



Annual Report 2019





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"We know only too well that what we are doing is nothing more than a drop in the ocean. But if the drop were not there, the ocean would be missing something."

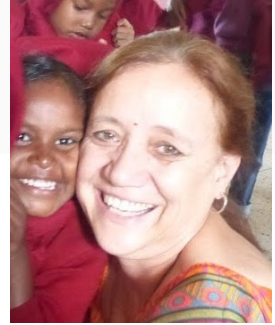
(Mother Teresa)

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01/A letter from Akshy's chairwoman



Raquel Mason Palomeque: President of Akshy

Dear Friends of AKSHY,

Another year has gone by and I am pleased to be able to share with you our 2019 news and events.

During the year, as we announced at its start, we had plans to go further with our Project for Women as well as that for the Kamal Primary School in Jaitiya. Much work on both projects has brought us great satisfaction.

With regard to the Project for Women, we have paid special attention to attempting to have the women reach a feeling of unity in the Self-Help groups through their access to microcredits. Creating this bond between them will make them feel stronger so they can face their problems together.

For this reason we have given them more writing classes so they know how to place a signature on a paper; their families have been pleasantly surprised when they have signed a document in front of them, in a bank for example. This makes them feel more independent and reaffirms their self-confidence.

More Beauty, Needlework and Henna classes were offered too with many women attending; this has helped them in their personal growth and to meet other women similarly keen to learn. Above all, I am truly proud of the ABC Workshop where adolescents and young people who have never had the opportunity to study, are learning basic subjects from day to day. For years we wanted to enlarge the Kamal School in the remote village of Jaitiya as we could see there were so many children with no learning options.

This year at long last we were able to put up a new school with local materials in the building of which the parents of our pupils have taken part, thus setting up a firmer link with them and helping them to realize the importance of education. We have been able to admit all those children who had no education available to them and coming from the dalit or untouchable district; their excitement at coming to school and attending classes confirms to us that it was the right decision to make.

Every activity we carry out, both new and the continuation of previous projects, gives me reason to consider how fortunate we are to count on the support of all of you, how your efforts added to ours can really change the life of the most deprived children and women in India, not forgetting also the grandparents and widows who depend on us and on you for their survival.

For the year 2019, therefore, I wish to give thanks to all those who have taken part in the different projects, as well as to the voluntary team in Spain working to collect funds and the team in India who put them to good use. We are most grateful and thank you once more.

Raquel Monica Mason Palomeque

WHAT IS AKSHY?



Our Association

Akshy India consists of a group of people sponsors, members, supporters and friends wishing to contribute voluntarily to alleviating some of the poverty and misery in which a large part of Indian society exists.

We are a **nonlucrative NGO** which has as its main objective the improvement, by means of our different projects, of **living conditions for the most illtreated children, women and old people in India**, known as dalits or untouchables.

In conformity with present legislation, AKSHYINDIA is an NGO registered on 21 of January 2007 as a nonlucrative Association in the National Register of Associations at the Spanish Home Office, number 588315, CIF V84965912, and recognized by the Spanish Agency for International Cooperation and Development (AECID) having its seat in San Lorenzo de El Escorial. AkshyIndia respects the multiplicity of traditions, cultures and religions of India, as well as its spirituality and customs.

How Akshy was born

AkshyIndia was started when **Raquel Mason** (Founder and Director) visited Bodhgaya, in the State of Bihar, in the winter of 2005. She began to recognize in greater depth the realities of rural India, the lack of equality existing among the castes and the needs of the population, especially of children. In the village she visited where dalits or untouchables live, Rachel was impressed by seeing a sick child whose name was Akshay. The poor boy looked sad, dirty, uncared for and surrounded by misery. Rachel found a doctor to cure him. She knew it was impossible to turn away and do nothing. She had to take action and began to realize that the only way to improve the living conditions of these little ones was through education in its widest sense, offering them in this way an opportunity to become adults with dignity.

Raquel began to send financial aid to cover the first needs of materials and, **in the summer of 2006, a little school was opened in Amwan**. In January 2007, the Akshy Association was formally registered and, little by little, more people interested in offering their drop of water joined, all wishing to help set up what is today the Akshy Association. With the commitment of sponsors and supporters, the team began to develop different programmes. Although our Association has grown and new projects have arisen, we have always based our decisions on those principles on which our NGO was founded; Akshy is a direct, humane association accessible to all those who wish to join us.

WHAT IS AKSHY?



Objectives and Values of Akshy

Our aim is to promote the development of the most ill-treated rural communities in India, with special emphasis on the untouchables, by means of **education** and improving the status of women, informing them of their rights, defending them, assuring and watching that the appropriate laws are applied.

