

„Little Flower“

Verein zur Unterstützung des Lepradorfes von Bruder Christdas
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Dear friends of Little Flower!

To give you the latest news from Brother Christdas I enclose the mails I have got from him for the last months – so you can build up your idea about the most important topics so far.

October 2008

Dear Claudia

I was wondering and thinking very deeply about sponsorship . Two things have struck me.

1. Whether it would be possible **to get a benefactor each for our 140 beds of our Indoor hospital.** One Euro is the cost of maintaining a bed that bed (say bed no 15) gets meals three times daily . He gets his medication. He has his ulcer washed cleansed and bandaged . He gets the attendant (common) to take care of him. **One benefactor – one Euro a day;** 140 benefactor 140 Euro a day brings a lot of money; 51,100/- Euro. I think this would suffice to run the Indoor hospital.
When a benefactor of yours **adopts or take charge of a bed** (say bed no 15) **that bed heals 6 patients a year** on an average because the average stay or the patients occupies the bed for about 8 weeks (two months) before he gets discharged.
So throughout the year we can admit 6 persons each on every bed. **Therefore when a benefactor adopts a bed, He\She takes care of the healing of 6 leprosy patients a year** and in care the benefactor wants, he can have the photos of his patients. I think Claudia this should work.
2. My second suggestion for the adoption for your benefactor could be; **half a Euro a day per student to provide a midday meal for 500 students our school** to promote a 100% literacy among the children of the leprosy patients on Sunderpur and other Leprosy colonies. This half a Euro a day will include one meal a day plus the cost of their uniform.
I think Claudia you will be able to sell either these projects or either of them.
Please let me you your opinion.
Lots of Love
Brother Christdas

In fact I decided to start the adoption project and there are 25 benefactors right now who pay either half a Euro or one Euro a day already. But this is not enough!

More News came from Brother Christdas in January through Elizabeth Gorsuch from caring & sharing in England:

Brother Christdas has great plans for solar energy

...Nowadays, as I become older and older, I am slowly becoming a big dreamer. I am dreaming of extracting not only the light of the sun but also its heat – light and heat in bulk. If I succeed to raise enough funds, we will install a solar cooking system producing enough steam to cook rice, vegetables, lentils and other food for 300 people and cook three times daily for 8 months a year without using the conventional energy firewood, coal, oil, LPG etc.

We are very keen on remaining closer to the nature and being eco-friendly. In addition, I am also thinking to install solar lamps and lights to brighten up the 140-bed hospital wards and its complex. The boys' and girls' hostels, the school, cattle farm and poultry units, the workshop containing the spinning and weaving and dyeing units, and the street corners of Little Flower will all to be lit up with solar lights.

It is an ambitious project, and if all of us can come together we will be able to bring the sun down to illumine the whole of Little Flower and produce enough solar heat to replace the huge bills under the heading of fuel expenses.

Reducing such annual expenses will enable us to achieve the financial self-sufficient as planned.

Once we succeed to execute this project - to dream again.

With lots of Love, Brother Christdas”

A few weeks later I got the following news:

Dear Claudia

Warm greetings from all of us. Glad to know you are all in good shape. Here we are all fine. After a severe cold winter the weather is fast changing for the better and all are busy with their works.

Leger Foundation in Canada has agreed to support us for the coming two years at a rate of 510.000 INR per month where as our monthly expense comes to 1.000.000 INR So there is shortage of 490.000 INR per month (**a lack of round about 8.000,00 Euro per month**).

I am cracking my head trying to find an answer to the question where can we find the remaining amount.

Our Benefactors, we have just you, Gertrude, Felicity, and Elizabeth of caring and sharing. I don't find anybody else.

If at all possible, continue building up our Corpus fund for a period of two more years with cash from our Income generating projects. Little Flower and our people will be able to stand on their own and support themselves. Let us see Claudia how far we can reach. I am confident...

We had a beautiful celebration of our School Day.

Before Concluding, I would like to express my sincere gratitude and your team for you're helping us so immensely.

With lots of Love

Brother Christdas

A few days later:

Dear Claudia

I wish, hope and pray that the gathering you are going to organize soon will really be a big success.

Here we are all fine and struggling hard to increase the local Income with a purpose of consolidating the Corpus Fund to sustain viability as early as possible.

We have some very generous cows in the cattle farm yielding a lot of milk – our target now is to reach around 350 litres a day. Our “lepers milk“ has earned a good name and reputation in the towns of Raxaul and Birgung and there is a good market . Let us try how far we can reach. Thank you Claudia for your long unending walk with us started 27 years ago and still walking.

Lots of Love

Brother Christdas

***After this mail we tried to react immediately and gathered money enough for one more month, gathered more benefactors, but still we are searching for help and support – we have to become more and more!
Brother Christdas wrote in March:***

Dear Claudia

Thank you very much for the two emails. They brought such wonderful news. Thank you very much for such a quick Action and for sending the money. I felt so relaxed... so relieved from the financial tensions.

I am grateful to every one of you; You, Gertrude, Felicity, Antoinette, Katharina, Christof, Jonathan and many more in your lovely team.

Here below comes the answers and all information about our Fixed Deposit (Corpus Fund) First of all I am glad to tell you that our fund is quite very safe. Here we are all aware of the problems of Global melting and the huge damage it has caused to millions of people.

Our **fixed deposit** is all in **Indian Overseas Bank, Raxaul** Branch. It is a nationalised Bank and is controlled by the Government of India and therefore it is safe.

The Capital Amount of the Corpus Fund now is. 64.050.000 INR is say 1.000.000 Euro (One million Euro) Most of this amount will be matured by the end of next Year 2010 and the matured amount by December 2010 will be about 1.213.000 Euro (7,76,32,000 INR) and if we succeed to raise the Fixed Deposit to 1562500Euro is 1.000.00.000 INR and then that is it.

The interest drawn from this amount together with the estimated annual local income say 3.000.000 INR (46.875 Euro) would suffice to meet all the expenses.

Let me remind you once again **we started raising the Corpus Fund when you were 18 years** old; the time you were with us for the 1st time in 1982 we started depositing the Little Flower which we got from the sale of the milk. This small amount with the yearly additions of all the Local Income during the last 27 years together with their interest accrued and recruit is growing into 1213000 Euro by the end of 2010. This is the story of the Corpus Fund. It was a good thing we did it, isn't it Claudia?

Lots of Love Brother Christdas