

JAI JAGAT 2020

ON THE MOVE FOR JUSTICE AND PEACE



NEWSLETTER

December 2019



Memoire of the Marching Beings

The last month of 2019 has been eventful for the marchers of the Delhi to Geneva Global Peace Walk. From unexpected rains in chilly winters to receiving overwhelming responses from the youths of different villages, towns and cities. And tis season of Christmas and New Year raised feelings of hope within each of us towards a more inclusive and open world.

With rising young energy levels in the Indian country over the evolving political conditions, we often found ourselves asking our many Gods (that one creator) to show us birds of hope and love. The many youths we got to meet in December 2019 were these birds. The many villagers, tribals, politicians, businessman, fellow marchers etc are all birds showering hope in this world like lightning rods. Inspiring and selfless individuals like Vishnupriya (Orissa, India), Rajagopal (India), Mr. Koyan (Kerala, India), Sonia Deotto (Mexico/Italy), Meenakshi Natarajan (India) and many others who have dedicated their lives to work for the needy are our elder birds showing us the way. The young group of ILC fellows hungry to learn more of ways of bringing peace and justice are lightening rods that will spread like a positive wildfire.

It is truly us individuals the beacons of hope or in contrary words - weapons of hope.





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Updates !



Corre por la paz! en España

On December 28th 2019, different members of Jai Jagat Spain, ran from Santander Port to Expal factory (Maxam group) in Quintanilla, Sobresierra Burgos, Spain. To denounce the manufacture and export of arms - artificial bombs and artillery

shells sold to Saudi Arabia and the UAE. The factory is know to be a key contributor of weapons in the Yemen war - one of humanities biggest wars. [[Read more about the run here](#)]



Bosnia and Herzegovina have begun their preps for the Global Peace Walk

Member from Ekta Parishad, India and Network for Building Peace, Bosnia and Herzegovina met from Dec 3rd to 7th 2019; thus beginning the preparations for the Global peace walks for B&H. Inauguration of the JJ B&H office, preparation of route,

logistics planning, discussion for the Sarajevo Peace Conference and way forward for communication and alliance building prospects were carried out. Congratulations and rep gratitude to Ms Emina for taking over the role of the country level coordinator for B&H.



Armenia and Georgia are set to receive the global peace walkers

Members from Ekta Parishad, India traveled to Armenia and Georgia from Dec 3rd to 22nd 2019 to carry out advance planning and networking processes along with the different Armenian and Georgian organisations - Re-Start, Article 13, Eurasia partnership, Political Dialogue and



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Mahatma Gandhi Foundation Georgia. This in addition to the deeper interactions with the Presidents and Prime Minister offices of both Armenia and Georgia which are providing their complete support for the Jai Jagat Global peace Walk.



Geneva has begun its prep for the culmination of the Global Peace March in Sept 2020

People from 10 countries met for 3 days in Geneva from December 6th to 9th 2019 for the round of preparations. The gathering saw exchange ideas and proposals of activities for the Geneva Forum - Festival. The meeting concluded with a unanimous decision of coming to a co-constructive process to ensure convergence between all the marches and

the forum... Look forward for more news!



ILC Jai Jagat Fellows open their rooms of nonviolence

The young team of 8 youth from different organisation from across the world walks along with the Global Peace walk in India for two weeks in December 2019. Each individual

of this group is an embodiment of hope in today's times of crisis. This group of eight diverse worldviews have all come together to learn the Gandhian principals of *ahimsa* in unique yet diverse ways, in order to then take their learnings back to their lands to act them out. [[Read here to know more about these young lighting rods of hope](#)]



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Learning Nonviolence from the Arippa Andolan

Our Global Peace Walk marcher - Mohsin Wali, accounts his learnings from Mr. Koyan who for him is one of the living examples of individual leaders who are practicing the ongoing nonviolent struggle for land of the Arippa tribes, Kerala, India. Mr. Koyan is one of the many short time walkers who offers their solidarity, experiences and love for the Global Peace Walk by walking for a few days with the group.



