

1: Biography Mother Teresa | Biography Online

Mother Teresa's Family and Young Life Mother Teresa's parents, Nikola and Dranfile Bojaxhiu, were of Albanian descent; her father was an entrepreneur who worked as a construction contractor.

MORE INFO About A short Mother Teresa biography, including information on her early years, her call to religious life and her work with the poorest of the poor in Calcutta Biography Mother Teresa was always her own person, startlingly independent, obedient, yet challenging some preconceived notions and expectations. Her own life story inclu Five children were born to Nikola and Drona Bojaxhiu, yet only three survived. Gonxha was the youngest, with an older sister, Aga, and brother, Lazar. Nikola was a contractor, working with a partner in a successful construction business. He was also heavily involved in the politics of the day. With this event, life changed overnight as their mother assumed total responsibility for the family, Aga, only 14, Lazar, 9, and Gonxha, 7. Though so much of her young life was centered in the Church, Mother Teresa later revealed that until she reached 18, she had never thought of being a nun. During her early years, however, she was fascinated with stories of missionary life and service. She could locate any number of missions on the map, and tell others of the service being given in each place. Called to Religious Life At 18, Gonxha decided to follow the path that seems to have been unconsciously unfolding throughout her life. She chose the Loreto Sisters of Dublin, missionaries and educators founded in the 17th century to educate young girls. During this period a sister novice remembered her as "very small, quiet and shy," and another member of the congregation described her as "ordinary. Unwavering commitment and self-discipline, always a part of her life and reinforced in her association with the Loreto sisters, seemed to stay with her throughout her life. One year later, in , Gonxha was sent to Darjeeling to the novitiate of the Sisters of Loreto. In , she made her first vows there, choosing the name of Teresa, honoring both saints of the same name, Teresa of Avila and Therese of Lisieux. She was sent to St. Here she began a career teaching history and geography, which she reportedly did with dedication and enjoyment for the next 15 years. This was the clear message, the invitation to her "second calling," that Teresa heard on that fateful day in when she traveled to Darjeeling for retreat. The Streets of Calcutta During the next two years, Teresa pursued every avenue to follow what she "never doubted" was the direction God was pointing her. She was "to give up even Loreto where I was very happy and to go out in the streets. I heard the call to give up all and follow Christ into the slums to serve him among the poorest of the poor. She had to be released formally, not from her perpetual vows, but from living within the convents of the Sisters of Loreto. She had to figure out how to live and work on the streets, without the safety and comfort of the convent. As for clothing, Teresa decided she would set aside the habit she had worn during her years as a Loreto sister and wear the ordinary dress of an Indian woman: Teresa first went to Patna for a few months to prepare for her future work by taking a nursing course. In she received permission from Pius XII to leave her community and live as an independent nun. So back to Calcutta she went and found a small hovel to rent to begin her new undertaking. Wisely, she thought to start by teaching the children of the slums, an endeavor she knew well. Though she had no proper equipment, she made use of what was availableâ€”writing in the dirt. She strove to make the children of the poor literate, to teach them basic hygiene. As they grew to know her, she gradually began visiting the poor and ill in their families and others all crowded together in the surrounding squalid shacks, inquiring about their needs. Teresa found a never-ending stream of human needs in the poor she met, and frequently was exhausted. Despite the weariness of her days she never omitted her prayer, finding it the source of support, strength and blessing for all her ministry. A Movement Begins Teresa was not alone for long. Within a year, she found more help than she anticipated. Many seemed to have been waiting for her example to open their own floodgates of charity and compassion. Young women came to volunteer their services and later became the core of her Missionaries of Charity. Others offered food, clothing, the use of buildings, medical supplies and money. As support and assistance mushroomed, more and more services became possible to huge numbers of suffering people. From their birth in Calcutta, nourished by the faith, compassion and commitment of Mother Teresa, the Missionaries of Charity have grown like the mustard seed of the Scriptures. New vocations continue to come from all parts of the world, serving those in

great need wherever they are found. Homes for the dying, refuges for the care and teaching of orphans and abandoned children, treatment centers and hospitals for those suffering from leprosy, centers and refuges for alcoholics, the aged and street people—the list is endless. Until her death in , Mother Teresa continued her work among the poorest of the poor, depending on God for all of her needs. Honors too numerous to mention had come her way throughout the years, as the world stood astounded by her care for those usually deemed of little value. Though frail and bent, with numerous ailments, she always returned to her work, to those who received her compassionate care for more than 50 years. Only months before her death, when she became too weak to manage the administrative work, she relinquished the position of head of her Missionaries of Charity. She knew the work would go on. Finally, on September 5, , after finishing her dinner and prayers, her weakened heart gave her back to the God who was the very center of her life See More categories.

