything.

(Extract)

9 December

On 9 December in the morning, the first session of the conference started. It was a marvellous sight to watch Hindus, Sikhs, Christians, Jains and Muslims sitting side by side on the stage.

Delegates from all five continents shared their views on the major problems of mankind and explained their approaches to meet these challenges.

The conference panel consisted of various renowned religious representatives, spiritual leaders, scientists and human rights activists. Their speeches related to world peace and universal brotherhood, and many took up Sant Kirpal Singh's motto: Be good – Do good – Be one.

Left and right: Some delegates of the Unity of Man World Conference





Session I:

Jain Muni Munishree Lokeshji, President Ahimsa Vishwa Bharti; India

Goswami Sushil Ji Maharaj, Founder-President Maharishi Bhriгу Foundation; India

Dr. Ann Elisabeth Auhagen, Free University of Berlin; Germany

Maulana Umair Ahmed Ilyasi, General Secretary of the All India Organisation of Mosques; India

Mrs. Rajyogini Prema Behen Ji, Brahmikumari; India

Dr. Ezekiel Malekar, Judah Hayam Synagogue, Delhi, Head of the Yahoodi Community, Registrar of the National Human Rights Commission of India

Father Bernard, Order of Saint Benedict, Inter-Monastic Dialogue, Asirvanam Monastery, Bangalore; India

Mr. Karamjit Singh, Chairman Unity of Man; India

Session II:

Swami Satpreet Hari, Nirmelay Sant, Amritsar; India

Prof. Peter Schmuck, UMC Potsdam; Germany

Swami Atal Krishna, Ludhiana, Hari Krishna-Hari Rama Movement; India

Dr. Martin Almada, Human Rights activist; Paraguay

Swami Saroupa Anand Ji, Nirmelay Sant; India

Dr. Judit Komáromi, Ireland, representative of Prof. George Vithoulkas, International Academy for Classical Homeopathy; Greece

Swami Amrit Ram Ram Snehi, Head of Juna Ramdwara, Jodhpur, Rajasthan; India

Mrs. Vivi Akakpo, representative of Bishop Rev. Dandala, All Africa Conference of Churches; Kenya

Swami Nirmal Chetan, Amritsar, Nirmal Ashram; India

Mrs. Biji Surinder Kaur, President of Unity of Man; India

Dr. Martin Almada, the Alternative Nobel Prize winner had undertaken a very long journey from South America (Paraguay) to attend the conference. Having seen many cruelties in his life, he expressed the need for a spiritual change in mankind as a precondition for an effective change of the inhuman circumstances prevailing in many societies.

Prof. Dr. Peter Schmuck, Germany, director of the Institute for Sustainable Development and Ecology at the University of Applied Sciences (UMC), Potsdam, reported his research results and made an appeal to the religious leaders to engage more in sustainable development, as the religions, too, recommend a respectful treatment of the environment.

Dr. Ann Elisabeth Auhagen, the German psychologist from the Free University, Berlin, explained her views and method of positive communication. She said, “We all are invited to be good in our daily life”, and proved with a practical demonstration how our thoughts about others are reacting on our own selves.

Mrs. Vivian Akakpo, delegate from the All Africa Conference of Churches that associates Protestant, Anglican, Orthodox and Indigenous churches in Africa represented the African continent. Precisely depicting the sad history of civil wars and inter-tribal conflicts in all parts of Africa, Mrs. Akakpo spoke about the power of forgiveness as a special characteristic of the African people and pointed out that peace will only come if we are able to forgive and forget.

Dr. Judit Komáromi, an Australian national, represented Prof. Vitoulkas from the International Academy of Classical Homeopathy. In her contribution she stressed that the treatment of illnesses requires, among other things, a spiritual basis. In her view, economic interests should remain out of consideration and the scientific community should be based more on ethical values.

A large number of representatives of various religious communities had come from the Indian subcontinent. Among others, the Benedictine order was represented by a group of thirteen monks and nuns, a member of the Jains spoke to the audience, the Jewish community had sent a representative, and several Swamis and Munis from all over the country, clothed in orange robes, held their speeches.

Goswami Sushil Ji Maharaj, Founder president of the Maharishi Brigu Foundation, Delhi, spoke about unity of all religions as every religion speaks about good deeds and moral

qualities. He expressed his appreciation and his support for the work on the four symbols in Kirpal Sagar and emphasized that we all should work for the service of humanity.

