

Mother Teresa

Essay No. 01

Agnes Gonxha Bejaxhiu was born in August 1910 at Skopje in Yugoslavia. In 1928 she went to Ireland. There she entered the Loreto congregation. At that time in Bengal the sisters of Loreto were carrying out missionary work. A year later she sailed to India with a longing to join them. She became the Principal of St. Agnes' High School for Girls at Calcutta after years of teaching in the congregation's schools and convents.

A large slum near the school caught her attention. She was deeply moved by the condition of the lowly creatures. Their sufferings stirred her inner self to give up her comfortable living. Led by her call with she went out into the cruel and merciless metropolis. After she took Indian citizenship in 1948, she went about collecting human wrecks on the streets, housed them and begged from door to door for food.

She founded the Missionaries of charity in 1950 with just a few sisters. In 1956 she founded the Nirmal Hriday a home for the dying destitute in the house donated by the Calcutta corporation authorities. Help from the people was little. She did not give up. The hostility of the local people who wanted to drive her out changed when she housed a dying would touch.

Mother Teresa had also led various peace missions. She did not like to talk about herself and felt at peace among the people of her homes. She began her day with an early morning mass and visited all her homes wherever she happened to be. She enjoyed her work and inspired many to join her.

In 1991 she suffered pneumonia, leading to congestive heart failure. Before she died in September 1997 due to cardiac arrest she stepped down as the head of her order. Her death stunned millions of people all over the world. She was given a state funeral and was laid to rest at Mother House in Calcutta.

Essay No. 2

Mother Teresa

Mother Teresa, an Angle of Mercy was born to Albanian parents on 27th August, 1910 in Skoplji Yugoslavia. Then her name was Agnes. Mother Teresa was a symbol and personification of great human qualities like kindness, charity, love and service of the weak and the suffering. Throughout her life she had been very busy making people happy, bringing cheers to the sick, diseased, orphans and the

helpless. She came to India when she was 18. Today the great mother is not among us. She has gone to her heavenly abode. But her sacred halo and permanent influence are to remain with us for all times to come. Her kindness and compassion are the cherished gems which the grateful humanity will not every forget.

The holy virgin Mother Teresa was a noble soul of the recent times. She came to India at a very young and tender age. Quite early in life she vowed to serve the humanity till the last breath of life. and it is a matter of great joy that the Mother fulfilled her vow literally. Till the last moment of her life she was fully devoted to selfless service.

Her work was a work of great charity and nobility. Selflessness was the guiding spirit behind it. She soon earned world – wide approval and admiration. In this world where agonies and sufferings reign supreme. The balmy tongue of the mother was soothing and encouraging experience. She was a constant flame of goodness. She was a great ray of hope for all those who had none else to look after them. She was a Messiah for the needy and the naked children. Her great work was in itself a great reward. As a recognition, the Mother was awarded the Noble Prize for Peace. She was the first Indian woman to be honoured with this award.

She was set up many homes for the poor, helpless children and unfortunate lepers. She was a living example of dedication to a noble cause we all are very proud of her. And so are others in other countries.

She had travelled many countries. To whichever country she went, she was showered upon love, respect and honour. For the world peace, happiness and harmony her contribution has been matchless. Service was her only mission and motto. She died in Kolkata on September 5, 1997.

Essay No. 03

Saviour of Humanity “Mother Teresa”

Sometime God come in a human form. It would be no exaggeration if we would compare Mother Teresa with God. Her selfless service to the lepers and sick persons go unparalleled in history of the humankind. Agnes Gonxha Bojaxhiu popularly known to the outside world as ‘Mother Teresa’ was born on August 26, 1910 and baptised on August 27 in Skopje, in Macedonia. Her family belonged to the Albanian community. Right from the childhood days Agnes liked to b0 in church, she liked to read and to pray and to sing. At twelve, she ‘felt for the first time the desire to spend her life for Gods work, to give it to Him and to let Him

