



Shanti Sahyog



Dedicated to Service of the Underprivileged
Half Yearly Newsletter July 2022 Vol 33

Our Projects

Education for Urban Slums

- **Play /Pre Schools**
 - i. Opposite Sudhar Camp Slum, Kalkaji
 - ii. DDA Flats, Kalkaji
 - iii. Tughlakabad (TKD) Village
- **Primary & Secondary**
- **Adult Non-formal & Remedial**

Healthcare

- **Dental Centre**
Opposite Sudhar Camp Slum, Kalkaji
- **Homeopathic Clinic**
DDA Flats, Kalkaji
- **Free Camps**
Eye, Dental & Cancer
Mammography / Cervical / Oral

Women Empowerment

- **Azim Prem Ji Foundation Project:**

Legal Awareness / Counselling / Aid & Rehabilitation through Vocational Training for Domestic Violence Victims Centre for Women, DDA Flats Kalkaji

- **TBZ Project PANKHI**
Centre for Women, TKD Village
- **Govt. Social Welfare Schemes**

Skill Development Centres Kalkaji & Tughlakabad Village

- Computer Applications
- Cutting & Tailoring
- Beauty Culture

Old Age Home

Sangam Vihar, New Delhi

Centre for Nonviolence

- Webinars on International Initiative
- #ChooseNonviolentDefence
- Collaboration with Peace Orgs
World Beyond War & Fields of Peace
- Publication - CFN Bulletin
The Changemakers

"See the good in people and help them." - Mahatma Gandhi

Our Vision

For a Just World Free of Poverty & Violence

Our Mission

To help individuals & communities break the cycle of poverty that prevents them from reaching their full potential

22 May 2022

A Proud Moment for Shanti Sahyog!



The Brahmakumaris honoured our Founder & President, Dr Suman Khanna Aggarwal, by conferring upon her the:

'SOCIAL SERVICE AWARD'

during the launch of their, **'God's Plan for Social Change'**

Campaign, as part of the national 75th Independence anniversary celebrations, at their Om Shanti Retreat Centre, Gurugram. Dr. Aggarwal dedicated the Award to her Team Shanti Sahyog.



21 May 2022 The Brahmakumaris invited 75 Beneficiaries of our Vocational Courses & 25 Domestic Violence Victims from our Centre for Women, along with our Instructors and Mobilizers, to introduce them to their Campaign. The Beneficiaries enjoyed their day out; their commute to and from the Centre was arranged in air-conditioned buses; they were treated to a sumptuous breakfast & lunch and gifted bags.





A BIG THANK YOU to the following for



GONAP Development Foundation Founder Anand Mishra and his team, Shubendu Chakravorty, Aparajita & Sahil for distributing 6000+ Masks to our Beneficiaries on our 73rd Republic Day in our catchment areas of Sudhar Camp Slum & Tughlakabad Village, New Delhi.



Bal Arogya NGO CEO Prateek Pathak for giving Steamers to 29 trainees of Shanti Sahyog Beauty Culture Course, DDA Flats, Kalkaji Centre, on 20 May 2022.



Tricon Technologies (Scanova) Co-founder & CEO Gautam Garg for: Extension of PANKHI Project till March 2022.

- Gracing our Award Event as Chief Guest, on 10 March 2022;
- Awarding Certificates to Computer Course Trainees, Kalkaji Centre;
- Upgrading our Computer Centre; Donating 2 Laptops.