We work to alleviate extreme poverty, **fight injustice and assist in the obtaining of a more equitable society** with the same opportunities for this ostracized sector of India,

We give great importance to listening to the needs of individual persons, **respecting their traditions and customs**, trying to understand the difficult conditions and circumstances in which they exist.

We are committed to continue **supporting them** regularly and seriously, and this encourages them to trust us in our work so that step by step we can increase our projects.

We work with values: ethics, wisdom, responsibility and **altruism** which, being universal, can be shared by all persons regardless of their age, culture, race or religion, and are based on the Programme of Universal Education.

Our aim is to **educate for a meaningful life** to develop the individual's potential for reaching happiness and personal excellence, in turn **contributing to the welfare of others**, to an improved society and to a more peaceful world.

The values and attitudes stated in the Universal Education Act and which we take into account in our programmes are essential to the honest character of our project. For more information on the programme, please browse website:

<http://educacionuniversal.org/>

Our Team

Our team consists of people wishing to help others by giving up some of their free time to assist voluntarily in our enterprise.



I'm Raquel Mason , founder and director of the Akshy Association. I have been living in India since 2008 and I direct the projects on the ground with the help of both the team in Spain and in India. I wanted my life to have a true meaning, convinced that we must feel a universal responsibility within us towards others. Therefore, I left my life comfortable in Spain to pursue a dream, that of a more just world. Every achievement is a reason for happiness for me.



In 2013 I visited India on a solidarity trip organized by Akshy, I met the School in the village of Amwan. I was impressed by the great work that is done with the most disadvantaged. Now I work as Secretary. Keeping the smiles of those girls and boys who live in the greatest poverty gives me strength to keep my commitment



Namaste. I am Ana De las Heras. Some years ago I went as a volunteer to the Akshay Educational Centre. The pupils gave me lessons on life that I could never have imagined and, since then, I cooperate whenever I can in the area of communications.



I have always thought that it is very rewarding to donate your time and your know-how to causes that require it. Collaborating with Akshy fills me with satisfaction because I can see how every small gesture we make from Spain makes a big difference for its beneficiaries in India. I started by supporting the Association with the Technological part and then I decided to join the Board of Trustees as a Member.

Our Team



I'm Ana, I'm participating and supporting Akshy's projects since 2015. I've worked as a music teacher for more than 5 years and when I got to know the school in Amwan and Jaitiya. I was surprised to see how education was transforming the reality of each one of those kids, how Akshy with very little was giving them real tools so that they could choose and get out of the poverty to which they were condemned. Since then I continue participating in Akshy and contributing from my place in the different projects of Akshy.



My commitment to life leads me to put my hands on the projects of Akshy helping with the numbers and their small market, in favor of the most needy in India.



I am Alexis Roitman, I know Akshy since 2015, I was lucky enough to go to Bodhgaya and see the projects that Akshy has been developing for more than 10 years. A work that impacts more than 200 families. Giving tools that last over time and that transforms the reality of the families that participate in the Akshy projects. All the time that I was able to share in Akshy it did not leave me indifferent and when I returned to Spain I wanted to continue contributing with them, first as a volunteer and now as Coordinator. I hope I can continue to do my bit to support the social transformation that Akshy is carrying out with the most vulnerable in India.



I have always helped children in difficult situations as much as possible, but when a friend explained to me how her daughter wanted to improve the lives of the underprivileged children in Bihar, India, it seemed like a wonderful project in which I wanted to collaborate, making English translations.

Our Team



The best way to support a project is with what you do best. I am a graphic designer and I am very happy to be able to participate actively in Akshy, taking the design of the web and all the graphic elements that are needed to make this great little project known to the world.



Namaste. I'm Juana. I came to Akshy from the hand of my friends Diego and Pilar. Here we discover a project that made us fall in love, we discovered the smile of the girls and boys who can go to school every day, we discovered the beautiful work that is done with the elderly and families. That's how I got involved in sponsorship, in fairs and markets, in solidarity dinners and in weaving a dream together with other partners of Akshy and the Dalits of India.



I met Akshy for my friend Pilar, it seemed an interesting project and I became a partner. But when I traveled to India in 2013 I could see how beautiful and rewarding it is to be able to help the most needy children, women and old women. I collaborate as a volunteer in the different events that take place.

02/WHERE DO WE WORK?

We work in Northeast India, in the villages of Amwan, Amwan Colony, Nautapur and Jaitiya, in the state of Bihar. It is an area where you live from agriculture and where there is no industry or other work alternatives.

