

Title Code: ODIMUL0851

**WORLD LEADERSHIP ACADEMY**



Vol. 1 | Issue III | November 2022 | Bhubaneswar

# ART OF GIVING

Quarterly Magazine

[www.artofgiving.in.net](http://www.artofgiving.in.net)



**Educating a girl child  
is equal to educating  
generations thereafter.**

”

*— Achyuta Samanta,  
Founder, Art of Giving,  
KIIT & KISS*



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It is high time that we should come together and join hands to make this world a better place to live in for our children. "Art of Giving", is a talisman or Mantra for sustainable world.

## From The Editor's Desk



As we step into the New Normal in the post pandemic era braving the adversity and challenges of two last difficult years of pandemic, that has adversely affected the lives and livelihood of millions & brought tears to the vulnerable and distressed, the AOG community have sincerely endeavoured to make a meaningful impact in the lives of the disadvantaged and deprived.

Amidst the uncertainties and challenges posed by the trails of pandemic, we are exploring new opportunities with commitment, dedication and positivity to make a difference to the lives of people by empathy, compassion, love, humanity, cooperation and collaboration.

Our journey began in May 2013 with a goal to uplift the lives of fellow human beings symbolising humanitarianism irrespective of caste. Creed, colour, religion, social status, transcending geographical boundaries. In this process we are exploring new frontiers of social equity and economic justice. In the course of our journey we have made concerted efforts to support the poor and destitute creating ray of hope in their lives and bringing in change in the societal

landscape. This humanitarian movement has metamorphosed into a social revolution contributing to larger human causes like inclusive education, healthcare, gender parity and women empowerment, capacity building, destitute care, reaching out to the last mile for the unreached.

My sincere compliments to all our AOG family members for their stellar role in making significant impact by lending a helping hand in difficult times to the fellow human beings, ameliorating distress and fostering positive vibes for the uncared.

I also thank the contributors of articles for this November-2022 edition of the AOG Magazine & congratulate the participants for the events conducted during this quarter.

Our sustained journey for spreading peace, happiness and kindness as instruments for creating smile on the face of the uncared continues unabated.

**(Achyuta Samanta)**  
*Founder, Art of Giving, KIIT & KISS*

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Founded in 2013  
by **Prof. Achyuta Samanta,**

**Art of Giving** is a humanitarian  
movement engaged in  
spreading peace and  
happiness.

[www.artofgiving.in.net](http://www.artofgiving.in.net)

## Being meaningfully Successful

We all want to be successful in the field we are pursuing. We want to become big and scale heights of success. There are some principles for success. The meaning of success changes from time to time for the same person. What is success for you in school, does not hold importance in college, and the same does not even matter at work. We have equated success with achievement. And that is a problem. In the age of social media, people are restless and do not pursue their aim with perseverance which in turn makes people believe that success is achievement. I think success is not an achievement.

I believe success is one magic word. If you can get one magic word right, achievement is just a consequence. One word that transforms our life is Attitude. If you get this right, everything will be right. If you get it wrong, everything will be wrong. People tend to see the colour of the balloon that rises up in the air and not the gas. They ignore the handwork that has gone behind, being biased by the outward appearances. Thus, they tend to misinterpret success. To really understand success, see the toil behind the result and the attitude that determined the work and the fruit. The cardinal principles for success are -

**Persistence** - What one does every day brings success. If we exercise daily, we will be fit. If we meditate daily, we will get mental peace. Persistence is key to success. Stick it out.

**Sensitivity** - One should be sensitive to everything around - living and non living. Attitude doesn't distinguish between living and non living. If we are insensitive to non living, we may start being insensitive to people who matter also. To be successful, one needs people. Our net worth is determined by our network. Network is only possible when one is sensitive.

**Practice** - Practice small things to bring a big difference in life. Small things lead to magnificent results. Failures are part of life. One should not give up because of struggle. No pain, no gain.



### Prabhu Gaur Gopal Das

Life Coach, Monk, Spiritual  
& Motivational Speaker

**Respect Diversity** - We can be successful if we can accept and respect diversity. There is an inherent difference in all of us but the potential to make change and spiritually prosper is the same in all of us. We should see diversity as a larger part of the same cosmos.

**Perseverance** - Start sharpening from where one is broken. Success comes to those who sharpen after being blunt. When you never give up, you grow up.

**Gone is gone** - Past is gone. It does not come back. One should not keep thinking about the past but think of what can be built in the future by living in the present.

**Integrity** - Be true to your values. One should move ahead but not leave principles and values for money and to grow big. One should not sell souls to reach the heights of success. One should be value-based.

**Purpose** - You rise when you help others. Have a purpose. Life is like an ice cream before it melts. Don't be a selfish ice cream, be a selfless candle. If you cannot be a candle don't be an ice cream. Be passionate about the work you do.

**Humility** - No one will ever stop you from being big. But being humble is in your hands. Success is not real, if there is no humility. Learn to be humble. If you run alone, it is called a race, if you run with god and as an instrument of God, it is called grace.

(An excerpt from Prabhu Gaur Gopal Das's speech at Kritarth in 2017)



# Risk & Rise

The major lessons of life for all times to come

“

Rely on instinct. Follow the rhythm and go with it. There will be many times when nobody will give encouragement. Nobody will be there with you. That's the time when you dive deep into yourself and self doubt but go ahead with your instinct. Most times it's correct.

”

There will be times when what you want to do is right, humane and constructive. But somebody for petty agenda will stop it. Don't stop. If the rule is bad, change the rule.

“

Everybody is busy with their lives. Some things in life are unfair. Get up and become so good and make the case so rock solid to shame the world to select you.

”

Every time your heart gets hot, head gets hot too. Counter intuitively. When the heart gets hot, make your head cooler, the world will be yours. But can work separately. Respond, don't react.



**Rahul Bose**

Indian actor, Director,  
Screenwriter & Social Activist

“

One can't play alone. One cannot function alone. Every phase of our life depends on the utilization of the beauty of the skill of the thousands of people around us.

”

Under promise and Over Deliver. The greatest cruelty that human being can do to others is killing hope.

Direction is the best way to lead. If the leader can't see it, it will never happen. The director has to say it. The outcome one wants should be imagined, felt, smelt and heard. Believe it and it becomes a reality.

”

# Art of Appreciation

Appreciation is gratitude in action. It's a supreme value to build and sustain human relationships. In this fast-paced life, we have stopped appreciating small pleasures. We get overburdened and bothered by materialism. This leads to stress and burnout. This has been affecting our emotional and physical health across age groups. Practising appreciation and gratitude in our daily lives is an art and one can master this through small actions that do not cost much, but give us tremendous returns.

Human beings crave appreciation and importance. We want to be popular. No one likes to be criticised. But, not all criticism is unfounded; we need to cultivate a positive attitude and appreciate those who care enough about us to be critical. It is also true that few people make the effort to appreciate something good. How often do you appreciate someone? Expressing appreciation can work wonders not only in the one who is being appreciated, but also in you.

## People Are Assets

Most new ideas are delicate and fragile. Handle them with care. Most new ideas die prematurely as they are unable to pass critical barriers. The more important the idea, the greater the resistance. When unusual suggestions are made, our first reaction is to reject them outright. Instead, treat every idea like a baby and nurture it carefully. Out of 10 suggestions, one may turn out to be a brilliant one that could transform our lives. The art of appreciation opens our minds to new ideas.