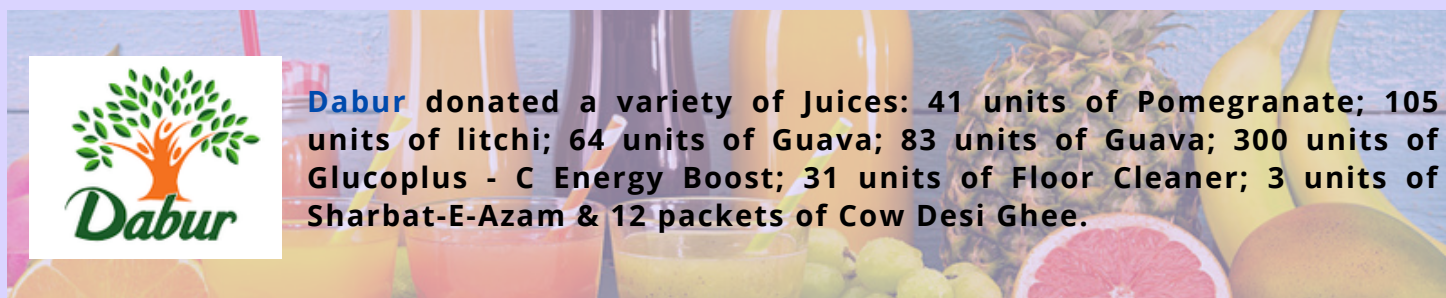
Tribhovandas Bhimji Zaveri (TBZ) for Extension of PANKHI Project till March 2022.



Rotary Club of Delhi Cama Place (President, Rtn. Rajneesh Virmani) for supporting our Cutting & Tailoring Kalkaji Centre, since 2016 & donating 2 SINGER Industrial Sewing Machines.

Rotary Club of Delhi Central (President, Dr. Harvinder Popli) for supporting our Cutting & Tailoring Tughlakabad Village Centre, since 2018 & getting us orders for tailoring bags, bedsheets, kurta pyjamas, ladies suits, etc. **Rtn O P Manchanda (Member) Proprietor, Indo Export Corporation** for donating Cotton, Canvas, Raxin, Velvet Fabric (174 mtr.) & 150 Rugs.

Monica Garments Proprietor, Anil Verma for donating 90 mtr peacock print Fabric and 60 thread spools used for over-locking garments.



Dabur donated a variety of Juices: 41 units of Pomegranate; 105 units of litchi; 64 units of Guava; 83 units of Guava; 300 units of Glucoplus - C Energy Boost; 31 units of Floor Cleaner; 3 units of Sharbat-E-Azam & 12 packets of Cow Desi Ghee.

Raju Stationers (Taanya Budhiraja & family) for donation of stationery items & toys worth around 20k for our students.

Humanitive Founder Sonarika Mahajan, for donations through her shopping portal **Diksha Singhi; Jinni Bhayana; Santosh Panchal; Sejal Kukreja; Manisha L; Sumi Jalan; Vedika Sharma** for donation of Sanitary Pads to underprivileged women; **Pooja Sharma** for funding a Domestic Violence Victim's 6 month Cutting & Tailoring Course.

Sonarika Mahajan for her personal donation of Beauty & Wellness Kits (100 units)

Vinay Baveja for donating a smartphone to a family of 3 slum children so they could attend their online classes during the COVID 19 Pandemic.





BOARD MEMBERS



ADVISORY BOARD

Shilpa Bhalla

Founder, EduBridge
Amsterdam, Netherlands

Wg. Cdr. (retd.) P Valsangkar

Consultant, World Bank

Dr. Manindra Thakur

Asso. Prof. of Pol. Sc. JNU

Dr. John Chathanatt SJ

Former Principal, Vidyajyoti

Prateek Pathak

CEO, Bal Aarogya NGO

Dr. Prashant Chauhan

Asst. Prof. of Social Work
Amity Univ. Noida

Suman Kumar

Principal, Bluebells School Int'nl

BOARD MEMBERS

S K Kodasi

Former Director, T - Series

Dr. Bulbul Dhar James

Prof. of Pol. Sc. JMI

Poonam Gupta

Former Asst. Dir. (HR) FICCI

Sarmila Nandi

Award Winning Artist

Sanjay Joshi

Sr. Manager Genpact

Adv. Swati Saxena

S & S Legal Partners & Associates

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Founder President/ Editor

Dr. Suman Khanna Aggarwal

Former Asso. Prof. of Philo, DU
Gandhian Scholar

Sn. Vice President

Mrs. Nagindra Rishi

Former Sr. GM Marketing
INDIA TODAY GROUP

Vice President

Wg. Cdr. (retd.) J S Chadda

Sec. Gen. URJA NGO

General Secretary

Suman Chopra

Editor

Urban Railways Year Book

Joint Secretary

Dr. A K Merchant

Gen. Sec.

