



# The Midtowner

Bulletin of Rotary Club of Chandigarh Midtown: R.I. District 3080

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Editor  
**Dr. V. J. S. Vohra**

Volume XXXVII No. 09 Dated: August 28, 2012

## PROGRAMME

### Ladakh – A Pictorial Essay

PowerPoint Presentation by:

Rtn. Arjan Singh

Friday, August 31, 2012

Time: 7.00 p.m.

Venue: Hotel President, Sector 26, Chandigarh

## Peace through the Medium of Human Rights

In the Club meeting on August 24, 2012 our Chief Guest, Justice R.S. Mongia, Chief Justice (Retd.) spoke on 'Peace through the Medium of Human Rights'. He was introduced by PP Dr. Balram K. Gupta, who narrated the long journey of Justice Mongia in the legal profession and in the judiciary. Born on 10<sup>th</sup> June 1940, he obtained his Law degree in 1963 from Panjab University, Chandigarh, and got enrolled as an Advocate in July 1964 to practice in Punjab and Haryana High Court. He established himself within a few years as a leading lawyer in constitutional law with service matters as a field of specialization. He also handled important cases in criminal law, rent law, labour law etc.

Was designated as Senior Advocate in 1987. Elevated as a Judge of Punjab and Haryana High Court in June 1990. In June 2001 he was further elevated as Chief Justice of Gauhati High Court from where he retired in June 2002. He had held various important assignments and rendered many important judgments on constitutional law and other branches of law. In January 2005 he was appointed as the President of Punjab State Consumer Disputes Redressal Commission and demitted the office in June 2007. Appointed as Chairperson of Punjab State Human Rights Commission from November 2007 to June 2010 till attaining the age of 70 years. With effect from July 2010 he is appointed as President of one of the Benches of Permanent Lok Adalat in the Punjab and Haryana High Court.

Addressing the Rotarians, Justice Mongia's talk was educative and lively with interesting anecdotes in English, Hindi and Punjabi. He said Peace and Human Rights are intermingling. We must believe that peace starts within the individuals.

He said, "There should be peace within the family, the



The peaceful audience!

neighborhood, one house to another house, in the district and so on." What he said, was inspiring and empowering us to be more at peace with ourselves, others and the environment.

Justice Mongia stressed on 'peace within'. He said, "Peace within would come if you control your anger. Inculcate the habit that you do not get upset and angry within yourself."

As this cannot be done over night, he advised, "Mediate just half an hour in the morning, close your eyes and keep on saying to yourself that you would not get angry with anyone." He added, "If you want peace and happiness for life, help someone and experience the satisfaction you will get."

Talking about International Peace, Justice Mongia shared his experience of World Peace Conference at Copenhagen, Denmark, where he represented India. He remarked, "Everybody talks about having peace but nobody talks about why there is no peace." He observed, "The main reason is suspicion against your neighbor. Like in India we have suspicion against Pakistan and China that they will attack us." He candidly pointed out that the big forces are behind these suspicions because they want to sell their military hardware for which they want to create a market. "Suspicion amongst the Nations should be eliminated and trust should be created," said Justice Mongia. To achieve peace we must adopt the formula of 'Live & Let Live'. There should be peaceful co-existence with our neighbors.

Justice Mongia said we have right to live a good life. He talked of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights, which was adopted by the UN General Assembly on 10 December 1948. With the end of 2<sup>nd</sup> world war, and the creation of the United Nations, the international community vowed never again to allow atrocities like those of that conflict happen again. World leaders decided to guarantee the rights of every individual everywhere. This document became the Universal Declaration of Human Rights. Human rights are rights inherent to all human beings, irrespective



Justice R.S. Mongia



*Rtn. Arjan Singh presents a memento to Justice R.S. Mongia*



*Rtn. Rakesh Jain cuts the birthday cake. Looking on are R'ann Anupam Jain and President Ritu Singal*



*PDG Shaju Peter inducts new Rtn. Dev Jeet Singh. Looking on is his wife, R'ann Manpreet Kaur (More details will follow in the next bulletin)*



*Justice R.S. Mongia presents punctuality award to Rtn. Dr. Rita Kalra. Looking on are President Ritu Singal and Secretary Ashok Puri*

of a person's nationality, place of residence, sex, national or ethnic origin, colour, religion, language, or any other status. Everybody is equally entitled to human rights without discrimination. These rights are all interrelated, interdependent and indivisible.

Justice Mongia emphasized, "All nations must see to it that there is no violation of human rights, and every country must have human rights law." He said in India we have constitutional remedy and one could file a writ petition in the High Court or the Supreme Court but it takes very long time for redressal as courts are over burdened. Though the UN declaration took place in 1948, India took its own time and in 1993 the Parliament enacted a law known as Protection of Human Rights Act, 1993.

Justice Mongia also apprised us of various Acts which suffer from flaws. Talking about Right to Education he said poor children

having illiterate parents cannot afford tuitions or other related expenses. Therefore, for them education should be occupation based and practical, "where such children should be taught how to become vulcanizers, electricians, carpenters, plumbers etc., so that they are trained to earn for themselves and their families," he said.

Coming to human rights, Justice Mongia explained, "The moment human right is violated, peace is disturbed. Human right is Right to Life." In India, there are multiple ways of protecting human rights. The parliament and the executive are entrusted with the creation and implementation of the law of the land, while the judiciary protects its execution. Justice Mongia said if human right is violated you can file a complaint to State Human Rights Commission. Again here also there are flaws and all states do not have National Human Rights Commission. Under this Act one cannot file a case against another individual but only against a

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Govt. department. The Commission has no teeth to get its own order implemented, is a major flaw in the Act.