India is one of the fastest growing countries in the world, it is even expected that it will become one of the most important economies in the coming years, but paradoxically, According to UN data, it also has 300 million poor people, the most on the planet and more than all of sub-Saharan Africa together, and some 60 million children are malnourished, so that 80% of children between 6 and 35 months suffer from anemia.

Bihar is the most backward state in India, with an annual per capita income in 2008/2009 of 235 euros (That of the country that year was stipulated at 646 euros). 53% of the population is illiterate (41% men and 67% women), of which 95% are Dalits ("untouchables"). Due to misery and social inequalities the state is immersed in economic chaos. Their inhabitants they are often forced to migrate to other states to earn 200 rupees a day (2 euros approximately) in temporary works (harvests, construction works, etc.)



Who benefits from our work?



15% of the population of **Bihar** are dalits who own less than 2% of the cultivated land. In Bihar's rural villages **the caste system** is still in force and there is significant discrimination with regard to these people.

Akshy's aim is to give particular support to the weakest, ostracized caste, the dalits, who live in extreme poverty and suffer as both social and financial outcasts. The dalits or untouchables are the members of a caste born with the "untouchable" stigma as a result of the impurity or uncleanness of their traditional occupations.

They represent a community of some 170 million people in India. In Bihar there are almost 13 million dalits who **have to face being ignored**, discriminated and suffering violence from the dominating castes which do not allow them to possess one of the basic human rights, their own personal dignity. The Indian Constitution prohibits "untouchability", meaning that the superior castes cannot oblige the dalits to take the unclean jobs but road sweeping, corpse removing, toilet cleaning etc. are still carried out by them.

The dalit children have to sit apart in schools; in police stations no one listens to them and they are treated badly; social workers refuse to visit dalit homes; access to the houses of other castes is refused them and they can never sit at the same table to eat; in coffee bars they have different cups and other utensils. In some towns they are not allowed to enter the temples or cremate their deceased in the town's crematorium. They must keep their head down, work longer hours with lower wages and take insults and physical punishment. Their women are raped by their bosses as a form of punishment or humiliation.

We work in the districts set aside expressly for the "untouchables", in the villages close to **Bodhgaya** such as **Amwan, Nautapur and Amwan Colony**, as well as in remote rural villages which become isolated during the Monsoon season such as **Jaitiya and Laxmipur**. These village districts have no sanitary infrastructure or access by road. The dwellers there live in mud and straw huts, **with one or two rooms for the whole family, no bathroom, light or running water**; they have to share water pumps with the other neighbours.

03/HOW WE WORK AND WHAT WE DO



We have an **integral programme** which consists in different projects, starting with **education and health awareness** and finishing with **environmental awareness**.

All our projects are directed to the most needed sector of the indian society.

WHAT WE DO

How we work

Aware of the fact that the future of a country depends on its schools, our mode of action is always focused on **education**. We believe that this is the best way for those most in need to reach a minimum standard of wellbeing which could be perpetuated in time.

Firstly, we develop the area of child education. In addition to providing schooling, food, medical attention, **emotional support**, etc. for the most vulnerable children, we also work on projects **favouring development** and the health of the community in which they live. These children, once taught to read and write, will contribute to improve the living conditions of those around them. For this reason we place very special emphasis of the **education of girls**. They are the future mothers who will be in charge of transmitting to their sons and daughters the importance of attending school and receiving an education. In this connection, Akshy's education programme attempts to convince the children of the importance of developing behavioural and **healthy habits** which will endow them with the dignity due to them as human beings.

We believe, therefore, that the care and education of the boys and girls will not only dignify future generations but will give a position of greater relevance to women and also teach the children to value the importance of respecting and assisting the old people and those with disability.



The relevance of our project is social and for community integration, deriving from education as the instrument of change.

The establishing of schools creates a **strong bond** between the population and our Association, at the same time giving rise to a trust in us which draws us nearer to the women and old people. This also allows us better access to **their problems**, to see more easily their needs and so be able to act by laying down a base or structure which will make it possible for both the women and their children in the future to enjoy improved social and economic opportunities, perhaps **being able to generate their own source of income**, thus breaking down the vicious circle of poverty.

As will be explained in later chapters, our prime objectives are to improve the conditions of the dalit boys and girls through education, raise their

rate of literacy, dignify the position of the woman within indian rural society and encourage attention to the old and disabled.

To this purpose, we have a n **integral programme** composed of different projects adapted to the area in which Akshy operates: Bodhgaya and surrounding villages in the State of Bihar (North East India).

Akshy Association **works directly on its projects in the field in India** with no local counterpart, personally developing and managing the activity. In this way management costs are reduced. Each project is supervised from start to finish, ensuring correct handling in a part of India where corruption is rife.

We obtain firsthand information from direct contact with the people and this helps us to **manage the projects correctly** and also remain faithful to our own values.

