

“SUDHA MURTHY AS A PHILANTHROPIST”

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ABSTRACT

Sudha Murthy is a prolific writer of Indian English Literature. Her Literature addresses various aspects of society. she launched herself into philanthropy in the year of 1996. Her journey of Philanthropy started with the establishment of the Infosys Foundation. Infosys foundation is non – profit charity wing of the company. Apart from the powerful words of her literature, the philanthropist Sudha Murthy lived among various social issues and work to uplift the causes. There is ample amount of data for causes she addressed spanning from women’s empowerment, Sanitation and public hygiene, healthcare, education, art and cultures, poverty alleviation, villages developments, unconditionally care of downtrodden people and many more. Her dedication for development in education area is unstoppable. I am privileged to study about her work in all main area viz. Women Empowerment, Children’s Education, Healthcare, Art and Culture, Destitute care, Rural Development to this research paper.

Keywords— *Sudha Murthy, Women Empowerment, Children’s Education, Healthcare, Philanthropy, Art and Culture, Destitute care, Rural Development.*

INTRODUCTION

“It’s not how much we give, but how much love we put into giving.”- Mother Teresa.

It’s the nature who bestows upon very selected one to give their selves to others. Those are philanthropist who not only work selflessly toward helping people in need to carry their life properly but also provide them the warmth of having a happy sky to breath. Creating a shelter home, providing cure to sick people, taking the sorrows of downtrodden and the list can go on for entire reel. The most important what I can observe is they live among those who are suffering and experience their grieves in their own body. That’s what it takes to get to the social life of dream.

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Philanthropy started with the establishment of the Infosys Foundation. Despite getting professional front to her passion of philanthropy from Infosys foundation, philanthropy was on her daydreams. So quoted in one of her interviews ‘When we started the Infosys Foundation, my father asked me to describe what my primary aims were going to be. I told him I wanted to eradicate exploitative practices like prostitution. He told me to first understand that trying to eliminate social ills that have existed for centuries is unimaginable, a Herculean task ‘[1]. Apart from the powerful words of her literature, the philanthropist Sudha Murthy lived among various social issues and work to uplift the causes. There is ample amount of data for causes she addressed spanning from women’s empowerment, Sanitation and public hygiene, healthcare, education, art and cultures, poverty alleviation, villages developments, unconditionally care of downtrodden people and many more. Her dedication for development in education area is unstoppable.

I am privileged to study about her work in 3 main area viz. Women Empowerment, Children’s Education and Healthcare this research paper.

LITERATURE SURVEY

Philanthropy in India has a deep and broad foundation in society. India’s earliest philanthropists pioneered the concept of building wealth for the public good. Jamshedji Tata was on a par with his contemporaries Joseph Rowntree and Andrew Carnegie [12]. For philanthropy to maximize its potential contribution to society, it is important that we understand the implicit risks and possible pitfalls of our philanthropic impulses and actions[13]. A moderate Development of Society is in the hand of the Philanthropist But also holds a relevant stand for those who are seeking better place to breathe.

In addition, recent legislation mandating corporate social responsibility (CSR) for large corporations promises to redefine the role of these philanthropists even as more wealthy individuals emerge with wealth from non-industrial backgrounds [12].

Diane Marie child says, “A woman is the full circle. Within her is the power to create, nurture and transform” Women Empowerment is a multi-dimensional process of leading deprived, neglected, and downtrodden women in the society towards the realization of their rights and abilities. It refers to the efforts of making them capable and aware about their competences in

every field. Women Empowerment means emancipation of women from the vicious grips of social, economic, caste and gender-based discrimination [2]. It means granting women the freedom to make life choices. Women Empowerment itself elaborates that Social Rights, Political Rights, Economic Stability, Judicial Strength, and all other rights should be also equal to women.

