



**CELEBRATING INTERNATIONAL DAY
OF LIVING TOGETHER IN PEACE**



“Living together in peace is all about accepting differences and having the ability to listen to, recognize, respect and appreciate others as well as living in a peaceful and united way”.

The United Nations declared 16th May as the **International Day of Living Together in Peace** to promote peace, tolerance, inclusion, understanding, and solidarity across the world. The Day aims to uphold the desire to live and act together, united in differences and diversity, in order to

build a sustainable world of peace, solidarity and harmony. The celebration of this day expresses the desire for peace by entire humanity. It is a step to see our world change.

On 16th May 2020, BOSCO celebrated International Day of Living Together in Peace with DAFI scholars in the monthly interactive session which was held remotely on Webex meeting app. Ms. Selin Mathews and Ms. Sonia Taneja from UNHCR India office attended the session as guest speakers. They addressed the scholars with their message on Covid-19 response focusing on the safety and wellbeing of the scholars. In view of the celebration, a talk was organized on the theme “**Fighting Covid-19 Together: Role of Peace, Tolerance, Inclusion and Solidarity to fight Coronavirus pandemic**” which served as a platform for DAFI scholars to share their thoughts and insights on the topic. UNHCR staff also shared their perspective which made the session highly interactive and engaging.



DAFI scholars shared that during Covid-19 crisis, it is important for all to promote unity through a harmonious living regardless of nationality, gender, language, community or religion. To fight the novel Coronavirus everyone must contribute to ensure peace in the society because all individuals are in the circle of human fraternity, in synergy with each other and not in opposition to each other. Scholars also shared that Covid-19 is one of the most deadly threats the world has ever faced and amidst the confusion and anxiety, it is the hope, solidarity, a sense of and desire for togetherness which can help humanity to fight this virus.

During Covid-19 outbreak, all are going through challenging phase right now and unprecedented changes are happening on a daily basis for businesses, communities and individuals. But this is time to stay strong, stay united, stand together in solidarity, adapt according to the situation and be inclusive by extending a helping hand towards each other. The guest speakers and scholars motivated everyone with their words to strive for peace and unity in overcoming Covid-19 pandemic together.

Towards the end of the session, DAFI scholars shared details about the various teaching techniques like-remote learning, distance education and online learning adopted by the Universities to ensure the continuity of learning for the scholars amid Covid-19 lockdown using platforms like Google Classroom, Google Meet and Zoom App. They also shared an update about their examination. The session concluded with a vote of thanks message by the facilitator thanking UNHCR staff and DAFI scholars for joining the celebration.



DAFI SCHOLAR VOICES-

1. “Living together in peace is all about accepting the differences and having the ability to respect others. When the entire world is affected by Covid-19 pandemic let’s not forget the significance of living together in peace by helping each other. During difficult times like Covid-19 crisis, reaching out to the vulnerable people in refugee communities could be a small gesture but can make a big difference in their lives”.



-NAZI, DAFI SCHOLAR INDIA

2. “History is the witness that humans have experienced severe epidemics since last four centuries and the most recent one was the “Spanish flu” which infected over a billion people and killed 50 million people in the process and lasted for two consecutive years (1918-1920) until it ended. Now that we have Covid-19 outbreak in the world, we should not panic or lose hope but instead become stronger than ever to overcome this pandemic and fight it with solidarity and peace”.



-MOHAMMAD ISMAIL KHALIQYAR, DAFI SCHOLAR INDIA

3. “Achievement of peace is not an individual goal, it's a global goal. A successful person who chooses to be humanitarian like Bill Gates is a proof that peace and inner joy lies far beyond fame, wealth and health. Rather it is achieved by helping others. Let's stand together in this pandemic time”.



– THAN DAR AUNG, DAFI SCHOLAR INDIA

4. “Start accepting each-other no matter what color what caste what religion they belong to. The current Covid-19 pandemic situation gives us the opportunity to stay united as one and interact with our loved ones. With each other’s support we can overcome this crisis”.

- ABDUL MUSAWER, DAFI SCHOLAR INDIA



5. “Worldwide crisis caused by Covid-19 can be controlled, if all countries maintain international peace and stay united. Human beings must learn to accept each other without discriminating on the basis of religion, nationality, culture. In this situation we should help and reach out to the maximum because every person matters”

-MOHAMMAD BASER SULTANI, DAFI SCHOLAR INDIA



6. “In this pandemic situation it is everyone's responsibility to fight with Coronavirus together by helping each other and specially those who are in bad financial condition and suffering from mental breakdown. We should take a note of the fact that our planet Earth, our nature and our environment needs good care. Covid-19 outbreak has made us realise that ignoring the power of nature will only harm us severely”.