decide. At 18, the decision was made. The last two years, she assisted several religious retreats in Letnice and it was clear to her that she would be a missionary for India. On December 1, 1928, she left for India, the country of her dreams. She was sent to Calcutta (now Kolkata), to study to become a teacher. On May 24, 1937, she made her final vows in Darjeeling. She was named the headmistress of a secondary school for the middle-class Bengali girls in the Centre of Calcutta. Close to her institute was one of the greatest slums of Calcutta. Sister Teresa couldn't close her eyes and started thinking, 'Who cares for these poor living in the streets?' The great charity that spoke through her mother's letters, reminded her of the basic call, to care for the poor. Sister Teresa regularly visited hospitals, slums and the poor people. She moved back to Darjeeling on the 10th of September. She afterwards referred to this journey as: 'The most important journey of my life.' It was then, that she really heard God's voice. The message was to help the poor and needy. This date is still observed as the inspiration day in the society. She was 38, when she said goodbye to her sisters and religious Loreto robe, to change it for a cheap white and blue sari. First, she went to Patna, to follow a nursing training with the sisters there.

One day a Bengali girl, from a well-off family and former student of Sister Teresa, wanted to stay with Sister Teresa and help her. This was a touching moment, but Sister Teresa was realistic and she spoke to the girl about the full poverty and about all the disagreeable aspects of the work. She proposed the girl to wait for some time.

The 19th of March 1949, the girl returned to Sister Teresa with no jewels and in a poor dress. The decision was made. She was the first to join Sister Teresa. The strength further increased with the passage of time. The sisters rose early in the morning, prayed for a long time, had adoration and attended mass, to find in their spiritual life, the strength to do the material work in the service of the Poor. Sister Teresa saw the community grow and knew that now she could seriously think about starting a congregation. The 'Constitutions of the Society of the Missionaries of Charity' could then be presented to the archbishop, who was responsible for Sending them for approval to Rome. Early in autumn, the Papal's the approval I arrived and on the 7th of October, 1950, the feasting of Holy Rosary sisters was done. At that moment, there were in all twelve pother Lila and the needy speaks volumes. One of the first foundation of Mother Teresa is the 'Home a woman for the Dying' in Calcutta. When she picked up a woman for the first time from the street, she was half eaten up by rats and ants. All over India and the world, the 'Missionaries of Charity' have homes for the dying and the very sick people, who have nobody else to care. Another early foundation was 'Shishu Bhavan', the Home the Shanti Naggar where the lepers could live and work in peace and be cared for. She also fought the battle against the abortion. When, in the early 80's, the world got shocked by the disease of AIDS that hundreds people she came

ahead and provide shelter and care to those who are abandoned due to unknown nature of the disease.

When she won the Nobel Peace Prize in 1979 her thoughts were: "I choose the poverty of our poor people. But I am grateful to receive the Nobel Prize in the name of the hungry, the naked, the homeless, of the crippled, of the blind, of the lepers, of all those people who feel unwanted, unloved, uncared—for throughout society, people that have become a burden to the society and are shunned by everyone." In a survey published by Outlook magazine, Mother Teresa was voted the greatest Indian since the country's independence in 1947, from a poll of more than 50,000 responses. Truly her selfless service made her the most admiring women and loveable person on the earth. On September 5, 1997, at the age of 87 she passed away. Her funeral service was held on September 13, 1997. In 2003 Pope declared her as having holy healing powers and was later was given the title of 'Saint'. Though she is no longer with us physically, her prayer her guidance, her good work for the poor and the needy and her legacy will remain with us forever.

Essay No. 04

Mother Teresa

(1910-1997)

or

The Woman I Admire Most

Mother Teresa was one of the greatest women in history. She was born on 26th August, 1910 at Skopje, Yugoslavia. Her full name was Agnes Gonxtha Bajaxhui. She adopted the word Teresa, taking a cue from the name of a nun belonging to the middle ages. The word 'Mother' got attached to her later as she rose to be a true saviour of mankind, of the forlorn destitute in particular.

Her father, an Albanian builder, died when she was just seven, and thus, she was brought up by her mother from whom she imbibed several virtues, including the virtues of compassion, love and sacrifice.

She was only about twelve when she made up her mind to become a nun. At the age of eighteen she joined the Loreto Order of nuns in Ireland. It was under the command and supervision of this order that she sailed to India in 1928. She reached Kolkata (previously known as Calcutta) which she made her home.

She was asked to move to Darjeeling on a missionary mission. After staying at Darjeeling for a short period, she returned to Kolkata. Here, she began to teach geography in St. Mary's School. Later, she became the Principal of this school.