Temple of Understanding

Treasurer

Som Nath Arora

Entrepreneur



Dear Readers,

On behalf of Team Shanti Sahyog, our deepest condolences to:

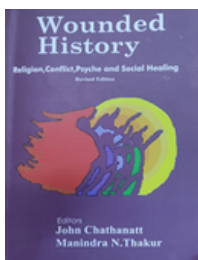
- **Rtn Bhaskar Chatterjee** on the sad demise of his wife, Usha Chatterjee on **14 May 2022**;
- **Amrita Sawhney**, Co-ordinator, Tughlakabad Village Centre, on losing her Mother on **6 June 2022**, followed by her first cousin on **22 June 2022**;
- **Bimla Kumari**, who lost her 19- year-old nephew on **25 June 2022**;
- **Jaya & Gurudass Prajapati**, on the sudden death of their daughter, Kirti Prajapati - our sponsored student - studying in Std VIII, Deepalaya School; Kirti died due to electric shock on **29th May 2022**.



On behalf of Team CFN, my gratitude to our CFN Board Members, who, braving the gruelling heat, took the time to come in full force for our 1st ever **CFN Board Meeting on 26 May 2022!**

Further, **Congratulations** are in order to our Board Members for their recent publications:

- **Dr Manindra Thakur & Fr John Chathanatt** - 2nd Edition of their edited book, **'Wounded History- Religion, Conflict, Psyche and Social Healing'**. I have also contributed an article to it: **'Exploring Gandhiji's Concept of Shanti Sena as an Alternative to Military Defence'**;
- **Dr. Manindra Thakur** for his book: **Gyan ki Rajneeti**;
- **Former Amb Anil Trigunayat**: **'Evolving Security Dynamic in West Asia & India's Challenge'**.
- **A Festschrift honouring Dr. Chandrakala Padia on her 65th birthday** - 29 May 2022. Former Prof. of Pol Sc BHU, VC Bikaner Univ. etc. My daughter & I have contributed to the Festschrift.
- **Pradeep Valsangkar**, former Wing Commander for his book: **'The Sky is Blue'**.



I warmly welcome the following who recently joined Team Shanti Sahyog: **Shraddha Upadhyay** as Program Manager, APPI Project; **Mayuri Kar** as Co-ordinator, CFN; **Anita** as Beauty Culture Instructor & **Hema Batra** as Computer Instructor, TKD Village Centre; **Sangeeta** as Computer Instructor, Kalkaji Centre, **Sheetal Singh** as Helper, Play/Pre School Kalkaji; **Tazneem** as Teacher, Play/Pre School, TKD Village.

A BIG THANK YOU to all the interns/ volunteers who helped Shanti Sahyog in various capacities from Jan to June 2022: **Kanwalpreet; Mohd. Kauser, Muhsin J, Nikhil K; Mudit; Harjas; Harshita & Kinjal.**

To conclude, I am very grateful to **Shraddha** for her invaluable assistance in the past 6 months for carrying out miscellaneous tasks with perfection, including preparing for our AGM and latest Newsletter. **She was available 24/7- and always with a smile!**

Until next time, take care, stay safe and stay healthy!

31 March 2022 marked the **successful completion** of the 2nd Year of Azim Premji Philanthropy Initiatives (APPI) supported Project: Legal Awareness / Counselling / Aid / Rehabilitation of Domestic Violence Victims (DVV's) living in our catchment area of 17 slums, Kalkaji-Govindpuri, New Delhi. A **significant achievement in the last 6 months**, is the **Courageous Transformation** of the DVV's from being helpless victims of domestic violence and abuse, to strong, empowered, resolute women, refusing to succumb to their misery. Now, for, some concrete figures: **4 Legal Awareness Camps (LAC)** were held monthly; **attended by 103 women in Jan, 75 in Feb, 103 in March, 102 in April, 137 in May & 111 in June 2022.** From Jan to June 2022, **2560 women were Mobilized; 25 LAC were held attended by 631 slum women; 61 Cases of DVV's registered & counseled & 30 DVV's enrolled in Vocational Skills for Rehabilitation.**



30 March 2022 Ashmeet Kaur & Hatib Ashraf from APPI, **visited to review** our Project. They interacted with our **Beneficiaries - both DVV's & Survivors.** Their visit was very fruitful in providing mentorship & guidance to our Team. During April, May & June 2022, we **forged the following valuable partnerships:** National Commission for Women; **Mahila Panchayat, Kalkaji;** SHO Kalkaji & Govindpuri Police Stations; Delhi Legal Service Authority; Shakti Shalini (Shelter Home); Migration & Asylum Project. We secured funding for DVV's Nursing Course in Jamia Hamdard from Bal Arogya NGO & enrolled DVV's in National Institute of Open Schooling.