Swami Atal Krishna, Swami Sarupa Anandji Nirmelay, Swami Amrit Ram Ram Snehi, and Swami Nirmal Chetan emphasized each of them in his own way that there is one God and that we are all one. They explained the need to become a true man, to be kind, compassionate and have moral virtues. They referred to the spiritual work of Sant Kirpal Singh, with whom some of them had personally been in contact.

Dr. Ezekiel Isaac Malekar, Head of the Jewish Yahoodi community, spoke about peace and recited an old prayer, “Oh God, please teach us how to walk on this earth in dignity and peace.” He took up the words of Sant Kirpal Singh that God made man and man made religion, and reminded of the fact that some thousands years before there was no known religion, but man existed long time before.

Due to limited space we regret to be unable to publish the speeches in this brochure. We kindly refer to our homepage www.uom-conference.org where all speeches that are available in English can be read.



In the evening, the world-famous Punjabi Sufi singer Hans Raj Hans sang Bhajans and Quawalis. For more than three hours he performed on stage along with his musicians till late after midnight.

After this intense programme the atmosphere did not allow just to walk away. Biji invited all to make the circuit in Kirpal Sagar. The whole assembly followed her across the nocturnal park illuminated by thousands of tiny bulbs, passing by the Sarovar, where high above the shape of the Symbols were vaguely perceptible under the cloth. At the memorial place of Dr. Harbhajan Singh all stopped with reverence and then proceeded to the Chowk, where in this early morning hour Biji greeted the dawning day of 10 December, 2007 with a few words to all in her company. Finally all went to the langar-building, where a long night's programme ended with jubilant songs.

10 December

On midmorning, the Conference programme continued with Session III

In the beginning of the session, Benedictine monks and nuns sang prayers and hymns from different religions taking up the subject of peace. Thereafter, Swami Sushil Muni opened the session. In the subsequent speeches, the delegates contributed from various angles to the topic “World Peace and Universal Brotherhood”. Whether from a social, psychological, environmental or religious point of view, all finally agreed that it is up to the individuals to change their attitudes in their dealings with others and with God’s creation.

Session III

Goswami Sushil Ji Maharaj, Founder-President Maharishi Bhriugu Foundation; India

Shri Karunakara Shetty, Brahma Kumari, Chief of Multi Media; India

Mahant Darshan Singh Tyagmoorti, President of Shad Darshan Sadhu Aivam Dharan Stahn Suraksha Trust, Hardwar; India

Mrs. Farah Mahat El-Khoury, Union of Writers, Damaskus; Syria

Swami Agnivesh, President of the World Council of Arya Samaj; India

Maulana Mohammed Hamid, Ahmadiyya Community; India

Rev. Dr. Dominic Emmanuel, SVD, Director Catholic Archdiocese of Delhi; India

Rev. Dr. Marcus Braybrooke, President of the World Congress of Faiths; UK

Swami Shantatmanandaji, Secretary of the Rama Krishna Mission; India

Mr. Vivek Coutinho, Focolare Movement; India

Giani Dhanvir Ahmed Khadim, Ahmadiyya Community; India

Sant Baba Prem Das Ji; India

Dr. A.K. Merchant, Trustee Bahai Temple, General Secretary of the Bahai Community; India

Baba Bhupinder Singh, Tamil Nadu; India

Maulana Hazro Rehiman, Mufti Sahib; India

Mr. Karamjit Singh, Chairman Unity of Man; India

ੴ ਜੁਬਲੀ ਸਮਾਗਮ ਅਤੇ ਡਾ. ਹਰਭਜਨ ਸਿੰਘ ਜੀ ਮਹਾਰਾਜ ਦੇ 75 ਵੇਂ
AT KIRPAL SAGAR
1 - 10 DECEMBER 2007



Mrs. El-Khoury, member of the Union of Writers, Syria, and former President for the Middle East of the World Council of Churches, gave a detailed description of the peaceful coexistence between Christians, Muslims and Jews in Damascus, basing her report on personal experiences.

Reverend Dr. Braybrooke, President of the “World Congress of Faiths”, pointed out that the sense of oneness means to recognise God’s presence in the other, especially the deprived and marginalised. He stated, “The new era of Global Spirituality becomes reality as we are personally transformed. The challenge to each one of us is to so shape our lives that we give heart to the world” – or: “Dream the impossible, then so live that the dream is fulfilled.”