She felt in her heart great sympathy and compassion for the slum dwellers near Kolkata. She gave up her teaching job and started serving the slum-dwellers and the helpless and abandoned people.

While serving the poor, she set her own example. She lived the poorest, simplest possible life, and later came to be known as the 'Saint of Gutters.' She started the Sisters of Charity and later the Brothers of Charity to serve the poorest of the poor. The branches of these missions spread to several foreign countries. Her 'Wirmal Hriday' became a home for the lowliest and the lost.

She won several awards and prizes including the Nobel Peace Prize, Bharat Ratna, etc. She died on 5th September 1997 and was beatified (canonized) at a grand ceremony in Rome in October, 2003.

Essay No. 05

Mother Teresa

India; Embodiment of Compassion

Birth: 1910

Through her selfless service of the poor and the sick, Mother Teresa had not only won the hearts of the Indians but that of the people of the whole world. She came to India in 1929 for the first time and was moved at the sight of the crippled and the helpless people on the pavements. So, she made up her mind to stay back in India to serve the destitutes. Since then, she has been devoting herself completely to the task. There are thousands of members working with her in the missionary organizations. Calcutta is the Centre of her humanitarian activities. She is the foundress of many organizations which serve suffering humanity like 'Missionaries of Charity (Sisters)', 'Nirmol Hriday' homes for the sick and the dying and 'Shishu Bhavan' for disabled and mentally retarded children.

Mother Teresa had received many national and international awards in recognition of her noble work for humanity. Most important among these are as follows: Nobel Peace Prize (1979), Bhark Ratna (1980), Jawaharlal Nehru Award for International Peace (1972), Ramon Magsaysay Award (1962) and the Templeton Foundation Prize (1973)

Mother Teresa was born on 27th August 1910, in Spoje (Yugo-slavia). Her real name is Agnes Gonxha Bojaxhiu. After becoming a nun of the Roman Catholic Church, her name was changed to Mother Teresa. Her father was an ordinary businessman. In 1921, a group of Christian missionaries from Yugoslavia came to India for humanitarian services and it sent a letter back seeking help from their country for the poverty-stricken people of India. On reading the appeal, Agnes felt an overwhelming desire to serve the helpless poor and physically invalid and she came to India on January 6, 1929, at the age of 19, and has stayed here ever since. For Mother Teresa, life is a mission to serve the suffering humanity.

Essay No. 06

Mother Teresa

Mother Teresa is the first Indian woman to be honoured with the Nobel Peace Prize. It was given to her on 17th October, 1979 in recognition of her great service to humanity and promotion of peace. It was a proud day for the mother and more so for India. She has been honoured by many other national and international awards and honours. These include Jawahar Lal Nehru Award, the Pope's Peace Prize, Templeton Foundation Prize, the Ramon Magsaysay Award, etc. But actually, by honouring her, we honour the whole humanity. She is Mother in the real sense of the term. She is also the proud recipient of Bharata Ratna, the highest civilian award in India. But she is above all these awards, honours and prizes, always engaged in the service of the suffering and destitute.

During these long years of service of the poor, the lepers, the destitute and the sick, she has grown physically weak and old, and recently suffered from a very serious ailment, yet her sense of service and dedication to mankind is as strong as ever. Because her mission of charity and services, she has become a living legend among the masses. Wherever she goes, she brings good cheer, hope, health, love and compassion in the otherwise this selfish and gloomy world. She has inspired thousands of other social workers and sisters of charity with a new hope, confidence and deep sense of service of the poor. She is really an angel among angels. Without her, the world has been quite a poor and cheerless place, particularly for the destitute, the abandoned children, the poor, the lepers; the sick, and the slum-dwellers.

