

President:
Rtn. Sanjib Roy
9830768181
sanjib.tuli@gmail.com

Secretary:
PP Rtn. Chinmay Roy
9433000262, 7980928806
chinmayroy@hotmail.com

Rotary Club of Dumdum
A49 VIP Road, Kolkata:101
033 25760694
rotarydumdum@yahoo.co.in

Treasurer:
PP Rtn. Swarnendu S. Saha
9831282689
swarnendusaha@hotmail.com

Editor:
Rtn. Dr. Asitava Sur
9830039151
asitava_sur@gmail.com

Minutes of the RWM 2751 held at the Mahendra Smriti Sabhaghar RC Dumdum on 23.08.24 at 6.30 pm

ADDRESS:

President Rtn. Sanjib Roy called the meeting to order, extending a warm welcome to **Sister B.K. Asmita** and **Sister B.K. Sasthi** from *Prajapita Brahma Kumaris Ishwariya Vishwa Vidyalaya*, Bangur Avenue, Kolkata, as well as **Smt. Rupa Banerjee**, a Presidential guest, and all members.

BEGINNING:

The meeting commenced with the National Anthem, led by **Rtn. Ardendu Biswas**.

President expressed heartfelt gratitude on behalf of the members to the visiting sisters of *Prajapita Brahma Kumaris Ishwariya Vishwa Vidyalaya* for their kind gesture on the occasion of *Raksha Bandhan*. He invited the sisters to the head table and requested them to bless the audience.



Upon taking their seat, **Sister Asmita** greeted the audience with a pure, selfless smile, instantly bringing a sense of calm to the room.

She spoke eloquently about the significance of *Raksha Bandhan* as a bond of purity and protection, expressing hope that the spirit of the festival would liberate everyone from negativity, unrest, and violence, in line with the *Brahma Kumaris'* mission to help society lead lives free from fear.

Sister Asmita elaborated on how a pious attitude, awareness, and vision can bring about inner peace and joy, fostering loving and friendly relationships across all communities and religions. She discussed the detrimental effects of stress on physical and emotional well-being, emphasizing the power of inner calmness to overcome these challenges. She then led a one-minute meditation session.



To commemorate the occasion, the sisters tied *Rakhis* and applied auspicious '*Tilaks*' to all the Rotarians & Guest and offered homemade sweets.



On behalf of the Club, **PP Rtn. K.B. Ghosh** presented the sisters with a bouquet and expressed deep gratitude. The members were greatly moved by Sister Asmita's words and the meditation, offering a standing ovation in appreciation.

CLUB BUSINESS:

Secretary **Rtn. Chinmay Roy** then conducted the club business:

a) He announced the receipt of newsletters "*LIGHT*" from RC Garden Reach and "*THE BRIDGE*" from RC Howrah.



b) He reported the club's participation in the *SIKSHA LUBH* project on August 17th, organized by RC Calcutta, where President **Sanjib Roy** was honored with a Certificate of Appreciation. The President also collected two desktop computers for schools, as applied for.



c) He informed members about the plantation of 200 saplings around *Humaniaponta* village on August 18th, with support from RCC *Dipsankar* Memorial Welfare Trust. The President, Treasurer, and Chair Service Project attended the event, contributing to its success.



d) The redistribution of desktop computers from the *SIKSHA LUBH* project to *Humaniaponta Purbapara* GSFP School and *Humaniaponta Abdul Aziz* High School on August 18th. was mentioned.



e) The Secretary shared that Interactors from *Humaniaponta Abdul Aziz* High School celebrated *Raksha Bandhan* at the Petrapole border between India and Bangladesh on August 19th, an effort that was highly appreciated by members.

DISCUSSION:

a) Members discussed the possibility of organizing an awareness program on nuclear power and plastic waste management

as suggested by **Rtn. Suman Guha**. This program, planned for September 12th, would be held in a remote school in the *Sundarban* area, in line with the Easy School 3 initiative of RID 3291, in association with the DAE, Govt. of India.

b) It was noted that only nine members had expressed interest in the upcoming '*Ilish Utsav*' scheduled for September 1st. and encouraged greater participation.

c) The President informed the club of a request to participate in a Global Grants project for providing clean drinking water in rural West Bengal, called *PRANDHARA*, initiated by RC Calcutta. The required contribution would be USD 525.

d) Guest **Smt. Rupa Banerjee**, invited by the President, introduced herself as an employee of South Eastern Railway residing in Rajarhat. She expressed her admiration for RC Dumdum's activities and her desire to participate in future initiatives.

ENDING:

The minutes of RWM 2750 were circulated via email and WhatsApp. Ten members attended the meeting, and Sunshine was collected through billing. The meeting concluded with the President thanking **Sister B.K. Asmita & Sister B.K. Sasthi, Smt. Rupa Banerjee**, and all members for their attendance, and reminding them of the next RWM on Friday, August 30th.

The festival of *Raksha Bandhan* (August 19th) begins with exchange of greetings, applying tilak, tying the sacred thread, offering sweets and then exchanging gifts.

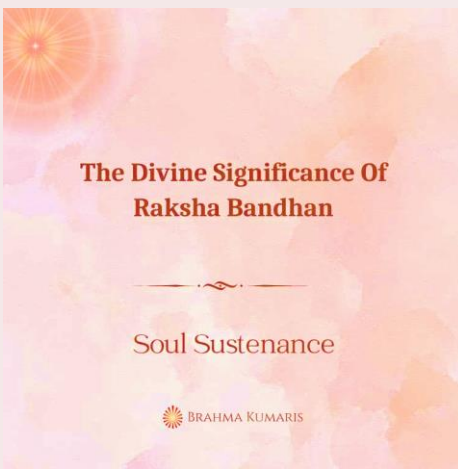
Greetings – Our every thought and word for everyone should be a blessing. Irrespective of their sanskars and behaviours, we create only pure and positive thoughts and words which empower them to change their *sanskars*. We radiate blessings to them which become their reality and change their destiny. Let us delete all the past hurts that we are still holding on to, because they have radiated impure and negative vibrations to us.

Tilak – We apply the *tilak* at the center of the forehead, as a reminder to open the third eye, the seat of the soul. Applying *tilak* means to awaken to the reality that I am not this body, roles and relationships. I am a divine soul and each one I interact with is the same. This finishes our body consciousness of everything that we have acquired in this life. Body consciousness is the foundation of all vices. Soul consciousness is the foundation of all virtues.

Rakhi – *Rakhi* is derived from the word *Raksha*, meaning protection. Tying a *rakhi* is symbolic of our pledge to use our original *sanskars* of purity and love in every thought, word and action, which is our protection. When it remains tied on our wrist, a *Rakhi* is a reminder about the promise we have made to our own self and God.

Sweets – It is a reminder that our thoughts, feelings, intentions and words must always be sweet. This creates harmony in our relationships.

Gifts – Let us choose any addiction, habit or *sanskar* which has been troubling us and give it up on this *Raksha Bandhan*. This is the best gift we can give ourselves, our family and to God.



August 19, 2024