KUDOS to APPI Team: (from L to R) Program Manager: **Shraddha;** Counsellor: **Pallavi;** Advocate: **Lokesh;** Mobilizers: **Priyanka; Saroj;** Instructors: **Bimla** (Cutting & Tailoring); **Karan** (Computer Applications); **Jasbir** (Beauty Culture)



On 8 March 2022 International Women's Day (IWD) Celebrations

Shanti Sahyog celebrated IWD in collaboration with Russian House Foundation. Their **Gen Sec, Tatiana Bhardwaj,** & her Team presented an excellent Russian Cultural Program, applauded by all, including **Chief Guest, Rekha Bassi, President, Mahila Wing (AAP) Vidhan Sabha,** Kalkaji, New Delhi. Our Vocational Trainees & Volunteers put up a great performance, followed by heart-touching success stories narrated by DVV's. The Event ended with an inspiring address by our Chief Guest.



“ Woman is the companion of man, gifted with equal mental capacity. ”

— Mahatma Gandhi

We are proud to report that **Tribhovan Bhim ji Zaveri Foundation (TBZ)** who are supporting **Project PANKHI for Domestic Violence Victims (DVV's)** in TKD Village, since September 2019, not only renewed it for another year in Nov 2020, but also provided additional funding in March 2021 to rehabilitate 50 DVV's annually through Vocational Training.

From Jan to May 2022

- **35 Outreach Sessions** were conducted benefitting **630** women.
- **Total No. of Registered Cases: 06**
- **Unregistered Cases 66**

KUDOS to Team PANKHI:-

Counselor
Amrita Sawhney



Advocate
Manju Bala



Mobilizer
Nisha Yadav



One call can set you free



International Women's Day (IWD) Celebrations

Shanti Sahyog Centre for Women TKD Village celebrated International Women's Day by inviting **Aditi** from **GROUP of FRIENDS WELFARE TRUST (GoFWT)** to our PANKHI Legal Awareness Session, to counsel the women on the importance of Menstrual Health & Hygiene. She clarified that menstruation is a normal and natural part of a woman's life and so should not be looked upon in terms of being impure or dirty. She also distributed 70 packets of sanitary napkins to the underprivileged women assembled there. We thank GoFWT for her much-needed donation.



14 June 2022

AWARD EVENT - Computer Applications

Chief Guest Rtn NK Mittal, Asst. Governor, ROTARY Club of Delhi 3011, awarded certificates to our **40** Computer Applications Trainees – **Basic (16), Tally (5), NIIT (11), and Diploma (16)** at our Vocational Training Centre.

1st prize winners :

Jesmeen David (NIIT CCMO); **Sreekutty** (Tally ERP9); **Kumud Kumari** (Basic); **Ankush Kharwar** (1 year Diploma).

Rtn Mittal's stirring address was followed by a long and interactive Q & A session with participation seen like never before, even including the Board Members present: President, Dr Suman K Aggarwal, Gen Sec, Suman Chopra, VP, Mrs. N Rishi, WgCdr J S Chadda & Sharmila Nandi.

*Rtn NK Mittal***10 March 2022 AWARD EVENT - Computer Applications**

Mr Gautam Garg, Co-founder & CEO of Trycon Technologies (Scanova) with his team members Mansi Tyagi, Sakshi, Prateek Pundir graced our Award Event as a **Chief Guest**, and distributed Certificates to **30 Trainees, Basic (13), NIIT (17)**. **1st prize winners:**

Vanshikha Gupta (NIIT CCMO); **Taniya Chakraborty** (Basic).

