



JYOTI DARSHAN

CENTRE FOR MISSION AND PEACE

A Venture of the Punjab-Rajasthan Mission of the CST Fathers



Our Patrons

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Diocese of Jaipur

Bp. Agnelo Rufino Gracias
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Jyoti Darshan is a centre for the promotion of missionary activities and mission studies in the pastoral, and social and multi-religious context of North India, especially of Punjab and Rajasthan. Rooted in Catholic tradition and committed to the promotion of new evangelisation in the contemporary context, it achieves its objectives through field experiences, direct pastoral exposures and studies and academic inputs on the theology of the missions. Placed within the pluri-religious setting especially of Sikhism and Hinduism and catering to a huge population of non-Christian communities, the mission of the centre is also articulated as the promotion of the values of Peace and Justice. Mission in this context

is very much synonymous with the promotion of the Kingdom values of peace, harmony and justice. Jytoi Darshn is also non-denominational multireligious in its approach and activities upholding the true spirit of ecumenism and religious pluralism. Drawing on the half-a-century of experience and expertise of the pastoral and social engagements of the CST Fathers in the states of Punjab and Rajasthan under the Dioceses of Jalandhar, Chandigarh, Ajmer, Jaipur and Delhi-Faridabad, the centre transmits the hands-on missionary experiences, knowledge, expertise and resources for the larger benefit of the community of priests, religious, seminarians, social workers and other lay ministers who are committed to the pastoral and social mission of the Church.

Objectives

Pooling together some of the top level academic scholarship and hands-on expertise on mission and mission work, and drawing on the multifaceted resources of the unique cultural and social setting of its area of operation, the centre is better placed to cater to the following objectives:

- Facilitating the overall mission of the Indian Church in various ways like analysing the emerging challenges and opportunities, suggesting the new directions, creating platforms for collaboration and networking, etc.
- Mission orientation to the Seminarians doing Philosophy or Theology.
- The theological and missiological training of Priests, Nuns and Seminarians.
- Renewal programmes for the priests and religious of the mission area as part of their ongoing formation.
- Faith Animation programmes for the parents and youth of the parishes in this area.
- Value-based interdisciplinary academic orientation with particular

emphasis on the values of peace and justice, to the teachers and faculty of the various academic institutions in the region like schools, colleges, universities, and centres of higher learning.

- g. Publications with a spiritual and missiological thrust.
- h. Counselling services to the school students
- i. Orientation Programmes for the Teachers of Schools
- j. Motivational Programmes for the Higher Secondary and High School Students.

Mode of Operation

The centre hosts a number of resident programmes like faith animation retreats, orientation programmes for teachers, Family retreats, Jesus Youth Sessions on a monthly, bimonthly or half-yearly schedule.

Besides, it is the uniqueness of the Centre that it operates on a need-based floating schedule by organising retreats, seminars and other refresher programmes as per the schedule suitable to the visiting groups and communities. The centre helps organise such programmes according to the schedule and duration suggested by the various visiting groups by providing resource persons and infrastructure.

The Infrastructure

The centre hosts a state of the art conference hall and seminar room which can cater to 100 and 30 participants respectively. It offers single-room self-



contained accommodation for 60 guests. A small scale library with materials for studies in Missiology, interreligious dialogue, Sikhism, Philosophy, Culture, etc., are also made available.

The Mission Exposure

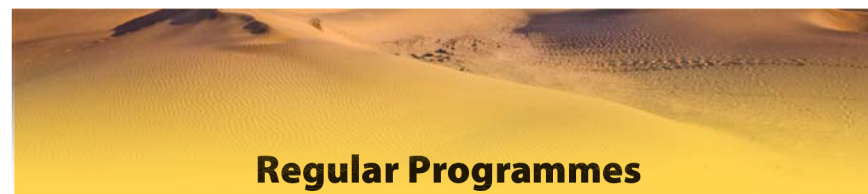


In addition to the academic inputs by learned scholars on related topics offered during the stay at the centre, the mission experience is facilitated by the following elements as well.

- Down to earth pastoral exposures through prayer meetings and basic Christian communities in villages and parishes
- Direct interaction with the faithful in their living context
- Learning by living and working with the poor in their families
- Collaboration with the vicars and catechists of various parishes



- Initial training in the local languages of Hindi and Punjabi
- Visits to the cultural and religious centres of Hinduism and Sikhism like Temples, Gurudwara, community centres, etc.



Regular Programmes

Mission Seminars



The centre hosts two Seminars in the months of October and April with the exclusive focus on approaches in mission, pastoral and social challenges of the mission, trends in mission theology, etc. It targets particularly priests, religious and seminarians who are willing to work in the mission areas or to draw some experience on the North Indian mission. Reputed scholars at the national and international level will serve as resource persons for these seminars.

Faith Animation Retreats

Faith animation retreats are organised once in two months for the families of the various parishes. Nurturing the Catholic families in traditional faith is the objective of these resident programmes lasting for three days.

Youth Empowerment Programmes



Youth animation sessions lasting for four days are organised in alternative months for the youth of the various catholic parishes. These sessions consisting of inputs, workshops, prayer meetings and field exposures are envisaged to deepen the catholic faith and value system of the young population among our faithful.

Retreats on Mission Spirituality

Annual Retreats are organised for priests and nuns in the month of October every year. The approach and focus will be the translation of the traditional themes of spirituality in the mission context. The Spirituality of St. Therese – Doctor of the Church and Patroness of the Universal Mission – will be a major focus of these retreats. These themes are most suited for the beginners in missionary work as well as for the experienced heads in mission areas for renewing and refreshing their commitment.



Teachers' Workshops

The Little Flower Education Society itself employs over 1500 teachers catering to over 35000 students in 24 schools in Punjab and Rajasthan. Shaping the vision of these teachers is the right direction towards the promotion of peace and justice who in turn will influence the value system of the students.

