

CDLS 2017

Built on the adage “Self-realization cannot be achieved by the weak willed”, Modern School is a melting pot of diversity and leadership. In the pursuit of self-realization, the school hosted the 12th edition of CDLS, with over a hundred delegates participating from across 16 countries and 6 continents.

The global conference aimed to foster the spirit of internationalism, humanity, unity and leadership in the delegates. Revolving around two main themes: ‘Refugees- Liability or Responsibility?’ and ‘Beauty Creams: An expression of Racism’, the summit stimulated young minds to probe and provide solutions to the problems faced by the global community.

Transcending boundaries, the delegates moved past language barriers and truly embraced the concept of Global Citizenship. Forging an intimate bond with the Indian culture, they explored the heritage sights of India like India Gate, Dilli Haat and Qutub Minar. “Forever new Frontiers”, the motto for CDLS propagates open- mindedness and we, at Modern, hope to do exactly that.

Day 0:

The summit commenced on 2nd December, 2017. The day began with each delegate giving a short introduction of him/her, followed by a briefing session.

An Ice Breaking Session was then organized in the Front Lawns. Activities designed to familiarize the delegates with one another were conducted.

In the evening the delegates visited Rajghat, where they, paid tribute to the Father of the Nation - Mahatma Gandhi.





Day 1:

On 3rd December 2017, the delegates assembled in the HLL auditorium for an informal session on the sub themes for the summit- Refugees and Beauty Creams. After the cognitive discussion, the inaugural ceremony commenced. The Chief Guest for the ceremony, Mr Ashok Pratap Singh, inspired everyone by his thought provoking words.

A creative session was conducted in order to stimulate the creativity of the delegates. Displaying their creative aptitude, students from various countries participated in a myriad of activities like painting, ceramics, and woodcraft and paper technology. Soon enough, the imaginations of the multi-talented delegates were unveiled and their masterpieces were exhibited.



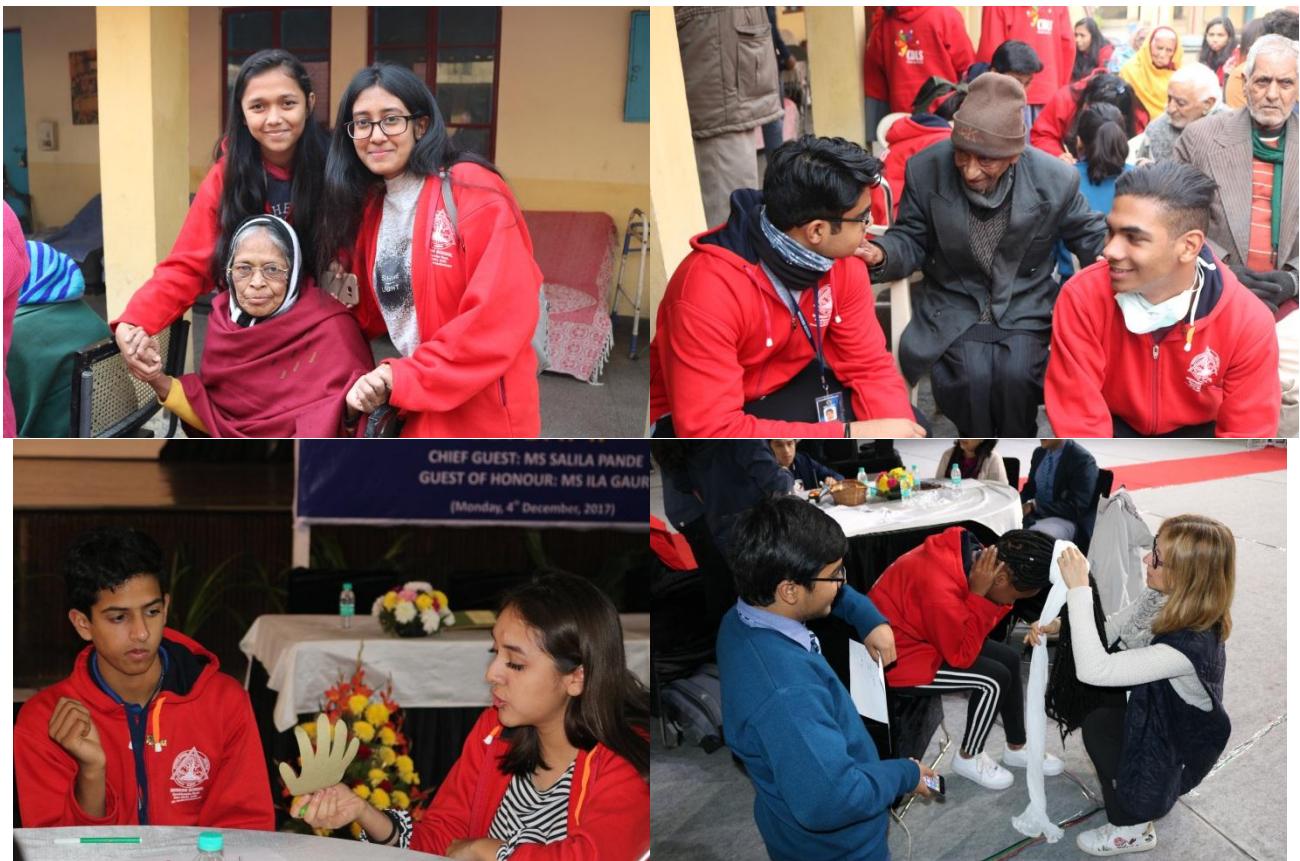
Day 2:

