

Peepal, Banyan Trees Planted in Burial Ground in Jaipur

As part of an ongoing drive for environment protection, a group here has joined hands with the Muslim Rashtriya Manch to plant peepal and banyan trees in the burial grounds and distribute tulsi saplings among the Muslim households in the Pink City.

A beginning was made outside a mosque in Shastri Nagar here over the weekend, where Muslim women gathered in large numbers to get tulsi saplings and take them home for use of their leaves as well as for growing the plants.

The event was organised by Shri Kalptaru Sansthan in collaboration with the Muslim Rashtriya Manch, which is an affiliate of the Rashtriya Swayamsevak Sangh. Muslim religious leaders also came forward to take small peepal, banyan and gooseberry trees to a nearby graveyard and planted them in the burial ground.

Shri Kalptaru Sansthan president Vishnu Lamba told *The Hindu* that the event's theme was: "Darakht-Parindon Ka Mazhab Nahin Hota" (Trees and birds don't profess any religion). "The initiative was widely praised by the Muslim community. Women who made a beeline to get tulsi saplings vouchsafed for its medicinal value."

Mr. Lamba said while 150 trees had been planted in the graveyard, he was planning to distribute 2,000 tulsi saplings to Muslims coming to the mosque for the Friday prayers next week. "This move will generate an immense communal harmony and make the people realise their common destiny in our nation," he said.

Among others, Rajasthan Waqf Board chairperson Abubakar Naqvi and Muslim Rashtriya Manch national convenor Reshma Hussain were present on the occasion. Ms. Hussain pointed out that tulsi, which had a religious significance for Hindus, also had medicinal properties useful for treatment of several diseases.

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