2: The Letters () - IMDb

Mother Teresa, known in the Roman Catholic Church as Saint Teresa of Calcutta (born Anjezë Gonxhe Bojaxhiu, Albanian: [aŋˈɛzɛ ɡɔŋˈxhɛ bɔˈdʒaxhiu]; 26 August - 5 September), was an Albanian-Indian Roman Catholic nun and missionary.

Her father, a well-respected local businessman, died when she was eight years old, leaving her mother, a devoutly religious woman, to open an embroidery and cloth business to support the family. After spending her adolescence deeply involved in parish activities, Agnes left home in September 1929, for the Loreto Convent in Rathfarnham Dublin, Ireland, where she was admitted as a postulant on October 12 and received the name of Teresa, after her patroness, St. Agnes was sent by the Loreto order to India and arrived in Calcutta on 6 January 1931. Upon her arrival, she joined the Loreto novitiate in Darjeeling. She made her final profession as a Loreto nun on 24 May 1931, and hereafter was called Mother Teresa. On 10 September 1931, on a train journey from Calcutta to Darjeeling, Mother Teresa received what she termed the "call within a call," which was to give rise to the Missionaries of Charity family of Sisters, Brothers, Fathers, and Co-Workers. The content of this inspiration is revealed in the aim and mission she would give to her new institute: Throughout the 1930s and early 1940s, Mother Teresa expanded the work of the Missionaries of Charity both within Calcutta and throughout India. The first foundation outside India opened in Cocorote, Venezuela, in 1953. From the late 1950s until 1962, the Missionaries of Charity expanded both in their reach across the globe and in their number of members. By that same year there were 15 Missionaries of Charity foundations. The Missionaries of Charity reached Communist countries in 1962 with a house in Zagreb, Croatia, and in 1963 with a house in East Berlin, and continued to expand through the 1960s and 1970s with houses in almost all Communist nations, including 15 foundations in the former Soviet Union. Despite repeated efforts, however, Mother Teresa was never able to open a foundation in China. In the coming years, this home would be followed by others, in the United States and elsewhere, devoted specifically for those with AIDS. From the late 1970s through the 1980s, despite increasing health problems, Mother Teresa traveled across the world for the profession of novices, opening of new houses, and service to the poor and disaster-stricken. By 1980, the Sisters numbered nearly 4,000 members, and were established in almost 700 foundations in countries of the world. Hundreds of thousands of people from all classes and all religions, from India and abroad, paid their respects. She received a state funeral on 13 September 1981, her body being taken in procession - on a gun carriage that had also borne the bodies of Mohandas K. Gandhi and Jawaharlal Nehru - through the streets of Calcutta. Presidents, prime ministers, queens, and special envoys were present on behalf of countries from all over the world.

3: Mother Teresa - Biographical - www.enganchecubano.com

Mother Teresa of Calcutta () "By blood, I am Albanian. By citizenship, an Indian. By faith, I am a Catholic nun. As to my calling, I belong to the world.