His address on the importance of focus, time management & passion in fulfilling one's dreams was very motivating. As were his views on AI, importance of digital literacy & access to info. tech. for all. Impressed by our work, he announced that **Trycon would upgrade our Computer Center Infrastructure & donate 2 laptops.**



12 April 2022**Award Event - Beauty Culture**

Dr. Jauhari Lal - Founder Bal Aarogya NGO & former Dir HR ONGC, was our Chief Guest and awarded Certificates to **32 Trainees**.

Nilofer, Pooja Sharma & Shahin Saifi secured 1st, 2nd & 3rd ranks respectively.

His impassioned address evoked a long Q & A session. **Prateek Pathak, CEO Bal Aarogya** very kindly announced that their NGO will donate steamers to all the passed-out trainees.

**2 April 2022****Award Event - Cutting & Tailoring (C&T)**

Rtn. Rajneesh Virmani, President, Rotary Club of Delhi Cama Place, was Chief Guest and awarded Certificates to **30 Trainees**, who **presented a catwalk, wearing garments stitched by themselves**, before the Award ceremony. His address struck a chord with the trainees. Our C&T Centre is supported by their Club & SINGER. **Pooja Kumari (was gifted a sewing machine), Kamakshi Kumar & Shweta Gautam secured 1st, 2nd, & 3rd ranks.**



Rtn. Vinay Mittal, known for his generosity and treated all present to delicious snacks. The Rotarians praised C&T Instructor – Bimla Kumari, for developing the C&T Production Unit, which provides livelihood to our underprivileged trainees after they complete their Course. They also bought many items made by the slum women.



5 Feb 2022

Award Event - Computer Applications

Wg Cdr (Retd) JS Chadda, Sec. Gen. URJA - our honourable Chief Guest awarded Certificates to 70 Trainees; 25 in NIIT & 45 in Basic.

NIIT Course: 1st prize to Aman Kumar; 2nd to Priya; 3rd to Kajal.
Basic Course: 1st prize to Rakesh Kumar; 2nd to Soniya; 3rd to Shiv Rawat.

Mr. Chadda's address was mesmerising on the importance of a well-thought-out goal in life. He generously gifted a much-needed kettle to the Staff.



2 July 2022

Award Event - Beauty Culture

GROUP of FRIENDS WELFARE TRUST (GoFWT) Members Rajpal Duggal, Ajay Amar (Past President) and Rajan awarded Certificates to our **2nd Batch of 22** Trainees, who had completed their 6 months Course.

1st prize to Pooja; 2nd to Shalu; 3rd to Tanu Chindaliya.

The trainees presented a catwalk showcasing their hairstyles & makeup, appreciated by all. Our President, Dr. Suman Khanna Aggarwal & Wg Cdr (retd) JS Chadda showed the GoFWT Members around the Center. They were very happy to note the progress of TKD Centre since the past year.



28 March 2022

EXPOSURE VISITS

Beauty Culture Program Trainees were taken for exposure visits to, **Shimmer & Shine Salon and SPA, Kalkaji**, where they learnt about Customer Service; Bridal, Party & Nude Makeup; Grooming & Styling; Marketing of Beauty Services & Job Openings with big brands.

C&T Program Trainees went to **Apparel Training & Design Centre (ATDC), Okhla**, where inter-alia, they learnt about the TDC 'FREE SKILL TRAINING' for Economically Weaker Sections, to develop their skills in Fashion Design & Garment Technology with a view to make them self-reliant. Affluent candidates pay Rs. 70,000/- for this training.

Computer Applications Program Trainees visited **NIIT Centre, Kalkaji**, where they were introduced to the JOB FAIRS organized by NIIT.

DDA Flats, Kalkaji & Tughlakabad (TKD) Village

Catering to underprivileged kids, living in our catchment areas of 16 slums (Kalkaji/Govindpuri) Shanti Sahyog Play/Pre-School, Kalkaji reopened on **14 March 2022**, after two years of the COVID Pandemic. Starting with 10 children enrolled in the month of March, our strength was 35 in July and increasing by the day. **Our kindergarten teacher - Sheela** who has been with us for the past decade, is dearly loved by the kids, as she treats all of them as her very own! Both the kids and their parents dote on her.



