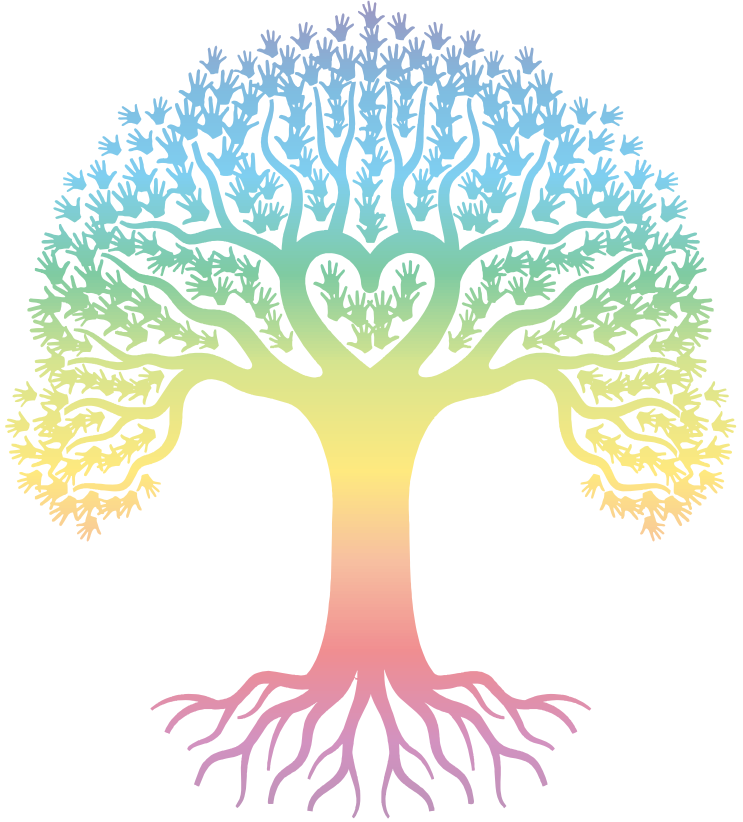


Care and Compassion for Biodiversity



Brahma Kumaris
Environment Initiative



Consciousness and Biodiversity

At the core of Brahma Kumaris' work is the understanding of the connection between our consciousness, thoughts and actions, and their impact on the world. It has been seen that long-lasting change in any social or environmental system starts with a profound shift in the minds and hearts of people. The current loss of biodiversity is therefore a clear call to transform our awareness and lifestyle, and start caring for all living forms on the planet.



Any shift in individual awareness is reflected in society as a whole. To bring stability, resilience and compassionate action on a global scale, we believe a widespread capacity for silent reflection and meditation is essential. Such an 'inside-out' approach, applied by large communities, can be the key to the paradigm shift that allows all stakeholders to make choices benefiting the planet and its biodiversity.



“Our capacity to change ecosystems is proportional to our capacity to change our own consciousness.”





The Brahma Kumaris Environment Initiative

This initiative encourages greater understanding of the role of consciousness and lifestyle in environmental issues, through dialogues, partnerships, participation in UN conferences and local initiatives. In particular, we highlight the importance of:

Sustainable Lifestyle: Adopting a less materialistic lifestyle and increasing the use of clean energy saves the planet's resources, protects biodiversity and brings greater well-being.

Diet: Vegetarian/Vegan food, cooked with love, nourishes our whole being and brings inner clarity. It contributes to the health and future of the planet by reducing our carbon footprint and habitat fragmentation by the meat industries.

Meditation: Spending time in silent reflection or meditation helps us connect with our deeper values and find the strength to live by them, enabling us to be more mindful of the impact of our choices. By experiencing the connection between our natural surroundings and all living forms, love and respect is created.

Peaceful Living: Promoting and living by the principles of universal peace can lead to fewer violent conflicts and wars, thus enabling vast resources to be redirected to creating a healthy and sustainable society.

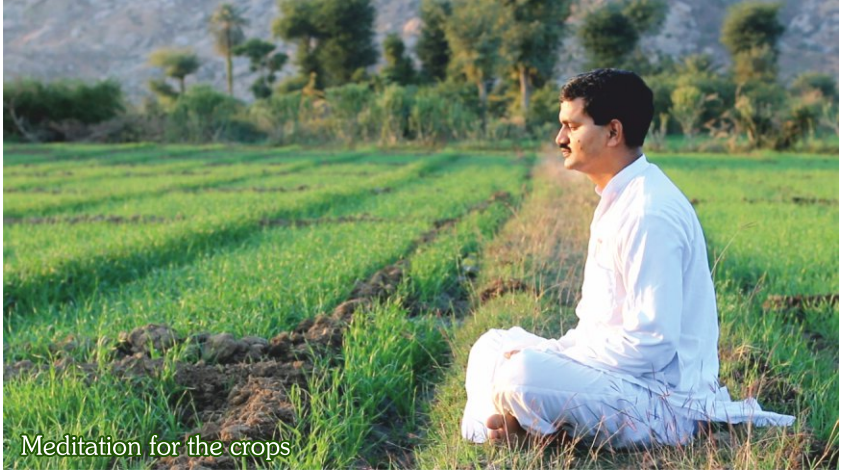
“When I change, the World changes”