## Trust people

When we trust someone, it means we appreciate what he does. Trust and appreciation energises people to do better work. Appreciation helps people to be loyal and trustworthy. It is like watering a sapling, encouraging it to grow into a big tree, which will ultimately bring numerous benefits.



**Achyuta Samanta,**  
Founder, Art of Giving, KIIT & KISS

Negative people who tend to push us down can be motivated to change through appreciation. Their attitude comes out of the neglect they feel or think that their suggestions are always rejected. Giving them importance and respecting their views by appreciation is the best way to bring long-term benefits. Most of us tend to find fault with others, instead of appreciating what is good in them. People are assets; we need to look for their strong points. All of us have both strong and weak points. If we appreciate their good work, however small it may be and not keep harping on their weaknesses, we develop a friendly approach. We should never become a fault-finder, because nobody is perfect.

The ability to appreciate is a beautiful quality available to everyone in every circumstance; so too, being thankful for life's little treasures, grateful for the opportunity to begin the day where you are, appreciating the perfect place your karma and God's grace have brought you to. Appreciation is life-giving. Depreciation without appreciation is heartlessly destructive. Yet, it is the all-too-common way of our times. When something is done that is good, helpful or loving, it is often overlooked, or taken for granted. No acknowledgement is shown, no gratitude expressed. But if a shortcoming is seen, everyone is swift to point it out!

Gratitude is a positive, enabling quality. Its opposite, ingratitude, is a quality of the external ego. When we abide in soul-consciousness, we give thanks for whatever we have, no matter how little or how much. When in ego-consciousness, we are never grateful or



satisfied, no matter how much we have.

We are essentially pure souls temporarily living in a physical body. We can and should use our God-given gift of free will encased in love to make a difference in the world today, even if in small ways. All of us are making the same difference together; do so in a big way. Sishyas, students, should be grateful to their gurus; husbands to their wives; wives to their husbands; both to their children; students to their teachers and teachers to their students. It's far more effective to praise others and appreciate what we have than to find fault and complain about what we don't have.

It's nice to count blessings by being thankful throughout the year as it tremendously adds to the quality of life. In fact, appreciation may be one of the most overlooked tools that we all have access to. Cultivating gratitude doesn't cost any money and it certainly doesn't take much time, but the benefits are enormous. Research reveals appreciation can have these seven benefits:

It Opens the door to more relationships. Not only does saying 'Thank You' constitute good manners, but showing appreciation can help one win new friends.

Improves physical health. Grateful people experience fewer aches and pains, and they report

feeling healthier than other people.

Improves psychological health. Gratitude reduces a multitude of toxic emotions, ranging from envy and resentment to frustration and regret.

Enhances empathy and reduces aggression. Grateful people are more likely to behave in a pro-social manner, even when others are less kind.

Enables better sleep. Writing in a gratitude journal improves sleep.

Improves self-esteem. Gratitude increases athletes' and others' self-esteem that is an essential component to optimal performance. It reduces social comparisons.

Increases mental strength. For years, research has shown gratitude not only reduces stress, but it may also play a major role in overcoming trauma. We all have the ability and opportunity to cultivate gratitude. Developing an 'attitude of gratitude' is one of the simplest ways to improve your satisfaction with life.

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# Art of Giving in Practice:

## An Exemplary Institution Building Model of KIIT and KISS

**Prof. Shiv K. Tripathi, Ph.D.**

Vice Chancellor, Atmiya University, Rajkot



The distinct nature of the teaching-learning, calls for education models based on empathy, altruism and humanism at large. This becomes more important in low- or middle-income countries where 'effective education' is still a dream for masses. During my

journey as an educator and learner in education management, I often struggled to find a practical institution model that works for larger good with due consideration of equality, inclusion and empathy towards last person in the society. It would not be an exaggeration to mention when I visited KIIT, I was touched deeply to see how education can contribute to sustainability in a silent, humanistic and meaningful way.

Earlier, I heard and read about Kalinga Institute of Industrial Technology (KIIT) and its' sister institution Kalinga Institute of Social Sciences (KISS), both are deemed to be universities. My visit to KIIT was to participate in Silver-Jubilee Conference Roundtable on 'Poverty Alleviation through Education'. Every moment spent at KIIT was a great learning point to me personally and professionally. The way, the founder Prof. Achyut Samanta and his team, have shaped the two world-class institutions with focus on quality, affordability and inclusion, sets a global benchmark for 'quality education for all'.

Higher Education in India has witnessed remarkable growth in numbers during last one and half decade, particularly after opening of the private universities and autonomous institutions in the country. Despite many of the Indian universities making way to national and global higher education rankings, the

balance of 'quality and inclusion' remain a challenge for majority of institutions due to various known and unknown factors. In my observation, some of the conventional assumptions and corresponding implications regarding the higher education institution developments can be summarized as under:

Assumption	Implications
Quality has cost i.e., for high quality education, we need to spend heavily	In absence of any external support, transfer the cost to students (Inclusion deviation)
Ranking and ratings are the ultimate indicator of quality	Aligning the operations and processes for ranking and rating rather considering it as a bi-product of the effective process (Process deviation)
Market orientation is the key to success	Shift towards marketing and promotion rather understanding and fulfilling the segment need (Need deviation)

The KIIT and KISS development journey reveals that contrary to the above conventional assumptions, institutions can evolve as truly purpose-driven centres of learning through ethical practices, transparency, innovation and pragmatism.

The vision of the top leadership plays central role in deciding the institutional direction and path. As often cited by the scholars of 'spiritual leadership', I do believe the invisible forces or 'support of nature' go hand in hand with the actions that are directed with ethical and pure intentions. Srimad Bhagwadgita (Chapter 18, Verse 14) highlights:

adhiṣṭhānam tathā kartā karaṇam cha prithag-  
vidham  
vividhāśh cha  
prithak cheṣṭā daivam chaivātrapañchamam

The body, the doer (soul), the various senses, the many kinds of efforts, and Divine Providence—these are the five factors of action.

Most of the modern management and leadership

theories often ignore the fifth factor i.e. the divine providence, which in turn, is the function of the first four in terms of how we align them for the right cause with right intention. The philosophy of *Karma Yoga* stresses on balance in *Dharmik Karma* (righteous action) and *Karmik Dharma* (Duty towards action) for self-less action. Growth of KIIT and KISS sets an example of how the philosophy of *Karma Yoga* can be realized in practice. Looking at the inspiring path trodden by Shri Achyuta Samanta with his extraordinary dedication, passion and commitment towards transforming the lives of millions of poor and deprived children through education, I could truly feel the 'power of purity' which is beyond any concept or theory.

While working with United Nations Global Compact Principles for Responsible Management Education (PRME) Working Group on 'Poverty Alleviation through Management Education', we always try to explore new models of 'education' and 'poverty alleviation' interface. Many institutions in India and across the world are making great efforts towards the cause of poverty eradication and social development through education. In my opinion, the following are some of the factors that make KIIT and KISS very distinct in this regard:

- i. Embedding 'development of all' deeper in institutional philosophy rather treating it as a programme, project or scheme;
- ii. Orienting everyone from top to bottom in 'service of education' with focus on inclusion and equity in true sense;
- iii. Developing supporting processes and systems that help in translating the institutional vision to ground-level actions;
- iv. Keeping sync with the global trends and developments in different fields to ensure quality and relevance of the education; and
- v. Developing trust of all stakeholders, mainly students, faculty and industry through demonstrated transparency and empathy towards each-other.

