

summary report

the future of power

Hyderabad • November 2009

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



400 year old historic charminar monument in Hyderabad, India

Hyderabad is the capital and most populous city of the South Indian state of Andhra Pradesh. It is known as the "City of Pearls", the "City of Nizams" and the "City of Nawabs". It is situated at an altitude of 500m and is almost in the middle of India.

Hyderabad is the capital of one of the most techno savvy states in India, Andhra Pradesh. This city is also called the city of pearls because of major dealing in pearls. It is now turning itself into one of India's more commercially aggressive cities, hosting major trade shows and technology fairs.

The city has been classified as A-1 in terms of development priorities due to its size, population and impact.

Hyderabad has developed into a major hub for the information technology industry. It is the country's capital for biotechnology and pharmaceuticals. It is also a sporting destination with numerous sporting venues and stadiums.

participants and feedback



DADI JANKI: Administrative Head, Brahma Kumaris World Spiritual University, Mt Abu, Rajasthan.

A founding member in 1937, she became a global spiritual leader, working with universal spiritual truths to develop an inspiring vision of the unique potential of every human being. Based in London, England, from 1974 to 2007, she has overseen the establishment of centres teaching meditation and spirituality in more than 100 countries, benefiting the lives of millions. She is the President of the Janki Foundation for Global Healthcare.

SABAH MOHAMMED AMIN AL RAYES: Founder and managing partner, Pan Arab Consulting Engineers, Kuwait. Pioneered use of computers for structural analysis and design, with constant upgrading to keep pace with global developments. Author, professional code of practice, Kuwait Society of Engineers. US Commander's Award for outstanding services as special adviser to coalition task force during and after the Gulf War.



DR G BAKTHAVATHSALAM: Eminent surgeon who is the Managing Trustee of Dharmaveera K Govindaswamy Naidu Medical Trust, which runs the K.G. Hospital in Coimbatore, a centre of healthcare management, medical research and education in India. He also established the K.G. Eye Hospital, where 85,000 free cataract surgeries have been performed. He has conducted 200 free heart surgeries, 1,500 free dialysis treatments, screened more than 300,000 people free of cost for blood pressure, and saved 35,000 accident victims. He recently received the D.Sc. (Honoris Causa) from the MGR Medical University, Tamil Nadu, India. In 2005, he was awarded the Padma Shri (for his work in Medicine) given to him by former President APJ Abdul Kalam.

MARIA EUGENIA ESTENSSORO: Argentine politician, journalist and activist for women's rights. Represents city of Buenos Aires in Argentine Senate. Co-founder and President, Compania Social Equidad, which fosters universal access to information technologies, including computer literacy programmes for teachers, grandparents and unemployed; recycles 2000 computers a year to schools and grass-roots organisations. Contributes to work of social organisations that seek to reduce corruption and strengthen democracy.



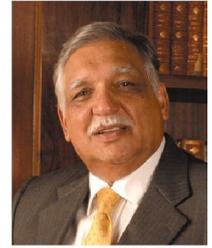
PULLELA GOPICHAND: Indian badminton player. Winner, All-England Open Badminton Championships, 2001. Rajiv Gandhi Khel Ratna Award, 2000-2001. In 2002, refused to endorse major soft drink brand on safety grounds. Awarded Padma Shri, 2005 and more recently the Dronacharya Award. After his career was affected by injuries he became a renowned coach. He says he will be happiest "the day one of my students goes on to win an Olympic medal". His most famous protégé is Indian badminton star Saina Nehwal.

“ The soul is energized. The session has energized me and I am not even tired after being up for 36 hours.”

NEVILLE HODGKINSON: Writer and journalist, UK. Author, Will To Be Well (Hutchinson, 1986); AIDS: The Failure of Contemporary Science (Fourth Estate, 1996). Formerly Social Policy Correspondent, The Times; Medical Correspondent, Daily Mail; Medical Editor, Sunday Express; Science and Medical Correspondent, The Sunday Times. Chairman, Janki Foundation for Global Healthcare, UK-based charity encouraging research and awareness in the fields of value and health.



