A series of exclusive conversations exploring the 'shifts in power' and their impact on leadership in the 21st Century
Vijayawada is the commercial city of Andhra Pradesh. It is politically active, sociologically dominant, agriculturally rich, and an industrial transportation hub. The name Vijayawada, meaning "Land of Victory" and it is also referred to as "Vidyala wada", the Place of Education and by its historic name Bezawada.

There are sixty parks in Vijayawada city and on the outskirts, the Kondapalli reserve forest, spread over 30,000 acres is a green lung for the city and home to leopards, wild dogs, jackals, wild boar and wolves. The hills produce a soft wood which is used in the manufacture of Kondapalli Toys. Major crops include sugarcane, rice and mango. Vijayawada is famous for automobile body building, garment, iron and hardware small scale industries.

Significant educational institutions include the Dr NRS Government Ayurvedic, the NTR University of Health Science, Acharya Nagarjuna University, Central Institute of Fresh Water Aqua Culture, Ghantasala Venkateswara Rao Government College of Music and Dance and the Madonna School for Deaf.

Bhavani Island is located in the Krishna River which runs through the city. Other parts of the city are covered by a low range of hills and by rich and fertile agriculture lands. The Mogalarajapuram Caves in Vijayawada where excavated in 5AD. Vijayawada is also well connected to nearby tourist attractions such as Amaravati, famous for its Amareswara temple dedicated to Lord Shiva and is one of the famous Pancharamas; Undavalli Caves just 6 km south are the finest testimonials to ancient vishwakarma sthapathis; and the nearby Guntur District has 100 km of coastline.
FOP Participants and Feedback

Vijayawada

“Power is nothing but phonic energy pervading everywhere both in the living and non-living.”

B. Srinivasulu
Commissioner of Police

“Power is to differentiate good and bad, practice ethics and values for the welfare of all. 'Vasudiva kutumbakam' - love everyone without barriers of land, cast and creed.”

Chadalavada N Rao
Vice President
Siddartha Academy

“I am always amazed by the depth of spiritual understanding and the support for soft power in India.”

Anthony Phelps
Strategic Marketing Consultant, UK

“Leading a life with moral and ethical values will bring spirituality and humanity back into power.”

B. Srinivasulu
Commissioner of Police

“I am not very clear about power but this has set me thinking about it.”

Chalasani Dutt
Organic Horticulturalist
Prakash Bio Organic Farm

“Power is a latent potential present in every being manifesting at different degrees. The expression of this power can be enhanced by practicing various Sadhanas such as Meditation.”

B.V.S.T. Sai
Managing Director
Pralshar Bio Products

“Power is an innate state that makes you feel blissful with every conscious application. It makes one feel in control over oneself and over the situation.”

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“The right power to make a better world is a balanced approach of spirituality coupled with values and ethics.”

Chigurupati Vara prasad
Chairman
Krishnaveni Educational Institutions

“I should pardon everyone and I should be pardoned by everyone.”

Dharamchand Binayakiya
Business Dealer
Pratap & Co.

“Power means to help nature and humanity for a more powerful society.”

G. Ravindra Babu
State President
Visually-challenged Employees Association

“Power is a spiritually lead life.”

Gurram V K Prasad
Executive President
KCP Pvt Ltd

“Power is creating value through elevated thoughts towards the society continuously.”

D. Rama Krishna
Managing Director
Efftronics Systems

“Every matter, including humans, has some energy to exhibit; not supernatural powers, only human matters and biological power enhanced by effort.”

Dr G Samaram
Doctor and Writer
Vasavyya Nursing Home

“Power is the energy that keeps you happy.”

Gogineni U Rao
Chief Administrative Officer
Sri Chaitanya Educational Institutions

Ilapuram Raja
Managing Director
Ilapuram Hotel
“Power is the capacity to understand others and help others.”

Dr Indla Ramasubba Reddy
President
Indian Medical Association

“Man is God, God is hard work, Work is self respect. What we think we must do. Talk less and listen more. The future of power is youth.”

Jampa Krishna Kishore
Founder
Jana Vignana Vedika

“When I connect with my truth, my inner spiritual energy, I can influence others in a benevolent way so as to empower them.”

Dr Joanna Kitto
Lecturer in Psychology
Isle of Man

“Being spiritual is powerful. It is within you. Every person is powerful, how we use this power is what matters.”