The academic institutions, even some of the highly ranked and rated ones, are often found to miss the purposeful 'stakeholders connect', which is more of an evolutionary process growing with the increasing trust towards each-other. At the core of the strong stakeholders connect there are two important factors: i.e empathy and transparency. Looking at the 25 years of KIIT as an institution, I can say with confidence that this institution has been not only distinct in its achievements but also in terms of embedding empathy and transparency in its vision, processes, systems and actions.

In humanistic approach to management, we believe that at any level the management must be aligned towards: first, unconditional respect towards human dignity; second ethical decision making; and third, the stakeholder accountability. Based on my observations, I am of the considered opinion that the KIIT and KISS reflects the unconditional commitment towards all the three core foundations of humanistic management in practice.

It is very difficult for a learner like me to comprehend about all the dimensions of KIIT and KISS in an article but I am confident that in future, the researchers in 'higher education leadership and management' can delve deep into the growth journey of these two great sister institutions for newer knowledge and insights in managing and building higher education institutions for the greater good.

I am thankful to the founder Prof. Achyuta Samanta and Vice Chancellor of KIIT, Dr. Sasmita Samanta for the great opportunity to learn from the inspiring journey of KIIT and KISS. I am confident that the institution will grow into further heights by serving the poor and making this world a better place through education.

*Prof. Shiv K. Tripathi, Ph.D. is Vice Chancellor, Atmiya University, Rajkot. He leads India Chapter of Humanistic Management Network. He is also a member in UN PRME Working Group on 'Poverty Alleviation through Management Education.'*

<sup>1</sup>Source: <https://www.holy-bhagavad-gita.org/chapter/18/verse/14> accessed on 26/11/2022

<sup>2</sup>Refer, Tripathi, S.K. & Amann, W.C. (2017). *Corporate Yoga: A primer for sustainable and humanistic leadership*. Information Age Publishing, USA.

<sup>3</sup>Source: <https://humanisticmanagement.network/about-us/> accessed on 28/11/2022

# The Essence of Sharing & Giving

**Binu Siva Singh S K**

Registrar, Jeppiaar University



The most valued human action is giving. It all comes down to building a sustainable environment where everyone can live and prosper. The practice of giving teaches us to assist others without expecting anything in return, especially those who are less fortunate.

The essence of giving is doing good deeds without anticipating anything in return. The major goal of this charity is to make the world more prosperous and sustainable for those who are less fortunate than us. Giving, or "Daan," is of utmost significance in Sanatan Dharma and has been practised widely since the time of the Vedas. The ancient Sanatan Dharma teachings place a strong emphasis on charitable deeds performed for the benefit of society as a whole. In the past, Kings and statesmen donated land in support of temples, constructed dams and irrigation systems, planted trees, and provided food for the needy and the underprivileged.

## Importance of Giving

All of the Holy Scriptures place a high value on the practise of giving. According to the Bhagavad Gita, we must practise charity at the appropriate time and place. Giving to those in need should always be done without expecting anything in return out of selfishness. Charity is vital because it aids in lowering one's attachment to the world of things. According to Gaudiya Vaishnavism, every one of us develops a misguided attachment to meaningless worldly possessions that results in an illusion (Maya) and prevents us from achieving liberation. As a result, charity is crucial since it helps us let go of our attachments. There are numerous other advantages. Giving encourages happy feelings and fills the heart with love for others.

## The Essence of Sharing and Giving

Altruism or the spirit of giving without expecting anything in return, is the foundation upon which giving and sharing are based. Sharing your gratitude with others might help you get ready to give, the ultimate kind deed. Giving brings your soul transcendental bliss, which is necessary for achieving salvation. It also promotes mental peace.

## Difference between Sharing and Giving

The first step toward giving is frequently sharing. Sharing helps your soul get ready to let go and give up. Every single act of compassion is significant, whether it involves feeding the hungry or giving alms to the needy. But how much exactly should you give? The Skanda Purana states that 10% of the wealth you get through lawful ways should be donated to charity. When it comes to the appropriate level of charitable giving, there is no right or wrong answer. Worldwide, millions of people have donated billions of dollars to charity. When charity is given freely from the heart without expecting anything in return, it brings the soul great satisfaction and pleasure.

## Reaching Divine through giving

The most effective way to win the Divine's affection is through the skill of giving. Both acts of generosity and kindness contribute significantly to spiritual wellbeing. When stated or done with no expectation of recompense, acts of kindness provide true happiness and spiritual harmony. A modest act of kindness can have a significant positive impact on both the giver and the recipient. Certainly, being good to others makes you happy forever.

## Conclusion

The practice of giving has special significance. Whether a person is suffering from natural disaster, a war, extreme poverty, or a disease, we must help them. We can give them the essentials they require to live with dignity, including food, shelter, healthcare, and other necessities.

*"Purity, patience, and perseverance are the three essentials to success and, above all, love."*

— Swami Vivekananda



# Transcending the Boundaries of Self Less Giving for a Better World

**Smt Mamata Das**

Associate Professor, DR Nayapalli College, Utkal University, Bhubaneswar



Income inequalities and discrimination on grounds of ethnicity, religion, age, sex, disability, gender have all contributed to making this world more inequitable and vulnerable to the unfortunates. Poverty, distress, vulnerability and discrimination are the social stigmas which pose threats to peace and harmony and an equitable global order which is a prominent objective of SDG 2030. The cycle of poverty, hunger and malnutrition, under-nutrition are more often inter generational with children born with poverty are most likely to live in the same cycle of parents if no intervention is made. The gap between the rich and poor is yawning wide with the affluent immersed in extravagance, while millions of marginalized and underprivileged are facing the realities of grinding poverty, ruthless social conflict and lack of basic necessities /livelihood.. For these innocent people, poverty is endless and overwhelming. The vulnerable population still suffers from various developmental challenges like education, health and hygiene, livelihood and environment apart from traditional discrimination on grounds of religion, caste and gender which are most pervasive. Urban poverty which has risen in recent years mostly related to affordable housing, access to safe drinking water and sanitation has exacerbated the social justice and inequality to a menacing proportions.

Simple things like extending physical support when somebody barely needs it or need someone to talk to, sharing food with the needy, or comforting someone when one is physically debilitated are some of the simple gestures of kindness or generosity and great way to begin. To assuage the difficulties of someone in distress, a sense of compassion and generosity for those around us can be of great help which can be

extended to the rest of the world. Selfless giving can make a radical change. The huge proportion of people suffocating from poverty, hunger, malnutrition, education, health care and life's basic resources need our innate compassion and kindness to save them from outrageous social evils which deeply impact them.

True giving in the name of various forms like daan, zakat, charity etc have been glorified across religious traditions like Buddhism, Jainism, Zoroastrianism, Christianity and Hinduism in our ancient scriptures as a means to creating love, happiness and contentment practicing kindness and generosity. The noble act of selfless acts of giving back wholeheartedly without any reciprocation transcends all physical forms, rather it may assume any form like a good advice, a kind word, an appreciation, the sharing of some special knowledge, a compliment, a helping hand, some support during a difficult emotional time or even a smile. Advice reassurance, a kind word, compliments or a smile which fosters positivity towards creating a better world for the underprivileged. Hindu Upanishad says: अयं बन्धुरयं नेति गणना लघुचेतसा उदारचरितानां तु वसुधैव कुटुम्बकं ". According to this we treat the world as a family and it is our bounden duty to protect the distressed in need by way of physical charity or philanthropy or emotional support to alleviate the miseries of the deprived.