One Earth Family - Birds of hope

[[Read Mohsin's article to know about the nonviolence The Arippa Tribe is following](#)]

Saraswati Uikey, Raisen, MP, India [Delhi to Geneva Global Peace Walk Marcher]

For many years, I moved around working as a daily wage labour. My life back then as a 14 year old single mother was tough and depressing.



Amidst this journey of exploitations, abuses, struggles and hungry stomach, I happened to attend one of Ekta Parishad's youth training programmes. The purpose of working for the landless, indigenous and the marginalised gave me hope of living a meaningful life. But it took me years to muster strength and believe that a dignified and respectful life is possible, for me too. And this hope finally pushed me to join Ekta Parishad when I was 18 years old, thus commencing my new life.

Saraswati Uikey works in the Raisen district of Madhya Pradesh, India, on the forest, land and water rights of the marginalised communities. Back in 2005 when she first came to this village, as a single mother, Saraswati faced a lot of backlashes, name tagging and spite from the villagers especially the women. But through years of nonviolent dialogues, perseverance, inner strength and love, today the village community is Saraswati and her daughters family. Under her leadership, more than 1000 people have gotten rights over their forest lands.

I come from an indigenous tribal lineage - the Gond tribe. And that I believe has made me more sensitive towards nature and the problems of the marginalised, indigenous and the needy.



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It was not difficult for me to decide that I have to walk from Delhi to Geneva. Today everyone wants a change because the way our world is heading, it's only creating more pollution, poverty and exploitation.

I want to walk for my Gond tribe, walk for my Raisen family, I want to walk for myself.

Claire Lhermitte, France [Delhi to Geneva Global Peace Walk Marcher]

Claire Lhermitte, a 21 years old student of History and Geography from Paris Sorbonne University (Paris IV), France. Nature's balance despite its many complexities and the



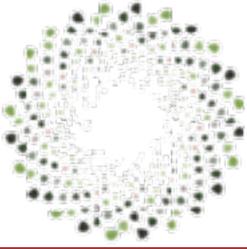
essence of love within all living being inspires her. Jai Jagat to her is a world order where every person, animal, plant and creation lives together with love in harmony and peace. And for Claire one of the important elements for living in peace is communication, deep listen, compassion and goodwill. A true, clear and respectable communication, and to listen, observe and analyse deeply to really understand the words, the needs, the life style and values of the other is key. This Claire believes must exist not just amongst us humans but also with the ecology that we are all a part of.

Sunny Kumar, Bihar, India [Delhi to Geneva Global Peace Walk Marcher]

25 year old, born in a small village of Chadhua, Bihar, Sunny Kumar, was always determined to raise the status of his family through education. He belongs to an economically backward family and the only earning member of his family was his grandmother. But this could never stop Sunny's enthusiasm to get a proper education and he passed his matriculation with 1st Rank in the whole Khurni block.



Sunny wanted to peruse his higher education in engineering for which he came to Bhopal, Madhya Pradesh. Where, Sunny developed a special interest in theatre, poetry and social service. He joined a theatre group called [Kaafila](#), through which he was introduced to [ANSH](#), a social youth development organization



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from Bhopal. Course of which, he participated in various street plays and nonviolent trainings that were organised across India. He was also a part of a youth initiative called Go RURBAN where he focused to bridge the gap between Rural and Urban spheres. While he was exploring his journey of social changes, he was introduced to the idea of Gandhi and non-violence. Also how it can be used as a tool for the global social change.

This newsletter has been prepared by Riya Rachel Simon and Mónica Elizabet with inputs from Jill Carr-Harris and Nabil Singh. Credits of photographs from the Delhi to Geneva march : Shahbhaz Khan, Ramesh Sharma and Satish Raj Acharya

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For any queries, suggestions or letters to the editor, please connect with news@jajagat2020.org

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