INTEGRAL PROGRAMME

Primary Education Project

We have **three primary education schools**. The children's ages range from 4 to 12 years old. In the Centre as well as the official subjects, they learn to express themselves, to take part in the programme of ethical values, have an opportunity in the plastic arts, value the environment and **grow up with dignity**. In our Environment programme we include different activities for the children so they become aware of the importance of living in surroundings free from plastic rubbish and filth. They are also taught the importance of not wasting but taking care of their natural resources.



The Akshay School, in Amwan, Bodhaya:

It was started in **2006**. The boys and girls attending our school are the first generation of the "untouchable" caste to become literate in **Amwan**.

The school is located in our Educational Centre inaugurated in 2012 where various different programmes are developed. At the present time around 155 children attend the Akshay School in 7 different classes. We teach up to 5th Grade, the end of the primary cycle in India, and follow the curriculum of subjects stipulated by the Government.

The Kamal Infant Center, in the village of Jaitiya:

Opened in **2013** and as of today has 38 children in two classes. The school is in **Jaitiya**, a rural village distant from Bodhgaya where more than half the population belongs to the "**untouchables**".

With this Infant Centre our idea is to encourage an interest in **education** both in the children and the parents in this isolated village. With regular daily classes imparted by two teachers, parents begin to realize that our project is serious and they become more interested.

Shanti Niketan School:

In **2017** we opened this little infant school in the village of Nautapur. It has two classrooms with 35 pupils.

The project was initiated on the **request of parents** from the village since, being close to Amwan, some of the children who live there come to our Akshay Educational Centre and parents were beginning to realize the importance for their children of receiving education. These parents have undertaken to do all maintenance and cleaning of the classrooms as well as having previously carried out the work involved in making it suitable for a school, viz. our NGO provided the materials and they did the work.

INTEGRAL PROGRAMME

Secondary Education Project



We finance **Secondary Education** for those children who wish to continue once they have completed Year 5 in the Akshay School and when their parents agree. With our help they have access to more advanced studies.

At present we are paying secondary education for 21 pupils at various schools in **Bodhgaya**. They are now mixing with boys and girls from all different castes. Their academic life is in different surroundings but they continue their education in **ethical values** and environmental awareness as well as support

in their studies by daily sessions in the Akshay Educational Centre.

It must be mentioned here that the secondary education of our girls represents a true challenge if we bear in mind the traditional obstacles of **child marriages** and work in the home.

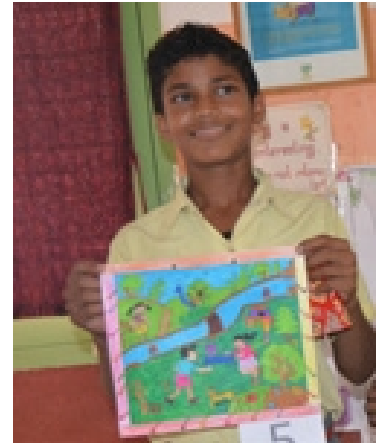
The fact that girls can have access to secondary education is extremely important since, while being really hard to get them to the primary level, access to a secondary school signifies a **drastic change** and efforts which must be given their full due..

Very few **families of "untouchable"** girls allow them to continue with secondary studies once they complete primary; they have to take charge of the housework or prepare themselves for marriage.

With the support we provide for secondary education, the girls and their families **accept a short delay in marrying them** which in turn enables them to continue their learning process for a few more years.

INTEGRAL PROGRAMME

Photo gallery: Education



INTEGRAL PROGRAMME

Study Revision and Support Project



In the Akshay Education Centre **private classes** and study hours are provided each day for children at primary level who need extra help as well as for those with special educational needs.

The primary school children with learning problems receive help in private classes with a teacher in the afternoons.

Once the children complete their **primary education**, it is important that they have support and encouragement to continue their studies with tutors to guide them.

With our Support Project, the children can continue their **secondary education** and receive help in daily private classes during which the teachers can clarify doubts and revise the subjects studied at school.

By means of this project the children/adolescents reach a better understanding of their subjects and can enter their exams adequately prepared.

INTEGRAL PROGRAMME

Medical Attention and Preventive Care

It is also of vital importance that the children have access to qualified medical attention. Since their families cannot afford to **pay for a doctor** and medicines they have resort to witch doctors or rural medical men with no qualifications and this often causes an aggravation of the illness even to the point of death.

We have a nurse who provides **first aid** and also explains to parents how they should administer the medicines to their children.

We finance visits to qualified doctors and the relevant medicines, vaccination campaigns, every day sickness care and first aid, as well as giving informative health talks in school hours to stress to pupils **the importance of hygiene** or tell them about changes during puberty and other typical matters of adolescence.



