



REGD. BY GOVT. OF A.P. UNDER SOCIETIES REGISTRATION ACT XXI 1860 - NO. 0306/1990

# Our Lady of Grace Children's Home

e-mail: srudvl@gmail.com • Tel: +91-7893-362827

SR. M. DURGA VENKATA LAKSHMI  
PRESIDENT & ADMINISTRATOR

MAHENDRAWADA - (B.O.)  
E.G. DISTRICT (A.P.)  
SOUTH INDIA - 533 342

Date: 18-08-2016

Notre Dame Tabernacle Society  
P.O. Box 13547  
Hamilton, OH 45013-0547  
USA

Dear beloved Benefactors in Jesus and Mary,

**SUB:- SOLICITATION FOR THE FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE TO PURCHASE 200 BICYCLES FOR THE DALIT STUDENTS.**

The love of God and the knowledge about your love and milk of human kindness calls me to introduce myself as Sr. M. Durga Venkata Lakshmi, President and Administrator of **Our Lady of Grace Children's Home** and place this letter before you with all due respects. "**Our Lady of Grace Children's Home**" was established by **Rev. Mother Mary Kantham** in the year of 1990 with a specific purpose of caring the vulnerable **Dalit** children and their families, who are socially "**Untouchables**" and neglected by various sectors of the Hindu dominant society due to discrimination and poverty.

In this "**Our Lady of Grace Children's Home**" we have 150 destitute **Dalit** children, to whom we have been providing food, clothes, education and medical care. This is an Asylum of secured and therapeutic environment for these children. Many of our welfare endeavours for the underprivileged **Dalit** children and their families are being hampered because of lack of funds. Furthermore, there are many more **Dalit** children, who are in anticipation of that someone who will realise their dream of education. Hence, I request you to lend your helping hand. Give what you can and share your love with these **Dalit** children. What means very little to us means a lot to them. With your generous help, the **Dalit** children can get access to good health, education and better living conditions. Please do pray for them and kindly do your best in the extent of your possibilities for their wellbeing and nourishment.

It is with immense pleasure, I herewith submitting a Project "**BICYCLES FOR DALIT STUDENTS**" for your charitable consideration and all possible free and gratuitous assistance. This project's aim is to provide free Bicycles to 200 **Dalit** boys and girls, who dropped-out school and to those who are far from the school and college.

All the **Dalit** people are economically indigent and depend upon their daily labour for their existence. Many **Dalit** children are being discontinued with the school as their parents unable to provide food, clothes and school books due to extensive penury. Most of the **Dalit** children are dying of malnourishment and starvation as well as without minding of education they go for begging, wandering in streets, become juvenile delinquents, victims of sex abuse and undesirable social elements. Yet, the **Dalit** children are under the clutches of upper caste Hindu landlords and working as the bonded slaves and labourers for their sustenance and to pay off their parents' recurring debits, which they taken for their basic needs without minding of their bright future through education.

In India, the **Dalits** were formerly known as "**Untouchables**" are one of the most oppressed people groups in the world today. India has the largest number of working children in the world and 95% of **Dalits** live below the poverty line on less than **EUR €1.00** per day and 1.67 million children in India are not in school. In India today 200 million children are trapped in exploitative child labour. One in 3 malnourished children

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**"This is religion, clean and undefiled before God the Father: to visit orphans and widows in their tribulations, and to keep yourself immaculate, apart from this age." (James 1:27)**

around the world are found in India. This problem is predominantly exists among the Dalits in rural villages of India, as their low standing as 'Social Outcasts' leaves them with tiny conomic opportunities. Every night Dalit children go to bed on hungry. Basic necessities such as eggs, bread, meat and even milk are luxuries these children can only dream about. The malnourished Dalit children are more susceptible to illness, absent from school more and have a harder time focusing and learning in class. In a male dominated cultural and rural setting, the Dalit girls often have no chance in life, especially access to functional education and since their education is seen as waste. A Dalit girl child without education is more likely to live in poverty, more likely to become trapped in exploitative labour, more likely to become a victim of human trafficking.

Education allows Dalit children to dream of a better future, one that does not include oppression and slavery. More importantly, education gives them the tools they need to make their dream a reality for themselves, their families and their communities. Attend the school and receive education provides Dalit boys and girls with confidence, socio-economic opportunities, and the potential to claim a place in the society. Education gives Dalit children and their families the tools they need to break the cycle of discrimination and oppression in the Hindu dominant society.