Mother Teresa was born on 27th August, 1910 in Yugosla-via. Then her name was Agnes. She became a nun at an early age of 12 and joined the Irish Loreto nuns. She chose Calcutta as the place of her work of charity and mercy. She began with the teaching in a convent school. Later she became the principal of the school, but the Fate had willed something else. She was sad and in righteous anguish on seeing the miserable condition of the slum dwellers; the lepers and the underdog

in Calcutta. The mother in her was aroused instantly and spontaneously in order to serve the sick, the diseased, the orphans, and the helpless. Overflowing with compassion and mercy, then she dedicated herself to their service. In the year, following Independence, she became an Indian citizen. Soon she became a symbol and personification of service, love, compassion and charity through her untiring service and work of kindness. Now her Society of the Missionaries of Charity is a famous organisation consisting of a number of schools, hospitals, and clinics. There are over a score of institutions under her where instructions in family planning, child and mother-care are imparted. The fleet of mobile dispensaries consists of over 400 vans. Thus, the mission, established by her, is now a big network of clinics, hospitals, houses and schools dedicated to the service of mankind.

In her boundless compassion for the underprivileged classes and people of the society, she reminds us of Lord Buddha and Lord Christ. She is very simple. Her wants are few and only aimed at keeping her body and soul together. Full of deep warmth and love for the sick, she brings to my mind Florence Nightingale, the Lady with the Lamp. Mother Teresa's life is a brilliant example of a pious life dedicated to the single purpose of service and love.

Mother Teresa is a great lady. She is a world celebrity, but she is always so humble, so sincere, pure and loving that whosoever comes in her contact, begins to adore her. People touch her feet, and her presence inspires people with hope and faith in humanity. Inspired by her loving care for the poor, the Imperial Chemical Company donated one of its factories to her, and she utilises its income for her mission of charity. The living spirit of love and compassion is felt by all those who are fortunate to work with her.

She has travelled many countries for the service of the mankind. To whichever country she went, she was showered upon with love, reverence, honour and money for the cause she champions so ardently. Her contribution to the world peace, harmony and happiness has had been matchless. We wish there were a few more mothers in the world like Mother Teresa. Service is her only mission and motto.

Essay No. 07

Mother Teresa

Mother Teresa was born in Yugoslavia on 26th August 1910. She became a nun at the age of 18. She came to India as a Loretto sister to teach in Loretto convents in Kolkata.

In 1950 she started the famous order of the 'Missionaries of Charity'. Soon many homes for the homeless, schools and hospitals were opened all over the country and abroad.

For her great work of selfless love for the unloved she had been awarded many prizes and titles both in India and in other countries. She was too big a person for these awards.

The holy work she did could never be made small by being paid for. She worked untiringly till the day she passed away. She died on the 5th of September, 1997 in Kolkata.

She was a real saint and both Kolkata and India are proud that she died as an Indian. In her death India lost an angel of mercy that day.

It was indeed a black Friday for the whole world. The work she started carries on without any lack of love by her followers all over the world.

Essay No. 08

Mother Teresa

Mother Teresa, the Albania-born Nun but virtually an Indian, belonging to Christianity, truly deserves the highest honours that have been bestowed upon her. A nobler character history has not known. She has devoted her life to the service of the suffering. The Nobel Prize winner lady has done so much work that one cannot but wonder at the stamina she possesses. It is undoubtedly beyond the capacity of a single individual. Although most of her work has been conducted in Calcutta yet that fact in no way diminishes its significance. Mother Teresa is the third Indian and the first Indian woman to be awarded the prestigious Nobel Prize.

Mother Teresa was conferred the Soviet Land Nehru Award on Nov. 15, 1990 for promoting Soviet-Indian friendship.

Untiringly she is looking after the diseased, handicapped and the orphans. Through her dedication she is a ray of hope for the tormented and suffering humanity. In spite of the differences due to her religious beliefs, the helpless people all over the world treat her as their own and are devoted to her. When Mother Teresa works the poor souls vie with each other to just touch the fringes of the clothes of the angel of peace. Majestically, she goes about her mission with humility, draped in her blue bordered white khadi sari. The Bharat Ratna award for the year 1980 has gone to the Bharat Ratna herself. These two are not the only honours given to her. Mother Teresa has risen to that height where prizes and

awards hold no significance. She has won enormous praise and numerous prizes from all corners of the world, in recognition of her selfless service. The tall lady by virtue of her own stature as well as that of her selflessness and piety has dwarfed, God alone knows, how many of humans. The mother is the most humane human, the living Jagat-Mata. The revered Mother Teresa is known as the 'Saint of the gutters. She carries a halo round her benign countenance. She is true daughter of the Christ and mother of the suffering. The immortal angel of peace, pity, piety.....May Lord blesses her.