

**EVENT:**  
**The Asia Society's 6th Asia 21 Young Leaders Summit**

**WHERE:**  
 New Delhi

**WHEN:**  
 November 18-20, 2011

**THEME:**  
 Worlds Apart Together: Shared Values for an Asia-Pacific Community

**T**he Asia Society Asia 21 Young Leaders Summit, the pre-eminent gathering of the most dynamic under-40 young leaders in the Asia-Pacific region, was held in New Delhi for the first time from November 18-20, 2011.

The theme for the 2012 Summit was 'Worlds Apart Together: Shared Values for an Asia-Pacific Community'. The summit assembled 150 of the most accomplished emerging leaders in the region today. Delegates from almost 30 countries represented a wide range of sectors, including government, business, social enterprise, non-profit, media and arts. Lok Sabha parliament member Baijayant Panda addressed an assembly of 150 of the Asia Pacific region's next generation leaders at the opening dinner. The



Roots of Health receiving the 2011 Asia Society-Bank of America Merrill Lynch Asia 21 Young Leaders Public Service Award (Asia 21 PSA)

evening reception jump-started the three-day conference, wherein the most pressing social issues and shared challenges around the region were discussed.

"The Asia 21 young leaders' represent the future of the Asia-Pacific region. The work that

this community of leaders is doing today and will do in the future is laying a strong foundation for regional collaboration for decades

to come," said Asia Society executive VP Jamie Metz.

Dialogues in the summit explored topics such as the perceived future of inequality in the Asia Pacific region, the impact of social media, how Asia should deal with its demographic dilemma, and ways to foster and promote Asia's next generation women leaders. A public service project fair allowed delegates to lend their respective expertise to new and existing programmes in the region that most need their help.

Notable Indian young leaders

who attended the summit included Niret Alva, co-founder of Miditech; Vani Tripathi, national secretary, Bhartiya Janta Party and more.

The three-day summit turned out to be an ideal platform for bringing about positive change, with leaders from so many different locations coming together, exchanging their views and ideas and also helping each other make a difference in order to make this world a better place to live in.

— Yasmin Taj  
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