

The Large Extended Family of Kasturba Gandhi National Memorial Trust

Founded by Mahatma Gandhi, the trust is one of the oldest, pre-independence, non-governmental institution serving the cause of needy women and children of rural India

The trust pays homage to MATRISHAKTI –Mother Power-the strength of creation

The Kasturba Gandhi National Memorial Trust (KGNMT) was established in 1945 as a result of the national endeavour, led by Mahatma Gandhi, to address the issue of women in rural India.

The unique history of the KGNMT is set against the backdrop of the history of India's freedom struggle. Eminent people from all walks of life as well as the anonymous masses, mobilised their resources to set up this trust with its headquarter at Kasturbagram (Indore) and 22 state branches all over the country. Dr. Sarojini Naidu, a stalwart of the freedom movement dedicated her time and full energy for the establishment of this trust.

Mahatma Gandhi, Shri Vallabhbhai Patel, Sri Thakkar Bapa, Dada Saheb Mavlankar, Smt. Prem Leela Thakarasi, Smt. Laxmi N. Menon, Sushri Maniben Patel, Smt. Rameshwari Nehru and Dr. Sushila Nayar and Shri Dhirubhai Mehta have been the Chairpersons of this trust. Smt. Tara Gandhi Bhattacharjee is the Chairperson of the KGNMT currently.

In today's strife-torn violent times this Trust is doing exemplary work to spread the gospel of Sarvodaya through constructive work.

In order to further strengthen the mission and work of KGNMT, "We should create a bond between the Trust and the people calling it a large extended family of the KGNMT (in Hindi Kasturba Parivar). They will feel greatly honoured to be a

part of this family. These members do not need to have any responsibility, positions like Trustees, Pratinidhis or anything else. As members of the family of the Kasturba Trust, they will be very useful for us for suggestions, collection on funds, for new workers, initiatives for programmes, for our writing and media work and for various other reasons.

With their contacts in the Central Office, these people can be approached whenever we need temporary human power, coordination or help for an organisational event. Their contacts should also be available with the branches of the Trust so that we have the infrastructure of the support system for the institution.

“Ba Ka Ghar” has been consistently providing rehabilitation, and giving moral support and vocational training to women survivors of social injustice.

The concept of “Shanti Sena” is the physical, mental and spiritual discipline of the fearlessness of Gandhi – it is to learn the way of non-violent protest against any form of injustice, as well as to be able to work for protection and rehabilitation against natural calamities.

The focal points of the Trust “Ba Ka Ghar” and “Shanti Sena” should contain all the dimensions of the activities of the Trust in the vision of Sarvodaya – the reawakening of the spirit in harmony with nature and all life.

The Secretary,

Kasturba Gandhi National Memorial Trust

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