K. Neelima Devi
Director
Garapati Petrol

“Religion has got us lost. We have to get back to spirituality, the invaluable diamond that will give us the true power we are all craving for.”

K. Ravindra Trivikram
Consulting Editor
News Travel

“Power is a tool to achieve universal brotherhood and equality.”

Dr K. Venkateswara Rao
Director
Dr. NTR University of Health Sciences

“Knowledge is power. Understanding nature and humanity is knowledge.”

Prof Kakarla Subbarao
Professor,
Dept of ECECBIT
“Develop the human values of truth and love in the society through the power to change.”
Kanaparthi S Siva Rao
Secretary
Krishna Dt Masters Athletic Assn.

“Power is the energy that is responsible to run this universe and which is also responsible for maintaining life.”
Koneru Satyanarayana
President
Koneru Lakshmayya University

“Power is to understand the purpose of life, our contribution to the world for the wellness of others and to bring about peace by mitigating conflict.”
M. Krishna Kumari
Station Director
All India Radio

“Power is the force that you can develop with the guidance of spirituality and following ethics.”
M. Lakshmi Prasad
Managing Director
Sujay Biotech

“Power is the inner strength to direct us to lead a blissful life.”
Dr M. V. Ramanamma
Rector
Dr. NTR University of Health Sciences

“Power is not something physical, it is the tapping of internal vital energies to spread the message of love and say "Sarvejanah Sukhino Bhavanthu".
Lakshmana Suri U.
Lecturer
Sri Chaitanya IIT, JEE Academy

“Power is an intellectual instrument to know unseen things with mental strength and good judgment. Detach from the past, tolerate and co-operate.”
Maddala Anthony
Secretary
All India Church Council
“The Powers to Accommodate, to be Patient, Cooperate, to Face and practice knowledge. Bring goodness and add values to things.”

Malineni Narayana Prasad
Managing Partner
Narayana Prasad Electrical Works

“Power is an unlimited gift we all have in our heart and soul to create whatever we want in our life.”

Margret Kjartansdottir
Business Woman
Reykjavik Iceland

“Power is like a knife which can cut fruit or to cut throats. Power coupled with spirituality and ethics must be used for the good of an individual and society.”

MC Das
Management Consultant & HRD Trainer
MCD Associates

“Be honest, maintain integrity, hard work and honesty. With creative thinking, work with happiness.”

Nalluri Venkateswarlu
Chairman
OTS Advertising

Mannava Sri Kanth Prasad
Director
Cricket Operations, Andhra Cricket Assn

“Spirituality is awareness: to be appropriate in our thoughts, words and actions in each moment. Power is to make that natural and effortless.”

Maureen Chen
Participants Liaison
the future of power, Australia

“Convincing power. If there is no convincing power, there is no dogmas in life.”

Muthavarapu Murali Krishna
Managing Director
Fortune Murali Park

“Our definition of power is that when you speak, people really listen. The more people that listen to you, the more powerful you are.”

Nizar Juma
Initiator, Future of Power
Industrialist, Kenya
“Power is empowering others to make yourself happy.”

Dr P Ramesh Babu
Managing Director
Ramesh Hospitals

“Being compassionate is the way forward as a good team leader, though compassionate leadership is often considered bad for economics.”

Dr P.V. Ramana Murthy
Chief Executive
Andhra Hospitals

“Power is an unseen energy in the minds of humans. Spirituality can emerge the energy from the inner self and make it useful to nature.”

Dr Prabhakar Singari
ENT Specialist
Singari ENT Hospital

“Power corrupts power. We need to increase power with spirituality so that people do not corrupt power.”

Paladugu Lakshmanrao
Secretary Siddartha Academy

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“The Brahma Kumaris are serving society through professional wings such as Science, Medicine, Women, Business, etc. to empower inner values for inner strength.”

Savita Didi
Sub-Zone Incharge
Brahma Kumaris, Warangal

“We all have the ability to develop inner power to whatever extent we ourselves determine.”

Shanta Didi
Incharge, Vijayawada
Brahma Kumaris

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Shanta Didi
Incharge, Vijayawada
Brahma Kumaris
“Power is the ability to do the task successfully, overcoming the challenges. To be focused in meditation makes the task easier.”

Srikar Alapati
Managing Director
Global Tree

“I think power is in nature. I believe that spirituality is part of everyone’s life. This is the first opportunity given to me by the Brahma Kumaris.”