Preventive healthcare. We hold talks and practical **workshops** for the village communities we visit in which health representatives inform them of how to prevent illness or how and where they can receive free treatment.

They are given information on the most common of their **illnesses** such as malaria, diarrhea, dehydration, sunstroke, burns, tuberculosis and VIH. Furthermore, talks and informative activities are arranged with regard to problems caused by child marriages, **alcoholism**, undernourishment, the inappropriate care of babies of **pregnancy**.

INTEGRAL PROGRAMME

"DadaDadi" Project of attention to the old and disabled

This project is designed to meet our objective of reaching out to other sectors of society as well as to the children, in such a way that the Akshay Educational Centre act as a pillar of **support** for the weakest members.

It is directed to the adult communities of **Amwan, Nautapur, and Amway Colony** who have been abandoned by their families and exist unprotected in subhuman conditions.

The **precarious economies** of the families in rural areas together with the fact that they belong to the "**untouchable**" **caste**, place them in an atrociously vulnerable position.

When families have nothing to spare, in order that other members can survive, the **old and disabled** are separated from the family circle, relegated to isolation and extreme poverty.

With our programme we guarantee that they can have a roof over their head, a meal each day, be clothed and attended by a doctor, in short have **the minimum necessary** for survival.

We build or repair their huts so they have a roof, give them doors so they feel safe, bunks so they do not have to sleep on the ground clothes so their bodies are covered and, in winter, blankets to keep them warm.



In addition they also receive medical care and medicines when they are ill and aid with cremation expenses at the time of death. Twice a month they come to our Centre where we give them a special meal.

We **listen to them** and stay with them so they can tell us their needs. They also join our students in celebrations held in the Centre.

The **primary and secondary pupils help in developing this programme** by attending to the old and disabled. In this way they learn solidarity, respect for older and weaker persons or those with physical impediments, to be generous with their time, to open their hearts and be kind.

INTEGRAL PROGRAMME

Photo gallery: Health and *Dada-Dadi*



INTEGRAL PROGRAMME

The Water Pump Project



The **shortage of water** or contaminated water are the main causes of gastro-intestinal problems in the population.

Many villages have to **share a water pump among over 200 inhabitants**.

We **build water pumps** in rural villages of this area and show the people how to maintain them.

Our plan is that they have **clean water** to drink, for personal hygiene or cooking and so **avoid illness** and gastric problems.

INTEGRAL PROGRAMME

The Sewing Centre Project 'Women United Mahila Ekta Silae Khendre'



This project is available for all women adults, young girls and adolescents in the villages of Amwan, Nautapur and Amwan Colony **to learn a trade** (even have their own workshop in the future) or simply learn to sew or make clothes for their families.

The workshop is also **a place where they can meet**, chat and and share their experiences and problems.

The women who are illiterate have some basic classes first so they can follow the course.

The groups are **mixed**, married women and young adolescents together so that they share space and activity.

Women from different castes also join and this is a fine opportunity for encouraging a feeling of unity and integration among them regardless of the caste to which they belong.

The women's course lasts for **six months** on an everyday basis and when completed and the final exam passed they obtain a diploma. They all learn to make clothes for their family.

Later they can take an advanced course where they are taught other techniques, such as textile painting, embroidery, making uniforms, bags, purses, tablecloths etc. all of which give them **the opportunity to receive payment for their work** and so help in the domestic economy.

INTEGRAL PROGRAMME

Photo gallery: Women



04/OUR 2019 ACHIEVEMENTS



Following is a short outline of the results of the projects mentioned at the start of the 2019 Annual Report.

ACHIEVEMENTS 2019



CONSTRUCTION OF THE NEW KAMAL SCHOOL

In 2019 we were able to build the new Kamal School. Now we do not have to depend on paying rent, we have more space and have admitted another 62 children from the village who had never been to school before. At the present time almost 100 children are receiving education in the Kamal School. Construction of the School was done with the help of the parents of our pupils. They were the workforce and we provided the materials. The school was built with local materials such as mud, bamboo, bricks, wood, etc. They are perfectly adapted to the area's rural environment. The school has an open area for other activities, a water pump and a large hall for meetings and talks with the women of the village to promote hygiene, savings, their rights, etc.

Primary Education

We have continued our Primary Education for 321 children in the villages of Amwan, Nautapur, Amwan Colony and Jaitiya, with the admission of 35 more children in the Akshay School and 62 in the new Kamal School. Primary Education is given in the Akshay School, the Kamal Infants Centre and the Shanti Niketan School. The centres have given their pupils all the school materials they require, as well as medical care and extra-mural activities. 18 children completed their Primary Education. that 321 children were given new uniforms.

