

## Ladies' Samagam East 2017

With the grace of Satguru Mata Savinder Hardev ji Maharaj, New York Branch had the auspicious opportunity to host its very first Ladies' Samagam. The event was a collaborative effort from all the participating branches as California, Denver, Michigan, Florida, Atlanta, Boston, Pennsylvania, New Jersey, Rochester, Connecticut, New York, just to name a few. With an approximate 6 weeks of preparation timeframe, devotees from New York branch began planning out the logistics for the event. In order to cover all the possible facets as well as derive the maximum benefit from all the talent available, teams were created. These teams primarily included: Interstate Correspondence, Transportation, Exhibition, Media, Cultural, and Langar/Lodging etc. Coordinators from each team put forth commendable efforts exceeding their potential.



Each evening leading up to the grand event concluded with conference calls as well as video conference calls for the latest developments, updates, progress and clear communication flow. With approximately 24 hours remaining, the final countdown began and the venue hit its buzziest note.

And the patiently awaited day of the event finally arrived. On July 15th, 2017, Ladies' Samagam East commenced in the presence of **Rev. Dr. Gyan Money Saxena ji**. Arriving saints were received with a welcome kit which included some of the Mission's literatures

nicely packed in a String bag which also served as a **souvenir** for the families who attended the samagam.

Representing the Indian Association of Long Island, **Ms. Bina Sabapathy** was one of the social-political delegates at the event. Being the 28th President of the organization, Ms. Sabapathy has been dedicated to promote the eclectic culture and rich heritage of the Indian civilization. Ms. Sabapathy expressed her gratitude towards the humanitarian task that the Nirankari Mission has taken on to.

The opening ceremony included a brief introduction to Sant Nirankari Mission led by a commentary on the definition and importance of Satguru followed by a mini **power point presentation** on the theme of "**Role of Women in Social & Spiritual Arena.**"



The next segment included a **Q&A session** during which rev. **Dr. Gyan Money ji** and rev. **Preet Sahi ji** addressed a selected set of queries and dispensed priceless tips and advices on how to maintain a peaceful household and overall living.

**Trivia session** was the next feature on the agenda which focused on the history and general knowledge in regards to Sant Nirankari Mission. Being an interactive session, this was indeed quite engaging and kept the audience on its toes. The next and the concluding feature of the first of half of day-1 was **Avtar Bani Antakshari**. This piece was based on the couplets from holy Avtar Bani and had every devotee join in as participating teams recited the couplets.



Following a brief refreshment break the second half of day-1 began. This was the **cultural segment** during which saints from all the participating branches presented various cultural activities including group songs, skits and qwali.

First day of Ladies' Samagam East concluded with **final discourse from the dais** which was presided over by rev. Dr. Gyan Money ji

**July 16th. 2017** was the second and the concluding day of the 2-day event. This featured a full fledged samagam which was observed under the presence of rev. Dr. Gyan Money ji. During the samagam devotees from different parts of the country shared their personal spiritual anecdotes and devotional hymns. **Key feature included a poetic symposium** under the topic of the samagam **"Women's Spiritual Strength in Shaping Today's World."**



In addition a **mini documentary** was presented on the occasion by Sant Nirankari Mission HQ. This documentary portrayed the roles and strength of women and the human element of love, compassion and nurture that women dispense which transcend all cultural, lingual, social, racial, political and economic stratifications.

Blessing the congregation, Rev. **Dr. Gyan Money ji** shared that devotees that follow truth always exercise higher human attributes of love, compassion, patience and reverence. Devotees are ever surrendered and submitted to the divine will. A set of examples were

drawn from previous eras. Bhagat Prahlad had been blessed with self-realization at a young age. He perceived the omnipresent at all times and everywhere and when a devotee establishes such string ties with his/her creator, then nothing ominous could ever come their way.

When Dropadi failed to gain security from her own royal clan studded with fame and power, she recalled her true companion, Lord Krishan and the rest we all are quite familiar with. Rev. Dr. Gyan Money ji further added that Satugru of the time, Satguru Mata Savinder Hardev ji Maharaj, once during an interview was asked the nature of her relation to then Satguru of the Mission, Baba Hardev Singh ji Maharaj. At this **Satguru Mata ji with utter humility replied, "I am His Shishya,"** meaning "I am His disciple." What an apex or rather depth of humility! Today Satguru's prime emphasis is on leading by action, so let's all join in this crusade for a humane world where humanity prospers.



The final portion of the event included  **blessings from Satguru Mata Sawinder Hardev ji Maharaj via webcast.** Addressing the devotees Mata ji blessed that as devotees from various places have gathered on the occasion of Ladies' Samagam East 2017, May Nirankar bestow more strength, desire and energy to help propagate the message of the truth and may the world become a peaceful place where everyone lives in harmony and oneness. Devotees of the New York branch humbly express immense gratitude towards Satguru Mata Savinder Hardev ji Maharaj for bestowing such a platform for a great learning experience and for the successful conclusion of Ladies' Samagam East 2017. We further pray that we may continue to receive such opportunities to learn, serve and improve and continue to become an instrument in fulfilling the divine will