This is the typical focus of orientation programmes envisaged for teachers. Value-based education, Holistic Education, Educational Psychology and Philosophy, Teaching Skills, Class room management, etc., are the major contents of these workshops targeting the teachers. These two-day workshops are organised for teachers every month on a rotation basis without interrupting the teaching curriculum of the schools.



Pathways to Success Workshops

Pathways to Success is a 2-3 day life-coaching workshop targeting the aspiring students of higher classes in schools and colleges. It enables students to set goals, build resilience, self-confidence and create a strategy to creating success in their life. This programme enables students to take time for themselves and look at what they want from their life. Throughout the workshop, we will look at ways to create clear and effective goals, develop strategies to maintain motivation and inspire the students to make positive changes in your life. Psychological motivation for study, practical tips for greater effectiveness, hard work and application to study, attitudinal changes to life, etc., are some of the concrete impacts envisaged from these sessions.



Programmes on Floating Schedule

In addition to the regular resident programmes, the centre will provide to the needs of the various visiting teams according to their need and schedule. The resource persons and faculty of the centre will be made available upon prior notice. The focus of such programmes include the following:

- Retreats for priests, nuns and seminarians
- Affective maturity and psycho-spiritual integration
- Refresher courses
- Updates on Pastoral and Mission Theology
- Social work orientations
- Field exposures

Mission Exposure Programmes for Seminarians



The centre organises short-term mission exposure programmes for theology and philosophy students especially for Seminarians from South India. Along with offering related courses of the formal seminary curriculum at the Centre

by the qualified personnel, seminarians are taken to actual pastoral and social field for direct experience exposing them to the actual culture, belief systems, practices, values and mythos of the area. Accompanied by the staff, the seminarians are introduced to “doing” philosophy or theology from the realities and experiences they are exposed to. Popular Hinduism, Sikhism, Religious pluralism, Philosophy of Culture, Theology of Mission,



Contextual Theology, Indian Christian Theology, etc., are some of the courses and programmes found to be more rewarding in this context. The duration of these programmes could range from 2 weeks to two months.

Faculty and Resource Persons

The faculty of the centre is constituted by qualified personnel in the respective areas of their specialisation hailing from reputed Institutions in North as well as South. In addition to the academic qualifications, hands-on experience with related field, and involvement in various activities will be the additional merit of the faculty. Sharings and personal interactions with the missionaries, pastoral leaders, faithful and various activists will be a unique pedagogical component of the centre.

The Faculty and Resource Persons include

Rev. Dr. Mathew Palachuvattil
(Trinity College, Jalandhar)

Rev. Dr. Stephen Chathanattu
(Jyoti Darshan, Hanumangarh)

Dr. M. D. Thomas
(Institute for Peace and Harmony, New Delhi)

Dr. Michael Alosanai
(Vidyajyoti, New Delhi)

Rev. Fr. Basil
(Abohar, Punjab)

Rev. Dr. Francis Kilivallickal
(Little Flower Generalate, Thrikkakara)

Rev. Dr. Jose Melottukochi
(LISSAH College, Kalpetta)

Rev Dr Jacob Kanayankal
(St. Joseph's Provincial House, Aluva)

Rev Fr John Kadaliyil
(Jyoti Bhavan, Gorakhpur)

Rev. Dr. Saji Nellikkunnel
(Little Flower Major Seminary, Aluva)

Rev. Dr. Paul Thelakkatt
(Sathyadeepam, Cochin)

Rev. Dr. Saju Kuthodiputhenpurayil
(Jyoti Niwas, Hanumangarh)

Rev. Dr. Augustine Pamplany
(IAISS, Aluva)

Dr. P. Basak
(Disaster Management, Govt. of India)

Prof. Dr. P. K. Sebastian
(Punjab University, Chandigarh)

Prof. Dr. Hardev Singh Virk
(Guru Nanak Dev University, Amritsar)

Travel

Hanumangarh can be reached from Delhi and Jaipur by train or bus. Jyoti Darshan is only 500 metres off the railway station and bus stand. As there is only one direct train from Delhi to Hanumangarh, the convenient way would be to take train from Delhi to Bhatinda in Punjab from where pick-up will be arranged. Overnight luxury sleeper class buses are available between Delhi and Hanumangarh which takes about 6 hours. Hanumangarh is also linked by train and A/C sleeper class buses with Jaipur.

Call to Collaboration

The Khrist-Jyoti Province of the Punjab-Rajasthan mission of the Little Flower Congregation invites priests, religious, seminarians, social workers, lay missionaries and all who share a commonality of vision in the

promotion of peace, harmony and justice through religious as well as secular services to make use of the facilities and opportunities provided by Jyoti Darshan. Your collaboration with us and visits to us do contribute to the fulfilment of our missionary apostolate here. In true spirit of service, the facilities of the centre are provided at a significantly subsidised rate.

The following are some of the manifold benefits and blessings envisaged to be achieved by your collaboration with Jyoti Darshan:

Encountering a different face of the Church, ministry and of evangelisation

To be challenged by the fertile pastoral pastures of an infantile Church

Forming new pastoral, moral and liturgical theology from a confronting existential setting

Learning, theologizing and philosophizing from the context by blending doctrine with praxis

Towards a new commitment to the mission of the universal Church

Exposure to the rich religious and cultural legacy of India in the Northern States of Punjab and Rajasthan

Exposure to the unique religious landscape of Sikhism in Punjab

Encountering the grass root social realities of Indian villages and the rural folk

Provoked by experiences with the marginalised that can shape one's entire destiny

Initiation to the liturgy and prayers in the languages of Hindi and Punjabi