

summary report

# the future of power

Bangalore • December 2010

A series of exclusive conversations exploring the forthcoming 'shifts in power'  
and their impact on leadership in the 21st Century

An initiative of the



BRAHMA KUMARIS  
WORLD SPIRITUAL UNIVERSITY



**Vidhan Soudha in Bangalore, Karnataka**

**Bangalore**, also known as **Bengaluru**, is the capital of the Indian state of Karnataka. It is nicknamed the *Garden City* and was once called a pensioner's paradise. It is now India's third most populous city. In 2009, in a study performed by the Globalization and World Cities Study Group, Bangalore was included in the list of global cities and ranked as a "Beta World City" alongside Geneva, Copenhagen, Boston, Cairo, Riyadh, Berlin and others.

During the British rule, Bangalore was the centre of colonial rule in South India. The establishment of the Bangalore Cantonment brought in large numbers of migrants from other parts of the country.

Today as a large city and growing metropolis, Bangalore is home to many of the most well-recognized colleges and research institutions in India. Numerous public sector heavy industries, software companies, aerospace, telecommunications, and defense organisations are located in the city. Bangalore is known as the Silicon Valley of India because of its position as the nation's leading IT exporter. A demographically diverse city, Bangalore is a major economic and cultural hub and the fastest growing major metropolis in India.

# Bangalore FOP participants and feedback



Mr Adnan Abdulaziz Al Bahar, Chairman and Managing Director, TII, Kuwait. Served as Advisor to the Finance Committee of the Kuwait Parliament; Director, Kuwait Investment Authority, Kuwait Stock Exchange and Kuwait Higher Planning Board.



B. K. Ambika, Coordinator, Brahma Kumaris V. V. Puram Sub-Zone and the BK Spiritual Application Research Centre (SPARC). Coordinator for the Bangalore Future of Power dialogue.



Anthony Phelps, strategic marketing consultant experienced in all five continents in the health care, nutrition and food fields. Currently working with Nestle to establish 'Creating Shared Value' as the central operating philosophy of the company.



Dr Ashok Mehta, Head of Department of Oncology, Dr. Balabhai Nanavati Hospital; Surgical Oncologist, Lilavati Hospital; Medical Director, BSES MG Hospital, Mumbai; Hon. Medical Director, J.W.M. Global Hospital and Research Centre, Mt Abu.

“ We need to develop mind power – the power of thought and creative thinking.”



Dr Aseel Al-Awadhi, Member of Parliament, Kuwait National Assembly; Professor of Philosophy; Cultural Researcher, Arts and Letters; National Council for Culture and Media Researcher, Foreign Media Department, Ministry of Information.



B. K. Brij Mohan Bhai, Principal Secretary and spokesman of the Brahma Kumaris, Secretary of the Rajyoga Education and Research Foundation and Editor of "Purity" monthly newspaper.



Prof Chanchal Uberoi, Emeritus Scientist, Department of Mathematics, Indian Institute of Science; Former Dean, Science Faculty. International Research Consultant and Lecturer.



Mr Chenraj Jain, Chairman, Jain Group of Institutions. Served as a Member of the State Level Apex Body for Quality Assurance & NAAC Accreditation, Collegiate Education and as Vice President, Federation of Jain Educational Institutes.

“ I believe in silence, reflecting inwards, integrity, honesty; if the younger generation can inculcate these ideas then we will really emerge as a powerful country.”

“ Spirituality is missing in today's world. I am sure we can create a better world. The future of power lies within ourselves.”



Mr David Armstrong, Communication Engineer consulting to top 500 US companies. Researcher and Lecturer on spirituality and ancient civilizations, currently based in Beijing China. His hobbies include flying his own single and multi engine aircraft, flying over a distance of 500,000 miles in the US, Canada and Mexico.



Dr Harinarayana Kota, Raja Ramanna Fellow, National Aerospace Laboratories, Bangalore. Programme Director and Chief Designer of Light Combat Aircraft. Formerly Vice-Chancellor, Central University of Hyderabad. His many awards include the highly prestigious Padma Shree.



Ms Ingrid Orthmann, Chief Psychologist, Danish Government; teaching meditation, personal development, inner silence, women's empowerment and positive thinking. Founding Director, "Guidance to Life", Denmark and Greece. Author of books and guided meditations for children and adults including Silence, The Quiet Way for Children, Presence in Teaching and Practice.



Dr Roger Cole, Oncologist and Palliative Care Physician. Associate Professor of Palliative Care, Illawarra Region, Australia. Author of international bestseller, Mission of Love. International speaker on sensitive topics such as death and dying.

