

Mr. Jatwinder Grewal (India)

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I come from Punjab State, India, which is located on North India's border with Pakistan. I am a follower of the Sikh religion. We are a very hard working minority community and have good status across the whole world. I am running a youth organization, the Youth Federation of India and Power House Youth Club under the Ministry of Youth Affairs and Sports, Government of India. This organization is a national level organization and with more than 5000 youth members. This organization is working in rural areas of India organizing capacity building programs, national integration programs for peace and communal harmony, and blood donation camps throughout the country to spread the peace message that blood has the same color and it is more important save lives by donating blood than to waste blood with bullets. I am a regular blood donor and I have donated blood 49 times. In the last 5 years my organization has collected more than 20,000 voluntary blood units for needy people.

I am also a working and executive member of JANHIT SAMITI, a social welfare organization since 1987 working to empower women by providing free self employment training programs with tailored courses to teach computer skills. We also provide financial help for needy students. I am a member of Sri Bhartiya sewa Samiti Punjab (social welfare organization) where we adopt poor children from society. Today we have more than 1500 students who are our members. Every member of our organization is a grass-roots worker working directly with needy people. I was the Governor Awardee (2009-2012 for social service); State Awardee, 5 years constantly District Award Winner, best International Volunteer WYF Malaysia 2013 and many more. I am also a member of the Advisory Committee on Youth Program, NYKS, Government of India; Women Counseling Cell, Police Department, Punjab State; Indian Red Cross Society Punjab; Prenatal Diagnostic Test Committee, Health Department, Patiala Punjab; Blood Donors Organization Committee, District Administration, Patiala Punjab.

In my state we have endured terrorism for 20 years losing about 30,000 lives but our organization continues to work bravely against terrorism. A terrorist attacked me when I was in the 9th standard. Fortunately I survived the attack. Then we made a youth commitment to make people aware of the threat of terrorism. Today we visit conflict areas of my country to keep youth aware of the importance of peace and communal harmony. We organize peace rallies and group discussions and we motivate them to respect all.

My goal after attending YPA9 is to return home to spread the peace message to every youth in my district. We will organize peace rallies seminars regarding human values and one world concept.