International Day of Peace (IDP) 2020

Suggested Activities to commemorate International Day of Peace (IDP) from 01-30 September 2020.

1. IDP 2020 Theme: Shaping Peace Together

This year, it has been clearer than ever that we are not each other’s enemies. Rather, our common enemy is a tireless virus that threatens our health, security and very way of life. COVID-19 has thrown our world into turmoil and forcibly reminded us that what happens in one part of the planet can impact people everywhere.

As we struggle to defeat COVID-19, your voice is more important than ever. In these difficult times of physical distancing, this International Day of Peace will be dedicated to fostering dialogue and collecting ideas. The world will be invited to unite and share thoughts on how to weather this storm, heal our planet and change it for the better. Even though we may not be able to stand next to each other, we can still dream together.

The 2020 theme for the International Day of Peace is “Shaping Peace Together.” Celebrate the day by spreading compassion, kindness and hope in the face of the pandemic. Stand together with the UN against attempts to use the virus to promote discrimination or hatred. Join us so that we can shape peace together.

2. Messengers of Peace for International Day of Peace

Cub/Bulbul, Scout/Guide/Rover/Ranger and adult leaders in all the States are vigorously involved in peace actions as Messengers of Peace. Since 2015, the International Day of Peace is being celebrated by almost all the State Associations of the Bharat Scouts and Guides in the Country, taking the opportunity to engage young people and leaders in Peace actions and inspiring them to become active global citizens. In many State Associations, peace actions and doing good deeds are spread for the entire month of September.

3. Objectives

3.1 To commemorate the International Day of Peace through active involvement of Cubs/Bulbuls, Scouts/Guides, Rovers/Rangers and Adult Leaders in their communities
3.2 To inspire and support Scouts & Guides to talk about peace with other Scouts, non-Scouts and community members
3.3 To raise awareness related to peace culture in their communities and the importance of each individuals in the development of peace culture
3.4 To serve the community in the form of community service and community development based on the context/need of the respective community

4. Action Period

1-30 September 2020
Gala Celebration – 21 September 2020

5. Participants

5.1 Cubs/Bulbuls, Scouts/Guides, Rovers/Rangers and Adult Leaders in all ages: executing the activities and interacting with community members.
5.2 Non-Scouts: understanding peace, undertaking peace activities with Scouts & Guides, and committing to continue to be Messengers of Peace.

6. Planning and Guidance

6.1 State Association to assign a State/District team to plan and execute the celebration/activities at State/District level and extending support to local leaders who will organize, plan, coordinate, implement and report local activities happening around the State.

6.2 Entrust coordination responsibility to MoP State Coordinator or as may be befitting who will be responsible to support the State/District and local teams in planning and advancing the initiative at State/District level through its local structure, supporting the promotion through social media channels and directly with Scout/Guide groups with the involvement of Scout/Guide leaders.

6.3 Ensuring involvement of the public in undertaking actions(based on local situation at the time due to pandemic, either virtually or physical presence) and documenting or reporting.

6.4 Submission of reports to the Bharat Scouts and Guides, National Headquarters at boyprogramme@bsgindia.org possibly by 25th September, 2020 so that it can be compiled and be shared globally. This is with the intention that Scouts & Guides contribution be recognized at appropriate platforms.

7. IDP Activity Ideas

There is a vast selection of activity ideas for International Day of Peace which can be chosen and applied addressing the 2020 theme for the International Day of Peace, “Shaping Peace Together”.

This is a way of celebrating the day by spreading compassion, kindness and hope in the face of the pandemic. We stand together with the UN against attempts to use the virus to discriminate or hate. As the pandemic situation in each state/area is different, activities can be chosen to adapt locally.

Activities can be done either virtually or physically or mixed method, based on local situation keeping the safety and security as the top priorities. It is advisable to start promoting the activities early to trigger the participants’ interests.

8. Below are some of activity ideas:

8.1) Peace Video Clip

To provide social media platforms where Scouts & Guides can share their video clips, i.e. MoP Dance Music Video (with their own choreography or unique dance moves), peace speech, Scout/Guide talents such as singing peace related songs, play peace music, or any other peace performances. This can be done as talent shows or competitions. The Likes and Share for these Video Clips are expected to be part of MoP promotions.

8.2) Peace Picture

8.2.1) Are you into photography? Then take some pictures that reflect any expression, ideal or messages of Peace. Share them in social media (Facebook, Twitter, Instagram, etc.) with a nice message that includes the SCOUT word. Pictures must be original.

8.2.2) Pictures can be taken in “selfie” style as Scouts/Guides need to be aware that Peace culture is a daily effort with small acts of kindness. It is important to recognize that "Peace starts with me".

Step 1: Scouts/Guides can take selfie showing their Peace Pledges.

Step 2: Think about your own declaration of commitment towards Peace, to express what you would do today to start building peace.
Step 3: Post your selfie and your declaration of Peace then, share on www.scout.org and BSG facebook page https://www.facebook.com/bsgnhq/ and other social media platforms.

