

## PRASANTHI EVENTS

### **BUDDHA POORNIMA CELEBRATIONS**

On 29th and 30th April 2018, more than 600 people from Brunei, Hong Kong, Indonesia, Japan, Malaysia, Nepal, Singapore, Sri Lanka, Taiwan, and Thailand participated in the Buddha Poornima celebrations in Prasanthi Nilayam. The theme was 'Dhamma – the Path of Nirvana'. SSE children and YAs from Sri Lanka presented a drama based on the Jataka Tales, and stories of Buddha's early life. The students of Sathya Sai d enthralled the audience with a dance performance on the life of Lord Buddha. SSE students of Sri Lanka also presented a dance drama.

# SATHYA SAI INTERNATIONAL LEADERSHIP PROGRAMME (SSILP) FOR YOUNG ADULTS

On 24th July 2018, around 300 YAs from 31 countries received graduation certificates after completing the Fourth Sathya Sai International Leadership Programme (SSILP) for Young Adults (YAs). The YAs including graduates also presented a musical programme featuring devotional songs. To date, more than 1,300 YAs have graduated from this programme.



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#### **GO GREEN CONFERENCE**

On 25th and 26th July 2018, the SSIO organised its first ever Go Green Conference in Prasanthi Nilayam, attended by 1,200 delegates from 70 countries. The conference highlighted the connection between God, Nature and Man and included inspiring speeches highlighting the need to protect Mother Earth, a panel discussion and informative study circles. Ongoing SSIO efforts to help conserve natural resources were discussed and four concurrent workshops explored the topics of service, spirituality, education and Sathya Sai Centre operations as means to understand, respect and protect the environment. The valedictory session of the conference included a presentation on the ongoing Go Green initiatives of the SSIO, along with eight new resolutions for implementation. The proceedings concluded with a musical drama by the Love All, Serve All (LASA) music team, featuring vibrant values-based songs composed by the YAs.

#### **CHRISTMAS CELEBRATIONS**

SSIO members from around the world celebrated Christmas in Prasanthi Nilayam from 24th to 26th December 2018 with the theme, 'Unite and Serve'. SSIO volunteers from New Zealand beautifully decorated Prasanthi Nilayam. On Christmas Eve, the International Christmas Choir comprising 270 singers and musicians from 35 countries enthralled the audience with a soulful rendition of devotional songs and carols. The evening programme began with a special Lucia procession by 56 children from 18



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countries dressed as angels, led by the Lucia Angel wearing a crown of candle lights. An International Children's Choir rendered devotional songs and Christmas carols in various languages. An inspiring drama on the life of Sir Edmund Hillary, who was the first to climb to the summit of Mount Everest, was performed by SSE students from New Zealand.

#### **CHINESE NEW YEAR**

Chinese New Year has been celebrated in the sacred precincts of Prasanthi Nilayam for over 21 years. On 11th and 12th February 2019, SSIO members from China, Hong Kong, Indonesia, Malaysia, and Singapore celebrated Chinese New Year in Prasanthi Nilayam with inspirational speeches, devotional singing and chanting, a medley of Chinese New Year songs, a Chinese Orchestra with special Chinese instruments, and cultural programmes. A Harmonica presentation of instrumental devotional songs was made by a group of devotees from Malaysia. Entertaining and inspiring dramas and skits were also presented by the YAs from Indonesia and Malaysia.

"Establish unity among yourselves first; do not seek faults in others or excellences in your own selves. The Fatherhood of God and the Brotherhood of Man—have full faith in this and fill every act of yours with that reverence and love."

-Sathya Sai Baba, 21st April 1967