When we act generously with empathy and kindness, we feel awefully closer to the recipient and they feel closer emotion to us. Such sense of interdependence and cooperation crystallizes which are building blocks of social connection and evokes gratitude and emotive connection with the person in need creating a ripple effect at the grassroots. In our daily routine life we practice sharing of material things or emotional support to our fellow beings or neighbours, friends and close relatives or those around us which is worth assessed as "giving". One



need not have to wait for generating enough surplus to start giving, rather one can share with the deprived and needy with either material things or support emotionally by lending a helping hand, by praying to reduce the sufferings or giving quality time with neighbours during the hour of crisis which can bolster their capacity to overcome the distress.

Charity begins at home, goes the popular saying. During my life's journey I have carefully fostered kindness, generosity and compassion to my dear and near ones who need care and support at the time of their distress. Supporting financially, emotionally and physically at the emergent hours of illness gave me an enormous feeling of joy and happiness when I could feel my small gesture has created ripples of joy. The feeling of gratitude and uncanny love and tears of happiness were flaunted simply by lending a helping hand with physical support during critical hours. One of my neighbor a hapless and widowed woman unable to make both ends meet was supported by me with basic wherewithal like rice, clothes and some financial support gives me immense joy. I am inclined to lend a helping hand to the poor distressed woman in my neighborhood which made her life easier. The small gestures gave me immense joy and pleasure to the soul. This small act of giving brought a positive change in my life as well as life of the receiver. Many bright examples of true giving back to society has set the ball rolling for the benevolent persons. The education led empowerment of the indigenous children pioneered by Dr Achyuta Samanta who has Founded KISS in Odisha is a unique experiment in social innovation which has restored hope and brought smile to millions of underserved and disadvantaged tribal children. Other great personalities who have immensely contributed for bringing about path breaking change through their noble activities includes Mr Anand Kumar, The Founder of Super 30, an eminent educationist coaching underprivileged children for IIT-JEE with high success rate, Dr S. Ramchndani, Doctor who pioneered Rs 1 clinic at Burla, Odisha and Dr Munishwar Chandar Dawar, Doctor from Madhya Pradesh who charged Rs 20/- for treating the poor people, Azim Premji, Founder Chairman of Wipro,

IT Giant, Sudha Murty of Infosys Foundation an IT Giant, Mukesh Ambani of Reliance Foundation, Ratan Tata of Tata Trusts, etc have all shown unmatched philanthropy for making a difference to the humanity and contributed to making the world a better place to live.

Long ago Leo F. Buscaglis, American author quoted about caring and love: "Too often we underestimate the power of a touch, a smile, a kind word, a listening ear, an honest compliment or the small acts of caring all of which have the potential to turn a life around." The small gestures can be significant and reassuring on the society. The world can be changed to a better place by spreading love among fellow beings. No material things, even things which can't be seen like helping hand, reassurance, support during emotional time, appreciating, a kind word to a fellow human can lead to true happiness and peace of mind. True giving and happiness are deeply connected which emerge from the core of the heart. Whole hearted giving selflessly without any intention of reciprocation will create joy and happiness for the people around.

Everyone has a role to play and can make a difference when it comes to the sense of creating social equity. The inspiring quote of Mahatma Gandhi, "Be the change you want to see in the world," is still relevant which can be emulated for creating change in the community. One can be a change maker in order to realize the overarching goal of creating an enabling environment to foster kindness and compassion for the poor and needy. Each one needs to extend a helping hand to the less fortunate and needy, support in the capacity building of the vulnerable, improve their living standards and be an effective and contributing member for the nation building.

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## KISS: “Art of Giving”-A Priceless Gift of a Visionary to the Underprivileged Adivasi Children and Youth of Our Nation

### Prof. Deepak K. Behera

Vice Chancellor of KISS Deemed to be University



Gifts have always been a part of every culture and society from times immemorial. We gift various things to people on various occasions. The best gifts come from the heart. A gift is not

necessarily about the object itself, but more about the emotion and sentiment behind it. There are always questions about what could be the right gift. With so many choices, how does one choose the right gift?

KISS is a unique gift by Professor Dr. Achyuta Samanta to the disadvantaged indigenous children and youth. It has a huge impact on their lives. Dr Samanta calls education 'the third eye' which he has been offering to tens of thousands of poor tribal children and youth free of cost for the last three decades. This is the highest form of kindness and munificence for all to emulate. KISS as a temple of learning stands for “Hope, Happiness and Harmony”. It provides a wonderful platform to the indigenous children and youth to display their talents and creativity.

From a tiny residential school in 1992 to a mammoth Deemed-to be-University now, KISS has had a phenomenal 'acorn-to-oak' growth story, with over thirty thousand tribal students enrolled, ranging from the primary to the tertiary levels of education, thirty thousand Alumni & another ten thousand schooling in the peripheral satellite centers. It is the only institution in the world exclusively dedicated to the physical, moral and intellectual development of tens of thousands of children from the underprivileged section of society absolutely free of cost. KISS stands out for its humane vision and altruistic mission. Besides being unique, it has also become distinctive in winning many world-wide recognitions and accolades during its journey. A constant stream of world-class scientists, social and peace activists, most of whom are Nobel Laureates, have visited KISS over the years. In

recognition of the global name this institution has earned for its philanthropic mission to empower the poorest of the poor tribal students through education, UNESCO, UNICEF, UNFPA, UNDP, the US Federal Government, FIFA, & FIVB testify to its preeminence as a catalyst of social transformation through education and sports. These achievements, which are but a few among many more, have been duly recognized by Economic and Social Council (ECOSOC).

Innovations at KISS

With an integrative framework of education in place at KISS, where a huge number of children enrolling at the KISS primary and secondary schools become university graduates with doctoral degrees in due course, this institution has opportunities as well as challenges in abundance. The opportunities include continuous guidance of young school students and a careful nurturing of their young minds until they grow into university graduates, well-equipped with academic knowledge, analytic and cognitive abilities, scientific rationality, evidence-based thinking, etc. At the end of their education career each student ought to have a balanced personality that is knowledgeable, skilled, fully equipped with ethical and moral reasoning, aesthetic values, gender sensitivity, ecological awareness, civic sense etc.

Dr Achyut Samanta also emphasizes on the incorporation of the elements of empathy, kindness and qualities of being humane in pedagogy, and recently KISS as well as its sister concern KIIT signed a partnership agreement with UNESCO MGIEP to offer an online course: Self-directed Emotional Learning for Empathy and Kindness (SEEK) for students and faculties. In addition, some specially designed value-added courses, namely 'Self-help and Happiness' and 'Training for Combating Radicalization', 'Inclusive Education and Gender Equality' (AURORA Project) are offered to the students. All these courses define the holistic nature of our pedagogy that aims at developing each and every student into a balanced and complete human being,

well-tutored and replete with all values and sentiments so as to contribute to human civilization.

A bottom-up approach to pedagogy is KISS's preferred way of identifying the predilection and aptitude of students for specific streams of knowledge or discipline, motivating them to pursue learning in the fields of their preference, identifying the areas of their weakness and creating in a systematic road map by making provision for their remedial learning at the secondary, intermediate and undergraduate levels.

At the Foundational Stage, learning activities through games is being part of the curriculum. MES components (Mathematics, English and the Sciences) is emphasized at the Preparatory, Middle and Secondary stages, so that the students can shape up as competent learners at the higher levels of learning at the college and university levels.