- Brahma Kumaris



Aligning Awareness with Action

Plantation Projects - Seeds for a Better Future



Meditation for the crops

Over the past decades, the Brahma Kumaris has planted more than half a million trees through its various initiatives in different regions across India. It's our goal to restore natural spaces, to support environmental conservation and ecological balance.

The Peace Park in Mt. Abu and the Tapovan Farm in Abu Road are examples of the restoration efforts that have been made with wasteland. With the help of dedicated volunteers and yogic farming principles, these places have become natural spaces for flora and fauna and attract thousands of retreat participants every year.



Empowering seeds with meditation



Yogic Agriculture training program

Since the early 90's the Brahma Kumaris has preserved and maintained public gardens in hundreds of cities around India. These gardens are open to the public, free of charge and have been developed into natural spaces for cultural and outdoor activities for both adults and children.



Sustainable Yogic Agriculture

Can the power of thought be a new fertilizer that leads to better food security? 'Sustainable Yogic Agriculture' is a major project carried out by the Agriculture and Rural Development Wing of the Brahma Kumaris.



One thousand farmers throughout India are combining organic farming with meditation, which is showing remarkable results. Field studies conducted in Gujarat and other states in India suggest an improved seed quality and increase in crop yield.



'Sustainable Yogic Agriculture' has resulted in lower costs to farmers and reduced the pressure on the environment. Other benefits have been improvements in farmers' health, emotional well-being and enhanced community resilience.

Renewable Energy for the Future

'India One' is a 1 MW solar thermal power plant situated in Abu Road. Completed in March 2017, this innovative project uses 770 newly developed 60m² parabolic dishes and features thermal storage for continuous operation. 'India One' was implemented by WRST with partial funding from the Indian Ministry of New and Renewable Energy and the German Ministry for the Environment, Nature Conservation Building and Nuclear Safety through GIZ.

Brahma Kumaris has been at the forefront of training, research and development in renewable energy technologies for almost 25 years now.

'India One' Solar Thermal Power Plant





Capacity Building

Brahma Kumaris offers workshops that focus on empowering individuals and communities.



Earth Care and Respect - engaging people in a creative process that re-establishes a harmonious relationship with the self, others, communities and the environment.



10 Ways to Change the World - by changing our consciousness and re-connecting with our inner spirit, we will automatically make the world a cleaner, safer and more beautiful place - a world in which humans, plants and animals live together in peace and harmony.



The Changemaker Hub supports creativity, optimism and pure motivation to give our best. The Hub is specially designed for entrepreneurs, innovators and philanthropists to develop our full potential and make things better for others and the environment.



Brahma Kumaris' workshop resources are open source materials that can be used freely for non-commercial purposes. We invite your feedback so we can incorporate your experiences into our material. More workshops are available at www.eco.brahmakumaris.org.



BioClick - a photographic initiative among young people to raise awareness of biodiversity and identify good practices to protect it. Dedicated to the Biodiversity Conference COP13 in Mexico 2016.





Brahma Kumaris World Spiritual University

Brahma Kumaris practises and teaches Raja Yoga meditation which relaxes the mind and nurtures a healthy balance between our inner and outer worlds. Through a variety of activities and partnerships, the organization promotes spiritual understanding, universal values and leadership with integrity towards creating a better world. Dedicated volunteers deliver free courses and events in over 100 countries in both urban and rural communities.



Brahma Kumaris at the United Nations

Brahma Kumaris is an international non-governmental organization (NGO) of the United Nations, in general consultative status with the Economic and Social Council (ECOSOC). It is also affiliated to the UN Department of Public Information (DPI) and is an accredited observer organization to the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC), the United Nations Environment Program (UNEP) and the Convention for Biological Diversity (CBD). The organization's work in human and social values allows the Brahma Kumaris to contribute an ethical and spiritual approach to global concerns.





Brahma Kumaris Environment Initiative

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Other links:

Brahma Kumaris World Spiritual University: www.brahmakumaris.org

Brahma Kumaris Renewable Energy: www.solar.brahmakumaris.com

"India One" Solar Thermal Power Plant: www.india-one.net