“ I agree that special power is here in India. We need to discover that power and spread it.”

“ Power is the ability to be in control of my thoughts and feelings and to integrate truth into everything I do.”



Prof K. V. Raju, Economic Advisor to the Chief Minister of Karnataka State; specialised in social, environmental and institutional studies of water management and rural development. Professor, Centre for Ecological Economics and Natural Resources.



Mr Rajkumar Kukreja, Chartered Accountant and Chairman of Kukreja Datasystems. Serves on the Sindhi Council of India, Executive Board Member, NCPSL providing free education through Sindhi Seva School. Recipient of the Sindhu Ratna.



Dr. K.N. Shankara, Satish Dhawan Professor, ISRO, Bangalore. Developed INSAT, IRS and also Chandrayaan. Awards include Padma Shri, ISRO/DOS Distinguished Award, the Ramlal Wadwa Gold, Astronautical Society of India and VASVIK Award.



Ms Shashi Deshpande, award-winning novelist. The authentic recreation of India is a distinct feature of her novels which focus on the status of women and their self empowerment. Her first book was *The Legacy*, a collection of short stories. Since then she has published dozens of stories.

“ This is the only way we can progress spiritually, internally and become very, very powerful.”



Dr. Sreehari R. Rao, Chief Controller at DRDO, Delhi, responsible for steering development of systems and technologies in the areas of Radar, Electronic Warfare, Electro-optics, Communication & Information security & Systems. He is a fellow of IETE.



Ms Nandana Reddy, Political Rights Activist and Social Entrepreneur. Founder of several trade unions as well as Concerned for Working Children and the People's Union of Civil Liberties.

“I agree that special power is here in India. We need to discover that power and spread it.”

“I really hope that this will have a ripple effect and make a mark of changing the way things are perceived today.”



Mr Suresh Heblkar, Film Maker, Actor, Environmentalist and Crusader. Awarded the International Osiris for his film *Shepherds on the Move*. Vice Chairman, Indian Society of Environmental Stability and Founder, Eco Watch.



Mr Syed Zameer Pasha, IAS, Managing Director, Bangalore Metropolitan Transport Company has led the BMTC to be the most profitable company in the south.

“By sharing values we bring about a change, not only in ourselves, but also by changing ourselves we can change the society.”

“The entire exercise was to empower the individuals through the power of transformation.”



Dr Vijay Parthasarathy, President, Asia Pacific Ops at Mast Mobile Media. PhD in Electrical and Computer Engineering, specializing in Medical Imaging Systems and Random Signal Analysis, Johns Hopkins University, USA. Volunteer with Season for Non-Violence.



General Vinod Saighal (retired). Worked with UN peacekeeping forces, Iran; Military Attache, France and BENELUX; Executive Director, Eco Monitors Society; Founder, Movement for Restoration of Good Government. Authored books include Third Millennium.

“Power is control over oneself in order to face any situation.”

“My mission is to empower India to provide a counter culture that can save humanity from the scourge of consumerism.”



Justice Aravind Shiwagouda Pachhapure, Additional Judge of the High Court of Karnataka. Served as Additional District and Sessions Judge, Bijapur and Registrar (Vigilance); Registrar General, High Court of Karnataka.



Dr Vivek Jawali, Chief Cardio-Thoracic & Vascular Surgeon, Wockhardt Hospitals, Bangalore pioneering minimally invasive heart surgery. Trains senior cadre of cardiac surgeons from China. His many awards include the Harvard Medical International Lifetime Achievement Award for Medical Excellence in India.





Prof G. Madhavan Nair, former Chairman of Indian Space Research Organisation and Secretary to the Department of Space; Chairman, Space Commission and acts as the Chairman of Governing Body of the Antrix Corporation, Bangalore. President, International Aeronautical Association. Awarded the Padma Vibhushan.



Dr D. C. Pande, Director, Electronics & Radar Development Establishment, DRDO; Chairman, SEMCE(I); Fellow of IETE; Member of IEEE and SEE; Associate Member, 'dB' Society, USA; Member of AeSI. Awards include EMC Engineer of the Year, Society of EMC Engineers.

“Power is inner strength. That power, when used positively, becomes useful to humanity.”



Mr Nizar Juma, initiator and host of the Future of Power project. A leader in industrial and commercial businesses principally within Africa and Canada. Chairman of 51 companies worldwide. Chairman of the Boards of The Aga Khan Development Network. Awarded the Silver Star by the President of Kenya.



Dr Sharat Kalvakota, Fellow of the American College of Surgeons; Assistant Clinical Professor, Wright State University School of Medicine. Works with Maithri International to promote health and education.