Mr. Vivek Coutinho, representative of the Focolare Movement, spoke about the future of a multi-ethnic, multi-cultural and multi-religious society and stated that it is not enough to believe in God, to have chosen Him as one’s ideal. The Father’s presence calls each person to be a true daughter or son of God, and we should know that the Father’s first desire for his children is to treat each other as brothers and sisters, to care for and love one another.



Top: Benedictine monks and nuns from different
 monasteries in India
 Middle: Dr. Judit Komáromi
 Below: Mr. Vivek Coutinhot

Inauguration of the Symbols

It was about 2:30 p.m. when Mrs. Biji Surinder Kaur requested the participants to proceed to the Sarovar for the inauguration of the Symbols. All left the tent and marched in a procession to the Sarovar, headed by the religious representatives alongside of Mrs. Biji Surinder Kaur.



The core of the Conference was the unveiling of the Symbols on top of the Sach Khand Bhawan, the central building in Kirpal Sagar in the midst of the beautiful lake, the Sarovar.

Abiding by the outline given by Sant Kirpal Singh Himself, models of a Gurdwara, a Temple, a Church, and a Mosque, had been carefully constructed side by side. As He used to explain, their traditional shapes relate to the human head – Temples and Churches are dome-shaped, the towers of Christian churches look like the ascending nose, at the root of which the inner eye is located, and Mosques resemble the human forehead. Religions give message that man is able to attain God knowledge by ‘tapping’ inside. Saints, mystics, holy persons of all times, in East and West, got inner knowledge by way of deep contemplation and meditation. This is why the human body is called, ‘Temple of God’. The outer

houses of worship made with stones and bricks are just symbols of the body, reminding us that human life is a golden opportunity to reach the highest goal: To be united with God. This is the privilege of all human beings, independent



of caste, colour, and creed. It was the mission of Sant Kirpal Singh to bring this knowledge back to life and give a practical approach.

The day of the inauguration of these Symbols had been eagerly expected. Twenty-five years had passed by since the first cut of the spade had started the work for the Sarovar at the time of Dr. Harbhajan Singh.

Among the audience there were many from East and West who had lent a hand for setting up Kirpal Sagar since the very begin of the Project. They were deeply moved to be present that day. Step by step they had been witnessing all plans taking shape under Dr. Harbhajan Singh and his wife, Biji Surinder Kaur. The inauguration of the Symbols was the crowning achievement of years of work on behalf of Sant Kirpal Singh.



The words of Mrs. Biji Surinder Kaur expressed her deep respect and reminded of the roots of Kirpal Sagar

Sant Kirpal Singh had been waiting for one year until He bestowed on us this gift – to create Kirpal Sagar as a platform for the whole humanity. On 6 February, He asked both of us, looking at us directly: “Will you be able to fulfil this task?” Bhaji replied, “Yes, I am ready, even if problems arise, it does not matter.”

In 1973, when Sant Kirpal Singh came to the farm (today Kirpal Sagar), He consigned this gift also physically to us. Bhaji took up this duty and accomplished it with all his power.

At that time, when the building in the midst of the Sarovar was under construction, Bhaji said to me on 22 September 1995, “Come to the Sarovar, if you do not come along with me, you will repent.” We then both went there (where now the room under the water level exists). I saw (in an inner vision) all religions doing prayers in all four corners of the Sarovar. No power can wipe away this colour which Bhaji gave us in form of this project.

What we urgently need is a true Saint who is able to take our souls home. Though Bhaji is physically absent, this Power works twenty-four hours, just as he said in those days, “Kirpal Sagar is my heart, it is like a mirror through which I am working.”

In 1982, when we came to Kirpal Sagar, there was nothing to sit on nor a place for sleeping, we used to take rest under a tree. Today everything is there, we have got a place for sitting and for sleeping – whose gift is it? It is a gift from Master and Bhaji. It is now up to the Sangat as how to benefit from the grace that comes down in abundance. Master has kept His word. For that day we have been waiting since long.

After Master's physical departure, Bhaji did each and everything to carry on His Mission, and he got so absorbed in the Mission that he often did not even know which class his children attended. He said to his own children: "It is your duty to serve the Sangat". Only in water one can learn how to swim, not on dry land. While living in the family, Bhaji never forgot the Mission. Jasmin, my grand daughter, who has just sung this shabad, he had fed her with his own hand. Whenever Bhaji had to travel, he took me and the children along with him, saying, "When we work, we work together, if we will die on the road, we will also die together."