RESEARCH METHODOLOGY

Walking through the Innovative idea of Indian Philanthropy fraternity had presented the idea goes around and around. For the various purpose uplifted society are contributing these enlightened people to look forward to. Sudha Murthy had not only presented herself through her literature and Infosys Foundation work, today her presence in social media is also getting applauses at dinning of individual household. Date backs her first book '*Runa*' in Kannda to '*The Mother I Never Knew*' her work points her warm feminine side and the deep empathy for the problems which are behind the stove flames. Thus, it was even empathetic to study about what everyone received at their end and reaching down to my paper.

Taking the rugs of empathy to children which are just as soul seekers as women are she – the Sudha Murthy have a kin interest help for education not only in literary sense but all the values hoping through Panchatantra kathas, mythologies, and many story forms. She brought the school education and the pedagogy to touch every child's heart as if she herself is teaching her kids and grandkids. As evident in one of her one of speech that how she convinced her granddaughter to eat banana through one story of *rishi Durwasha*.

Last But not the list the Heal care befitted data gathered from Infosys foundation reports will add the list of her charity. The real essence of her empathy is what reflected in how she helps all those who are ill and cannot get back to their schedule.

WOMEN EMPOWERMENT

Women status had been the matter of dicing between various boundaries of society. Different era ranging from ancient to Vedic to contemporary the inequality between men and women. Discriminatory social norms can justify violence, confine women to their domestic responsibilities and underestimate their ability to succeed in leadership positions. In so doing,

they constrain women's opportunities, leading to serious consequences for their socio-economic outcomes [13].

Women empowerment has been a universal issue which is being considered in an earnest manner. The digital upfront and reachability had made women about their fundamental rights. Thus, from getting their hands on every front of work, innovation, social and international upfront. Women are seen working in both public and corporate sectors, startups, or age-old family business. They always try to seek the space of their own. Sudha Murthy, being a chairman of Infosys has undergone through many real experiences of corporate world. She understands the genuine problems of women in the society. Hence, she throws light on empowerment of women through their struggles in her novel regarding women empowerment. Then the society, which was dominated by men, is now a society of women due to their sense of equality and awareness of their rights. Though women must meet many problems, yet they are enough capable to overcome over the problems and accept any challenge to prove their abilities to survive in any circumstances. Nowadays women empowerment is considered as an eminent issue everywhere because the process of women empowerment is still being undertaking in all the fields.

“There is no tool for development more effective than the empowerment of women.” Barack Obama 44th president of America. Perceived value, that has potential influence on the reader, is reader's evaluation and the ability to meet their expectations. Concept is evaluated basing on the expected outcomes of each action. Reader's idea on how actions gain reactions. As the reader is connected emotionally, he can connect, identify, and perceive the response to each action. Values are standard ideals with which the actions of the major characters are evaluated through deep insight and the perceived values are considered. Thus, perception occurs through critical evaluation. Out of the four value-types - functional, monetary, social, and psychological – the last two respond in the best interest of an individual to keep him happy. The first two add up to the last two.

Women empowerment does not look at roles like wife, daughter, sister, or mother rather it depends upon:

1. Economic development, education and strategies applied.
2. To create the value of empowerment using effectively integrating drivers.

3. To implement a mechanism.
4. To attain contextual forces.
5. To stabilized women overall.

Even in modern society, women have been facing gender discrimination excluding them from many relevant fronts.

- To participate in any decision-making process
- To earn their livelihood
- To Choose their happiness
- And the reckoning goes on.

Emerging new women of modern India can be observed to diminishing those grey areas. Empowered women should exercise their ability to participate in decision making process that would grant them control over the process of decision making at home, office, or social levels and promote empowerment to other women and Sudha Murthy [2].

One of Sudha Murthy's defining moments in her life was when 3,000 rehabilitated sex workers arranged a thanksgiving ceremony for her after 18 years of tirelessly working with them to empower them to lead a normal life. With Avanti Fellows, Nirmaan Organization, and Shrimad Rajchandra Aatma Tatva Research Centre, to bolster women's empowerment in India. These strategic collaborations are aimed at providing quality education and employment opportunities to women from underprivileged communities across the country.