Vote of thanks was proposed by Rtn. Arjan Singh. He said, "Peace and human rights are the two facets of the same coin." He

thanked Justice R.S. Mongia for enlightening us on 'Peace within' and it was a great learning experience to listen to his talk on Peace and Human Rights, which is a subject of great concern to every citizen.

### Youth gears up for Blood Donation at YWCA

Rotaractors and Rotarians of Rotary Club Chandigarh Midtown in association with YWCA, Chandigarh, organized a voluntary blood donation camp on Saturday, 25<sup>th</sup> August 2012, at YWCA, Sector 11, Chandigarh. Despite the bad weather and heavy rains,

continue contributing to this noble cause."

Our club was represented by PDG Shaju Peter, President Ritu Singal, Secretary Ashok Puri, R'ann Sudha Puri, Rtn. Mrs. Kanan



PDG Shaju Peter, PP Capt. M.S. Kahlon, Rtn. Mrs. Kanan Diwan, Rtn. Dr. Mrs. Anureet K. Bhatti, R'ann Sudha Puri, Secretary Ashok Puri and Rtn. Dr. Mrs. Rita Kalra with Blood Donors and Doctors of Blood Bank, GMSH



President Rtr. Sushant Gupta with other Rotaractors with a blood donor

Rtn. Dr. Jawahar Luthra, President Ritu Singal, R'ann Indu Luthra and Rotaractors

there was encouraging participation from both Rotarians and Rotaractors. 45 units of blood were collected, with the kind co-operation of team of Doctors, assisted by their technicians and staff, from Blood Bank of Government Multi Specialty Hospital Sector 16, Chandigarh.

Rtn. Dr. Mrs. Rita Kalra, Director New Generation stated, "There was a very enthusiastic participation from the youth for this project. Some of the donors were first timers and have pledged to

Diwan (Director Community Service), Rtn. Dr. Rita Kalra, Rtn. Dr. Jawahar Luthra, R'ann Indu Luthra, PP Pallav Mukherjee, R'ann Dr. Joginder Mukherjee, PP Capt. Manmohan S. Kahlon, PP Prem Anand, PP Harish Sethi, R'ann Manjit Sethi, PP Ajit Singh Gulati, PP Gurdip Singh Deep, R'ann Maniki Deep, Rtn. Vinod Jawa, Rtn. Dr. Anureet Kaur, Rtn. Dr. Nitin Mathur, Rtn. Vinod Sobti, Rtn. Sanjay Bhatia and Rtn. Jeetan Bhambri.

President Inner Wheel Chandigarh Midtown Mrs. Sangh Mitra

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was also present on the occasion and distributed milk and bread for the blood donors. IW Charter President Mrs. Indu Luthra and IW PP Dr. Joginder Mukherjee represented Rotary and Inner Wheel of Chandigarh Midtown, and YWCA. Mrs. Daljit Kaur and Hostel Committee Secretary Ms. Preety Joseph also represented YWCA, and served tea and samosas.

In addition to Rotaractors and their friends, some younger Rotarians and YWCA inmates also donated blood. It was very inspiring to see President Rtr. Sushant Gupta, Secretary Rtr. Sukriti Aggarwal and other Rotaractors of Chandigarh Midtown involved in this noble act of blood donation. When we donate money, some needy person will get food. But donating blood can save a life of a person - both rich and poor!

### *Clothes donated for Flood victims of Assam*

Secretary Ashok Puri, R'ann Sudha Puri and Rtn. Vinod Jawa have donated old clothes for flood victims of Assam and delivered these in the shop of Rtn. Om Parkash, Capital Book

Depot, SCO 3, Sector 17-E, Chandigarh. More Rotarians and R'anns are requested to come forward for this humane cause.

### *Inter City Meet on Membership Development*

Inter City on Membership Development, 'Izaafa-e-Aman' 2012-13 was held on Sunday, 26<sup>th</sup> August 2012 at Sukhmani Resorts,

PDG Dr. Manoj Desai from Rotary Club of Baroda was the Chief Guest of this Seminar. RI Director Y.P. Das spoke on increase of quality Membership globally, as well as their retention and focused especially on small clubs. DG Manmohan Singh, PDG Subhash Garg, PDG Satish Saluja and other dignitaries on the dais also expressed their views on Membership Development. There was one hour Question - Answer session on this subject which had good participation of Rotarians of various clubs of RI District 3080. The Seminar was followed by excellent lunch.



*Chandigarh Midtowners at the Inter City Meet* PDG Yoginder Diwan (of Rotary Club Parwanoo) and Rtn Sanjay Bhatia & R'ann Ritu Bhatia.

### *President Ritu Singal's Facet of Peace - Step 6 : Denounce the Evil to bring Peace*

Denounce the Evil to bring Peace. Unless you have the courage to be an enemy of those who are evil, you cannot be a friend of the Good.

#### *Acknowledged with Thanks!*

- *Rotary Foundation:*  
PP Rtn. Indrajeet Sengupta US \$ 100  
(Second time during current Rotary year) (Rs. 5600/-)
- *Donations for Club Projects:*  
Rtn. Vijay K. Gupta Rs. 5000/-  
Rtn. Rakesh Jain Rs. 2100/-  
Rtn. Vinod Sobti Rs. 500/-

#### *Punctuality Draw*

Won by Rtn. Dr. Mrs. Rita Kalra

#### *Birthday of Spouse*

- Mr. Sita Ram Jhawar September 02
- R'ann Beena Aggarwal September 04
- R'ann Parveen September 05
- R'ann Vanita (Veena) September 06



#### *Birthday of Rotarians*

- PP Rtn. Pallav Mukherjee September 02
- Rtn. J.S. Bawa September 03
- PP Rtn. Harish C. Sethi September 04
- Rtn. Chitranjan Aggarwal September 06



**PDG Rtn. Shaju Peter**

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