

Fatima Peace Conference in India Most Successful Ever!

Fatima Center Special Report

From January 30 to February 5, the Fatima Center held its *Fatima: The Only Way to World Peace Conference* in Chennai, India. Nearly 400 priests and bishops attended from countries throughout the world. At least 13 nations were represented, including: India, Sri Lanka, Pakistan, Bangladesh, Nigeria, Ghana, Tanzania, the Philippines, Papua New Guinea, Scotland, Italy, United States and Canada.

The conference focused on the central importance of the Fatima Message, stressing Our Lady's requests at Fatima; the Rosary; Marian doctrine and devotion; the urgency of the Consecration of Russia; current trends detrimental to the Catholic Faith; the threat of Protestantism; the United Nations as the false solution for world peace and much more.

This latest conference in India was the most successful Fatima Peace Conference to

date. In just a few days, hundreds of thousands of scapulars, leaflets, flyers, magazines and books were distributed to participants eager to bring the full Fatima Message home to their dioceses and parishes.

The conference also distributed tens of thousands of leaflets to Tamil-speaking priests who attended the conference. Tamil is one of the main languages of southern India.

This bishops and priests conference lasted seven days, with each day being filled. Those attending listened to 28 lectures given by a dozen speakers. Besides Holy Mass and Rosary each day, the attendees went on pilgrimage on Sunday.

Father Nicholas Gruner spoke of the establishment of the Fatima Movement of Priests, a worldwide movement for Catholic priests to stress the importance of Our Lady's Message at Fatima. The latest conference in India has swelled the ranks of this im-

portant movement dedicated to making Our Lady's words at Fatima known, loved, defended and obeyed.

Along with the daily lectures and the priestly camaraderie of this large assembly, the activities also included a trip to Our Lady of Lourdes shrine in Pondicherry where an impressive Fatima procession was held. Thousands turned out for the event, including hundreds of children dressed in beautiful regional clothing.

That same day, priests and bishops of the conference also visited three other parishes in Pondicherry, including the Cathedral. Thousands of the faithful flocked to each of the churches to see the Pilgrim Virgin Statue of Our Lady, to pray the Rosary and to hear Father Gruner deliver a brief address on Our Lady's Fatima visitations. The faithful received this with great enthusiasm, as the people of India nourish a deep love of Our Lady, referring to Her affectionately as "Mother Mary".

Bishops and priests at the conference took to heart the Fatima Message, pledging to

consecrate themselves and their parishes to the Immaculate Heart; and to promote the Rosary, Brown Scapular and the Five First Saturdays.

At the conference's close, four priests from different regions publicly thanked Father Gruner, the Fatima Center and its benefactors for making the conference possible.

Practically all of the attendants noted their appreciation of the event. One priest said, "My devotion to Mary was enhanced and my vocation was strengthened."

Another priest said: "The conference gave me a very clear exposition of the urgency of the Message. It was challenging. I am going to be a Marian priest and do all I can to please Our Lady and obey Her commands."

A priest from Kerala pledged to "start spreading the Fatima Message wherever I am appointed and wherever I travel ... I will proclaim it to all I meet."

A bishop who attended wrote these words of encouragement:

**"Keep going onward.
Do not give up!"** 

**"My devotion
to Mary was
enhanced
and my
vocation was
strengthened."**