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Sisterhood & Solidarity **2010 Indo-Caribbean Women's Empowerment Summit**

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Jahajee Sisters presents its fourth-annual Indo-Caribbean Women's Empowerment Summit: *Sisterhood & Solidarity on June 18th – 20th*. Jahajee Sisters is a movement-building organization, led by Indo-Caribbean women, committed to creating a safe and equitable society. We foster solidarity and empowerment through dialogue, arts, leadership development and grassroots organizing.

The organization was born after the brutal murders of two young Indo-Caribbean women in 2007, Natasha Ramen and Guiatree Hardat. As a result of the lack of response from the community at large, Indo-Caribbean women began organizing to address issues such as gender inequality, gender-based violence and the need for an increase in women's leadership. The first Indo-Caribbean Women's Empowerment summit was held in March 2007 and honored Guyanese estate-worker Kowsilla, who lost her life speaking out for workers' rights on the Leonora Estate. In 2008 and 2009, the summits addressed ending violence against women, self-healing, community organizing, arts & activism, and culture & identity. Jahajee Sisters has collaborated with the Rajkumari Cultural Center and Sakhi for South Asian Women, and they are part of the national SisterSong collaborative. In 2009, Jahajee Sisters published an anthology of poetry, "Bolo Bahen! Speak Sister!," the product of an Arts & Empowerment Program.

This year, join Jahajee Sisters for their fourth-annual Indo-Caribbean Women's Empowerment Summit, the organization's most exciting one yet, as we bring you three days of ground-breaking and interactive events, kicking off on **Friday, June 18th, 6:00 - 10:00 pm at the Queens Museum of Art (QMA)** at Flushing Meadows Corona Park. The entire community is invited to enjoy a Friday evening out as we welcome you with a reflection on the history of Indo-Caribbean women and movement-building for a brighter future, featuring renowned leaders such as writer, scholar and film-maker, Professor Patricia Mohammed from the University of West Indies - Trinidad. We will also welcome you with vibrant performances by leading Indo-Caribbean artists and a cultural reception. The following two days of the Summit are open to women only as we further reflect on the notion of sisterhood & solidarity.

Day two, **Saturday, June 19th, 10:00 am - 5:00 pm, will be held at Krystal Hall** (124-12 101st Avenue in Richmond Hill, NY) and will engage women in dynamic workshops on personal development and political education around social justice issues affecting Indo-Caribbean women and the larger community, including immigrants' rights, domestic workers' rights, LGBTQ issues, reproductive justice and housing rights. Organizations such as Chhayya CDC, Domestic Workers United, Sakhi and the National Latina Institute on Reproductive Health will also be present to share their work and show support for our community. Day three, **Sunday, June 20th, 11:00 am - 3:00 pm at the United Hindu Cultural Council Senior Center** (118-09 Sutter Avenue, South Ozone Park, NY) will close out the fourth-annual summit with an inter-generational dialogue on organizing to transform our community and our world.

Attend the most powerful summit yet as we engage in plenary sessions and interactive workshops in a safe space, collectively tackling difficult issues across generations and building communal strength to work together for a brighter future. Join us on Friday evening at the QMA as we open our fourth-annual Indo-Caribbean Women's Empowerment Summit: *Sisterhood & Solidarity*, on Saturday for a full day of workshops and conversations, and on Sunday afternoon as we close out a weekend of exciting events. All three days are free and donations are encouraged. For more information, please go to www.JahajeeSisters.org or contact us at JahajeeSisters@gmail.com.

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