Secondary Education

24 young people completed the course in different educational centres in Bodhgaya and were given daily supervision by us, thus ensuring success in their studies. At the same time these students have taken part on Sundays in the different activities being carried out in our Akshay Centre such as English conversation, debates, educational films, contests, etc. In the afternoons they have received support classes offering them in-depth studies for the subjects they have at college. 4 young students completed their secondary education and took the Matriculation exam. This is the 3rd Year that students of ours have completed Secondary Education

Advanced

8 students continue their advanced studies either in the College which provides pre-university education or in the University itself, being supported financially and with guidance by the AKSHY ASSOCIATION.

ACHIEVEMENTS 2019

UNIVERSAL EDUCATION

All the pupils of the Akshay School and our secondary students too have continued to study the Universal Education Programme. The 16 Guidelines for a Happy Life show us positive results when we see how the children's character changes to being gentler, less violent and more considerate among companions, as well as with their families and neighbours.

PREVENTIVE HEALTH CARE

353 boys and girls from the primary and secondary schools have received medical attention when needed, including medicines and specialist consultations. Female hygiene materials have been distributed and talks given to our girls. 35 children were vaccinated for mumps, rubella and typhus as well as having de-parasite treatment. Once a month workshops were held to remind pupils of the rules for hygiene. These workshops were also given to young people. In the Akshay Educational Centre two meetings were held for the girls and young women of surrounding villages on feminine hygiene and 181 menstrual kits were distributed.

DADA-DADI PROJECT

14 older persons abandoned by their families or completely alone, widows or disabled have received help through our Dada-Dadi Project, thanks to which they have had food every 15 days to cover their basic needs. Repairs were carried out on the roofs of their huts with tiles replacing bamboo to stop leakage during the Monsoon season. Mud huts with roof tiles were built for Murti Devi and Suresh Manihi. Clothes were given them on two occasions during the year and blankets for winter too. As is the custom in this Programme, they have been visited by our older students who gave us constant information on the situation of the oldest of them. They have had free medical care via our Centre during the year with a person to accompany them on visits to doctors, medicines and also company for physiotherapy sessions. We have talked to them as well on the importance of hygiene in the prevention of illness.

PROJECT FOR WOMEN

We decided that 2019 would be Women's Year. We therefore placed special emphasis on promoting projects devoted to them. There are now 250 women taking part in the Self-Help project, with 200 of them in the group of microcredits. They have continued to use the money saved to buy seeds or doors for their huts, to pay doctors, repair roofs or start small businesses without having to resort to moneylenders for loans. This project is being introduced with different groups of women in all the villages in which we work. After completing a workshop for 6 months, 60 women have won their Needlework Certificate which entitles them to accept sewing work. A group of 16 women have completed the Beauty Course on how to prepare brides for their weddings (hairstyles, makeup, etc.) and another 16 took a course on henna. With these certificates they can now earn money doing this work in the village. A widow with young children was given a cow and its calf. Now they sell milk and earn some money as well as being able to sell the calf in time. We continued with our signatures workshop where a further 20 women learned to write their names and can now sign their names to open a bank account and take part in the microcredits programme. Personal Defence Workshop 36 girls from the Akshay School took part in the Karate course imparted by the Akshay Educational Centre. Considering the high risks to which young girls are exposed in India with an increase in violence and abuse, this course helped them acquire self-confidence besides the ability to defend themselves in case of attack.

ACHIEVEMENTS 2019

PROJECT ABC

This is an initiative in which young women took part who when little girls could not go to primary school, so we teach them to read, write and do basic sums. We also take them on short trips out to show them what to do in Government offices. In this way they too can help their families. In 2019 we had 25 students.