The Infosys Foundation's strategic collaboration for empowering women include:

- A grant of INR 25.7 crore to Avanti Fellows to provide free engineering and medical test preparation for over 10,000 girl students in government schools across Maharashtra, Telangana, Odisha, Rajasthan, Kerala, Karnataka, Tamil Nadu, North-East regions, and Delhi.
- A grant of INR 4.9 crore to Nirmaan Organization to create purposeful livelihood for over 5,000 unemployed literate women from marginalized communities. Leveraging Infosys' digital learning platform, Infosys Springboard, this program entails instructor-led training and self-learning models for market-oriented skills, workplace readiness, and leadership and life skills to improve employability. This will help the beneficiaries with placements across Bangalore, Hubli, Mangalore, Thiruvananthapuram, Indore, Mumbai,

Pune, Gurugram, Bhubaneswar, Jaipur, Chennai, and Hyderabad.

- A grant of INR 9 crore to Shrimad Rajchandra Aatma Tatva Research Centre for the construction of a hostel for underprivileged girl students. Through this collaboration Infosys Foundation aims to provide quality education and help reduce the school dropout rates among girl students.
- Infosys Foundation,' she once said, 'changed my life. I've lived in villages, worked with sex workers, leprosy patients and HIV patients. I realized what my country is. Progress in India would be if a child gets three meals, clothes, studies up to class 10 and learns surviving skill jobs.' 2013-14 launched the Jananvikasa program in four districts of Karnataka increased awareness in rural areas rearing issues such as women empowerment.

CHILDREN 'S EDUCATION

Our compassionate philanthropist can't hold her warmth to just underprivileged class though she holds it for all class of society. Mingled with both her quality, social service, and literary work she extends her warmth to kid. A very creative series of children's book played key role in teaching kids the values. Exams in real life and profession have no syllabus. Money is, she says in one of speech.

But in broader sense her work can be narrated through what she established through Infosys foundation.

The pedestal should be strong enough hold the heavy weight of developed nation. Since 1940's it's been observed that many rural schools have deteriorated into crumbling structures that suffer from leaks and unsafe conditions [14]. Exposure to the elements and non-existent or substandard water, sanitation and hygiene facilities can expose students to disease and distract from quality learning experiences [13]. Even in the best school conditions, economic insecurity and distance between school and home can result in rural families choosing to send their children to work rather than receiving a formal education.

“You can't cross the sea by merely standing and staring at the water.”

— **Rabindranath Tagore.**

Sudha Murthy dream to philanthropy work aim is schools in rural India to enhance education and

library facilities and to promote primary education among underprivileged children.[10] It has donated to various educational institutes in India, such as the Chennai Mathematical Institute, and the Indian Institute of Science.

CONTRIBUTION IN EDUCATIONAL AREA

Sudha herself has highlighted the importance of helping underprivileged women (and their children) in rural areas, as in these areas' patriarchy has a larger role. She personally travels to 800 villages across India, overseeing the construction of orphanages, rehabilitation centers, schools, science centers and 70,000 libraries.

- i.* Contributed towards the upliftment of rural schools to buy computers and help children learn soft skills.
- ii.* Contributed towards school / corpus funds, school furniture, equipment, and so on. Renovated Gandhinagar, Kottara St. Peter's School, and Kapikad Zilla Panchayat schools in Dakshina Kannada, Karnataka.
- iii.* Constructed buildings at Konappana Agrahara, Bangalore, and donated money to Isha Education for construction of classrooms at Cuddalore Rural School and Isha School at Dharmapuri in TamilNadu.
- iv.* Contributed in Bangalore Association for Science towards the development and maintenance of the Jawaharlal Nehru Planetarium, including funding of the sky theatre program.
- v.* Build a science centre at a rural school in the Kolar district of Karnataka – a one-of-its-kind centre in the entire district.
- vi.* In the Library for Every Rural School project, established more than 60,000 school libraries across Karnataka. More than 50,000 sets of books were donated in Karnataka, Andhra Pradesh, Tamil Nadu, and Orissa.
- vii.* Distribute to books and educational materials to Doorstep, a mobile school, which provides free education to under-privileged children and constructed class rooms through Sparsh, Pune.
- viii.* Foundation and Tata Institute with build a hostel for students at its Mumbai campus.
- ix.* Started to new self-employment courses at post-graduation and post-matriculation levels at the Nrupathunga Educational Institute, Hyderabad.

