



**Welcome Address by  
Mr. Anthony Arun Biswas,  
the Chairman of the Committee**

On behalf of Mother Teresa International & Millennium Award Committee & All India Minority & Weaker Sections Council, I as its Chairman welcome all of you specially the dignitaries who are on the dias, the Renowned Awardees on the floor, all invited Guests and dear students.

The All India Minority & Weaker Sections Council under whose banner this ceremony is taking place, is a Non-Political Organisation. It was registered in 1991 under the Act XXVI of 1961.

It aims to maintain and and cultivate, promote and strive for peace and security, happiness and prosperity of the Minority Communities and all Weaker Sections of the Society in India. It is to aid and render all kinds of help and service to the Minority Communities and Weaker Sections irrespective of sex, age, religion, caste, colour and strive for national co-operation in solving problems of social, economic, cultural and humanitarian character in preserving liberty, equality, prestige, dignity, promoting and encouraging respect for human rights, and for fundamental freedom for all.

It is to distribute gifts to the poor and needy irrespective of caste and creed.

In 1986 this council was formed jointly by Late Prafulla Chandra Sen, former Chief Minister of West Bengal and myself. Mr. Sen became the first President and I became the General Secretary of the Council. After Sri Prafulla Sen's death, Sri S. Masood, the former Acting Chief Justice of Calcutta High Court became the President of the Council and still continuing.

After Mother's death in 1997, the Council formed this Committee namely Mother Teresa International & Millennium Award Committee and given the responsibility to organise each year the Mother Teresa International & Millennium Awards Ceremony which started from the year 2001 and continued till now.

Mother Teresa Millennium Awards are presented to eminent Personalities, who have excelled in the fields of Education, Science, Culture, Sports, Social Work, Medicine, Industrialist and Political in the Country.

Mother Teresa Lifetime Achievement Awards are given to persons in India and abroad who have practically served the poorest of the poor in their own capacity and to the mankind during their long life.

Mother Teresa 1st international Award was offered to Sri. Jyoti Basu, former Chief minister of West Bengal for the Year 2000-2001. The 2nd International Award for the

2001-2002 was offered to Late Rajiv Gandhi and 3rd International Award for the year 2002-2003 was offered to Mrs. Hillary Clinton. Sri Rajesh Khanna, Sri Manna Dey and 40 other eminent personalities had also received Mother Teresa Millennium Awards.

In 2006 Smt. Sheikh Hasina, former P. M. of Bangladesh received Mother Teresa Lifetime Achievement Award. Prof. Md. Yunus of Bangladesh was offered to receive Mother Teresa International Award of which he accepted to receive it. Sri A. R. Antulay, Central Cabinet Minister, Sri Arjun Munda, former Chief Minister of Jharkhand, Sri Asis Kr. Banerjee, Vice-Chancellor of Calcutta University

The council has been observing the 50th Anniversary of Mother Teresa since 1993 when she was alive and continuing till now.

The whole intention of the Committee for organising each year the presentation of Mother's Awards to deserving candidates is to keep Mother's Memory alive Nationally and Internationally in a befitting manner. The Committee thinks that this is the best way to show our Gratitude to Mother Teresa for what she had done for mankind and sacrificed her whole life for serving the poorest of the poor.

In 1993 the Council had presented an Award to her namely "World Reputed Social Worker", which she gladly accepted and sent me a letter of acceptance in February 1993.

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