“Power is to experience that the Healer is behind me.”

“Power should be self empowering and must make you strong from within to help you to face up to the increasing adversity of life and of the current times.”



B. K. Karuna, Chief of PR Communication & Media Spokesman, Brahma Kumaris, Mt. Abu. Awards include the Icon of Spiritual Communication Award by the National Public Relations Fraternity and Mass Communication and Spiritual Development Award by the UNO.



Mr Jayakumar S. Patil, Chairman, Karnataka State Bar Council, having been a member since 1995. Senior Advocate practicing at High Court, Bangalore since 1975.

“Connect with the highest on high and get all the power you need.”



Pavan (Peter) Kumar, CEO, Five Star Hotels and Resorts, USA. Honored by US White House administration as Small Business Entrepreneur of the Year and felicitated by the District Governors and Mayors for voluntary services.



Ms Jija Hari Singh, Director General of Police, Commandant General, Home Guards, Director, Civil Defense & Director, Fire & Emergency Services, Karnataka.

“Power is control over one's self, to be calm in any storm.”



Mr Krishna Byre Gowda, Member, Legislative Assembly, State of Karnataka, representing the Byatarayanapura constituency, Bangalore. He is a member of the Indian National Congress and is the President of the Karnataka Pradesh Youth Congress.



Ms Elba De Gulio, Founder, Escuela Vivir Ahora (Live Now Therapy) School, Venezuela. Rebirthing therapist. With a background in tourism and media, Elba now travels extensively.

“ This dialogue helps us with our day-to-day life - step out and it is the power.”

“ The future of power has to do with peace, with inner honesty and joy.”



B.K. Mruthyunjaya, Vice-Chairperson of the Brahma Kumaris, Secretary for the many International Conferences in Mount Abu and throughout India.



Ms Muna A. Alarfaj, Vice Chairman, Alarfaj Group of Companies; CEO, Hanaland Real Estate Company. Member of the Women Culture Society and Kuwait Indian Friendship Society. Actively involved in women's empowerment programs.

“ Power is the ability to influence people, events, thought processes and the future of an individual, society or nature.”

“ Tread gently and softly with respect and humility for love and peace.”



Mr Rajesh P. Chinchewadi, Advisor and Consultant IT/BT Department for the Government of Karnataka and Member of the Task Force for Global Investment.



Dr K. Narayana Gowda, Vice-Chancellor, University of Agricultural Sciences. Has published numerous research papers and books. Selection Committee Member in various institutions including SAUs, ASRB, ICAR Institutes, Nationalized Banks, Commodity Boards and NGOs.

“ I am looking forward to changing scenarios in the future – in politics, business, education or any field.”

“ What is the best thing I can do for society? Asking this, the entire power vested in me will be used in the best way.”



Prof V. R. Katti, ISRO Satellite Centre; Fellow, Astronautical Society of India. Former President of Society of EMC Engineers. Awards include Outstanding Scientist, Distinguished Achievement Award, Astronautical Society of India Award and Padma Shri.



Dadi Janki, Administrative Head, BKWSU.

“ People are thirsty. They are thirsty for just a drop of spiritual experience. To be able to give them a spiritual experience, one needs to accumulate the deep power of stillness within ourselves.”

## Bangalore • December 2010

Forty-two eminent people from across Karnataka and from as far away as Venezuela, Beijing, Denmark, Kuwait, UK and Australia, came together at the Ista Hotel in Bangalore for a one day 'conversation' on 'The Future of Power'. The participants included scientists, authors, filmmakers, writers, doctors, human rights activists, a policewoman, MLAs and university chancellors.

Nizar Juma, the Host and initiator of the Future of Power, began the dialogue by setting the context. With great finesse Mike George guided the participants through a series of small group conversations based on the key questions: What is Power? How is Power Generated? What is the Future of Power? The humility and honesty within the conversations created a deeply moving and a positive atmosphere, leaving everyone with a renewed sense of purpose.

Dadi Janki, Chief of the Brahma Kumaris, met with the group, inspiring and motivating a higher level of spiritual expression. She kept the participants spellbound whilst she spun her web with jewels of wisdom.

The dialogue was crowned by an evening event at Palace Grounds the following day attended by almost 1,500 leading figures from the community along with members of the media. Anthony Phelips, a well known strategist and communications expert, interviewed some of the dialogue participants drawing out key insights from the previous day's discussions. The evening was graciously opened with a song by B.K.Sumitra, a well known Kannada singer. The evening's Guests of Honour were India's former Chief Justice, Mr. Venkatachaliah, and Dadi Janki.