August 26, in Uskub, Ottoman Empire Died: September 5, in Calcutta, India Best known for: Fighting for the rights of the sick and helpless Biography: Mother Teresa was a humanitarian. This means she did things to help out other people. Her entire life was fully devoted to helping the poor, the sick, the needy, and the helpless. Where did Mother Teresa grow up? This city is now called Skopje and is the capital of the Republic of Macedonia. Her birth name was Agnes Gonxha Bojaxhiu. Her father died when she was eight and she was raised by her mother. Agnes grew up in the Roman Catholic Church and decided to devote her life to God at an early age. When she turned 18, Agnes joined the Sisters of Loreto to become a missionary to India. Before she could go to India, she had to learn English. She spent a year in Ireland learning to speak English at the Loreto Abby. A year later, Agnes began her missionary work in Darjeeling, India. She learned the local language, Bengali, and taught at the local school. In , she took her vows as a nun and chose the name Teresa. She taught for many years in India becoming the headmistress at a school in eastern Calcutta. What did Mother Teresa do? When she was 36 years old, Mother Teresa felt the call from God to help the poor of India. She received some basic medical training and then set out to help the sick and needy. She had very little support and, while trying to feed and help the poorest of the poor, she herself was constantly hungry and even had to beg for food. She described the purpose of the Missionaries of Charity as an organization that would take care of "the hungry, the naked, the homeless, the crippled, the blind, the lepers, all those people who feel unwanted, unloved, uncared for throughout society, people that have become a burden to the society and are shunned by everyone". Mother Teresa had some lofty goals. If you consider that she herself was starving only a few years earlier, she accomplished some amazing things. When she first started the Missionaries of Charity there were only 13 members. Today, the group has over 4, members who care for people all over the world. She worked almost up until her death on September 5, This is a step on the way to becoming a Saint. She is now called Blessed Teresa of Calcutta. She never saw her mother or sister again after leaving home to become a missionary. She was awarded the Nobel Peace Prize in Rather than have the traditional Nobel honor banquet, she asked that the money for the banquet be donated to the poor of India. She once traveled through a war zone to rescue 37 children from the front lines. She received numerous awards for all her charity work including the Presidential Medal of Freedom from President Ronald Reagan. It takes around 9 years of service to become a full member of the Missionaries of Charity. Activities Take a ten question quiz about this page. Listen to a recorded reading of this page: Your browser does not support the audio element.

4: Mother Teresa Canonization - Home

Biography Mother Teresa Mother Teresa () was a Roman Catholic nun who devoted her life to serving the poor and destitute around the world. She spent many years in Calcutta, India where she founded the Missionaries of Charity, a religious congregation devoted to helping those in great need.

Five children were born to Nikola and Dronda Bojaxhiu, yet only three survived. Gonxha was the youngest, with an older sister, Aga, and brother, Lazar. Nikola was a contractor, working with a partner in a successful construction business. He was also heavily involved in the politics of the day. With this event, life changed overnight as their mother assumed total responsibility for the family, Aga, only 14, Lazar, 9, and Gonxha, 7. Though so much of her young life was centered in the Church, Mother Teresa later revealed that until she reached 18, she had never thought of being a nun. During her early years, however, she was fascinated with stories of missionary life and service. She could locate any number of missions on the map, and tell others of the service being given in each place. Called to Religious Life At 18, Gonxha decided to follow the path that seems to have been unconsciously unfolding throughout her life. She chose the Loreto Sisters of Dublin, missionaries and educators founded in the 17th century to educate young girls. During this period a sister novice remembered her as "very small, quiet and shy," and another member of the congregation described her as "ordinary. Unwavering commitment and self-discipline, always a part of her life and reinforced in her association with the Loreto sisters, seemed to stay with her throughout her life. One year later, in , Gonxha was sent to Darjeeling to the novitiate of the Sisters of Loreto. In , she made her first vows there, choosing the name of Teresa, honoring both saints of the same name, Teresa of Avila and Therese of Lisieux. She was sent to St. Here she began a career teaching history and geography, which she reportedly did with dedication and enjoyment for the next 15 years. This was the clear message, the invitation to her "second calling," that Teresa heard on that fateful day in when she traveled to Darjeeling for retreat. The Streets of Calcutta During the next two years, Teresa pursued every avenue to follow what she "never doubted" was the direction God was pointing her. She was "to give up even Loreto where I was very happy and to go out in the streets. I heard the call to give up all and follow Christ into the slums to serve him among the poorest of the poor. She had to be released formally, not from her perpetual vows, but from living within the convents of the Sisters of Loreto. She had to figure out how to live and work on the streets, without the safety and comfort of the convent. As for clothing, Teresa decided she would set aside the habit she had worn during her years as a Loreto sister and wear the ordinary dress of an Indian woman: Teresa first went to Patna for a few months to prepare for her future work by taking a nursing course. In she received permission from Pius XII to leave her community and live as an independent nun. So back to Calcutta she went and found a small hovel to rent to begin her new undertaking. Wisely, she thought to start by teaching the children of the slums, an endeavor she knew well. She strove to make the children of the poor literate, to teach them basic hygiene. As they grew to know her, she gradually began visiting the poor and ill in their families and others all crowded together in the surrounding squalid shacks, inquiring about their needs. Teresa found a never-ending stream of human needs in the poor she met, and frequently was exhausted. Despite the weariness of her days she never omitted her prayer, finding it the source of support, strength and blessing for all her ministry. A Movement Begins Teresa was not alone for long. Within a year, she found more help than she anticipated. Many seemed to have been waiting for her example to open their own floodgates of charity and compassion. Young women came to volunteer their services and later became the core of her Missionaries of Charity. Others offered food, clothing, the use of buildings, medical supplies and money. As support and assistance mushroomed, more and more services became possible to huge numbers of suffering people. From their birth in Calcutta, nourished by the faith, compassion and commitment of Mother Teresa, the Missionaries of Charity have grown like the mustard seed of the Scriptures. New vocations continue to come from all parts of the world, serving those in great need wherever they are found. Until her death in , Mother Teresa continued her work among the poorest of the poor, depending on God for all of her needs. Honors too numerous to mention had come her way throughout the years, as the world stood astounded by her care for those usually deemed of little value.

