

Multifaith Harmony Marked Through Celebrations of Buddha Purnima and Tagore Jayanti by COVA at Hyderabad's New St. Maria High School

May 12, 2025



Hyderabad, In a heartwarming celebration of India's rich cultural diversity and spiritual heritage, **COVA Peace Network in Collaboration with New St. Maria High School in Jangammet, Hyderabad,** hosted a **Multifaith Celebration** on the occasion of **Buddha Purnima and Rabindranath Tagore Jayanti**. The event also featured **career guidance sessions for students after Grades 10 and 12**, and a **felicitation ceremony** honoring academic achievers from the local community.

The event began with spiritual reflections from **Tashi Choedup**, a Buddhist monk, who emphasized the timeless relevance of Lord Buddha's teachings. "The Buddha taught that life is full of suffering – the Four Noble Truths form the foundation of his path. He showed that suffering is universal, and that we can overcome it through mindfulness, compassion, and right conduct. Ultimately, our only true asset in life is our Karma," she said, resonating deeply with the diverse audience.

Remembering Tagore – The Pride of Indian Culture

Sangamitra Malik, a representative from the cultural organization **Apna Watan**, illuminated the life and legacy of **Rabindranath Tagore**, describing him as "the pride of Indian culture." She highlighted his unparalleled contributions as a poet, philosopher, and artist. "Tagore began writing poetry at the tender age of eight and took up painting at the age of 67. He went on to create more than 2,500 artworks, showing that creativity knows no age," she said. Her address inspired young minds to value lifelong learning and explore different creative paths.



Career Guidance for the Future Generation

A key segment of the event was a **career guidance session** led by **Syed Jaffer Hussain Quadri**, a renowned educationist and youth mentor. Addressing the students, he provided insights into **career options available after Class 10 and Class 12**, focusing on both traditional academic streams and emerging fields such as digital marketing, AI, design thinking, and entrepreneurship.

He encouraged students to make informed choices, pursue their passions, and remain adaptable in the face of a rapidly evolving job market.

Unity in Diversity: A Multifaith Gathering

Reflecting India's ethos of **unity in diversity**, the program saw participation from **children, youth, men, and women from various religions and communities**. Eminent spiritual leaders, including **Pandit Harinarayan Tiwari from Ayodhya** and **Reverend Micheal Bitcha Rathore**, offered blessings on the twin occasions. They praised the values of **interfaith dialogue, peace, and education**, underscoring their importance in today's society.

Felicitation of Local Academic Achievers

The highlight of the program was the **felicitation of 55 students** from the Jangammet area who successfully passed their Class 10 and Class 12 exams for the academic year 2024–2025. These students were applauded for their hard work and determination.

Among them, **Lasya**, a 10th-grade graduate, shared her aspirations: "I'm thankful for this recognition. I dream of becoming an event manager. More importantly, I want to contribute to society by working against casteism, communalism, and gender discrimination. I want to ensure better civic amenities in our locality. This is just the beginning."

Her powerful statement was met with resounding applause, embodying the spirit of the day – one of hope, resilience, and collective progress.