NIZAR JUMA: The Future of Power project is Nizar's concept and he is the host of this series of dialogues. Nizar is a Nairobi-based industrialist, and is currently the Chairman of over 40 companies involved in hydro power generation, banking, insurance, fibre optics cable systems, industrial development and manufacturing of textiles, leather, packaging, food processing and pharmaceuticals. His 27-year association on a voluntary basis with The Aga Khan Development Network has included seven years as Chairman for The Aga Khan hospitals and medical centres throughout East Africa. He was awarded The Silver Star of Kenya for outstanding service to the nation. His 20-year association with the Brahma Kumaris has made them the natural sponsors for The Future of Power project.



“Everyone in this room is powerful. We are in the land of Gandhi and Tagore; of non-violence and spirituality. We want to talk about how responsibly we use power. How good do we feel at the end of a busy day?”



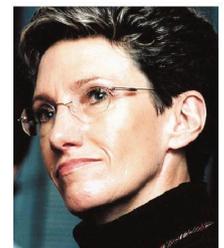
DR NIRMALA KAJARIA: Asia-Pacific Regional Coordinator, Brahma Kumaris World Spiritual University and Director, Gyan Sarovar Academy for a Better World, Mt Abu, Rajasthan. During the 1960s, she spent seven years running BKWSU centre in Mumbai whilst continuing work as doctor. In 1975, she joined a world tour that carried BK teachings out of India for the first time. For the past 30 years, she has overseen the establishment and growth of the spiritual university's work in 20 countries in the Asia-Pacific region, including Australia, Indonesia, China and Japan.

“In my experience the people in a community, considered as leaders are those who have made themselves accessible; they are not on some kind of platform. If a leader creates a distance from others then, on a subtle level, those close to them feel their identity to be threatened.”

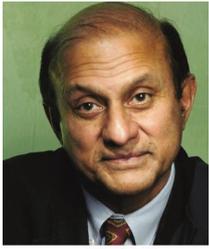


RAMADEVI KANNEGANTI: Social activist. Founder President, Association of Lady Entrepreneurs of Andhra Pradesh (ALEAP). Learned by personal experience of difficulties in establishing and maintaining an industry and founded ALEAP as a common platform to enable women to run industries independently, with encouragement, training and a little financial help. Industrial estate for women established in Gajularamaram, Andhra Pradesh, with 70 units on a 30-acre site. Many awards received, including Woman of the Year and Best NGO.

WENDY LUCAS-BULL: South African Businesswoman of the Year, 1995, and Top Woman in Business, 2004/5. Appointed Chief Executive of FirstRand's retail banking group, FNB Retail, in 2000, she instituted a restructuring that more than doubled earnings in a year. At First National Bank, she drove a turnaround that combined traditional re-engineering with transformational culture change. Documented as personal and organisational success stories by Wits Business School. In 2005, she teamed up with three other women to form Peotona, a company contributing to the development of women in business as well as building capacity in communities and local government. She is involved in business-government partnerships in areas including housing, crime prevention and elimination of poverty.



“Power does not corrupt us. We corrupt power. So, if we change ourselves, the power can be used in the right way to do right things.”



VIJAY MAHAJAN: After graduating from the Indian Institute of Technology, Delhi, and the Indian Institute of Management, Ahmedabad, he started working in rural development in Bihar, the poorest state of eastern India. In 1983, he established an NGO, PRADAN, which works with over 120,000 poor households, promoting livelihoods and community institutions. In 1996, he founded the BASIX group to attract mainstream financial resources to rural economic development; by March 2008, BASIX had helped support the livelihoods of over one million poor households, extending micro-credit worth more than US\$300 million. In 2002, he was selected as one of 60 “Outstanding Social Entrepreneurs” at the World Economic Forum, Davos.

ABDUL KHAYUM KHAN: Additional Director General of Police, Andhra Pradesh Police Department, Hyderabad. Commended by the government on several occasions. Recipient of the Indian Police Medal in 1998 and in August, 2007 selected for the prestigious President’s Police Medal for distinguished and meritorious service.



“ I have been with powerful groups before but this was a different sense of power.”



ZANELE MBEKI: Former First Lady of South Africa. Fulfilled public duties as wife of President Thabo Mbeki but also broke with tradition by establishing an independent life that allowed her to pursue her life-long passion — women’s empowerment. Mrs Mbeki chairs the Trust Fund for SA Women’s Economic Empowerment and is a trustee or director of several national and international boards promoting social and economic development in poor communities. She recently initiated SA Women in Dialogue, which promotes dialogue for peace, equality and development.