I am very thankful that our brothers and sisters from the West have brought forward the Mission with full energy and continue doing it. He has opened the door and His grace is working, it is now up to the Sangat to make the best of it.

Together with the Rishis and Munis present here, we all have come to the conviction that the grace that is pouring down now should flow to the whole world.

(Extract of the Address from Mrs. Biji Surinder Kaur)



On the small stage in front of the bridge, Mrs. Biji Surinder Kaur held a moving address.



Unveiling the Symbols

At 3 p.m. the Inauguration of the Symbols took place

While on top of the building helpers started to remove the white cloths hiding the Symbols, four commemorative tablets near the door were unveiled and several pigeons were set free as a sign of peace. From the top of the building rose-petals were showered down, and a small aeroplane was dropping tiny pink flyers welcoming all at Kirpal Sagar.

The religious representatives walked around the building, and when they reached back to the bridge, all the cloths had been taken away from the Symbols. Uncovered, the Symbols were gloriously shining in spite of the cloudy sky. It was an auspicious and in some way unbelievable moment.

Left and right: Some scenes from the Inauguration of the Symbols





Accompanied by the blowing of traditional horns and the singing and shouting of benedictions, all walked round the Sarovar, many forming a queue, marching hand in hand. At each of the corner buildings dedicated to the religions – Gurdawara, Church, Mosque, and Temple – all stopped for a prayer revering the only one God, the Father of all.



Concluding Session

Rev. Thomas Singh; UK

Mr. Stadlmeyer, Chairman Unity of Man; Germany

Mr. Hössinger, Vice Chairman Unity of Man; Austria

Mrs. Wahl, Vice Chairwoman Unity of Man; Germany

Mrs. Biji Surinder Kaur, President Unity of Man; India

The concluding session in the evening began with a contribution of Reverend Thomas Balwant Singh, a Christian priest from UK. Based on the verses of St. Paul, he elaborated on the human dilemma of wishing to do good, but doing the bad instead. He came to the conclusion that this struggle in man will continue until it has been replaced by another word of St. Paul, “I live, but no longer I, God lives in me,” for which a drastic change in man is needed. In the end, he asked the audience whether they were ready for such a change.

In their addresses, the members of the managing board of Unity of Man took up certain aspects of a spiritual life and explained among others that the reason of struggling between doing good or bad lies in the struggle between mind and soul. Due to the lack of knowledge of his self, man has been over influenced by his mind or I-hood and mistakes himself as the ‘doer’.

The condition of the world – which makes us fearful about the future – is the result of our ego-centric view. However, suffering from our self-created condition, we still have a chance if we remember the creator, our Father, whose power makes everything run. He is the One who can help, His power is unlimited, and He is full of Grace.

God is One and extends His blessing to all alike, but who is ready to accept His Grace? To decide for Him means to decide for the good. It is up to us to take this step. For this purpose man has got discrimination power and the free will – by using them he develops right understanding and can prove himself as a conscious being, full of love and compassion, the ‘summit of the creation’.



Reverend Dr. Braybrooke honoured by Mrs. Biji Surinder Kaur



Mrs. Vivian Akakpo honoured by Mrs. Biji Surinder Kaur



Father Bernard honoured by Mrs. Biji Surinder Kaur



Dr. Ann Elisabeth Auhagen honoured by Mrs. Biji Surinder Kaur

Press Conference

Following the concluding session, a media conference took place where some of the guests made their statement.

Dr. Almada: In my country, Paraguay, we had nearly 40 years of dictatorship and I fight against the dictatorship. I put in prison several military (officers) in my country, and I always fight. For me this meeting is very important because I learnt that first I must change myself and then fight. This is the most important lesson what I learnt here; my congratulation to this organisation, the Unity of Man. I will try to explain in my country (and) in Latin American countries what happened here. My congratulation, dear friends.

Mrs. El-Khoury: I try to give a message about the love between the religions of Muslims, Christians and Jews, and this message is in fact our life. This is what I have told. But I think when I go to my home I have another message to give from this conference: This love, this spirituality – they give us their heart, their spirit and their mind. And I can give this message to my friends in Syria, especially in Damascus. I project to write something about this World Conference.

Dr. Auhagen: I am very touched by my whole experience here in the conference, and I think, the overwhelming hospitality I experienced here was not only an example for the good. It gives me very much hope that we can establish it not only here in Kirpal Sagar but all over the world. It is possible, it is no fiction, if one concentrates on the good in oneself, and the good in oneself is God.