The Dalit girls who dropped out from school are being trafficked to the cities as housemaids without education or married in their teenage. This has provided a cycle of illiterate mothers. Education alone is one of the ways to alleviate ignorance and poverty among the Dalit communities. Make unproblematic access to school with Bicycles is a better bet for their future. Empower Dalit boys and girls to escape enslavement and dream of another life. Incontrovertibly, ending of human trafficking and exploitation is possible - Prevention through Education only.

After having made a careful analysis legitimately, in and around the villages and hamlets of Mahendrawada, we have found out that there are number of good Dalit students, who are very intelligent and capable, but unable to continue their studies due to monetary setback as their parents unable to afford a Bicycle to continue their studies. Hence, I humbly solicit your benevolent succour the sum of **INR 8,49,800.00** (which is approximately equivalent to **USD \$13279.00**) to provide 200 Bicycles to the Dalit boys and girls.

Your intervention and humanitarian aid is very much indispensable in accomplishment of this worthy Project, through which the Dalit students will be able to get good education and improve their lives and get rid of enslavement from the Hindu dominate society. Be pleased to share this project with all of your faithful sponsors, benefactors and friends and exhort them to make fundraising to help Dalit students with the bicycles. Your valuable contribution rendered towards this project from your highness to be appreciated to a great extent. I wholeheartedly thank you so much in advance on behalf of the Dalit students here for your philanthropic consideration and assured assistance.

Please send your funding in the form of Cheque or Demand Draft. Kindly make it payable to "SR. MUDADA DURGA VENKATA LAKSHMI" and also please make sure to send it only by Registered Mail for safe and prompt delivery. Otherwise, it will go astray and might not reach me. You can also send your funding by **WUMT, MONEYGRAM, NEFT & WIRE TRANSFER** favouring my name to the under mentioned Bank.

BENEFICIARY'S NAME	:	SR. MUDADA DURGA VENKATA LAKSHMI
BANK'S NAME	:	AXIS BANK LIMITED
ADDRESS	:	KAKINADA – 533001, E.G. DISTRICT (A.P.) S. INDIA
IBAN	:	916010035861118
BIC	:	AXISINBB076

Please be assured of our continued special prayers for all of your wellbeing, radiant health and long life. Be pleased to remember us in your sacred prayers and precious love. I will be anticipating your earliest possible response at your earliest convenience with your benign auspices.

I remain, with prayerful best wishes and kindest regards.

Yours sincerely in Jesus and Mary,  
For **OUR LADY OF GRACE CHILDREN'S HOME**

*Sr. M. Durga Venkata Lakshmi*

Sr. M. Durga Venkata Lakshmi  
President & Administrator





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SOUTH INDIA - 533 342

## BICYCLES FOR DALIT STUDENTS

### SUMMARY

This project "**BICYCLES FOR DALIT STUDENTS**" is intended with a specific purpose to provide 200 Bicycles to the **Dalit** students - 100 boys and 100 girls - to help them to go school in the remote villages.



### ISSUE

In the poor rural villages and hamlets the vast majority of **Dalit** students of India have no means of transportation to go school. The distant trips to and from school are difficult and very inconvenient. The students have to walk miles to get to school. School is too far from villages to walk each day barefoot with heavy bags of books, making school attendance difficult to the point of jeopardizing student's future. Many children are dropout of school because of the long distance.

The **Dalit** girls are being deprived of middle and higher secondary education as they are victims of circumstances such as confined to domestic services and become labourers. Ultimately, they would have to drop-out of schooling after completing primary level education as they are unable to move to other far-flung villages due to inaccessibility. There is no means except to walk upon foot.

The parents also discourage their daughters to go school on feet to other villages. This is primarily because there are fewer high schools and girls had to travel longer distance to get to school. **Dalit** families could not spare the money for transport and reluctant to let girls travel so far away fearing for their safety.

### EDUCATION HELPS ERADICATE CHILD LABOUR

Education - this is the fundamental key for the **Dalit** children of today and their future generations. The Andhra Pradesh State has one of the largest population of child labourers in the country, 1.3 million to be exact. The children work in brick industries, quarries, smashing rocks with their bare hands. The children work for 10 hours a day all the week for very meager wages. Education is the key to free **Dalit** children from a life of poverty and oppression. For the **Dalit** children and their families, Education is the path to be liberated and to eradicate child labour.