Greater emphasis is placed on vocational learning. The KISS MODEL OF HOLISTIC AND MULTIDISCIPLINARY EDUCATION also subscribes to the spirit of holistic education as envisaged in the NEP-2020 for schools. Accordingly, the barriers between curricular and extra-curricular or co-curricular education have been done away with in order to make arts, craft, vocational skills part of the school curriculum throughout, with the same importance as enjoyed by the so-called academic subjects. KISS has been imparting training in the areas of the skill development of the youth in collaboration with BOSCH. Such activities are to be undertaken on a more systematized and larger scale and more intensively.

Mother Tongue-Based Multilingual Education of the tribal children up to the middle stage of schooling ought to define the core of holistic education. This has been emphasized by the NEP-2020. It is heartening that KISS has been practicing a mother tongue-based multilingual education programme in collaboration with Bernard van Leer Foundation. KISS has been recently conferred with the UNESCO International Literacy Prize 2022 along with a medal, a diploma and an endowment of US 20,000 at a global award ceremony organized by UNESCO on 8th September 2022. It has own the UNESCO King Sejong Literacy Prize 2022 for the Mother Tongue Based Multi Lingual Education Model.

Bridge courses at the end of school education are offered to the students to facilitate their transition from school learning to more advanced college learning in the medium of English. The bridge courses are needed all the more for students joining KISS from other institutions at intermediate and undergraduate levels. The KISS MODEL OF HOLISTIC AND MULTIDISCIPLINARY EDUCATION gives great importance to the bridge courses.

Curricular Revision and Updating is an obligation to be met in accordance with the UGC model curricula of the various subjects taught. Incorporation of some innovative, inter-disciplinary courses at the undergraduate and postgraduate levels and introduction of value-added courses are addressed through periodic curricular revision. The thumb rule of curricular revision is that no course, howsoever novel and progressive, should ever result in cultural uprooting of the students. The value-added courses have been so designed on topics of tribal ecology, arts, cuisines, sports and games so as to help the students stay rooted in their cultures.

Formation of a Think Tank is necessary for a newly formed university like KISS. Distinguished professors of Humanities, Social Sciences and Pure Sciences are part of the think-tank as Professors Emiriti. They formulate broad policy matters to improve the standards of teaching and research of the undergraduate and postgraduate teachers, provide mentoring to research scholars, give occasional lectures under the auspices of the IQAC and HRDC.

The academic and social culture of KISS has been so created that the tribal students should not be weaned away from their native cultures while pursuing their academic studies in various disciplines. After all, empowerment of the tribal students can have meaning and value only when they themselves will emerge as the leaders of their communities with their knowledge capital, entrepreneurial skills and a critical understanding of economy, politics and society. If only the students remain rooted in their cultures and traditions and have an informed and humane view of the larger world, they surely can ameliorate the living conditions and economy of the people of their communities. The avowed goal of the KISS MODEL OF HOLISTIC AND MULTIDISCIPLINARY

EDUCATION is to work towards the preservation of the cultural distinctiveness and diversity of the students instead of homogenizing them for the mainstream culture much to the detriment of their own cultures.

Therefore, in addition to the regular faculties, mentors and the professors emiriti, KISS has engaged some Professors of Practice to teach the students various forms of indigenous knowledge and skills, folk lore, ecology, folk medicine, tribal art, sculpture and craft, cuisine and indigenous food technology as well as the performing arts such as dance and music. These resource persons, without formal education and training, lend a new informal flavour to learning at KISS by bringing to bear upon the pedagogy their practical knowledge and experience in their respective fields and communicating in the respective tribal languages or Odia.

While taking the onerous responsibility of educating thousands of students free of cost, KISS also helps the students convert their education into an acquired cultural capital to be invested in the rural, underdeveloped regions from where they have come from, and to which they will return eventually. Since jobs in the government and private sectors are few, and the percentage of KISS students landing in jobs is low like everywhere else in India, KISS endeavors to inculcate in the students leadership qualities, entrepreneurial and innovative spirit early on at the school and intermediate levels of learning so as to motivate the students to go for entrepreneurial ventures in their native places, tapping the local resources and manpower. Instead of hunting jobs they will themselves be creators of jobs and contribute to the local economy.

The Roadmap to be followed at KISS:

1) KISS has a Tribal Advisory Council to formulate policies and offer advisories to the seven Schools regarding designing syllabi and planning pedagogic programmes in such a manner that the cultural and livelihood interests of the tribal communities are addressed.

2) It has a Working Committee on the Promotion, Preservation and Protection of Tribal Cultural diversity and Heritage. This committee chalks out perspective planning as well as strategic planning for the socio-economic uplift of the tribal populace while

protecting and preserving and promoting their cultural heritage.

3) As advised by the Startup Policy 2016, Government of Odisha, courses in Startup and Entrepreneurship studies have been included in the school and university syllabi at KISS. The current project titled 'Atmanirbharsil Janjati Yuva Udyami' aims at designing and implementing a robust entrepreneurial capacity development and skill training mechanism for post-graduate students of KISS Deemed to be University. It commences with students conducting a multi-layered resource mapping (human, material and cultural) process of their villages/localities, to identify the employment needs of their indigenous community vis-à-vis existing indigenous knowledge, trades and skills, and to identify locally available material, human and cultural resources.

4) Based on this information, students are assisted in brainstorming potential business ideas, which will then be vetted and incubated based on their feasibility, under the aegis of Indigenous Innovation Incubator (III) of KISS-DU's Centre for Indigenous Innovation and Entrepreneurship. Accordingly, students receive relevant theoretical and practical skill training and business development guidance from relevant resource persons at the university (including Professors of Practice & Professors Emeriti) and external partners. The university strives to empower the tribal youth with the skills and knowledge needed to become self-reliant indigenous entrepreneurs, who can generate sustainable livelihood, revenue and employment both for themselves and their communities, while simultaneously continuing to be the knowledge and skill bearers of indigenous means of craft and livelihood.

Concluding Remarks

In conclusion, the KISS MODEL OF HOLISTIC AND MULTIDISCIPLINARY EDUCATION envisages the ultimate role of the students passing out of this institution as cognitively developed, critically mature, culturally rooted and ethically enriched brand ambassadors of KISS as they will eventually enter various fields of vocation and professional services.

Hence we can very well say that KISS is “Art of Giving” in action.



## Art of Giving- The Mantra for a Sustainable World

**Prof. Chittaranjan Das**

Reader in Political Science (Retired), Puri



Today, we are all living in a world which is interconnected by the development of technology. Internet connectivity & high speed data transfer have converted the

world into a global village. Further as something important or drastic happens in one part of the globe, the whole world is getting affected in some way or the other. The latest example is the recent catastrophic war between Russia & Ukraine which has been continuing for the past nine months & has gravely disrupted the supply chains the world over leading to the whole global economy being grossly affected. It shows that we are all interdependent for our sustenance & heavily dependent on one another for our livelihood. But simultaneously it is paradoxical that we are living in a world with unequal distribution of wealth & the richest ten percentage of the world population are owning & enjoying ninety percentages of the assets.

Today climate change which is the offshoot of green house effect & air/water pollution is affecting the whole world with loss of species, cultivable land & human habitat. Booming population growth & scant resources at hand to sustain the same are the crux of compelling issues that the human civilization is confronted with.

It is felt that if we are to leave behind a safe & livable world for our future generations as a legacy, the only “Mantra” which can support us is “Art of Giving”. This means that we should try to help the less fortunate without any expectation of return to usher in peace & happiness in this mundane world & try for the optimum use of the human, material & cultural resources at our disposal.