The activities of this day were designed to ensure that the leaders of tomorrow are sensitive to the plight of those who are less fortunate.

As the eager students set out in the venture to quench their ardent desire to give back to the community and make a change, they found themselves at the steps of those institutions that housed the unfortunate: namely the Cheshire home, The Blind Relief Association, Ozanam Old Age Home and Palna.

The second activity, which aimed at bringing out the creativity of the delegates, comprised of paper bag making, mask designing, lantern making and book cover designing. The topics of the activity primarily focused on the concept of inclusivity.

The third activity saw the delegates brimming with energy as they presented skits, jingles and fashion shows on stage. Their ideas revolved around bringing sensitivity to this brutal world. Certain group of delegates designed door knobs. The chief guest for the day, Mr Manoj Kakker, Regional Manager, SBI, applauded the delegates for their enthusiasm and fine skills.



Day 3

On the morning of 5th December, delegates had a 2 hour interactive session with the students of S1 and S2. The students of the middle block presented short cultural performances and songs to give the delegates an insight into the Indian culture. This session gave everyone the opportunity to not just learn but also experience another nation's culture and education system.

In the afternoon, there was a performance by the LiveJam band, which fused the discussion of refugees and racism with musical jigs. After the performance, all the guest schools showcased a zeal to promote new ideas, and support them with multimedia presentations. These presentations also included a question and answer session between the participating schools.



Day 4:

The fourth formal day was known as the TATA Day, when students were divided into four groups and taken on field visits to deepen their knowledge on the working sub themes of the summit. The first group visited the office of Mr Vijay Sampla, Union Minister for Social Justice and Empowerment, where they indulged in an interactive session with him on the status of refugees in India and around the world. The second group visited the office of Mrs Shahnaz Hussain, the CEO of Shahnaz Herbals. Other field trips included visits to the Looks' Salon in Defence Colony and a beauty products' factory in Pitampura. In these visits, the students practically discussed the second sub topic of 'Beauty Creams: an

Expression of Racism' with the people who manufacture, promote or use these products.

Post lunch session, the delegates were engaged in activities which included board making, model creation, newsletter publication, composition of the CDLS anthem and drafting of the Preamble. Mr Sanjay Singh, Principal Resident Representative, TATA Sons Ltd. graced the occasion with his presence.



Day 5:

The delegates, on 7th December, took a small step towards fulfilling their responsibility towards the nature and this planet. They planted saplings in the front lawns of the school, and pledged to take forward the initiative of reinforcing environmental sustainability.

This was followed by a visit to the Dr Radhakrishnan International School, where Indian culture was showcased through various performances like those of Bhangra and Dandia. The electric atmosphere forced teachers and delegates alike to sway to the tunes of Indian folk music. The delegates were also presented with the opportunity to engage in cultural activities such as kite flying, pottery, astrology and elephant ride.

After returning to school, a play named 'the God' was staged for the delegates. The modern day theatre ridiculed blind religiousness and in the garb of humour, conveyed the message that we should not worry about the end, for we can never decide our own fate. Post this, the guest schools practiced for the cultural night performances.



Even though the CDLS was officially held from 3rd to 8th December, the conference effectively started two months ago, when for the first time in 12 years, the CDLS blog was created to initiate debate and deliberation before the formal conference began. The first post on modernschoolblog.net was uploaded by Mrs Ambika Pant, Secretary, Managing Committee, Modern School, Barakhamba Road.

Besides the aforementioned activities, another interesting aspect of CDLS was the ‘homestay’ experience. Delegates blended into the Indian culture as they found second families, miles away from home. Everyday after 5:30 p.m., the delegates were taken around Delhi, to visit historic monuments, cafes and malls. Some of them even visited weddings and family gatherings, and experienced the Indian culture from a completely unimaginable dimension.

Over the past 12 years, we, at Modern have enhanced and evolved ourselves, as we go through the journey of inspiring young minds and shaping them into leaders who can change the world. The level and quality of debate and deliberation; the ‘homestay’ experience, including the warmth and hospitality of the host families; the twelve year old legacy of the summit and the everlasting excellence of Modern School, Barakhamba Road make the CDLS a unique summit and an experience that leaves everyone with lifelong lessons.