“ Power is influence. I would like to see a future definition of power as a possibility of good influence over others. I discovered the power to transform ego into humility. The first step is personal power and internal. When you cultivate this personal power then we make it a collective power”



CHANDRABABU NAIDU: President, Telugu Desam Party, Andhra Pradesh. Served as the Chief Minister of Andhra Pradesh for two consecutive terms from September 1995 to May 2004. Under Naidu, AP became the 3rd best place to invest in after Maharashtra and Gujarat (Business Today survey — 2000) and 2nd in terms of investor perception. Dubbed as the CEO of Andhra Pradesh, he modernized administration and government operations with a firm conviction that modern technology should be used in the service of the common man. With his keenness to develop the full potential of all citizens based on a strong moral foundation, he propagated a return to ethical and value-based precepts in day-to-day life by launching new initiatives. like the Janmabhoomi programme which aims at achieving excellence in all walks of life and focuses on community-building through team work.

DR PRAHLADA: Distinguished Scientist and Chief Controller, Research and Development, DRDO (Defence Research and Development Organisation), Ministry of Defence, New Delhi. DRDO is a network of 51 laboratories with more than 5,000 scientists and about 25,000 other scientific, technical and supporting personnel. It develops a wide range of defence technologies including aeronautics, armaments, electric and computer sciences, human resource development, life sciences, materials, missiles, combat vehicles and naval research and development. Current research interest is in hypersonic flight vehicles integrated with air breathing scramjet engine. Recipient, DRDO Scientist of the Year Award, 2004.



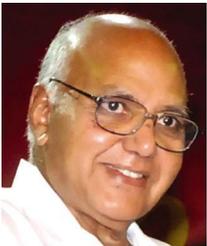


M N RAJU: Due to abject poverty, he was unable to attend school during childhood and he grew up with single-minded desire to offer a platform for children to pursue basic education. He is now chairman of MNR Educational Trust, promoting value-based education through a network of institutions that address students' psychological and spiritual needs as well as honing innate skills.

AJIT RANGNEKAR: Dean, Indian School of Business. He has more than 30 years' experience in East Africa and India in business strategy, new business creation, systems implementation and performance improvement in industries including telecom, utilities, energy, chemicals and shipping. As Dean, he steers ISB to be among the globally top-ranked, research-driven management institutions; creating an environment fostering research of high impact to academia and society and supporting transformational development of students and alumni.



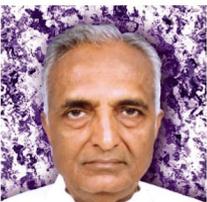
“Today thousands of wonderful seeds have been sown in my garden. Now, I have to nurture, water, provide nutrients and finally, I have to decide what I will do with this garden. Am I the only one to enjoy this garden or do I share? How do I do it? My hope is that this does not end here. We take it where we create a much better impact on ourselves and the society.”



RAMOJI RAO: Businessman and media baron; head of Ramoji Group, owners of the 2,000-acre Ramoji Film City, Hyderabad, the world's largest film production facility and one of Asia's most popular tourism and recreation centres. Nearly 100,000 tourists visit every month: attractions include exotic gardens, an entertainment centre with live stunt shows and a ride that simulates space travel. The group also has publishing, satellite television, TV software development, hotels, food processing and financial services interests.

“Our journey is of empathy. Power is also a power of empathy, trusting and respecting everyone. It is not tangible but it is a daily process of living an honest life and a complete person. This moral and ethical space is power.”

DR B P S REDDY: Scientist with vast experience in designing, developing and commercialising processes for active pharmaceutical ingredients. Started Hetero Drugs, now catering to a variety of therapeutic categories and marketing to more than 50 countries. “Best Efforts in Research and Development” award by Department of Science and Technology, 1996.

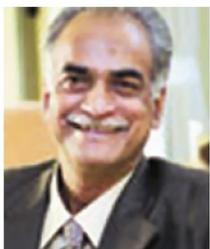


RAMESH SHAH: Additional Secretary General, Brahma Kumaris World Spiritual University (BKWSU); looking after finance, properties, and legal administration. A chartered accountant since 1957, he has also been a lecturer at Bombay University and the College of Philosophy. He was a member of first foreign delegation of BKWSU, which established centres in London and Hong Kong. Subsequently he was responsible for establishing centres in the USA, Australia, Singapore, Malaysia, and various countries in Africa, travelling extensively with his wife, Usha Shah. He is the author of many books, including Pure Money Economics, blending a deeper understanding of economics with philosophy of life.



