
An interactive session at Centre For Equity Studies



Karwan-e-Mohobbat

By: Perna Sahni, Naina Sharma and K.Archit of Class XI-A

Humanity should be our race

Love should be our religion

The Karwan-e-Mohobbat or peace Yatra is a movement led by activist and author Harsh Mander. Harsh Mander is an activist who works with survivors of mass violence & hunger, as well as homeless people & street children. He is Director of the Centre for Equity Studies & a Special Commissioner to the Supreme Court in the Right to Food case. He is associated with various social causes, including issues of communal harmony, tribals, Dalit, disabled persons' rights, RTI, among others. The idea behind starting these journeys is to convey the message of love and solidarity and reach out to the families hit by hate violence. They visit places where lynching and hate crimes has taken place and attempt to forge links between different communities. Karwan-e-Mohobbat aims to spread the message of peace. Its goal is to cover one State in one month and till now they have covered 13 states.

On 23rd February 2019, some students of classes 8 and 11 visited the team of Karwan-e-Mohobbat at the Equity Centre in Adhchini. The visit gave us an insight into how the idea of India is being fractured. The event dealt with hate dynamics that is fiercely creeping in the society at a pace which is very dangerous for any society. The team also shared their experiences with us. They shared how hate crimes are spreading rapidly around us and slowly humanity is getting stifled. People are turning heartless, most bamboozling of all was that even children were involved in some of those incidents. Children used pens to stab or kill people during mob lynchings. We all have heard the idiom - '*pen is mightier than the sword*', but after

knowing how brutally children stabbed a person with pens who was being lynched, we fear that the idiom is becoming a reality that too in the sense it wasn't meant to be. Even the Police and the government institutions were part of such incidents, reflecting their greed for money. One instance was discussed where a school going child shot a video film of gory and horrendous incident where a person was mercilessly killed and his body was chopped just because of the hatred and the cruel reality was shattering - the boy's hands were steady as a rock! They weren't even shaking while recording such horrifying incident. It seemed as though he was using a tripod for the camera. In another incidence a man was killed just for a mere suspicion of cow slaughtering. How can a person buy a cow just to slaughter which happens to be such a costly affair! A highly educated lower caste boy was killed by upper caste group as they couldn't gulp down the hard reality that a lower caste man was successful than him.

The discussion out there opened our eyes to the poison that is spreading in the name of caste, creed and religion.



Our school was first school to join this movement and we as a school want to carry it forward by organising peace marches, interactive sessions, workshops, etc. The school proposes to bring up the Peace Army of St. Mary's School which will stand against bullying and use of abusive language. We as individuals should take some concrete measures to eliminate hate crimes by rejecting all kinds of stereotypes, showing respect for others through actions, attitudes and remarks, by reporting incidents of discrimination and advocating non-violence by seeking help of local government representatives.

Through Karwan- e-Mohabbat and the Peace Army we intend to spread a wave of acceptance, tolerance and most importantly respect for one another. We would like to launch the first Karwan at our school itself. For this we plan to organise an interactive session on wide ranging topics such as problems among students in the school, events of hate crime and increasing intolerance among various social groups in the country, etc. so as to orient the students before they can become active members of the movement. At a later stage we plan to take this Karwan to a next level with a bigger team, a bigger motive and a bigger audience. With Karwan-e-Mohabbat we as a school and as individuals want to contribute to the development and change the mindset of the common people who are at the grass-root level. The success of this movement would surely lead us a step forward in bringing to reality the dream which our great leaders had envisioned for the country.

“Humanity should prevail” is the need of the hour.



“Breaking the chains of hate”

~Nischay Ohri

“When we entered the venue, we saw three ladies talking to each other the moment they saw us there was a smile on their face when our social work teacher (Ms. Shambhavi Sharma) told them that we were from a school they said that we were the first school who had come over their and they said that “this is the exact age of having the exposure to this kind of stuff”.After a minute or so Mr harsh stood up and started to brief us all about Karwan-e-Mohabbat.

And then he asked one of his colleagues to start a video .while watching the video we got to know that it was a interview by NDTV on Karwan-e-Mohabbat. It was a very emotional video where Mr Harsh was talking to people who had been victims of hate crime .Mr Harsh told us many narratives of hate violence.Hearing the stories of rampant violence in our country made us realise that people are losing the sense of rationality and the sense of being human.There was once a partition of our country but now we are seeing a partition of people’s minds and hearts.”Fear and hatred is becoming the new normal in our country and it is upto us as citizens to think and break the chain of hatred.

“The cultural fabric and ethos of India is being unmade with every passing day.”~Harsh Mander