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### WAGE POVERTY

Wage poverty is the crux of the problem. Many **Dalit** children are forced to work to support their family's meager incomes. Some are bonded indefinitely to employers to pay off their parents' recurring debts. The **Dalit** girls are being trafficked into the sex industry and they are often seen as a unbearable burden in this son-obsessed country, where parents have to pay hefty dowries to marry off their daughters that the family is often indebted for decades.

Majority of the **Dalits** are illiterates, they are less likely to value education and therefore more inclined their children to become labourers. Gender basis and the caste system can also be further barriers to education and breaking the cycle of poverty.

### PROJECT BUDGET

1. 100 BSA Photon Ex Bicycles	@	INR 3,999.00	=	INR 3,99,900.00
2. 100 BSA Dreamz LADYBIRD Bicycles	@	INR 4,499.00	=	INR 4,49,900.00
<b>Total:</b>		<b>200 Bicycles</b>	<b>=</b>	<b>INR 8,49,800.00</b>

### CONCLUSION

As far as we know that Bicycle is the vehicle which a poor man can afford to buy, but here firstly the **Dalit** people finds it very hard to survive and sustain their families and have no responsibility of buying it for their children's education. Bicycles will have a strong impact by helping the **Dalit** students to go school regularly.

Providing of free Bicycles will bring smiles on the faces of the **Dalit** students, who confidently attend the classes regularly at adjacent villages. Encourage enrollment of girl child to school. Facilitate students to reach a distant school in time. Ensure their studies and to initiate retention. Motivate and to enhance their will-power. Enhance the quality in education, give hope for better literacy and reduce transportation time.

### APPEAL

It will be a benign gesture on your part, to render your assistance benevolently towards this project accomplishment. We firmly believe in your unfailing love and envisage that you would reckon favourably and assume the full responsibility in the extent of your possibilities and make an effective and expeditious endeavour to funding the sum of **USD \$13279.00** for this worthy task.

We earnestly look unto your immense munificence with great hope. We pray and wish that your noble endeavours in serving the people be blessed by God. Assuring you and your generous apostolate, the prayers of pious but all the **Dalit** children in the Home and wishing you all the best!



Yours sincerely in Jesus and Mary,  
For **OUR LADY OF GRACE CHILDREN'S HOME**

*Sr. M. Durga Venkata Lakshmi*  
Sr. M. Durga Venkata Lakshmi  
President & Administrator



**“Children are human beings to whom respect is due, superior to us by reason of their innocence and of the greater possibilities of their future.” - MARIA MONTESSORI**

TIN No. 37330155642  
CST No. KDA/03/2/1473 Dt. 23.03.91

Phone : 2378648  
2375268

# SUN CYCLE STORES

MAIN ROAD, KAKINADA - 533 001 (AP)

Date: 27 July 2016

## QUOTATION

To  
Sr. M. Durga Venkata Lakshmi  
Our Lady of Grace Children' s Home  
Mahendrawada - 533 342  
E. G. DIST. (A. P.) S. INDIA

Dear Madam,

Sub: Quotation for the supply of 200 Bicycles.  
Ref: Your enquiry - dated 27/07/2016

We are pleased to quote below our lowest price for the Bicycles mentioned.

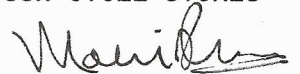
- |  |   |              |
|--|---|--------------|
| 1) BSA Photon Ex Bicycle with Bell, Stand,<br>Lock, Chain Cover, Carrier and Seat. | @ | Rs. 3,999.00 |
| 2) BSA Dreamz LADYBIRD Bicycle with<br>accessories as mentioned above.             | @ | Rs. 4,499.00 |

### Terms & Conditions:-

- 1) The above rates are inclusive of all taxes and subject to alternation without prior notice.
- 2) However the rates prevailing on the date of delivery will be charged.
- 3) Delivery at our shop against full payment subject to availability of stock and prior commitment of sale.
- 4) This Quotation is valid for 1 month from the date of issue.

Thanking you!

For SUN CYCLE STORES



PROPRIETOR