SHANTA SINHA: Rights activist working for universal elementary education; internationally renowned for her contribution to the phenomenal reduction in child labour in nearly 500 villages in Andhra Pradesh. In 2007, she was appointed by the Government of India as chair of the newly formed National Commission for Protection of Child Rights - in partnership with government teachers, women's groups, youth associations, local bodies and non-governmental organisations, the present focus is on the girl child, and children engaged as bonded labourers. Winner, Ramon Magsaysay Award 2003 for Community Leadership. Also awarded the Padma Shri (1999) and the Albert Shanker international Award (1999).

“Today, there was no preparation required; issues we discussed are not in fashion – truth, faith, beliefs, love. This has not been in the realm of conferences in the last year that I have attended. Glad you provided the space to discuss these ideas. It was great to open up. We need more of this so we are not shy to think of these things.”



DR B. SOMARAJU: Eminent cardiologist; Chairman and Chief of Cardiology at CARE Hospitals, The Heart Institute at Hyderabad. With a 60-member team of cardiologists, cardiac surgeons, cardiac anaesthetists, cardio-vascular nurses and technicians, he came out of NIMS to start the Division of Cardiology at Mediciti Hospitals, Hyderabad in 1993. “We wanted to build a place where we could have the professional satisfaction of an academic institution and the freedom and flexibility of a private enterprise,” he says. Contributed to the introduction of India's first coronary balloon care, Ultima, in 1998. Author, ‘Clinical Methods in Cardiology.’ Honoured with Padma Shri, ‘Uttama seva patra’ by the Government of Andhra Pradesh, the Asian Innovation Award in 1998 by The Far Eastern Economic Review, the Andreas Gruentzig Memorial Award, 8th Yudhvir memorial award and Express Healthcare Lifetime Achievement Award.

JUSTICE V. ESWARAI AH: Judge, High Court of Andhra Pradesh, since 1999. Honourable Sri Justice Eswaraiah studied law at Osmania University and enrolled as advocate in 1978. He practised as a lawyer mainly in the High Court and civil courts in Hyderabad. Handled several civil, criminal and constitutional matters, and worked as Government Pleader for five years from January 1990 to December 1994.



“Every human being has power. Each individual shares his abilities and this is influence. Whatever you share, don't expect a return. The meaning of sharing is lost in expectation. Bring happiness through influence. How can we become better human beings? What we want to learn is to become better so our influence is better and leads us into a better society.”



PAUL WILSON: Author and meditation teacher. Paul has written 19 books, including The Calm Technique, Instant Calm, The Little Book of Calm, Calm at Work, Perfect Balance, The Quiet and A Piece of the Quiet - mostly around the topic of finding peace of mind in everyday life. The Times (UK) nicknamed him The Guru of Calm, a name that has stuck until this day. His meditation methods are taught and practised throughout Europe, Asia, and Australasia. It has been estimated that he has taught over 1,000,000 people to meditate.

Hyderabad • November 2009

A total of 26 participants - influential thought leaders from various fields in media, business, education and health from India (Andhra Pradesh) and abroad - came together in the spirit of inquiry into the future of power dialogue at the Ista Hotel in Hyderabad, Andhra Pradesh on 7 November, 2009.

Hosted by Dadi Janki, Head of the Brahma Kumaris, and Nizar Juma - a Nairobi-based businessman and industrialist, the dialogue successfully provided participants with an opportunity to take time out and reflect on the deeper meaning of power in their lives. Dadi Janki was direct in her comments, inspiring and motivating participants to a higher level of spiritual expression. She underlined that for a leader to use power positively, they needed first to have made a determined thought to walk the path of truth and non-violence. She highlighted how important it was for a leader to be free from the influence of what has gone wrong as well as not to be impressed by what is right. She said, "This subtle checking is needed for our safety. Before judging, we need to practice three things - patience, peace and love. We also need to stay away from sorrow, worry and fear and maintain love, honesty and trust."

Judy Johnson (Canada) and Marc Fourcarde (France), the dialogue facilitators, gently guided participants into an exploration of their personal understanding of power and through a process of appreciative inquiry, enabled a discovery of how to use power positively despite challenges and pressures.

The humility and honesty of participants during the feedback sessions created a deeply moving and appreciative atmosphere leaving everyone with a renewed sense of purpose, refreshed and inspired.

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