WATER PUMPS

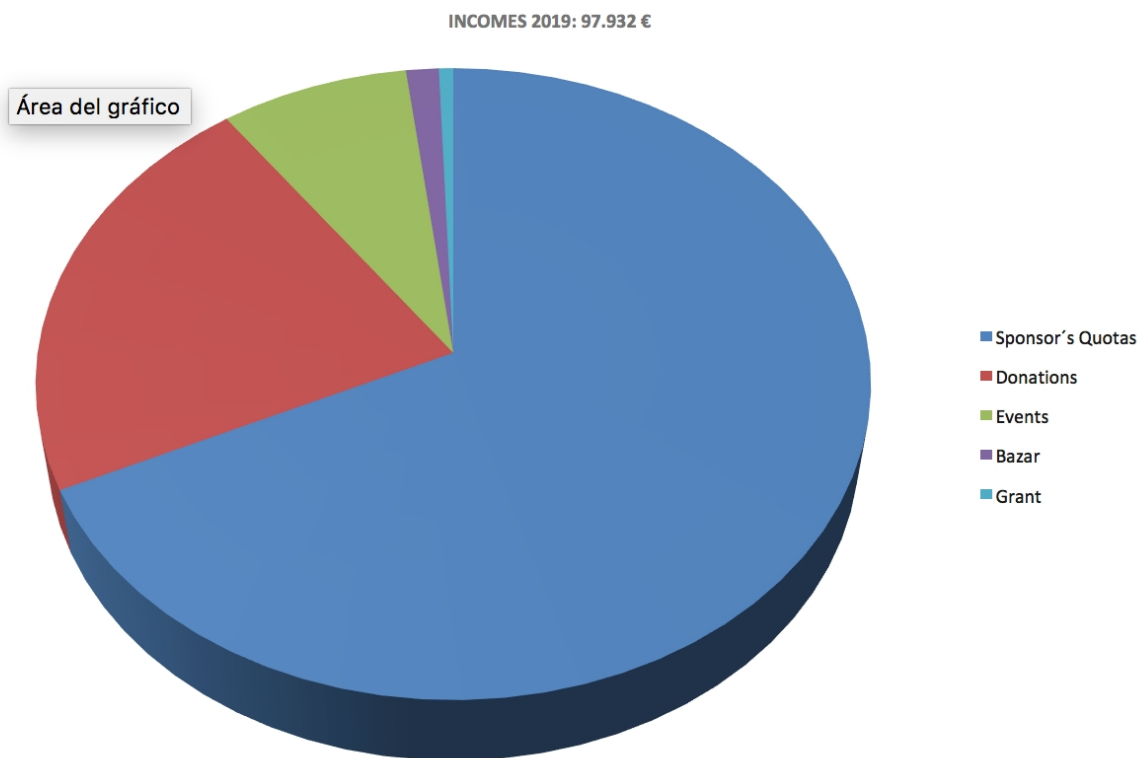
We have installed two water pumps, one in the centre of the village of Jaitiya which is benefitting 100 people and another for the Kamal School which is used by the almost 100 children attending the School. These pumps are deep enough not to dry up in summer, which is the main problem of other pumps in the village.

OTHER EVENTS

We had a special distribution of 225 jumpers thanks to a campaign held during the Christmas period. The jumpers were given to the children of our schools but also to other children from the villages.

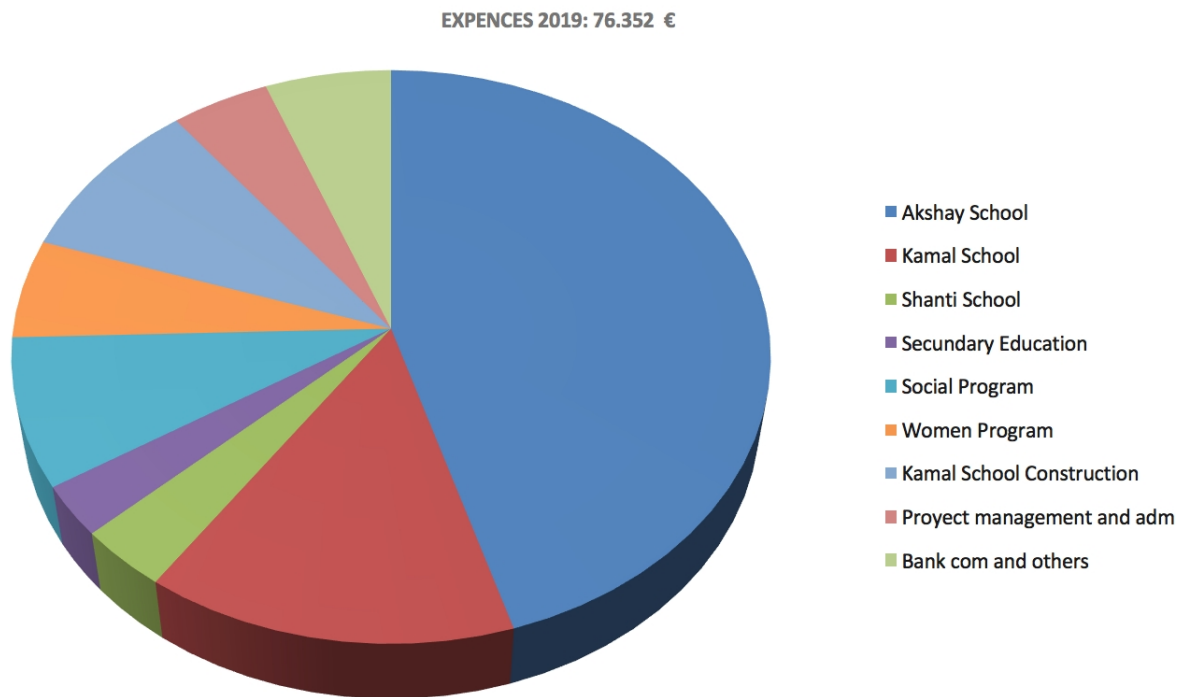
Participation in the documentary "Empowerment of Women" produced by David Moreno. This documentary to be published in 2020 tells the story of different women who are truly determined and enterprising persons.