Now the premise that naturally arises is that a person

having some material resources at his command can only give it to others. It is but natural that a person with scant resources can do little for others. But if one thinks deeper, it can be realized that only material resources can not complete all the requirements of a human being. Even providing emotional/physical or psychological support & providing a supportive shoulder to lean on can also do wonders for a person in distress. Secondly the giver should also have a proactive mindset to help. It is really a misnomer to think that amassing a lot of material & physical assets can make a person peaceful & happy. Rather this can invite lots of worries & anxieties into one's life.

Going back to nature we can see that the world survives on coexistence. The animal & plant world support each other to grow & survive. The world of we human beings is no different. Let us discuss the case of our own country. From time immemorial the concept of “Art of Giving” is prevalent in Indian society. Our cultural ethos is based on the concept of “Vasudhaiva Kutumbakam”. That means that we treat the whole world as part of our extended family. The concept revolves around the basic premise that whatever little we possess, should be shared with our fellow beings to generate peace & happiness in this world.

Prof. Achyuta Samanta, eminent educationist, philanthropist & social reformer has taken this age old concept to a new level by propagating the message of peace & happiness in the world by observing the 17th May every year as the “International Day of Art of Giving”, since 2013. Prof. Samanta's difficult childhood experiences motivated him to try to make the lives of the have-nots a little better. Lord has blessed Prof. Samanta with the necessary means & strength to carry on this noble deed with missionary zeal for the last so many years. In his own words, Prof. Samanta has beautifully said & I quote, “I will serve the society selflessly. The society has made me what I am. I will



pay back the debt, without being complacent.”  
Unquote.

He has further elaborated thus;” Art of Giving is all about creating an unconditional & sustainable abundance of love, peace, happiness & containment for others through gestures of kindness & generosity.”

If we analyze the concept, we shall realize that one has to be necessarily become peaceful to become happy & vice versa. The core of all human efforts is to become happy. Ultimately it is a happy life that can generate a peaceful mind. Vulgar display of wealth & craving for unending material needs make the life of people miserable on this earth. In contrast we find that Indigenous people who live close to the Mother Nature are so peaceful, even though they are far away from the benefits of modern civilization. The ever bountiful Mother Nature gives them everything for leading a happy life in her cradle. Science has revealed the truth that “Every action has an equal & opposite reaction”. These words are equally true in the mundane world & beyond. The more we give love, kindness, joy & support to others, all come back to us in multiple times.

The UNO has set seventeen goals for transforming our world as the -2030- Agenda for sustainable development. Out of these goals, “Art of Giving” as a concept is directly related to Sustainable Development Goal no-10-Reduced Inequalities i.e creating equal opportunity for an inclusive society & Sustainable Development Goal no-16-Peace, Justice and strong Institutions i.e strengthening society and solidarity by reducing violence & insecurities.

It is high time that we should come together & join hands to make this world a better place to live in for our children & leave behind a good legacy in the sands of time. If we fail in this effort & carry on with the rat race of living at the cost of others, the doomsday clock for the present civilization will be hastened. The future generation will never condone us for this deed. Hence it can be surmised that it is only, “Art of Giving”, which is the talisman or Mantra for sustainable world.

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On 19th November-2022, the Art of Giving team from the Founder's Office, KIIT-DU visited the house of Kumari Shanti Senapati, daughter of Sri Charan Senapati at Sailashree vihar, Bhubaneswar who has been lying in a bedridden condition since the last twenty years being congenitally afflicted with epilepsy. The AOG Team supported the family by providing a wheelchair to facilitate the movement of the patient. The family & the local community have expressed their gratitude to Prof. Achyuta Samanta & the Art of Giving community for this humanitarian gesture.



The Art of Giving team from the founder's office visited the Govt. Primary school at Andharua, Cunukali in the suburban limits of Bhubaneswar on 21.10.2022 & distributed study materials & dry food to the children studying there from the underprivileged class.





Following the philosophy of the “Art of Giving” initiated by our Founder, Prof. Dr. Achyuta Samanta, under his leadership, an initiative was led by our respected Dr. Jugajyoti Pathi [Deputy Director (Administration)] and our respected Principal Dr. Aswini Kumar Kar. A dental screening camp was conducted at Ashraya Shelter, Duduma, Bhubaneswar, organized by the Department of Public Health Dentistry, Kalinga Institute of Dental Sciences, KIIT Deemed to be University, under the guidance of Dr. Ipseeta Menon (HOD, Department of Public Health Dentistry).

The organizing team included Dr. Sovesh Das (faculty), PG-in-charge Dr. Aseema, 8 final year students and one paramedic staff. A total of 100 children were screened in the camp conducted on 17.1.2023.

There has been an increase incidence of dental caries in children. Poor diet, poor food habits and inadequate tooth brushing habits results in tooth decay and gum diseases. The development of caries

in primary teeth further increases the risk of developing caries in permanent teeth. Hence it is extremely important to establish proper oral hygiene routine early in life to ensure the development of strong and healthy teeth.

The motive of the camp was not only to check the dental health of the children but also to provide basic dental health education to them and motivate oral hygiene maintenance. The screened patients were mostly diagnosed with dental caries and calculus deposits. So an educative discussion and interaction was done with the children emphasizing on oral health education with stressing on tooth decay and gum diseases and measures of prevention, tooth brushing technique demonstration on models, dietary habits, oral hygiene maintenance and basic oral health care habits.

## “Art of Giving” Volunteers Provide Succour to the Flood-hit

Massive floods resulting from heavy rainfall have engulfed vast swathes of populated land in Odisha. Downstream river Mahanadi inundated thousands of villages and vast tracts of farmlands. Lacs of vulnerable people and domestic animals have been marooned and rendered homeless. The fury of flood waters has forced them to live a life of great misery.



At this crucial and challenging time, the “Art of Giving” volunteers from KIIT Deemed to be University in collaboration with the local volunteers and ODRAF team members, braving their lives in the gushing flood waters, have come to the rescue of 500 stranded villagers of Sukhukhala under Banki subdivision in Cuttack district.

Playing the role of angels, the “Art of Giving” volunteers provided them with relief materials, including dry food, essential medicines, drinking water, sanitary napkins and fodder for livestock. It is noteworthy that the team was the first to reach the distressed people with relief materials which provided much-needed succour and emotional support in the hour of crisis. The team is active and is playing a crucial supportive role in various parts of the State.

“Art of Giving” is the brainchild of Prof. Achyuta Samanta, eminent educationist, philanthropist, Founder, KIIT & KISS and MP (Lok Sabha) from Kandhamal. The initiative which came as an epiphany to Prof. Samanta way back in 2013, has now taken deep roots as a civic movement and is celebrated worldwide as the “International Day of Art of Giving” on 17th May every year to spread the message of peace & happiness



and provide support to the needy without any hope/aspirations of return to build a more compassionate, humane society towards an inclusive world.

The landmark supportive role played by the “Art of Giving” volunteers during COVID times with numerous relief activities which included providing dry/cooked food, health care & other services has been widely applauded on various national platforms. Providing much-needed succour during the hour of crisis has become the “mantra” for the volunteers of “Art of Giving”.

This effort made by the “Art of Giving” team members during the current devastating flood has been appreciated by the affected people of the village who have showered the volunteers with their blessings and have expressed their sincere gratitude from the core of their hearts to Prof. Achyuta Samanta, Founder, “Art of Giving”.