Though frail and bent, with numerous ailments, she always returned to her work, to those who received her compassionate care for more than 50 years. Only months before her death, when she became too weak to manage the administrative work, she relinquished the position of head of her Missionaries of Charity. She knew the work would go on. Finally, on September 5, , after finishing her dinner and prayers, her weakened heart gave her back to the God who was the very center of her life.

5: Mother Teresa of Calcutta Catholic School â€“ Lutz, FL

Mother Teresa's love for children and her desire to help them towards a better future is inspiring to people around the world, and we at Blessed Mother Teresa of Calcutta Catholic School are blessed to carry on her legacy of love and education.

Her family was of Albanian descent. At the age of twelve, she felt strongly the call of God. She knew she had to be a missionary to spread the love of Christ. At the age of eighteen she left her parental home in Skopje and joined the Sisters of Loreto, an Irish community of nuns with missions in India. From to Mother Teresa taught at St. Although she had no funds, she depended on Divine Providence, and started an open-air school for slum children. Soon she was joined by voluntary helpers, and financial support was also forthcoming. This made it possible for her to extend the scope of her work. Today the order comprises Active and Contemplative branches of Sisters and Brothers in many countries. In both the Contemplative branch of the Sisters and the Active branch of the Brothers was founded. In the Contemplative branch of the Brothers was added, and in the Priest branch was established. The Society of Missionaries has spread all over the world, including the former Soviet Union and Eastern European countries. They provide effective help to the poorest of the poor in a number of countries in Asia, Africa, and Latin America, and they undertake relief work in the wake of natural catastrophes such as floods, epidemics, and famine, and for refugees. The Missionaries of Charity throughout the world are aided and assisted by Co-Workers who became an official International Association on March 29, By the s there were over one million Co-Workers in more than 40 countries. She also received the Balzan Prize and the Templeton and Magsaysay awards. It was later edited and republished in Nobel Lectures. To cite this document, always state the source as shown above. It even appeared in the Indian Loreto Entrance Book as her date of birth. In fact, as she confided to her friend, co-worker and American author, Eileen Egan, that was the date on which she was christened Agnes Gonxha Bojaxhiu. The date which marked the beginning of her Christian life was undoubtedly the more important to Mother Teresa, but she was none the less actually born in Skopje, Serbia, on the previous day. Mother Teresa died on September 5,

6: Mother Teresa of Calcutta (), biography

Road to Sainthood. Yes, Mother Teresa is a saint. Mother Teresa, called by many the "saint of the gutters," or "saint of the slums," because of her ministry to the poor, recognized her desire for holiness at a young age.

