



## Little Mother Teresa PARBATI GIRI - A PROFILE

Parvati Giri of Bargarh district in Orissa is one of those two reliant freedom fighter. Who had contribute there mite for the freedom of India from the British clutches at the cutest of twentieth century. Her life of in cossant struggle did not come to an end with the achievement of political

freedom of India. Since then she has been striving to bring economic end social liberation to the neglected and clopression mean of the society. Her life is one of dedication for the under dogs of the society and hence she spurned the pleasures of material and marital life for the sake of a higher bliss in the service of the deprived class.

In January 19<sup>th</sup>. 1926 Parvati Giri was born to shri and smt Dhananjaya Giri of Samalai Padex village under Bijepur police station in Present Bargarh district. Like many other children of her ago she also provided school at the age of five and continued till she completed class three at the village Primary School. That was the time when the inspiring call of Mahatma Gandhi to liberate India from the foreign rule spread like wildfire in the nook and corner of our country. Sri Bhagirathi Parichha of anjam, Sri Durgaprasad Guru and sri Rama Chandra Puri of Sambalpur etc. we are striving to spread the message of Gandhiji to every corner of Orissa. Being inspired by Sri. Bhagirathi Pattnaik, Sri Dayananda Satpathy and the then M.L.A. Sri Prahallad Ray Lat of Barpali who followed the ideals of Gandhiji and the National Congress. Parvati Giri joined in spinning and took upon herself the responsibility of teaching others the art of spinning.

At the young age of only twelfth in 1935 she took upon herself the task of not only teaching other how to

spin, but also the stupendous task of collecting member for the National Congress. 1937 was a turning point in her life. That year renounced Women leader Smt. Malati Devi and sri Pranakrishna Podihari were add messing a huge gathering of far mane at Samalai Padar village. Parvati Giri was so much inspired by their speech and activities that she want bent upon joining them. But she was too young for joining Malati Devi and hence Malati Devi assuredhar to send to the 'Ashram' of smt. Rama Devi for education and training Parvati Giri was not a child to take rest just being assured to be taken to "Bari Ashram" she was always worried how to leave home and reach Rama Devi's Ashram. Her family members were worried going her restlessness. Her father tried to convince her regarding the heard life and perseverance of "Ashram Life". He also made her to take challenges of "Ashram Life" by means of engaging her in work with our any food. But Parvati Giri ded not budge an inch from her decision. At last her family members had to bow down to her determination and her aunt Amrit Devi left her at the residence of Sri Fakir Behera of Bargarh. In 1930 she was sent to "Bari Saya Ashram" with Smt. Pravabati Devi another freedom fighter of Sambalpur District.



There she apart her days in studys spinning cleaning villages and discussing various problems of the villagers. Gradually her cherished dream to be a dedicated social worker came to be realised.

In 1940 she came back to Sambalpur and there started collector's members for the National Congress along with Sri Dayananda Satpathy. At Jhaduapara village of Sambalpur she taught the village a how to spin and at the same time infused the village women to jump in to the tray to India freedom struggle by delivering inspiring speeches and organizing meeting. In quit India movement of 1942 she took active part in consultation with Ram Puri.

Best Wishes from  
**Shyam Lal Agrawal**

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She set up a parallel court with the help of Abhimanyu Bhoi of Panimera Village and Biranchi Pradhan of Kamgaon village and this got her self arrested in the court of the then S.D.O of Bargarh Sri B. Mukharges. It was no doubt a remarkable deed on the part of a woman then to create nuisances in the court. Really it was an act of courage to be seated in the chair of the S.D.O and pass sentence on him with the help of take pleaders / Lamar's and order lies. Her arrest was in fact not in glorious in the way people heaped garlands on her and bade fare well to their valiant to the jail. After two years of rigorous imprisonment at Sambalpur Jail, she was released in 1944. After that she started collecting contribution for "Gandhi Trust Fund".

In 1945 she joined Ramchandra Puri Ashram and in 1947 she went to Wardha Women Ashram for training. The sum of independence rose during her stay at Wardha. But she did not think her duty over with the achievement of India's Independence. In order to train herself as an accomplished social worker she joined "Prag Mahila Vidyapitha" at Allahabad in 1950 with the help of Sri Hari Krishna Mahatab and Sambalpur Zilla Parishad. After four years of study there she joined in the relief operation of Smt. Rama Devi.

In 1955 she joined American project and dedicated herself to the development of health and hygiene of people in Sambalpur district. She has joined several times in relief operations called upon by "Kasturba Trust Memorial" in 1964 she went to endure to be trained in spinning being inspired by Khadi Movement. She also joined spinning camps at Bihar of Uttar Pradesh. Her great fascination for Khadi involved her in Utkal State Khadi Mandal in 1968. She established herself at Paikmal as Khetra Sangathan and dedicated herself for the development and spread of spinning and Khadi. All the while she was worried for the neglected and depressed people. So she organized interested women and started a voluntary organization called "Kasturba Gandhi Matruniketan" at the sacred place of Nrusinghanath. One hundred and five orphan children including gamine spricher children of 1975 are living there at present. It is also a haven for destitute ladies. She has also established

another home for the destitute called "Dr. Santra Bal Niketan" at Birasingh Gar under Jujomura block in Sambalpur District.

She was connected with various Government and non government institutions as a social worker. She was a member of Centre Balashram Committee of Rajbhavan the advisory committee of Abdul Education wing of Sambalpur University, the advisory committee of Sambalpur District Industrial Centre. Jail supervisor Director. Home for the led advisory of Sambalpur University N.S.S. wing member of Min Leprosy Eradication committee, member of A.I.R. Sambalpur and I.C.C.W., New Delhi.



The bagged the prestigious prize of Social Welfare Deptt. Of Government of India for child welfare in March 9<sup>th</sup> 1984. She is the beloved "Mother" of the helpless SC and ST people of Padampur, Khariar, Nuapada and Chhatishgarh area.

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