# HealthCare Odisha

## Monthly Mega Healthcare Camps



## Healthcare Camps in Kandhamal





## News Paper clippings:



Dr Achyuta Samanta has been organising Free Mega healthcare Camps in the rural areas of Odisha since 2009 every month to extend quality health care services and provide medicines to enhance the life quality of the people of the tribal-dominated districts with support from Kalinga Institute of Medical Sciences (KIMS). The team of eminent doctors from KIMS Bhubaneswar, paramedical and support staff conduct the camps and check the health status of the local people and distribute free medicines. Doctors from departments of Medicine, Paediatrics, Dermatology, Pulmonary Medicine, Gastroenterology, Nephrology, Surgery, Orthopaedics, Obstetrics and Gynaecology, Psychiatry, Ophthalmology, ENT and Radiology of KIMS Bhubaneswar, participate and extend their healing touch.

KISS Foundation has adopted Kandhamal Dist under Mission TB-Free Campaign. The KISS Foundation has joined the Prime Minister TB Free

Campaign 'TB Harega Desh Jitega' launched by Government of India to make the country TB free by 2025. Under it, the foundation has adopted the entire Kandhamal district to distribute 'Food Baskets' for TB patients for supplementing your brilliant efforts. The objective of distributing the baskets is to support the nutritional requirement of the patients as medicine alone is not enough to cure patients. In the first phase, nutritional food distribution programme has been launched for over a thousand TB patients including 39 children in 6 blocks at Phulani and another 6 blocks in Baliguda of Kandhamal.

Besides this initiative, Mega Healthcare Camps are being organised in Kandhamal. In our most recent mega health camps at Baliguda and Boudh, nearly 5,000 patients were treated and advised by the experienced and expert doctors from Kalinga Institute of Medical Sciences (KIMS).

# Mission Aasha Alok



## Programme

On 29th December-2022, in an Art of Giving event organized at Mission Asaha Alok an asylum for mentally ill patients at Janla, a lunch programme was arranged for the inmates & the message of Hon'ble founder ,Art of Giving-Prof. Achyuta Samanta was shared with all by a team from Founder's office.



**A small tribute to the great Humanitarian, Educationist  
and Philanthropist Hon'ble Dr. Achyuta Samanta.**



**Shruti Sinha**

Class-XI, DAV C S Pur

Let me recite this tale of strive,  
The story stretches way back to 1965.  
Born to poor parents of seven,  
Later he gifted the indigent a heaven.  
Achyuta Samanta is his name,  
He worked diligently, but not for fame.  
His tender hands raised the tribe's child,  
KISS was born as each brick of compassion compiled.  
Today KIIT and KISS are worldwide known,  
Because this warrior in 1992 laid the first stone.  
It started with a mere five thousand's amount,  
Later it become such a big family, all lost count.  
His wonderful journey was from grief to glee,  
He dreamt of flying like a bird set free.  
Today this real hero is loved by all,  
Still his lifestyle is sober and small.  
The world adores him for his deeds,  
He sowed the humanitarian seeds.  
We eagerly await the auspicious date,  
When he becomes the noble laureate.  
For the poor, he is like God on earth,  
He preaches and practices the Art Of Giving,  
A beautiful way of living.  
It's beyond words, when it comes to his worth.  
He is patient and owns a wise mind.  
Because he deserved, indeed he shined.



## Ananya Swain

Ph. D. Research Scholar,  
KIIT School of Humanities

**“We make a living by what we get.  
We make a life by what we give”**

~Winston Churchill

A few months ago, something happened that completely altered how I perceived society. I used to get my usual breakfast at a tiffin center every day. I've been going there for breakfast for almost a year and a half. I recently found a few photos of an event in progress at my institution. Some of them said that it was an occasion for the art of giving when I asked them. Despite hearing it before, I gave it a little thought. I subsequently began noticing similar scenarios on other campuses. A few days prior, it was a typical day, and I was, as usual, enjoying a nice breakfast. I then realized a woman and a child were standing in the shop's corner. I didn't pay attention initially, but after I finished eating and turned to go, I noticed the woman was distressed and had been calling someone on the phone. My driver was eating the food when I went to them and inquired about the situation with the lady. She kindly responded that I could not pay at the store because she had forgotten to carry her wallet. I remember feeling a little worried at the moment. But after that, I left them without saying a word and proceeded to the counter. I don't remember how I felt when I paid for the lady and the child, but I did. I went to them after that and told them about my payment. It is impossible to convey the sparks, the ocean of joy, and the blossom of

kindness I witnessed in that woman's eye.

Days will pass, filled with recollections and many strange encounters as well. Giving someone a little enjoyment, however, will spread a lot of blessings. On that day, I understood the genuine meaning of giving. Even though I might not run into that lady again, I am confident that the feeling of giving will return to you in a big way. The art of giving inspires others through deeds of generosity and kindness to experience an abundance of unconditional love, serenity, happiness, and joy. It was a very pleasant experience when I remembered this incident. Giving was one of the best investments I made toward achieving genuine happiness. We can gain tremendous perspective by leaving our world and entering the world of others. When seen in the context of other people's circumstances, your concerns and difficulties might not seem as significant.

### Inspired By

I would like to thank the person behind this magnificent feeling I realized, the person with selfless love, kindness and who has a sustainable vision towards this art of giving. He believes in humanitarian movement, peaceful journey and revolution. The person is none other than Prof Achyuta Samanta, founder of KIIT and KISS, Bhubaneswar. My heartfelt gratitude to him as his follower.





## Jayasmita Kuanr

Ph.D. Research Scholar  
KIIT School of Humanities

One of the most fundamental and sacred human values is helping others. It represents the principles we ought to uphold at all times. We may support others in a variety of ways. With this, I want to share one of the incidents during the Covid-19 lockdown period. We have household help in our home. She is a kind woman, and a mother of three children. She has been with us since 2016. But unfortunately, due to her drunkard husband, she can't save money for her children or to purchase some basic stuff for her home. My mother gave her food daily because she used to make a little extra for my aunt's children. One day her three children visited me because they learned I was suffering from viral fever. But after testing negative, I allowed them to come and visit my place. They properly comb their hair and are very well-behaved. I told them to sit beside me, but they all refused and sat on the ground. They were literally shivering in the cold but didn't listen to sit with me on the bed. After that, we all had dinner together sitting on the ground because they didn't agree to share sitting at the dining table to have dinner. Though they visited my place during winter, I noted they felt very cold but wore no winter clothes. I can't tolerate seeing these kids who are struggling every day without winter clothes. Then with the help of my parents, and I bought pairs of socks, three sweaters, and three woollen caps

for them from the market. The next day, they came to my place to meet me, and I told them to come again in the evening with their mother. They nodded their head and went back to their home. In the evening, they all came with my aunt and silently sat on Chatai provided by my mother. My mother told aunty, "Come! Let's go and complete the household works together". After completing her work, my aunt stood in the corner of the house to ask me what I held in my hand. I held a big blanket packet, inside which a double bed blanket was there, and offered it to aunt. She was shocked and looked into my face like what had happened. Even the three kids were looking at my face the way that I did something unexpected. Then my mother came to me and gave me the winter stuff which I bought for the kids. Holding those winter clothes, the elder daughter of aunt got so emotional but didn't say anything. I hugged them and offered them chocolates, and they returned home happily. Aunt turned back at me while I was closing the main entrance gate and smiled. I can't express how she looked at me in words, but somehow that gave me a different kind of happiness and satisfaction. I felt something unique that day. I don't know what it was, but a step toward humanity. Therefore, we feel better about ourselves and strengthen our relationships with others when we help them. In addition to giving us a feeling



of purpose, helping others makes us feel needed and valued. The Art of Giving is something we can feel within our soul instead of showing others that we are helping to achieve any specific goal. The founder of KIIT and KISS, Dr. Achyuta Samanta, a great philanthropist, inspires everyone for the 'Art of Giving movement.' His humble personality and dedication towards humanitarian revolution are key to his

great achievements. He understood human beings and their necessity, and I believe humanity is equal to Sir Dr. Achyuta Samanta. I am sincerely providing humble gratitude as his follower. I can conclude by remembering Mother Teresa's words: "It's not how much we give, but how much love we put into giving."

