

Adieu to Rev. Dr. Roger Gaikwad, Chairperson of India Peace Centre

Core group members and well-wishers of India Peace Centre bid farewell to Rev. Dr. Roger Gaikwad, Chairperson of India Peace Centre and the General Secretary of NCCI who completed his services on 31st of December 2018. He had been in the office of the General Secretary of NCCI for eight years and thus also chaired the Board of Trustees of India Peace Centre during that period. As an efficient administrator and articulate theologian, he has provided leadership to IPC and has contributed significantly to its ministries. Members were enthused by his personality and humility that he exhibited during his service. He is moving on to take up on another responsibility in Guwahati with the Church of North India.

Around 50 people came out to pay their respect to Dr. Gaikwad and showed their appreciation for his work in Nagpur over the past years. His calm and approachable nature was especially highlighted by many of the guests who spoke on their experiences with Dr. Gaikwad. He has always been a reliable companion, a "silent operator" and someone that puts in all his effort for the programs he is supporting. These characteristics will be greatly missed by the IPC, its Core Group members and everyone else who had the pleasure to work with Dr. Gaikwad so far.

Dr. Gaikwad, who was present with his wife and family, responded by challenging the gathering to be more proactive in their humanitarian work and put a special emphasis on the importance of working as a group. "We are all part of a movement" he concluded and thereby called upon everyone's responsibility to take steps towards ecumenism and integrity.

The program conducted at IPC was wonderfully chaired by Ms. Piyali Kanabar who also addressed the audience in a motivating speech about the possibilities the new year holds for IPC. She encouraged the audience to keep working in the spirit of Dr. Gaikwad and go

beyond the usual borders of the programs. The IPC would like to thank her for her engagement.

Special thanks also go to all the people who addressed Dr. Gaikwad during the program and the ones who helped to facilitate him with a shawl, a bouquet and a gift as well as to Kasta Dip who informed the audience about Dr. Gaikwad's occupation in the past and his work.

The program was concluded by a fellowship dinner.