Take the Saints Trivia Quiz now! Born on August 26, in Skopje, she was the youngest child born to Nikola and Drane Bojaxhiu, Receiving her First Communion at the age of five, she was confirmed in November Her father died while she was only eight years old leaving her family in financial straits. Subsequently moved to pursue missionary work, Gonxha left her home in September at the age of 18 to join the Institute of the Blessed Virgin Mary, known as the Sisters of Loreto, in Ireland. She received the name Sister Mary Teresa after St. In December of , she departed for her first trip to India, arriving in Calcutta. She continued teaching at St. Noted for her charity, unselfishness and courage, her capacity for hard work and a natural talent for organization, she lived out her consecration to Jesus, in the midst of her companions, with fidelity and joy. It was on September 10, during a train ride from Calcutta to Darjeeling for her annual retreat, Mother Teresa received her "inspiration, her call within a call. By means of interior locutions and visions, Jesus revealed to her the desire of His heart for "victims of love" who would "radiate His love on souls. He asked Mother Teresa to establish a religious community, Missionaries of Charity, dedicated to the service of the poorest of the poor. Nearly two years of testing and discernment passed before Mother Teresa received permission to begin. On August 17, , she dressed for the first time in a white, blue-bordered sari and passed through the gates of her beloved Loreto convent to enter the world of the poor. On December 21, she went for the first time to the slums. She visited families, washed the sores of some children, cared for an old man lying sick on the road and nursed a woman dying of hunger and tuberculosis. She started each day with communion then went out, rosary in her hand, to find and serve Him amongst "the unwanted, the unloved, the uncared for. On October 7, the new congregation of the Missionaries of Charity was officially established in the Archdiocese of Calcutta. By the early s, Mother Teresa began to send her Sisters to other parts of India. It was soon followed by foundations in Rome and Tanzania and, eventually, on every continent. Starting in and continuing through the s, Mother Teresa opened houses in almost all of the communist countries, including the former Soviet Union, Albania and Cuba. In order to respond better to both the physical and spiritual needs of the poor, Mother Teresa founded the Missionaries of Charity Brothers in , in the contemplative branch of the Sisters, in the Contemplative Brothers, and in the Missionaries of Charity Fathers. She formed the Co-Workers of Mother Teresa and the Sick and Suffering Co-Workers, people of many faiths and nationalities with who she shared her spirit of prayer, simplicity, sacrifice and her apostolate of humble works of love. This spirit later inspired the Lay Missionaries of Charity. In answer to the requests of many priests, in Mother Teresa also began the Corpus Christi Movement for Priests as a "little way of holiness" for those who desire to share in her charisma and spirit. During the years of rapid growth the world began to turn its eyes towards Mother Teresa and the work she had started. Numerous awards, beginning with the Indian Padmashri Award in and notably the Nobel Peace Prize in , honored her work, while an increasingly interested media began to follow her activities. Hidden from all eyes, even from those closest to her, was her interior life marked by an experience of a deep, painful and abiding feeling of being separated from God, even rejected by Him, along with an ever increasing longing for His love. She called her inner experience, the darkness. The "painful night" of her soul, which began around the time she started her work for the poor and continued to the end of her life, led Mother Teresa to an ever more profound union with God. Through the darkness she mystically participated in the thirst of Jesus, in His painful and burning longing for love, and she shared in the interior desolation of the poor. In spite of increasingly severe health problems towards the end of her life, Mother Teresa continued to govern her Society and respond to the needs of the poor and the Church. In March she blessed her newly-elected successor as Superior General of the Missionaries of Charity and then made one more trip abroad. After meeting Pope John Paul II for the last time, she returned to Calcutta and spent her final weeks receiving visitors and instructing her Sisters. She was given the honor of a state funeral by the Government of India and her body was buried in the Mother House of the Missionaries of Charity. Her tomb

quickly became a place of pilgrimage and prayer for people of all faiths, rich and poor alike. Mother Teresa left a testament of unshakable faith, invincible hope and extraordinary charity. On December 20, he approved the decrees of her heroic virtues and miracles. On the occasion of her beatification, the Missionaries of Charity issued the following statement: When Mother was with us, we were witnesses to her shining example of all the Christian virtues. Her life of loving service to the poor has inspired many to follow the same path. Her witness and message are cherished by those of every religion as a sign that "God still loves the world today. Every day, pilgrims from India and around the world come to pray at her tomb and many more follow her example of humble service of love to the most needy, beginning in their own families. May her example help us to strive for holiness: On December 17, Pope Francis announced a second miracle had been attributed to the intercession of Mother Teresa. The miracle involved a Brazilian man who was afflicted with tumors who was miraculously cured. Mother Teresa will be canonized on September 4, by Pope Francis.

