



## BSCOREE 2018 IT HAS BEGUN!

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The 13th National Boscoree began with great pomp and fanfare with 4058 scouts-guides and 477 officials and dignitaries gathered on the Father Sean McFerran Parade Ground, Divyadaan. The solemn inaugural ceremony began at 14:00 hours and showcased varied cultural performances portraying the grace and colour of the different regions of the states of Gujarat and Maharashtra.

The scouts and guides from Dakor, Ahmednagar and Kawant enthralled the gathering as they danced to the beats of the dhol, the lezim and the cymbals. The students of Divyadaan enhanced the ceremonial extravaganza with their band pieces. The percussionists from Sacred Heart School, Nashik provided the local flavour with the feisty rhythmic Nashik Dhol.



The ceremony struck a solemn note as the colour party escorted the dignitaries to the stage. Then followed the flag break ceremony and the march past; 17 troops representing the SDB and FMA Provinces of South Asia marched to the beats of 'Colonel Boogie'. The Chief Guest, Ms Ann Choi, the Deputy District Commissioner of the Scout Association of Hong Kong, took the salute. The students of Kilbil St Joseph's Nashik gave a prayerful touch with a prayer dance.

Father Ian Douulton, the Boscoree Camp Chief, welcomed the gathering and encouraged the scouts-guides to be strong and self-reliant. "Scouting is a way of life that reminds you that today you are a young citizen of this great country but before long you will be a full-fledged adult citizen of India," said Father Douulton.

Ms Choi released the Boscoree Souvenir. Some of the dignitaries addressed the camp: Sister Rita Dora, the Provincial of the Daughters of Mary Help of Christians of the Mumbai Province; Father Godfrey D'Souza, Salesian Provincial of Mumbai; Father Robert Simon, the DBYA Delegate for Social Experience; Bishop Lourdes Daniel of the Diocese of Nashik; Dr Ravinder Singhal, Commissioner of Police, Nashik City; and Ms Ann Choi. "We need you to be ambassadors for Scouting," said Choi as she encouraged the scouts-guides to continue the scouting legacy of instilling leadership, character and service. She then declared the 13th National Boscoree open.

The highlight of the event was the unveiling of the 'I Love Boscoree' selfie point by the Chief Guest. The installation is sure to be a fascinating crowd magnet over the next 2 days.



The inaugural ceremony concluded with a performance of the Boscoree 2018 theme song with Father Douulton, the Camp Chief dispersing the gathering.

**The 13<sup>th</sup> National Boscoree 2018 Media Team**