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## We are with you Mumbai, says Chennai, with candles

C Suresh Kumar

TIMES NEWS NETWORK

**Chennai:** "I am not able to distance myself from what happened in Mumbai," lamented Nawaz Currimbhoy, a trader. And that was precisely the emotion shared by those who turned up at a peace gathering on Saturday in memory of those who lost their lives in the terror siege that gripped Mumbai on November 26.

Students and citizens showed up to offer prayers and light candles. People from different religions and walks of life offered prayers. The message was clear: Terror was not based on religion and citizens need to come together to put up a secular front.

"My family is good friends with the parents of ACP, Ashok Kamte, who died in the attack. I think people are more angry with the politicians than the terrorists," said Rochelle Shah.

Unlike others, Radha Balakrishnan offered prayers to the terrorists. "They were children who were misguided and victims of bad influence," she said.



**IN REMEMBRANCE:** Theosophical Society schoolchildren paying homage to the Mumbai terror victims

"It is easy to point fingers but as citizens what are we doing?" asked Upasika Maithreya, a student of the Madras School of Social Work.

The event was organised by the Theosophical Order of Service, Chennai Region and International Order of the Round Table. A one-minute silence was observed in memory of the victims. Chennaiites had just one thing to say, "We are with you Mumbai, we care for you".



# THE HINDU

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## CITY

CHENNAI

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## Some loving thoughts for Mumbai terror victims

Staff Reporter

**CHENNAI:** A large number of people attended a meeting at the Theosophical Society here on Saturday to pay homage to the victims of the terror attacks in Mumbai.

Speaking on the occasion of the peace gathering, president of the Theosophical Order of Service (Chennai Region) C.V.K. Maithreya said, "We have gathered here with a feeling of regret that it happened. But, we have also gathered here with hope, faith and perseverance and to transmit affectionate, loving thoughts to all who had been affected by the terror attacks."

Participants at the peace gathering said that hatred

could be conquered by love. They lighted candles and observed a moment of silence after the prayers of all religions.

At the meeting, Hindu, Zoroastrian, Jain, Hebrew, Buddhist, Christian, Islam, and Sikh way of invoking the Almighty was observed.

"We prayed for the victims of terror, including the young terrorists who themselves were the victims of the system of terror," said Radha Gopalakrishnan, one of the participants.

The peace gathering was organised by the Theosophical Order of Service, Chennai Region, and the International Order of the Round Table, India.



*Candles were lit in memory of the victims of Mumbai terror attacks at a peace gathering organised in Chennai on Saturday. - PHOTO: M.KARUNAKARAN*