-ABDUL MUSAWER, DAFI SCHOLAR INDIA



7. "Peace has a crucial role in fighting Covid-19 pandemic. The recent attack in Afghanistan on a maternity hospital that has killed so many new-born babies and their mothers who could not even hug their babies once shows that how the government of Afghanistan will have to deal with the security issues, instead of adopting measures to fight Coronavirus. As long as there is lack of peace, there will be absence of solidarity.

The famous poet Hazrat-e-Saadi wrote:

Human beings are members of a whole, creation of one essence and soul.

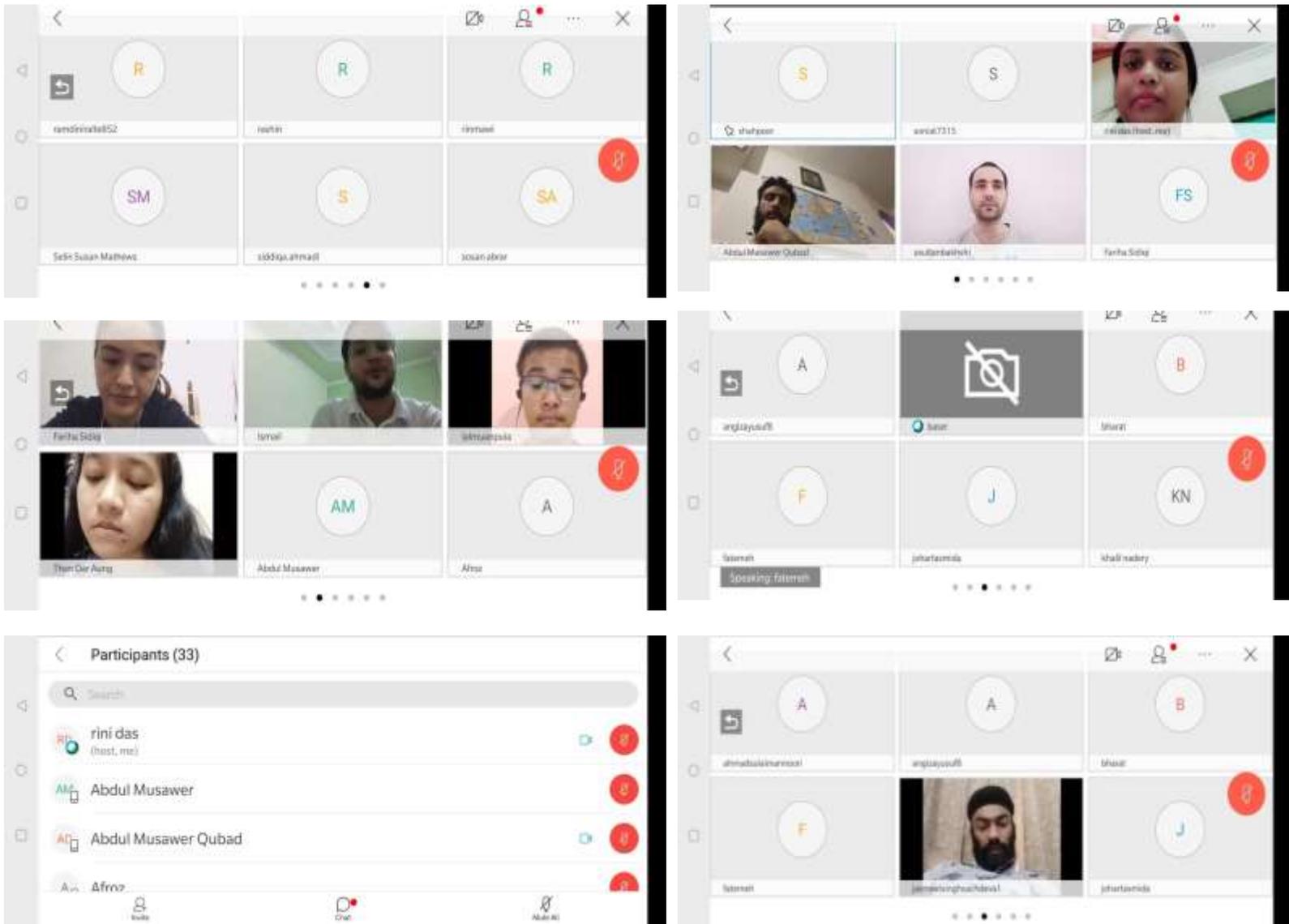
If one member is afflicted with pain, other member's uneasiness will remain.

If you have no sympathy for human pain, the name of human you cannot retain".

- **FATEMEH MOHAMMADI, DAFI SCHOLAR INDIA**



Glimpse



Total Participants- 33

Total Male- 16

Total Female- 17

Male DAFI Scholars – 16

Female DAFI Scholars– 14

UNHCR Staff (Female) -2

BOSCO Staff (Female) -1