7: Kid's Biography: Mother Teresa

Though so much of her young life was centered in the Church, Mother Teresa later revealed that until she reached 18, she had never thought of being a nun. During her early years, however, she was fascinated with stories of missionary life and service.

About Biography Mother Teresa Mother Teresa " was a Roman Catholic nun who devoted her life to serving the poor and destitute around the world. She spent many years in Calcutta, India where she founded the Missionaries of Charity, a religious congregation devoted to helping those in great need. In , Mother Teresa was awarded the Nobel Peace Prize and became a symbol of charitable, selfless work. It is not how much we give, but how much love we put in the giving. Little is known about her early life, but at a young age, she felt a calling to be a nun and serve through helping the poor. At the age of 18, she was given permission to join a group of nuns in Ireland. After a few months of training, with the Sisters of Loreto, she was then given permission to travel to India. She took her formal religious vows in and chose to be named after St Therese of Lisieux " the patron saint of missionaries. The primary objective of this mission was to look after people, who nobody else was prepared to look after. Mother Teresa felt that serving others was a fundamental principle of the teachings of Jesus Christ. Love has to be put into action, and that action is service. In , she left the convent to live full-time among the poorest of Calcutta. For many years, Mother Teresa and a small band of fellow nuns survived on minimal income and food, often having to beg for funds. But, slowly her efforts with the poorest were noted and appreciated by the local community and Indian politicians. In , she opened her first home for the dying, which allowed people to die with dignity. Mother Teresa often spent time with those who were dying. Some have criticised the lack of proper medical attention, and their refusal to give painkillers. Others say that it afforded many neglected people the opportunity to die knowing that someone cared. Her work spread around the world. By , there were missions operating in over countries. The scope of their work also expanded to include orphanages and hospices for those with terminal illnesses. But we can do small things with great love. However, she had a very firm Catholic faith and took a strict line on abortion, the death penalty and divorce " even if her position was unpopular. The Missionaries of Charity now has branches throughout the world including branches in the developed world where they work with the homeless and people affected by AIDS. In later years, she was more active in western developed countries. She commented that though the West was materially prosperous, there was often a spiritual poverty. Over the last two decades of her life, Mother Teresa suffered various health problems, but nothing could dissuade her from fulfilling her mission of serving the poor and needy. Until her very last illness she was active in travelling around the world to the different branches of The Missionaries of Charity. The two died within a week of each other. In September , Pope Francis declared: She made her voice heard before the powers of this world, so that they might recognize their guilt for the crime of poverty they created. Updated September Mother Teresa Biography.

8: Mother Teresa Biography - Childhood, Life Achievements & Timeline

On 10 September , on a train journey from Calcutta to Darjeeling, Mother Teresa received what she termed the "call within a call," which was to give rise to the Missionaries of Charity family of Sisters, Brothers, Fathers, and Co-Workers.

