

International Day of Peace

21 September 2025

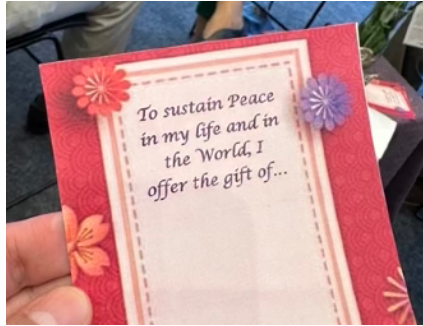
Report of Brahma Kumaris activities

October 12, 2025



International Day of Peace

The International Day of Peace, observed annually on September 21, is a United Nations-designated day for promoting peace. “Peace is the innate quality of the soul. It is who we are. It is the natural way of our being. We have forgotten who we are. Now is the time to remember.” - Brahma Kumaris



Brahma Kumaris at the UN co-hosted three events during UN's International Day of Peace

Are We Working Deeply Enough for Global Transformation?

This virtual event, organized by the Unitive Cluster, a member of the NGO Major Group of CoNGO, on Friday, September 19, brought together three key individuals from diverse backgrounds to explore what deeply enough means and how we can implement this for achieving a world of peace and security.

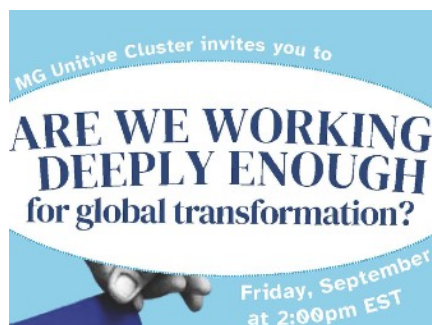
Ambassador I. Rhonda King, Permanent Representative of St Vincent and the Grenadines to the UN, was quite inclusive when she stated that *“deep thinking is not about being smart or having the right answers. It’s about sustained attention, the willingness to follow an idea down to its basement; to sit with the confusion rather than googling our way out of it. Answers come not when we are scrolling social media but more likely when we are out for a walk or in some quiet space. It is in these moments where the transformation takes place.”*

William Keepin, PhD, Mathematical physicist, Co-Founder of Satyana Institute and Gender Reconciliation International, encouraged us not to allow ourselves to sink in despair. The entire humanity basically operates on the forces of love. Love brings about transformation and this is what “working deeply” enough means.

Kehkashan Basu, M.S.M., MBA, Global influencer, Founder-President of the Green Hope Foundation, showcased the practicality of what “working deeply enough” looks like. The extent of service that Green Hope Foundation is performing can only be achieved when one practices going within, aligning with core principles of respect, inclusivity, and dignity for all, and serving from that place of conscious intent.

In conclusion, speakers left attendees in deep thought: how deep do we go in the work we do and how do we get more practitioners to join conversations of this sort?

Watch full event: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=OAM52TN3HZI&t=9s>



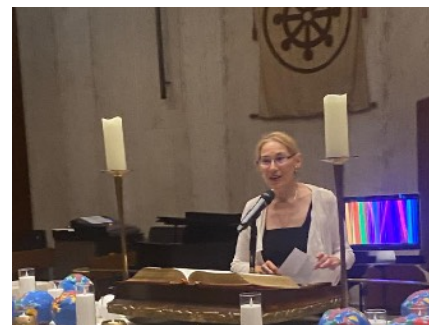
Attending the online event Are We Working Deeply Enough for Global Transformation?

International Day of Peace: Act Now for a Peaceful World.

The NGO community co-organized a Peace Day celebration that brought together UN dignitaries, private sector, civil society, and multi stakeholders in a cohesive and welcoming space at the Tillman Chapel, UN Church Center, NY on September 19

BK Sabita Geer, in the capacity of Representative of the Brahma Kumaris at the UN and Vice-chair of the NGO Committee on Spirituality, Values, and Global Concerns-NY, shared a meditation and reflective experience inviting each guest to take an inward, outward and upward journey, allowing the frequency of peace to diffuse across the world.

Celebration was moderated by Denise Scotto, Esq., Chair of the International Day of Yoga Committee at the UN.



BK Sabita & Denise Scotto, Esq. Chair of the Int. Day of Yoga Committee at the UN.

Act Now for A Peaceful World

On Saturday, September 20th, 2025 at Fordham University, Rose Hill Campus, Bronx, the Brahma Kumaris in conjunction with Fordham's International Political Economy and Development, and the International Youth Organization, commemorated the UN International Day of Peace.

This interactive program invited the participants, who were seated in circles of five, to reflect on peace in their lives, how to use the experience of peace in actions, and how those actions can influence the world, their culture, relationships, and also themselves. All this is possible when there is the awareness that peace starts from within.

Profound thoughts shared by three distinguished presenters and provocative questions by the facilitators prompted this insightful dialogue. Attendees further explored the importance of justice, empathy, love, and courage, that peace is a personal responsibility and an opportunity for each individual to share with the world.

As guest of honor, **Ambassador Anwarul K. Chowdhury**, dedicated advocate for the Culture of Peace and former Under-Secretary-General and High Representative of the United Nations, as well as the founder of the Global Movement for The Culture of Peace who stated that development cannot be possible without peace and that peace without the inclusion of women is not only necessary but fundamental.

Kelly Crisp, Vice President of the International Organization of Youth, delivered an address entitled *"The Through Line from Trust to Peace."* She highlighted the role of soft power, culture, and intergenerational dialogue in building lasting peace, urging young leaders to practice "personal diplomacy" – fostering internal trust as the foundation for global cooperation. Her closing message underscored that "trust is the true architecture of peace."

Carol Gibney, Director, Office of Campus Ministry Solidarity, and Leadership, Fordham University, spoke about her personal responsibility for being peaceful, no matter what. Holding the position she has, this was vital for meaningful and active listening and solutions-based responses.

With beautiful music by **Michelle DellaFave**, singer and actress, and **Ayodele Maakheru**, musician and music composer, and the final meditation led by **BK Juan Milling**, NGO Representative of the Brahma Kumaris at the UN, the event was wrapped in a climate of peace and enthusiasm to celebrate and share peace with one another.

The program was facilitated by **Sabita Geer**, Representative of the Brahma Kumaris at the UN, and **Carmen Palmer**, Coordinator of Activities of the Brahma Kumaris in Bronx.

Each attendee was given a gift of a special homemade sweet and a personal reflection card.

Voices of participants:

"I enjoyed a very inspiring evening at the International Day of Peace Celebration, held at Fordham University. The speakers were knowledge full and engaging."

"I particularly found the group sharing sessions to be empowering which allowed us to communicate and share thoughts with individuals from different backgrounds. These were reflective, engaging and at times even personal communications. We learnt a lot from each other and shared loving energy and compassion."

"I left feeling refreshed and uplifted."



BK representatives attending Fordham University celebrating World Peace Day at Fordham University with Ambassador Anwarul K. Chowdhury, as guest of honour