- x. The Infosys foundation had announced the education department in establishing smart classes in 1,000 government higher primary schools in Karnataka. The project will cost the Her charity has assisted hundreds of thousands of people, built schools and hospitals, and given scholarships to worthy students.
- xi. Murthy founded 'The Murthy Classical Library of India' at Harvard University. She built around 70,000 libraries in schools so far. She is helping rural area.
- xii. Students and teachers in rural areas. Infosys, with the help of the Foundation, launched the '*Computers@Classrooms*' initiative, wherein used computers were given away to needy educational institutions.

HEALTHCARE

In this Section I would list the work Healthcare infrastructure, access to primary healthcare, awareness of basic hygiene, and treatment of underprivileged patients, and has donated more than 50 crore rupees to expand the capacity of hospitals across India.

CONTRIBUTION IN HEALTHCARE

1. Provided medicines to aged and poor patients suffering from cancer, leprosy, defects of the heart / kidney, mental illnesses, and other major disorders. Donated to organizations such as Chitta Sanjeevini Charitable Trust to help distribute mental illness medicines to the poor in rural areas. Provided food for leprosy, tuberculosis, HIV-positive, and blind patients in Karnataka.
2. Constructed a Dharmashala at Kidwai Memorial Institute of Oncology in Bangalore Donated ambulances to medical centers and hospitals in Kanchipuram, Tamil Nadu; Gadag, B.R. Hills, and Dakshin.
3. Sponsored the purchase of a new CT scan machine, for the Ramakrishna Mission Hospital, Itanagar, Arunachal Pradesh.
4. Donated high-tech surgical equipment to hospitals in Mysore, Bijapur, Bellary, Bangalore, and Hubli in Karnataka, and air conditioners to the Burn Ward, at Victoria Hospital, Bangalore. Purchased incubators, air conditioning units, neonatal resuscitation equipment, and refrigerators for Bowring Hospital, Bangalore.
5. Donated fluorescein angiography equipment to Shree Sharada Devi Eye Hospital, Pavagada, Karnataka.

6. Infosys Foundation chairperson Sudha Murthy has urged the state authorities to vacate a government hospital with 500-700 beds and offered help in creating the infrastructure necessary to set up a Covid-19 treatment facility.
7. Infosys Foundation, the social service arm of the Infosys Technologies, a global Information Technology major, is constructing a hospital in Pune in the premises of the existing Session Government Hospital. The new hospital, which is a four-storied complex (ground plus three) spans over an area of 32,500 sq.ft, will offer state of the art treatment and diagnosis in cardiology, pediatrics and nephrology.
8. The company has invested Rs.4 crore in the new medical facility, which will be equipped with operation theatres in all the floors, Intensive Care Units, laboratory, air conditioners and elevators.
9. The new facility will be a super specialty hospital where free treatment will be provided to patients who need advanced diagnosis and treatment.
10. The process of setting up a 150-bed children's hospital in Bhubaneswar, the unique feature of the hospital is that for serious and chronic disease cases admitted in the Intensive Care Unit, the child's mother will be provided a room with kitchen all free of cost.
11. This apart, the Foundation has built a dharmshala for cancer patients at the Kidwai Memorial Institute of Oncology in Bangalore. Patients and their relatives who come from other districts in the State for chemotherapy or treatment can reside here free of cost. In Tamil Nadu too, the Foundation has built an annexed in the Government Cancer Hospital.
12. The Victoria Hospital in Bangalore which is one of the oldest establishments in the State, the Foundation has air conditioned the Burns Ward here “In addition to these specific projects, we are donating medical diagnostic equipment and lifesaving equipment to several medical centers in the rural areas regularly, informed Murthy.

