

# Peace Rally at Udaipur City

**A**t the dawn of Christmas, Sarva Dharma Maitri Sangh organized peace rally in Udaipur on 22<sup>nd</sup> December. It began at 3.30 at Maitri Sadan, Patel circle and proceeded through Udaipole, Surajpole, Dhelhi Gate, Hatipole, Chetak, Bank Tirah and ended at 7.30pm at Our Lady of Fatima Cathedral, Udaipur.

Mr. Sandeep Singatwadia, the president of Sarva Dharm Maitri Sangh welcomed all the distinguished guests and said that 'the main aim of this rally is to spread brotherhood and peace to all'. The Chief Guest, Mr. Pradeep Kumavat, the director of ALOK Samsthan addressed the rally and said that 'this peace rally is a gift to Mewar soil. Rana Pratap Singh gave his life for the sake of his Kingdom and established the peace in his kingdom'. So let this be an example for the brotherhood. The message of peace shouldn't remain in Udaipur itself but should spread to the whole world.

While addressing the media, Fr. Norbert Herman SVD said that 'this peace rally is taken off for last five years to foster brotherhood among all and spread the message of peace in order to have a peaceful co-existence. The divine people like Rama, Krishna, Prophet Mohmad all spoke and preached about peace. We are taking this rally in order to bring that message to the people. We should all be an instrument of peace in the world'.

Shriman Gyaniji, Sikh Guru addressed the rally at Delhi Gate and said that 'Jesus came to establish peace on earth. Sarva Dharm peace rally is an effort to proclaim this peace. We should understand this core meaning of the message and must learn to live according to that. We must all live together in harmony, peace and brotherhood'.



Mohmad Murtaza Hafiz Vakari representative of the Muslim community addressed the rally at Pultan Masjid and said that ‘we must walk in the way of the Lord. The message of the peace rally is to walk together and that is the need of the hour. The different religions are like different parts of our body so it should work harmoniously’.

Dr. Jacob one of the founding member of Sarva Dharm Maitri Sangh welcomed the rally at Chetak and said that the best way to be peaceful is to imitate Christ, the prince of Peace. Imitating is to follow the footsteps of Jesus.

Ms. Shakila Banu, the President of the Minority Commission of Udaipur welcomed the rally at Alipura along with other community members. All the members wished Happy X'mas and encouraged the peace rally. Around three thousand people walked about five kms and reached the Cathedral where Rev. Bp. Joseph Pathalil received them and said that let the Udaipur be the first city to resound the message of peace to whole world. Everyone longs for peace but sometimes we feel that we have not got the peace. We come across in the media that there is violence everywhere. The more we try to bring peace it goes in vain. The more we try the more we fail. It is because we have not taken the shelter in God. The message of the angel to the shepherd is the “peace on earth”. They went and proclaimed that peace. The true peace needs a lot of sacrifice and true reconciliation. When we reconcile we feel the real peace within us. The Message of Christ is the peace. This peace is the basis of Christmas. Let us stop doing ill to our brothers and sisters. Let us experience the true peace and also share that peace with others. Mr. Sudhir Mishra, while addressing the rally remarked that the city of Udaipur is the city of peace. I pray that this city should prosper in happiness and peace.

The attractions of the rally were the 20 children dressed as Gandhi from the Universal School Fathepura, Sarva Dharma Float, and live crib by Our Lady of Fathima Cathedral, St. Anthony's float, St. Gregorious Float, St. Mathews Float, St. Teresa float. CNI youth with messages, Believers Church, All India Christian Forum with the leadership of Mr. Anil Masih, and 10 brothers from Udaideepthi in Santaclause added color to the rally. The anchorers, Ms. Bella Thomas and Mr. Mustaq Chanchal beautifully coordinated the whole rally. At the end of the rally Fr. Norbert Herman thanked all who participated and helped in the success of the peace rally.

Reported and Photos by Fr. Norbert Herman SVD

Prepared by Br. Raju Soosai SVD