8.3) Live Interview or Webinar via Social Media Channel

A series of live interviews or webinars on or about Peace can be used as a step toward the International Day of Peace (21 September). The topics can be related to peace actions, peace activities, local wisdom toward peace, etc.

8.4) Peace Talk – on radio/podcast

If we can reach more, we can inspire more. Contact your local radio station asking for a slot to talk about “how scouts & guides contribute to peace through service”. Invite people to join our global effort to promote Peace Culture with small acts of kindness towards creating a better world.

   Step 1: Make a list of radio station with numbers and contact person
   Step 2: Contact them to ask for a slot to talk about Scouts & Guides and Peace Day
   Step 3: Agree on a specific program and schedule
   Step 4: Prepare some key points to use in your interview. Share it with other Scouts/Guides if they are also joining. Prepare a token of appreciation for the radio.
   Step 5: Go and enjoy the radio world. Ask someone to record or ask the radio to provide you with the recording. You can even talk on TV!

8.5) Dialogue for Peace

Invite your existing or potential volunteers to join this activity, with the aim to develop and revitalize our volunteers in promoting peace in our network.

8.6) One-day Peace Gathering (Messengers of Peace Day)

On 21 September, the International Day of Peace is a great opportunity to organize a reunion of MoP Local Coordinators/Scouters & Guiders meet. Some important ceremonies can take place on this one-day event, for example:

- badges and scarves presentation
- Any other MoP or Peace Action awards presentation
- MoU (Memorandum of Understanding) Signing Ceremony between MoP and other organizations to create partnership on Peace Culture
- Reunion/conference of MoP Local Coordinators including a commitment towards undertaking another yearlong peace project individually or as a group.

8.7) Peace Pantry of Sharing

This activity promotes a nourishing neighborhood where many people are affected by the Covid-19 pandemic by offering food to those who need it most.

8.8) Health Care Service

To build a wider impact, you can partner with a government institution, such as Health Department/private hospital/individual doctors/Red Cross to help you organize a free health check, vaccination, eye camp, blood donation etc.

8.9) Plant a Tree

Young People (Scouts and Non-Scouts) can plant a tree at home, in their premises or balcony and take care of it until it can grow on its own.

   Step 1: Choose a place, kind of tree that you want to plant, collect saplings
   Step 2: Plant trees at the suitable area
   Step 3: Write a story about the activity with photos
   Step 4: Share your tree planting activity on scout.org and other social media.
8.10) Books for All
Collect unused books and donate them to those in need.

   Step 1: Find out who are in need of books.
   Step 2: Send a letter to potential donors of books.
   Step 3: Arrange the place and time to give them to those in need.
   Step 4: Share your story on scout.org and other social media platforms.

8.11) Enroll new Scouts
Enroll an eligible, interested and willing young person to your pack/troop/crew.

   Step 1: Set up the registration booths (with introduction of Scouting).
   Step 2: Provide some souvenirs or goodies for new members.
   Step 3: Take some video or photo in action for the new member.
   Step 4: Share the video or photo in scout.org and social media.

This can also be done by individual Scouts with the slogan “each one recruit one”.

8.12) Activities Based on SDGs
As an active global citizen, Scouts also have responsibility to make actions for something wider related to the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs). Actions that you may take based on SDGs looking towards local situation are welcome.

8.13) Registration of Scouts in:
1. Scouts of the World Award
2. Earth Tribe

9. Promoting IDP Activities
One of the most important tasks of MoP is to INSPIRE others to do good deeds. Therefore, the International Day of Peace Promotion should be done through these platforms such as www.scout.org, Messengers of Peace, Asia-Pacific Region, Messengers of Peace-INDIA, https://www.facebook.com/bsgnhq_Facebook group, Youtube: https://www.youtube.com/bsgindia Instagram: https://instagram.com/bsgindia, Twitter: https://twitter.com/bsgindhq for uploading projects and stories.

10. Awarding of Special Messengers of Peace-International Day of Peace Badge and Certificate of Participation
Cubs/Bulbuls/Scouts/Guides/Rovers/Rangers and Adult Leader Participants who achieve specified IDP activities with evidences and report submission can get International Day of Peace Digital Certificate.

Report
For reporting, you may please use the Report forms attached with the circular. Ensure that all activities held in celebration of the International Day of Peace are well documented and reported.

The form is designed to report each activity/event. State Associations can use it to circulate to the District/Local Associations and grassroot for them to submit this report forms to State Headquarters with a copy to the National Headquarters directly that will help SHQ/National Headquarters to prepare the summarized report. State Associations can also give this form to each of the in-charge of State/District Event/Activity to fill-up so all District/Local level activities have the detailed information available with them.

Please forward the report with action photographs and link of various social media platforms at boyprogramme@bsgindia.org latest by 25th Sept, 2020.