International Peace Day observed

By A Staff Reporter

MUSCAT International Peace Day was observed here with a grand progra-mme of inspirational songs by children, a play by children, music by the Oman Scouts and Guides and a moving address by keynote speaker, 92-year-old Dadi Janki, at the Al Noor Hall, Al Noor Plaza, Madinat Qaboos, on Sunday.

The chief guest at the evening's function was HE Abdullah Bin Abbas Bin Ahmed, Secretary-General of the Diwan of Royal Court.

The other guests of honour included HE Anil Wadhwa, India's Amb-assador to the Sultanate. Besides several officials, office-bearers of various social organisations were also present on the occasion.

The United Nations International Day of Peace, observed every year on Sept. 21, is a special day when individuals, communities, nations and governments highlight efforts to end conflict and promote peace.

In Oman, celebrations of this day were organised by the Rajayoga Education and Research Foundation, a sister organisation of the Brahma Kumaris World Spiritual University, of which Dadi Janki is the spiritual head.

Although her advanced age does not allow her to travel as frequently as before, Dadi Janki was determined to visit Oman, particularly on the occasion of the International Peace Day, recognising the fact that Oman was recently acknowledged as the most peaceful country in the region.

Speaking in Hindi, Dadi Janki, who has spent 70 years of her life championing the cause of peace around the world, said "no matter how hard the struggle is we must all do our utmost to spread the message of peace and end conflict and turmoil in the world."

In her message to the people, Dadi Janki said: "If you have purity in your heart, you will find happiness and this will lead to love and power." She stressed that the first step toward peace in the world would come from inner peace.

Earlier, at the start of the programme, Dadi Janki and several distinguished guests lit peace candles. This was followed by a skit by children 'Doctor's Diagnosis'.