

Happy & Prosperous Sankranti to All!!

A REPORT OF

Sports4Peace Cricket Tournament & Multi Faith Celebrations*

For Christmas, Guru Govind Singh Jayanti & Sankranti

Organised by



On 13 January 2024- Boys Town High School, Hyderabad.

**Br. Yesu Prabhakaran bowled and Sardar Sajjan Singh hit the ball
To inaugurate the Cricket Tournament!**

The Highlight of the Event was the "**Game for Peace:**" A five over cricket match in the evening where 12 players from all teams mixed along religion, caste and locality lines. 10 Guests of Honour of the Program also participated to make two teams of Harmony to **Play for Peace!**

The Teams had representations from Hindus, Muslims, Christians and Sikhs with members from Telangana, Andhra Pradesh, Maharashtra, Kerala, Tamil Nadu and Uttar Pradesh. Most castes also participated with a sizable number from the Lambadi community.

DECCAN Chronicle COVA holds interfaith cricket match for peace

DC CORRESPONDENT
HYDERABAD, JAN. 13

Team COVA Peace Network organised a five over cricket match for Sankranti, Christmas and Guru Govind Singh Jayanti at the Boys Town High School in Hyderabad on Monday. It had teams with representations from Hindus, Muslims, Christians and Sikhs from Telangana, Andhra Pradesh, Maharashtra, Kerala and Uttar Pradesh.

Participants were there from most castes but a sizable number were from the Lambada community. Ten guests of honour of the programme also participated as two teams played for harmony and peace. Dr Mazher Hussain, executive director of COVA (Confederation of

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Voluntary Organisations) spoke about the concepts of sports for peace and multi faith celebrations and thanked all for their active partnership in making the programme a success.

The teams had players chosen from all religions, caste and locality lines. Zhenis from Kazakhstan spoke about the sports culture in his country and explained how faiths coexist. As part of multi faith celebrations, Brother

Prabhakaran spoke about how Christmas is celebrated across the world. Sardar Sajjan Singh explained about the life and contributions of Guru Gobind Singh and reminded that service to humanity is the hallmark of Sikhism.

Pandit Harinarayan Tiwari from Ayodhya explained the importance of Sankranti and why it is celebrated. Qari Mustafa Soefiyani appreciated the concept of multi faith celebrations and the importance of respect for all faiths and the need for peaceful coexistence when the world is gripped by unprecedented violence.

Prizes and medals were distributed to the winners and mementos were given to the guests of honour.



Adi Reddy, Inspector of Police of Falaknuma bowling to Pandit Harinarayan Tiwari of Ayodhya at Sports for Peace!

Br. Yesu Prabhakaran bowls and Sardar Sajjan Singh hits the ball to inaugurate Sports for Peace Cricket on 13 January 25 to celebrate Christmas, Guru Gobind Singh Jayanti and Sankranti!!!

International flavour was added to the occasion with Mr. Zhenis Telemossov of Kazakistan who spoke about the sports in his country and how many faiths coexist. As part of Multi Faith Celebrations, Br. Prabhakaran shared his Greetings for Christmas and said that every time someone in need is helped, he thinks of the helper as God and so a God is born in the hearts of

Hyderabad: 'Game for Peace' by COVA on Jan 13

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BY TELANGANA TODAY
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Hyderabad: Sports4Peace Cricket Tournament & Multi-Faith Celebrations will be held for Christmas, Guru Govind Singh Jayanti and Sankranti at Boys Town School Jahanuma, Hyderabad, on January 13 from 9 am to 5.30 pm.

Being organised by COVA Peace Network, the 'Game for Peace' will have a five-over match from 3.30 pm to 4.15 pm where 12 players from all teams will be mixed along religion, caste and locality lines. Ten guests will also participate in making two teams of Harmony to play for peace, a press release said.

people every day! Sardar Sajjan Singh spoke about the life and contributions of Guru Gobind Singh Ji and that the core beliefs and practice of service to humanity that is the hall mark of Sikhism.

Pandit Harinarayan Tiwari of Ayodhya explained the importance of Sankranti and why it is celebrated. Qari Mustapha Sufiyan appreciated the concept of Multi Faith Celebrations and the importance of respect for all faiths and need for peaceful coexistence when the world is gripped

by unprecedented violence.



Team of Nayak Nagar were the Winners and Bharat Nagar we the Runner Up!

Prizes and medals were distributed to all Teams and mementos to the guests of honour, Umpires and coaches. Speaking at the Valedictory Mr. Adi Reddy, Inspector of Police of Falaknuma appreciated the program of the cricket tournament and Multi Faith Celebrations together. He stressed that sports can be a good character builder and urged youth to utilise these opportunities. Dr. Munawar Kamal of Chicago, USA felt more such programs should be organised across the country and urged youth to prepare themselves to lead the country in future. Mr. Munawar Khalid Saudagar, a banker from USA spoke about the different programs that COVA is very successfully taking up for upliftment of society and he is happy to partner with the organisation.

Mr. Shyam Lal and Mr. Ashfaq Hussain narrated their joint contribution to prevention of communal violence in Sultan Shahi area that became a model for other sensitive localities of Hyderabad and contributed to cessation of riots in the city. Mr. Saheer of Indialogue Foundation, Mr. Kammela Sai Baba of Sports Coaching Foundation and Mr Saleem, commentator from Hyderabad Cricket Association also spoke.

Syed Jafar Hussain Quadri was the Master of Ceremonies and Mr. M. A. Kaleem and Mr. Ashfaq Hussain of COVA proposed the Vote of thanks.

Team COVA Peace Network

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