Similarly, **Shanti Sahyog Play/Pre-School**, TKD Village, reopened on 14 March 2022, after a two-year closure, due to the Pandemic. Due to school closure for 2 years during CORONA Pandemic, we had to vacate our old school and we did not even have the space available for us to start afresh, choosing a place for the school was a very challenging task for us, it was through the help of our mobilizer we found a great place for school. At first, we started with 10 kids. Now the number of children in the school has increased to 40 and this number is increasing day by day. Our play school teacher Sahiba who has been working with us since last 4 years also contributed a lot.



Summer Camps in both Schools: 1 to 24 June 2022

Sheela and Sheetal (helper), along with volunteers: **Jasmine; Harjas Chadha; Harshita Khurana; Kinjal Yadav** who helped organize the Summer Camp on DDA Flats Play/pre School premises. **36** slum children enrolled in total. They enjoyed themselves thoroughly participating in all the activities, which included drawing, painting, crafts, group games, dancing, yoga, frog race, balloon race, musical chair, counting game, etc.



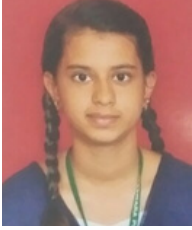
At TKD Village School, 22 children enrolled. They enjoyed the varied activities, like, Musical Chairs, Yoga, Balloon Game, Drawing, Story Telling, Dance, Sack Race, etc. and look forward to coming again next summer!



Deepalaya School (DS); New Greenfield School; Delhi Tamil Education Association (DTEA); Shyama Prasad Vidyalaya (SPVSSS); Sardar Vallabhbhai Patel (SVP); Sarvodaya Kaniva Vidyalaya (SKVT); Govt School DDA Kalkaji (GSDDA), Govt School No. 3, Kalkaji (GSNK); Sant Nirankari (SN); KVS (Kendriya Vidyalaya School); Raisina Bengali School (RBS); Sanatan Dharma Vidya Bhavan (SDVB); Ram Krishna Saraswati Veda Niketan (RKSVM)

CBSE
Board
Exams

CBSE Board Exam Std. XII



Shaheen
Std XII 61.5%
(GSNK)



Aditya
Std XII 55%
(GSDDA)



Anurag
Std XII 53.33%
(SVP)



Ankit
Std XII 51%
(SKVT)

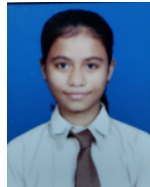
CBSE Board Exam Std. X



S.Kavitha
73.6%
(DTEA)



Neha Sorari
72.8%
(NGFS)



Sakshi Mandal
67.4%
(DP)



Ayantika Deshmukh
65% (DP)



Bhavishya Sagar
65%
(SPVSSS)



Nikita Kachhap
54.6%
(DP)

Performance	No. of Students
Above 90%	02
Above 80%	08
Above 70%	14
Above 60%	12
Above 50%	16



Our Vision



World Beyond
Violence
& War

Our Mission



Creating Kind,
Nonviolent &
Compassionate
Communities

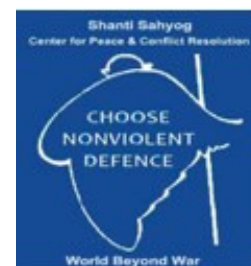


Fields of Peace



In line with **UN SDG 16**, Shanti Sahyog promotes Gandhi's legacy of Nonviolent Conflict Resolution, A World Beyond Violence & War, Peace Education, Citizen Diplomacy and Peace Programs in India & Abroad. **CFN is in the process of forming partnerships to promote its goals. Fields of Peace (FOP) is our eighth Alliance, joining seven partners:**