05/ORIGIN AND DESTINATION OF RESOURCES



Total Incomes	97932
Sponsor's Quotas	66680
Donations	21429
Events	7861
Bazar	1362
Grant	600

05/ORIGIN AND DESTINATION OF RESOURCES



Total Expences	76352
Akshay School	34548
Kamal School	11041
Shanti School	2696
Secondary Education	2203
Social Program	6404
Women Program	4253,9
Kamal School Construction	7182
Proyect management and adm	3517
Bank com and others	4507

06/PUBLICITY AND AWARENESS



We carry out various promotional and awareness activities designed for different sectors of the public (both children and adults) to make them aware of the reality of life as lived by those who benefit from the projects we work on in India.

We propose alternative lines of thought on generosity, compassion and the social and human conscience by giving information on the historic and present-day situation in India and the special needs of the townships and communities where we work. We do this to make children and adults more aware of the importance of the most universal human values - education and respect. In order to carry out this work of sensitization and information we organize presentations and talks in different scenarios (local councils, universities, companies, schools, etc.).

We arrange meetings, concerts and charity suppers, take part in fairs of a solidarity nature as well as interviews on different social media with the idea of making people aware of what is "there" for a better life "here"

PUBLICITY AND AWARENESS

Events held in 2019

A solidarity supper in Ecocentro, Madrid,

A solidarity supper in BCN,

Solidarity Cooks,

Trip - "Drops of India",

March 8th, International Women's Day - participation in a Round Table on the role of the woman in the development of Indian society, held in Espacio Ronda, Madrid,

A solidarity market en el Romeral,

Solidarity market in San Lorenzo de El Escorial,

Omelette Day in favor of AKSHY in CEIP San Lorenzo, Ezcaray, Logroño,

Our profile was placed on Instagram,

The IndiaMadrid Festival (FIM),

A Doors-Open Day during the Christmas period,

Solidarity in Schools Project,

Donation for the purchase of a cow from the College Valdecas, Madrid,

Day of Peace en el CEIP Ana María Matute, Getafe, Madrid,

Solidarity Theatre: "Three Top Hats" by Miguel Miura produced and acted by the theatre group Santiago Rusiñol

Let's Give Smiles

More and more people are becoming enthusiastic about sharing their birthday, wedding, First Communion, etc. presents with the children, women, elderly or disabled in India. Thanks to this programme we received donations which were used to finance part of our work there.

In 2019 various children and adults offered their presents to the Akshy children which meant we could provide them with school materials, objects for personal hygiene, etc.

07/ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS



Thank you for belonging to Akshy

The contents of this Annual Report reflect the effort and work put in during 2019 to carry out the projects we have ongoing in India and their significant results. However these pages would be vacant if we were not able to count on the support and financial aid from all and everyone of you who have believed in AKSHY's objectives and values and have given us your collaboration.

Thanks to Las Hadas with its solidarity market held on 3 Kings Day and to Sam from Taiwan for his individual donation, we were able to begin building the Kamal School. Thanks also to Facilisimo who made an importante donation at Christmas for educational materials for our schools.

Also worthy of special note is the periodic help given us by sponsors, members, helpers and companies which enables us to continue our projects. In addition we had volunteers both in the field and in Spain. Certain volunteers came to spend part of their time with us and hold some very interesting workshops. When they returned to their own countries they continued to collaborate by spreading their news on the work we do in India.

In Spain we are fortunate enough to have a group of volunteers who are always ready to lend a hand when the need arises. Thanks to all and every one of those who contribute to improving the quality of life of the the most needy people in India and, in this way, give back to them the dignity denied them, in many cases, merely by belonging to the "untouchable" class.
Thank you very much!

SUPPORTERS



Office in Spain:

Asociación Akshy

Patriarca San José, 2bis-1ºD. 28200. San Lorenzo de El Escorial, Madrid

Telephones: 91 2420721 / 619792834

Office in India:

Akshay Educational Centre

Amwan Village

Bodhgaya. 824231 Distt. Gaya. Bihar

Phone: +917739210532

www.akshy.org



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AKSHY