RURAL AND DEVELOPMENT

Almost people living in rural areas ensures sustainable development. The Infosys Foundation works with local administration to achieve community development goals. This foundation build up roads, provide drainage systems and electricity, and rehabilitate flood-affected victims in rural areas. The Foundation has donated more than INR 40 crore for rural development and

livelihood projects such as awareness campaigns on hygiene, sanitation, vocational training, and entrepreneurship.

CONTRIBUTION IN RURAL AND DEVELOPMENT

1. Completed the construction of 10,000 toilets in the backward districts of Karnataka.
2. Took up relief work at cyclone-devastated areas of Orissa, and drought-hit areas of Andhra Pradesh.
3. Donated sewing machines to women in rural areas of Andhra Pradesh and Karnataka.
4. Took up relief work at cyclone-devastated areas of Orissa, and drought-hit areas of Andhra Pradesh. Constructed 3,000 homes for flood victims of Belgaum, Gulbarga, Dharwad, Gadag, Bagalkot, Bijapur, and Karwar in Karnataka.
5. Donated water purifier-cum-cooler, solar water heaters, water tank, and steel cupboards to the Gurukula , Anathashram, Chunchanakatte, Mysore.
6. Constructed bore wells at the MM Nagar fire station in Kanchipuram district, Tamil Nadu, through Sneham, the Infosys Chennai CSR wing.

7. Art and Culture

Ancient art forms can be preserved and passed down from generation to generation by showcasing the skills of artists. The Infosys Foundation promotes traditional art, dance, and craft. The Foundation identifies underprivileged artists who don't have access to contacts or help. These include writers, painters, poets, and musicians from different walks of life. The Foundation assist to Preserving the past for the future, Pumping life into the ailing art forms, A holistic approach towards the maintenance of monuments.

CONTRIBUTION TO ART AND CULTURE

1. Organized cultural programs, accommodated travel, and remunerative expenses to promote artists in rural areas of Karnataka and Andhra Pradesh
2. Supported Sneham Social Welfare Foundation, Chennai, for conducting cultural programs that promote arts, especially the local arts, in Tamil Nadu.
3. Sponsored the screening of the play, Maya Bazaar, at Ranga Shankara by Surabhi –Sri Venkateshwara Natya Mandali, Hyderabad.
4. Published a book called 'Embroidering Futures' in association with India Foundation for the Arts. The book traces the roots, traditions, and transition of 'Kantha' from a simple art

form to a highly valued one.

DESTITUTE CARE

The most dynamic personality Sudha Murthy and her foundation Supported, and vocational training help the destitute to live with dignity and earn a livelihood. The Infosys Foundation partners with non-government organizations (NGOs) to support destitute children and women. The Foundation supports programs of NGOs in rural areas across India.

CONTRIBUTION IN DESTITUTE CARE

Built a hostel for tribal girls in the border area of Kutch and Pakistan Constructed the Shakthi dhama Destitute Centre for Women in Mysore Dignity and support for devadasi community Directing the disturbed minds Steppingstones for VISHWAS.

CONCLUSION

There is open edge of work for those who are looking to help others and creating a better place for living in earth. For record each year a thousand of people are sheltered under the shade of NGOs. And with each disaster and misery of individuals or we natural calamity gives rise to one like Sudha Murthy there would endless duty for her as she is walking with so many people in their routine problems. She is living among them and making a difference which she ever dreamt. And with her many works this research get even more sequel to be published.

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