Missionaries of Charity Missionaries of Charity motherhouse in Kolkata On 10 September , Teresa experienced what she later described as "the call within the call" when she travelled by train to the Loreto convent in Darjeeling from Calcutta for her annual retreat. It was an order. To fail would have been to break the faith. Teresa adopted Indian citizenship, spent several months in Patna to receive basic medical training at Holy Family Hospital and ventured into the slums. With no income, she begged for food and supplies and experienced doubt, loneliness and the temptation to return to the comfort of convent life during these early months: Our Lord wants me to be a free nun covered with the poverty of the cross. Today, I learned a good lesson. The poverty of the poor must be so hard for them. While looking for a home I walked and walked till my arms and legs ached. I thought how much they must ache in body and soul, looking for a home, food and health. Then, the comfort of Loreto [her former congregation] came to tempt me. Of free choice, my God, and out of love for you, I desire to remain and do whatever be your Holy will in my regard. I did not let a single tear come. Muslims were read the Quran , Hindus received water from the Ganges , and Catholics received extreme unction. Teresa then expanded the congregation abroad, opening a house in Venezuela in with five sisters. Responding to requests by many priests, in Mother Teresa founded the Corpus Christi Movement for Priests [52] and with priest Joseph Langford the Missionaries of Charity Fathers in [53] to combine the vocational aims of the Missionaries of Charity with the resources of the priesthood. By the Missionaries of Charity numbered about brothers and 5, sisters worldwide, operating missions, schools and shelters in countries. By citizenship, an Indian. By faith, I am a Catholic nun. As to my calling, I belong to the world. As to my heart, I belong entirely to the Heart of Jesus. She began dozens of projects, undeterred by criticism of her stands against abortion and divorce: The first Missionaries of Charity home in the United States was established in the South Bronx area of New York City , and by the congregation operated 19 establishments throughout the country. Following a second attack in , she received an artificial pacemaker. In , after a bout of pneumonia in Mexico, she had additional heart problems. Although Teresa offered to resign as head of the Missionaries of Charity, in a secret ballot the sisters of the congregation voted for her to stay and she agreed to continue. Although Teresa had heart surgery , her health was clearly declining. The Missionaries of Charity were aided by co-workers numbering over one million by the s. She received a state funeral from the Indian government in gratitude for her service to the poor of all religions in the country. Prime Minister of Pakistan Nawaz Sharif called her "a rare and unique individual who lived long for higher purposes. Her life-long devotion to the care of the poor, the sick, and the disadvantaged was one of the highest examples of service to our humanity. She is peace in the world. President Pratibha Patil said, "Clad in a white sari with a blue border, she and the sisters of Missionaries of Charity became a symbol of hope to many â€” the aged, the destitute, the unemployed, the diseased, the terminally ill, and those abandoned by their families. Secretary Giriraj Kishore said that "her first duty was to the Church and social service was incidental", accusing her of favouring Christians and conducting "secret baptisms" of the dying. According to its citation, "The Board of Trustees recognises her merciful cognisance of the abject poor of a foreign land, in whose service she has led a new congregation". Muggeridge was undergoing a spiritual journey of his own at the time. In England, the footage was found to be extremely well-lit and Muggeridge called it a miracle of "divine light" from Teresa. She was honoured by governments and civilian organisations, and appointed an honorary Companion of the Order of Australia in "for service to the community of Australia and humanity at large". When Teresa received the prize she was asked, "What can we do to promote world peace? When I pick up a person from the street, hungry, I give him a plate of rice, a piece of bread, I have satisfied. I have removed that hunger. But a person that is shut out, that feels unwanted, unloved, terrified, the person that has been thrown out from societyâ€”that poverty is so hurtful [sic] and so much, and I find that very difficult. Because if a mother can kill her own childâ€”what is left for me to kill you and you kill meâ€”there is nothing between. Mother Teresa

in Theory and Practice who wrote in a article: She was a friend of poverty. She said that suffering was a gift from God. She spent her life opposing the only known cure for poverty, which is the empowerment of women and the emancipation of them from a livestock version of compulsory reproduction. I do it for Christ. I do it for the church. Where is my faith? If there be Godâ€™ please forgive me. When I try to raise my thoughts to Heaven, there is such convicting emptiness that those very thoughts return like sharp knives and hurt my very soul. Come Be My Light. I want you to pray for meâ€™ that I let Him have [a] free hand. The Sisters of Charity recite the prayer of Saint Francis every morning at mass during the thanksgiving after Communion , and their emphasis on ministry and many of their vows are similar. He devoted much of his life to serving the poor, particularly lepers. Kolodiejchuk submitted 76 documents, totalling 35, pages, which were based on interviews with witnesses who were asked to answer questions. According to Besra, a beam of light emanated from the picture and her cancerous tumour was cured; however, her husband and some of her medical staff said that conventional medical treatment eradicated the tumour. Ranjan Mustafi, who told the New York Times he had treated Besra, said that the cyst was caused by tuberculosis: She took medicines for nine months to one year. This miracle is a hoax. Officials at Balurghat Hospital, where Besra sought medical treatment, said that they were pressured by the order to call her cure miraculous. According to De, there was nothing unusual about her illness and cure based on her lengthy treatment. Hitchens and Chatterjee author of The Final Verdict, a book critical of Teresa spoke to the tribunal; according to Vatican officials, the allegations raised were investigated by the Congregation for the Causes of Saints. A subsequent investigation took place in Brazil from 19â€™26 June which was later transferred to the Congregation for the Causes of Saints who issued a decree recognizing the investigation to be completed. The members of the Congregation themselves met and approved the findings of the two previous boards on 15 December which allowed for them to pass on their findings to the pope two days later for his approval which he subsequently granted. Francis canonised her at a ceremony on 4 September in St. Tens of thousands of people witnessed the ceremony, including 15 government delegations and 1, homeless people from across Italy. Francis Xavier the first patron saint of Calcutta in The Roman Catholic cathedral in Pristina , Kosovo, is named in her honour.