Sujatha Kalyan
Advocate
Bar Association

“To attain spiritual power we must pray to God with selflessness, with a vow to help others and the good ethics of the golden age.”

T. Arjuna Rao
Chairman
Vijay Institute Of Medical Sciences

“I am very grateful to be with all of you and to learn the importance of spirituality and ethics.”

T. Sylvester
Mimicry Artist

“Inner spiritual power will give goodness to mankind, which will then lead to a very good, strong and vibrant society.”

Tripuraneni Babu Rao
Managing Director
Krishna Dist Milk Producers Mutually Aided Corp.

Turlapaty Kutumba Rao
Chairman
Andhra Pradesh Grandhalaya Parishat

“I like to live as a lotus leaf so that I do not absorb anything. Also to serve with empathy.”

V. Seetaramulu
Chief Executive Officer
Guntur Cooperative Urban Bank

V.R. Rao Avvas
Chairman
Agri Gold Group
“Power is living in the moment like a small child enjoying the moment and not thinking about the past or worrying about future.”

Dr Vishal Indla
Chief Psychiatrist
Vijayawada Institute of Mental Health and Neuro Sciences

“The power of the future can not be arrived at with a final consensus of heterogeneous thought but experienced through who you are, not what you are.”

Prof Victor David Dinakaran Namburi
Dept of English
KBN College

“From the dawn of civilisation, brute force has been constructed as power. Now in this 21st Century, it is knowledge, technology and peace.”

Y Harish C Prasad
Chairman
Malaxmi Infra Ventures
On 25 January 2014, at the Gateway Hotel, 60 leaders gathered for a dialogue. Nizar Juma opened the event with a question, "What is power? The more powerful you are, the more power you want. Everyone wants power in one form or the other. We want to explore whether the kind of power we want is beneficial for all."

Many deep insights were shared amongst the participants: Chadalavada Nageswar Rao, Vice President, Siddhartha Academy, "The desire to learn and give a chance to others means that if you fail, then all gain. Failure means the first attempt in learning." J. Krishna Kishore, Founder, Jana Vignan Vedika, "Talking less and listening more leads to success." This was echoed by others: Malineni Narayana Prasad, Managing Partner, Narayana Prasad Electricals, "Be a good listener to make the right decision at the right time." M Krishna Kumari, Director, All India Radio Station, "Listening to others with empathy is the most important quality to lead." BVST Sai, MD, Pralshar Bioproducts, "If a person does rituals and is not involved in spirituality, the purpose is lost, if he becomes spiritual without doing service to humanity, then also the purpose is lost." Vara Prasad, Chairman, Krishnaveni Educational Institutions added, "People of different approaches, religions, etc. need to evolve a system and provide a platform and resources to learn spirituality; youth need to be given direction to practise spirituality and values taught at a young age." U. Laxmana Suri, Sri Chaitanya IIT JEE Academy, "Spiritual power is also a beautiful science telling us about the presence of God, spirituality is seeing oneness in all."

Savita Behan, Director of Warangal Sub-zone welcomed over 1,200 participants the next evening at the "A" Convention Centre. Maureen Chen, from Australia, made the connection between Brahma Kumaris and FOP, "We are exploring and researching the ancient teachings of Rajayoga, the connection between the atma and Paramatma and the inner power which can be developed through this." Nizar Juma, demystified spirituality, "Its not true that if you take soft power, you will become weak. Gandhiji, Nelson Mandela, Mother Theresa are remembered for their spiritual power. Religion and spirituality are two different things. Spirituality is simple - not to give sorrow to anyone, not to get angry."

Anthony Phelips from UK, facilitated a Talk Show with participants from the dialogue. M. Krishna Kumari, Director, All India Radio, shared her thoughts on spirituality, "Spirituality is not related to rituals. It is listening to the people, helping people to solve their difficulties, empathising with others." Maddala Anthony, Secretary, All India Churches Council, "It is the duty of Indians to give self respect and become role models of the power of tolerance through spirituality which leads to a successful life." Sujatha Kalyani, Advocate, Bezwada Bar Association, "Spirituality is most needed in the legal profession. We must change tension into attention." Joanna Kitto, Psychology Professor, Isle of Man, "Along with understanding soft power, inculcating values is also needed. Understanding what my real qualities are, leads to strength within."