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## Naazia Gulnar

BA English (Hons., Semester VI)  
School of Language-DU)

Art of giving comes out as oasis in the desert of the rapacious world of consumerism and capitalism. Selflessness is the rare water which can soothe the soul of the giver. When I look around and see stressed faces in the rat race, I look at the darkling sky. There is, however, no room for despondency. During my two and half years of academic journey at KIIT, I have seen rays of light piercing through the dark clouds. KISS is really a beacon.

The philosophy that underlines KISS is infectious. I see people find time to show small acts of kindness that make other people's day—a simple warm smile, a snuggly hug or even a few words of kindness can save us and others. If I am ever running late for the college bus, Abdul uncle, the driver KIIT bus, waits for me or a young student from another department gives me his seat because my backpack is usually heavy. As I rush to my department to find out that I have arrived early than anyone, but then Suniti ma'am, an office staff comes forward to talks with me and also share with me her morning

breakfast. Isn't giving an act of kindness? Listening to the other's words of pain and sharing snacks and sympathy are surely acts of giving.

The KIIT campus tour that we had on our first days of the university which made me visit KISS and see the beaming faces of the young tribal girls not only touched the cockles of my heart but also got me a-thinking about the selfless but stupendous service of the founder of KIIT and KISS, Prof. Dr. Achyuta Samanta. The image that flashed upon my mind was that of a gardener's toil and moil in KIIT's Rose Garden. His selfless tending leads to blooming flowers which weather and rot and become a fodder for the sprouting of the new roses. From nature to humans, giving and receiving is the endless cycle that we all live in; we must understand that the KISS children who came from the tribal villages of Odisha are being groomed to pay back to the society. I will undoubtedly meet some of these children as grown-up professionals—doctors or nurses—treating and taking care of me.



## Pablo Chowdhury

1st Year, B. Tech. Student,  
Section: B-34, Roll No.: 2202065

Giving is an art. It is a beautiful gesture of expressing your love, care and gratitude, and it can be done in many ways. From making someone feel special with a thoughtful gift to donating to a charity, giving is a way of spreading joy and kindness.

The art of giving is something that I have always held near and dear to my heart. I have been fortunate enough to have been born into a family that instilled in me a strong sense of charity and generosity. My parents taught me to think of others before myself, and to always be willing to lend a helping hand.

Growing up, I watched my parents demonstrate the art of giving in action. Whether it was donating clothes to our local charity, or volunteering at a homeless shelter, they always found ways to give back to our community.

Throughout my life, I have continued to practice the art of giving. Whether it's a small act of kindness, like helping someone out with their groceries, or volunteering my time at a local soup kitchen, I have always looked for ways to make a difference in the lives of others. Giving to those in need is one of the most rewarding experiences I have ever encountered.

One of the most rewarding experiences I've had was giving back to the community I grew up in. Growing up in a low-income area, I was always grateful for the people who gave of their time and resources to help make our neighborhood a better place. I remember going to the local food pantry with my mother, and how grateful she was that people had taken the time to donate food and clothing for those in need. In recent years, I've tried to make giving a

part of my daily life. Whether it's donating to a charity or volunteering my time, I've found that giving back has been incredibly rewarding for me. It's also a great way to meet new people and experience new cultures.

One of the most powerful ways I have seen the art of giving used is to give the gift of education. Education is a powerful tool that can help to create a better future for many people. My family and I have worked with several organizations that provide educational opportunities in underprivileged communities. Seeing the joy and hope that these initiatives bring to the lives of these children is truly inspiring. The art of giving can also be used to help those in our own community. We can show our support to those in need by volunteering our time and resources. From tutoring at a local school, to helping out at a food pantry, there are countless ways we can make a difference in the lives of people in our community.

At the end of the day, it's not about the amount of money or resources that we give, but rather the thought and effort that we put into it. When we give from the heart and with a genuine desire to help those in need, we can make a real difference in the lives of others.

The art of giving is something that is close to my heart. I believe that when we give selflessly and with a genuine desire to help others, we can make a real impact in the lives of those around us. By practicing the art of giving, we can create a better future for ourselves and for others.





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MA English, Semester I  
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I lost my mother at a tender age, and along with it I also lost hope. As a teen I viewed the world as an unfair and ruthless space ridden with insecurities and anxieties. I often looked for encouragement and searched for answers. Would I ever come across people who would make the world more lovable and livable? Or had the time come when we would have to depend on 'conscious' robots to take over human sensibilities!

I do not think we will have to look at machine as a beacon, for I found my hope in an old woman residing close to my apartment. She was in her late seventies and lived alone with her household help. I observed she had an uncanny trait in her. She drew people towards her or rather people sought her. I always found her in the midst of people smiling and her eyes sparkling as her sinewed hands held on for support. There was so much wholeness and life-ness around her. She intrigued me.

Once unable to hold my curiosity any longer I asked her the secret of her refreshing attitude towards life even at her age. What made her approach life so very fulfilling and free? She replied that it was the acceptance of one and all that she desired and nourished. She said she had nothing to offer in material terms. All she gave was ventilation and support by genuinely listening to people, which helped relieve their pain and frustration.

It is a fact that each of us crave to be heard. We open our floodgates of inner

memories and experiences and desire to be treated in a non-judgmental way. We want validation of our existence. A few empathetic words or acts of goodness help us to unburden our heavy feelings. We want others to be non-critical and non-reproachful towards us. But do we readily listen to the vulnerable afflicted selves of others? Do we have a moment to spare? Is it too much to ask to be supportive to a fellow mate? Our genuine attentiveness could mean an ointment to some bruised soul. The repair technique is simple— a patient ear to other's pain which could draw people out from the pits of unworthiness and dejection and replace it with feelings of adequacy and contentment.

Yet in this selfish and apathetic world, time seems to be the most precious possession and people are not ready to easily part with it. No one has the desire to hear people and heal them. However, when one comes across the life of Prof Dr. Achyuta Samanta one feels humbled. He lends his ears to the cries of poverty-stricken tribal boys and girls who were at the periphery of society. He gives them education and opportunities and a space to dream. Would each of them personally repay him back? No, never. But sparing time for their plight to crystalize their future is an act of godliness which brings unalloyed satisfaction and humanistic joy.




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## WORLD LEADERSHIP ACADEMY ART OF GIVING

Printed & Published by **Achyuta Nanda Samanta** on behalf of World Leadership Academy. Published at World Leadership Academy, Kalinga Institute of Industrial Technology, Plot No. 380/2218, Koel Campus, Campus – 1, At/ PO- KIIT, Patia, Bhubaneswar-751024, Odisha. Printed at Print-Tech Offset Pvt. Ltd., Plot No: F 66/2, Chandaka Industrial Area, PO-KIIT, Bhubaneswar-751024, Odisha.

**Editor: Achyuta Nanda Samanta**

