

Icche is missing: A CRY Initiative

...by *Dhimoyee Debnath*

Women—to many is God's most complete creation. She symbolizes self-determination, worship, compassion, placidness and intensity—both in love and hate. More intelligent and emotionally stronger than man, why is she been called Adam's better half? Why to divest her from education? Why to vigor her to labor from the time when she is a girl?

Education—that's a right of everyone, be it a girl or a boy. Unfortunately, in most of the families the birth of a girl child is not wanted and if accepted they are thought inferior to boys and their education is not considered important because it seems surplus of money to most of the parents. They think it absurd because subsequently they have been constrained to abide a weighty sum towards their dowry.

So the girl child literacy velocity is inadequate and it has an unswerving collision in the lead of the overall enlargement of a nation and its population intensification. If India wants to be one of the developed nations it must concentrate on female education because if we educate a man we educate an individual but if we educate a girl we educate an entire family. According to Mahatma Gandhi, "Due to her nature women possess the best ability to teach the child".

Thus, let us start educating and enlightening the female children to change the visage of society. Again the root cause of all problems facing the women is related to education. If all women are educated, then all problems like female infanticide, dowry, female suicides, domestic battering, malnutrition of women, child marriage and other related atrocities would get vanished from India.

Education provides an indispensable prerequisite to discharge certain economic, political and cultural functions and improves women's socioeconomic status. At very age and level education enhances the cerebral, societal and poignant development of women and enables them to meet their basic requirements to daily living. It brings diminution in inequalities in the society.

We see girls doing gargantuan work at home and at the fields. They carry water fetch by fetch, collect fuel wood, cook, clean, wash, take care of siblings and act like little mothers. They also work relentlessly, in all seasons, as agricultural laborers. Several hundreds of girls also work in stone and lime quarries. They carry head loads of earth and rubble from the pits at least fifty feet down the risky, narrow stairways. At the end of the day these tired girls just collapse with body aches and pains about which they cannot even complain.

Recently CRY has initiated a campaign for identifying the girl child working. The photography wing of CRY has started this campaign which is called **ICCHE IS MISSING**. Every



day we see an assortment of girl child working in copious places, may be even in our own families as servants. What we have to do is, next time when we will see a girl child working, we have to click a photograph of that and have to upload or send it to CRY website.

It is said, photographs speak those, which we are incapable of putting athwart. In this campaign, photos will recite bounteous stories. Stories unspoken—stories of anguish, stories of being starved of obligatory civil liberties, requisite opportunities. The pulsating and inimitable ingredient of this *ICCHA IS MISSING* drive is that, it will be reached to people through photographs and not by any slogans or consultation or not by any procession. These are widespread ways to sock people with something. CRY has definitely come up with this distinctive idea to put forward this important issue.

A girl child right is a very old area of symposium. Numerous campaigns and walks have been occurred in different times in support of this alarming issue. This time something else was needed, something inimitable was needed so that people will straight away retort to it. This **“something else”** is the photographs in this campaign of CRY. The photographs will positively craft a bang of what has been spoken for million times.

It will generate a database but in a diverse shape. This catalogue will not be statistical, but illustrative. Statistics can be erroneous, but the pictures will never go off beam. They are like smouldering evidences of dejected opportunities of getting educated.

The photographs will be clicked by me, you and every other common people. So if one photograph has been uploaded, that means one individual has witnessed and captured one story of a girl child. In this way if thousands of pictures have got uploaded, it symbolizes that thousand individuals have reacted to the campaign. One individual will get to see another one’s story and like this the different stories will be exchanged between people. So if I upload my one photo, I will be witnessing many other stories.

This campaign will reach the young throng at an excellent stratum. Anything new, anything matchless is very salient for the generation Y. This campaign will be a great triumph only when the young vivacious crowd will connect to it. This idea if pictorial database is definitely going to egg on the young-stars to support the cause.



But nothing is ideal. Indubitably the campaign *ICCHE IS MISSING* has an added tap of symbolic record that will be striking, but will it be able to create a direct impact at a large? Because a girl child right is an old topic of concern, will a lot of people react to it? We live in such a society where the reactions of people are very situational and impetus. Will these thrust reactions for the campaign proceeds for a longer time? Life has become dreadfully rapid and people are busy with their own hitches and struggles. Besides all these, may be even if they want to react to this, will time permit them to do so?

All these questions come up. But still there is humanity, there is sustain, there is compassion. Many people have already started uploading photographs. Many are in the queue. Let's be a part of *ICCHA IS MISSING* and share a story of a girl child. Let's be the change we want to see. Support *ICCHA IS MISSING* and try to change at least one life.

For more details please contact us at info@cwforg.com or safecwf@gmail.com