9: Mother Teresa of Calcutta

Blessed Teresa of Calcutta, known the world over as Mother Teresa, was an Albanian-born Indian citizen who abided by her religious faith of Roman Catholicism to serve the unwanted, unloved and uncared people of the world.

By citizenship, an Indian. By faith, I am a Catholic nun. As to my calling, I belong to the world. As to my heart, I belong entirely to the Heart of Jesus. The youngest of the children born to Nikola and Drane Bojaxhiu, she was baptised Gonxha Agnes, received her First Communion at the age of five and a half and was confirmed in November. From the day of her First Holy Communion, a love for souls was within her. At the age of eighteen, moved by a desire to become a missionary, Gonxha left her home in September to join the Institute of the Blessed Virgin Mary, known as the Sisters of Loreto, in Ireland. There she received the name Sister Mary Teresa after St. In December, she departed for India, arriving in Calcutta on 6 January. She continued teaching at St. Noted for her charity, unselfishness and courage, her capacity for hard work and a natural talent for organization, she lived out her consecration to Jesus, in the midst of her companions, with fidelity and joy. He asked Mother Teresa to establish a religious community, Missionaries of Charity, dedicated to the service of the poorest of the poor. Nearly two years of testing and discernment passed before Mother Teresa received permission to begin. On August 17, , she dressed for the first time in a white, blue-bordered sari and passed through the gates of her beloved Loreto convent to enter the world of the poor. On 21 December she went for the first time to the slums. She visited families, washed the sores of some children, cared for an old man lying sick on the road and nursed a woman dying of hunger and TB. On 7 October the new congregation of the Missionaries of Charity was officially established in the Archdiocese of Calcutta. By the early s, Mother Teresa began to send her Sisters to other parts of India. It was soon followed by foundations in Rome and Tanzania and, eventually, on every continent. Starting in and continuing through the s, Mother Teresa opened houses in almost all of the communist countries, including the former Soviet Union, Albania and Cuba. In order to respond better to both the physical and spiritual needs of the poor, Mother Teresa founded the Missionaries of Charity Brothers in , in the contemplative branch of the Sisters, in the Contemplative Brothers, and in the Missionaries of Charity Fathers. Yet her inspiration was not limited to those with religious vocations. She formed the Co-Workers of Mother Teresa and the Sick and Suffering Co-Workers, people of many faiths and nationalities with whom she shared her spirit of prayer, simplicity, sacrifice and her apostolate of humble works of love. This spirit later inspired the Lay Missionaries of Charity. During the years of rapid growth the world began to turn its eyes towards Mother Teresa and the work she had started. Numerous awards, beginning with the Indian Padmashri Award in and notably the Nobel Peace Prize in , honoured her work, while an increasingly interested media began to follow her activities. But there was another heroic side of this great woman that was revealed only after her death. Hidden from all eyes, hidden even from those closest to her, was her interior life marked by an experience of a deep, painful and abiding feeling of being separated from God, even rejected by Him, along with an ever-increasing longing for His love. Through the darkness she mystically participated in the thirst of Jesus, in His painful and burning longing for love, and she shared in the interior desolation of the poor. During the last years of her life, despite increasingly severe health problems, Mother Teresa continued to govern her Society and respond to the needs of the poor and the Church. In March she blessed her newly-elected successor as Superior General of the Missionaries of Charity and then made one more trip abroad. After meeting Pope John Paul II for the last time, she returned to Calcutta and spent her final weeks receiving visitors and instructing her Sisters. She was given the honour of a state funeral by the Government of India and her body was buried in the Mother House of the Missionaries of Charity. Her tomb quickly became a place of pilgrimage and prayer for people of all faiths, rich and poor alike. Mother Teresa left a testament of unshakable faith, invincible hope and extraordinary charity. On 20 December he approved the decrees of her heroic virtues and miracles.

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