The Chief Guest, I. Venkateswar Rao, Vice-Chancellor, NTR University for Health Sciences, "Integrating soft and hard power we get Smart Power. We have witnessed atomic power, economic power, the power of science, medical science and the miracles of information technology, now we require the power of spirituality - faith, vigour, mindfulness, concentration and wisdom."

Standing L to R: - D. Rama Krishna (MD, Efftronics Systems), Dr. IndlaRamasubba Reddy (President, IMA), Dr. P.V. Ramana Murthy (CEO, Andhra Hospitals), SrikarAlapati (MD, Global Tree), Ilapuram Raja (MD, Ilapuram Hotel), DharamchandBinyakiya (Business Dealer, Pratap& Co.), G. RavindraBabu (State President, Visually-challenged Employees Assn), ChigurupatiVaraprasad, (Chairman, Krishnaveni Educational Instit.), TripuraneniBaburao (MD, Krishna Dist Milk Producers Mutually Aided Corp.), PrabhakarSingari (Singari ENT Hospital), Y. Harish Chandra Prasad (Chairman, Malaxmi Infra Ventures), K. Ravindra Trivikram (Editor, News Travel), Anthony Philips (Strategic Marketing Consultant, UK), VakkalagaddaBhaskararao (President, Vijayawada Iron & Hardware Merchants Assn), Kanaparthi S S Rao (Secretary, Krishna Dt Masters Atheletic Assn.) V. Seetaramulu (CEO, Guntur Cooperative Urban Bank), M. Lakshmi Prasad (MD, Sujay Biotech), Chalasani Dutt (Horticulturalist, Prakash Bio Organic Farm), Dr. Vishal Indla (Chief Psychiatrist, Vijayawada Instit of Mental Health and Neuro Sciences), ChadalavadaNageswara Rao (Vice President, Siddartha Academy), Maddala Anthony (Secretary, All India Church Council), B.V.S.T. Sai (MD, Pralshar Bio Products), Gurram V K Prasad (President, KCP), C. Hari Kiran (Municipal Commissioner), T. Arjuna Rao (Chairman, Vijay Institute Of Medical Sciences), Pradeep Kumar (Divisional Manager, South Central Railways), B. Srinivasulu (Commissioner of Police), Koneru Satyanarayana (President, KoneruLakshmayya Univ), Muthavarrapu Murali Krishna (MD, MCD Assn), Ashok V. (MD, Val Nirman)

Sitting L to R: - Dr. G Samaram (Vasavya Nursing Home), Nalluri Venkateswarlu (Chairman, OTS Advertising) BK Padmaja (FOP Coordinator, Vijayawada), Dr. Joanna Kitto (Lecturer in Psychology, Isle of Man), Shanta Didi (Incharge, Vijayawada, Brahma Kumaris), BK Savita (Sub-Zone Incharge, Brahma Kumaris), Nizar Juma (Industrialist, Kenya), SujathaKalyan (Advocate, Bar Assn.), M. Krishna Kumari (Director, All India Radio), Margret Kjartansdottir (Entrepreneur, Iceland), K. Neelima Devi (Garapati Petrol), Maureen Chen (Participants Liaison, FOP, Australia), Prof. Victor D D Namburi (Dept of English, KBN College)

Sitting Down L to R: - Jampa Krishna Kishore (Founder, Jana Vignana Vedika), Gogineni Umamaheshwara Rao (Chief Admin Officer, Sri Chaitanya Educational Inst), U. Lakshmana Suri (Lecturer, Sri Chaitanya IIT, JEE Academy), Malineni N Prasad (Managing Partner, Narayana Prasad Electrical Works), MC Das (Management Consultant & HRD Trainer, MCD Associates), Mannava S K Prasad (Director, Cricket Operations, Andhra Cricket Assn.), Prof. Kakarla Subbarao (Dept of ECE, CBIT).

Not in Photo: - M. Rajaiah (Chairman, Gateway Hotel), Bhikshamaiah Guruji (Founder, Sri Satya Sai Dhyana Mandali), Dr. K. Basava Punnaiah (President, Nagarjuna Education Society), Dr. K. Venkateswara Rao (Director, Dr. NTR Univ of Health Sciences), Dr. M. V. Ramanamma (Rector, Dr. NTR Univ of Health Sciences), Paladugu Lakshmanrao (Secretary, Siddartha Academy), T Sylvester (Mimicry Artist), Turlapaty K Rao (Chairman, AP Grandhalaya Parishad), V. R. Rao Avvas (Chairman, Agri Gold Group)