Rev. Braybrooke: First of all was a renewed sense of hope, and in the time when so often the religions seem to be a cause of division it is really inspiring to have religious leaders of every religion in India coming together, all affirming to have respect and working together and affirming very big the oneness of God and the oneness of humanity. And the personal friendship between them – it was not only the speeches but really personal friendship. And then I think secondly a recognition that this has to be part of a transformation of consciousness to realize that we all are one people of the God, and the love of God. It has got to change our attitudes towards each other, towards the creation, the natural world, towards animals. We were to overcome all the prejudices, all the divides, and to show real care for the suffering. And I think



Prof. Peter Schmuck honoured by Mrs. Biji Surinder Kaur



Mrs. El-Khoury honoured by Mrs. Biji Surinder Kaur

that always when you are thinking about that message, it comes back to me, what am I going to do, how can I change, how can I do more to be open to the love of God; to recognize that every single person is my brother and sister just because we are children of God.

Mrs. Vivi Akakpo: Thank you very much. I have been overwhelmed by what I saw in Kirpal Sagar. This was my first time in India. I found a city within another city, and when we are talking about Unity of Man, I think this conference really showed that it is possible to have a unity of man. What I liked to say is: In my speech, I mentioned tolerance and forgiveness as stepping stones for peace and I saw that people accepted one another as we were here during that conference.

Rev. Thomas Singh: I am very privileged to be here and I thoroughly enjoyed the conference, and it has been a very successful one if I may add. All aspects of the conference have been wonderful, the events have been well performed. I have particularly enjoyed the cultural events and have always felt and said that although we are here quite in the middle of Punjab, this Kirpal Sagar is such a wonderful place that you don't miss home.

In the end, around 10 p.m., Mrs. Biji Surinder Kaur concluded the World Conference on Unity of Man with warm thanks to all participants:

Since long we have been waiting for that day and now this time is over. Through the scent of roses we could witness His Grace. Master felt our love, and what He had spoken in Manav Kendra was fulfilled today. At that time much Seva was done there, and Master said: “When you are going to do Seva today, put it straight away into action.”

With beautiful words He expressed that there is an ever-shining sun inside, and He also showed us this sun.

All representatives of the different religions who participated today basically declared the same. Thereafter we went in each corner-building of the Sarovar and prayed there all together. They said: “This is a holy place for the coming generation.” When they are now returning home, wherever they will go, they will tell about the greatness of Kirpal Sagar.

Yesterday’s evening was full of grace. We could witness so much of His (Kirpal’s) greatness. His work is never delayed. We only have to go forward, He directs our steps to the right direction.

Yesterday evening some said that storm and rain would come up and were afraid that the Symbols could be harmed. This is our way of thinking, since we were working on it. I replied, “Our duty is to accomplish everything, not to judge the result – it is He who is holding the bridles like a rider on the horse.”(Except a soft little rain during night time nothing happened, all could attend the inauguration dry-shod, until in the late evening of 10 December the rain restarted in earnest.)

I am very, very thankful to Him, throughout my life I will pay respect to Him. His words accompany us like the fragrance of roses. What has been pronounced hundreds of years ago came true today.

(Extract)



I pray to Master that everybody
may get His blessing today.

Biji Surinder Kaur



For further information please contact

Headquarter – India

UNITY OF MAN (Regd.)

Kirpal Sagar, Near Rahon 144517

Distt. Nawanshar, Punjab

INDIA

Phone: +91-1823-240 064, +91-1823-242 434

Mail: office@kirpal-sagar.org (contact in Europe)

info@kirpal-sagar.co.in (contact in India)

Centre for the West (Europe)

UNITY OF MAN – Sant Kirpal Singh

Steinklüftstraße 34

A-5340 St. Gilgen

AUSTRIA (Europe)

Phone: +43-6227-7577

Mail: mail@unity-of-man.org

Center for North America

UNITY OF MAN

750 Oakdale Road,

Unit 59 North York, ON M3N 2Z4

CANADA

Phone: +1 647-784-1653

Mail: uom.north.america@gmail.com

Websites

www.unity-of-man.org

www.kirpalsingh-mission.org

www.kirpalsingh-teachings.org

www.sant-kirpal-singh.org

audio.sant-kirpal-singh.org

www.kirpal-sagar.org (Europe)

www.kirpal-sagar.co.in (India)