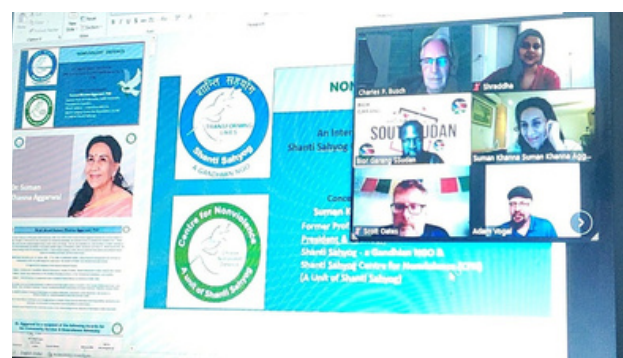
- *WORLD BEYOND WAR, USA (Greta Zarro, President)*
- *Institute for Economics & Peace, Australia (Patricia Garcia AO)*
- *Gandhi Study Clubs, Delhi Univ. & Gandhian Institutes in India*
- *Saroni Roy Foundation, Australia (Saroni Roy, Founder/CEO)*
- *Teachers for Peace, Sweden (Göte Rudvall, President)*
- *Gandhi King Foundation, India (Prasad Gollanapally, Managing Trustee)*
- *Gandhi Research Foundation, India (Prof. Gita Dharampal, Dean of Research)*



FOP is a Peace Organization based in Oregon, USA, whose mission is:

'To stop the killing of Children in wars.'

From 1 March to 20 May 2022, Shraddha Upadhyay, Program Manager CFN, participated in the FOP Ignite Circle Pilot Project, with 1 participant each from 6 countries – Syria, Cameroon, Kenya, South Sudan, USA & India. On the concluding day of the Ignite Project - **20 May 2022** - **Charles P. Busch, E D, FOP and Adam Vogel, Founder & CEO, the Peace Professionals**; invited our President, Dr. Suman Khanna Aggarwal, to conduct a virtual session on CFN India International Initiative **#ChooseNonviolentDefence**, with their Members & the Ignite Circle, participants, which was very well received and warmly acknowledged by all present. **A welcome outcome** of this Session is that it led to the forging of a **Peace Alliance** between CFN & FOP, as well as FOP **promoting CFN International Initiative #ChooseNonviolentDefence**, which aims at the Political Legitimation of Nonviolent Conflict Resolution through the introduction of Nonviolent Defence in Defence systems worldwide.

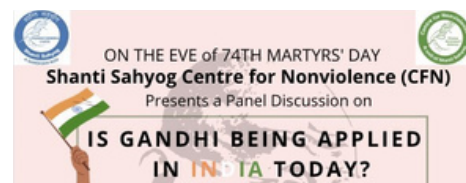


On 19 Feb 2022 CFN Board Members came together virtually for a very fruitful, **Brainstorming Session on CFN Int'l Initiative #ChooseNonviolentDefence**.

On 10 June 2022 Dr. Aggarwal was invited by Prof Bulbul Dhar James, Co-Ordinator, Refresher Course for Associate Profs. PAN Indian Universities, organised by Jamia Milia Islamia University, to **conduct a session on: 'Human Rights & Social Inclusion'**, which was highly appreciated by the academicians. Many of them have invited Dr. Aggarwal to conduct workshops on, '*Understanding & Applying Gandhi today*', at their respective Universities.

On 21 June 2022 Dr. Aggarwal was invited to **grade short presentations** by the Refresher Course participants on, '*Myriad dimensions of Human Rights*'.

On 30 Jan 2022 CFN organized a Panel Discussion on the Eve of 74th Martyr's Day: "*Is Gandhi Being Applied in India Today*"



26 May 2022 1st CFN Board Meeting

was called by our President, Dr. Suman K Aggarwal, at our Centre for Nonviolence.

The Agenda embraced many points:

1. To discuss the subject, scope, & readership of CFN monthly bulletin '*The Changemaker*'. It was resolved to replace the Bulletin with a monthly, '**GLOBAL GANDHI**'.
2. To reflect upon the content & strategy of Int'l initiative #Chosenonviolentdefence
3. Collaborative possibilities with other peace organisations – national and int'l.
4. Networking with youth to spread Gandhian ideals through workshops/ seminars.
5. Publication of an edited work as an answer to current social media criticism of Gandhi.



