Spiritual leader Mata Amritanandamayi said here on Saturday that while Ebola virus had destroyed hundreds of lives, the virus of hatred in humans was more dangerous.

The Mata was delivering her birthday message to devotees who had congregated at Amritapuri, near here, on Saturday to celebrate her 61st birthday.

"The cure for hatred is love and compassion. It is available within each one of us. Compassion provides us strength and vitality, and uplifts everyone around us. Love is the divine medicine and compassion is the mrita-sanjeevani," she said. The Mata said all people should ensure that they played a role in making the world better.

She said today individuals, societies, castes, communities, religious groups and countries segregated themselves from one another. For their own happiness and pleasure, they competed with one another.