The meeting was attended by the following **Board Members**:

- **Dr. Suman Khanna Aggarwal – Chair** (Former Associate Prof. DU, Founder & President, Shanti Sahyog & CFN)
- **Dr. Manindra Thakur, Prof. of Pol. Sc. JNU; Founder Creative Theory Group.**
- **Dr. A K Merchant** (General Secretary, Temple of Understanding India Foundation; National Trustee, Sarvodaya International Trust.)
- **Amb. Anil Trigunayat** (Former Ambassador of India to Jordan, Libya and Malta, Chairman, Confederation of Education Excellence)
- **Dr. John Chathanatt** (Former Principal, Vidyajyoti Clg of Theology, VP Indian Social Inst.)
- **Prof. Bulbul Dhar James** (Hon. Dir, Sarojini Naidu Centre for Women, Jamia Millia Islamia)
- **Wg. Cdr. (retd.) J S Chadda** retd (Sec Gen, URJA NGO, United Residents Joint Action)
- **Mrs. Suman Chopra** (Editor and Publisher, Urban Railways, Railways Year Book)
- **Mrs. Naginder Rishi** (Former Sr. G M (Marketing) India Today Group)
- **Dr. Prashant Chauhan** (Asst. Prof., Dept. of Social Work, Amity University, Noida, Chairman- ChangeMaker Foundation)
- **Mrs. Sharmila Nandi** (Educationist & Artist)
- **Mayuri Kar** (Coordinator- CFN)
- **Shraddha Upadhyay** (Program Manager CFN & CFW)
- **Volunteers Jasmin Chadda** (Summer School Program) & **Harjas Singh Chadha**, studying in Std X, Birla Vidya Niketan School, were invited to get youth feedback on the CFN International Initiative.)



Well known for his benevolence, large heartedness and mediation skills, Somnath Sapra (Arora) joined Shanti Sahyog as Treasurer in 2010. Born in 1952, he married Daya Khurana (born 1955) on 30 June 1975. By a happy co-incidence, both his wife Daya and he were born and brought up in Village Khanur, near Rohtak, Haryana, and went to the same local Govt. School. Since Somnath ji's sister, Pushpa, was also in the same School and Daya's friend, all three often got together to play. Daya ji tells her grand-children, she remembers wearing Somnath ji's borrowed clothes when she had to play a boy's role in the School play!

After completing his graduation from Maharishi Dayanand, Univ. Rohtak, Somnath ji very successfully ran an Export Company, **Seema Garments** (named after his first child – a daughter) at Rani Bagh, Delhi, from 1978 to 1990. He is an excellent fashion designer! In 1990 he started his Company, **Somdaya Buildcon Pvt. Ltd.** which deals with, **Property Sale Purchase & Construction business**, in East of Kailash, South Delhi.

His Company specialises in handling **Disputed Properties Resolution**.



Happily married for the last 47 years, Somnath ji and his wife are blessed with 4 children and 7 grandchildren, all doing well in life. **Their eldest daughter, Charu (46)**, (formerly called Seema) Kapoor, lives in Brampton, Canada, works as a Regulated Canadian Immigration Consultant. Her husband, Amit, runs his own restaurant in Brampton while their only child – 17- year-old daughter, Ishika, is studying in Grade XII. **Their 2 nd daughter, Ritu (42)** is a single mother with 2 daughters; Sneha, 18, pursuing graduate studies in Algoma University, Canada, and Harshita, 13 studying in Std IX, The Indian School, South Delhi. **Their 3rd daughter, Sonia Malhotra (39)** lives in Dehradun, running her own **bakery, Sugar Hub**, there. Her **husband, Amit, is Manager, Akash Institute**. They have a **daughter Riddhi (11)** studying in Std VI, Asian Public School, Dehradun and a 18 month-old **son, Bhavik. Somnath ji's son, Pankaj (35)** works with him in his Construction Business, supervising sites in Delhi, NCR & Dehradun. His wife, **Dimple**, is a graduate. They have a **daughter, Bhumika (10)** in Std. V and a **son, Chetanya (9)** in Std. IV, both studying in K R Mangalam World School, Greater Kailash II, New Delhi. A caring family man, Somnath ji, helped his sister, 3 brothers and his 2 aunts settle down in life, after his demise in 1995. A devotee of Lord Shiva, Somnath ji is a great story-teller, the soul of every gathering and a great motivational personality! He rightfully deserves, **'Shanti Sahyog Person of the Year Award 2021-22'**.