



***KUNDELING MONASTERY,  
MYSORE,INDIA***

## THE ATISHA CHARITABLE TRUST (ACT) REPORT FOR THE YEAR 2020

The Atisha Charitable Trust is a spiritual, educational and philanthropic organisation established to provide impetus to its stated motto. It has now completed 27 years since its founding. The Trust also happens to be the only establishment following the Ganden Oral Transmission lineage of Mahayana Mantrayana Buddhist tradition and pioneers integration and service to its mainstream society—in this case, the Indian society.

The ACT's cherished goal has been the upkeep of its main project, the Kundeling Monastery. The Trust hopes to achieve all of its objectives by creating an ideal community, as mentioned earlier. Taskforce to attain social projects in the years has been and is conducted with the active participation of the community of the Kundeling Monastery, even today.

We have since the year 2000 been providing a general report of our significant projects as Newsletters. We do, however, hope to be able to put up our website in the future, now that the conditions to it are available. Until then, we hope that our patrons and friends will bear with us for the time when it is ready.

### YEARLY PROJECTS INVOLVED

As per our early reports, our 'Annual Engagements' follow the same pattern, only except for a new project undertaken. According to the calendar for easy understanding, we would like to enlist them:

**Annual Paricharya Engagements**—month-long engagements of religious rites for Peace, pacification of diseases and natural disasters and progress. **The Kundeling Monastery** and its maintenance involving; the community's sustenance, educational and well-being programmes. **The Free Medical Camps Services** in the village and **Chinese Medical Camp Service**, within the headquarters of the ACT and **Sponsorship Schemes** for Monastics, the Schools and eligible Villagers.

Projects are not necessarily restricted to the said list as mentioned. There are opportunities or avenues of help that are offered that are compatible with our by-laws. Such has been embarked on frequently in the past, mentioned in our reports earlier.

### WHAT THE PROJECT PARICHARYA INVOLVES

The Kundeling Monastery is a spiritual and monastic community. It is hence incumbent for the Trust to begin the year with activities requiring ritual involvement and prayers. The engagement in acts of the accumulation of merit is a sacred binding obligation at large for all





Buddhists. A unique team of monks invited to the ACT headquarters resides for a month or less as its guests. During this period, a long list of rites from the catalogue of rituals known to the Gelugpa curriculum is performed.

As hosts to monks, the business of catering to all their basic needs, besides from the accommodation, recreation and stipends—which in the Buddhist tradition is an ‘Offering’, is considered a means to acquire merit. It is an age-



old practice honoured and is vital to Buddhists, wherever they are. This year too. In a practical sense, monks voluntarily abandon the pursuit of a livelihood. Hence, their sustenance and basic needs come from Buddhist patrons and the monetary contributions they receive from donors.

For the reasons stated before, ritual engagement becomes a period of intense activities requiring sufficient preparation, infrastructure, artistic skills and work. The practice began with what is called ‘The Torma Making,’ the yearly offerings before the onset of the rituals. Preparations would commence on 4th November and conclude with the patterns on 29th December.

## FREE MEDICAL CAMP SERVICES

**Providing medical treatment and** the ACT in collaboration with the Sai The camp was held within the premises Primary School (GHPS), a Karnataka year 2020, however, has witnessed merely camp is held, with 145 patients attending, present.

**The Chinese Medical Camp (CMC),** Doctors of the Chinese Traditional



**free medicines** has been a going undertaking of Baba team of volunteers now since the year 2013. and compound ground of the Government Higher State government-run initiative, as always. The two medical camps take place. On 5th January, one the second on 1st March, with 134 patients

an initiative entirely managed by a team of Medicine (CTM) hailing from Taiwan, often visit



during March and September. Since 2013, they have been providing pulse diagnosis, Acupuncture, massage and medicine doses free of charge to people from the villages in the vicinity. Chinese traditional medicine and treatment compliment the Indian Ayurvedic and other holistic and Homeopathic systems.



The urban and middle-class Indians from the Mysore City, with

the villages in the vicinity of the ACT headquarters, have received CTM and its treatment free of charge for the first time. Despite that, around March, the Covid-19 Pandemic would descend on the Indian continent, forestalling efforts to holding the CMC, if any.

## SPONSORSHIP SCHEMES FOR SCHOOLS AND VILLAGERS

The sponsorship initiative is one of the Schools in and around three villages based sponsorship of individuals with the monthly provision of Milk, schools are provided from the 31st sponsorships given.

But as the first wave of Covid, along with lockdowns. Many of the discontinued. The sponsorship scheme pandemic related problems. As the

A cheque donation offered to the on 9<sup>th</sup> April. With a further



schemes undertaken for the GHPS State-run close to the headquarters of the ACT. Merit-deserving scholarship too had been taken up biscuits and fruit juices. The services to the January until 30th March along with the

with new rules prohibiting movement contact mentioned services to schools had this year is diverted to assisting with the government made appeals started coming.

Karnataka State Chief Minister's Relief Fund distribution of sanitisers and facial masks, on





30<sup>th</sup> April and hand out of groceries supplied to the Grama Panchayat (Village Municipality) Marballi, on 3<sup>rd</sup> May and the village of Harohalli, on 12<sup>th</sup> May.

However, other sponsorships taken since the years have not witnessed a setback, with support to individuals and Institutions continuing as of before.



## PROGRAMMES WITHIN THE HEADQUARTERS

The study and meditation programmes go along with the ritual engagements, which are the characteristic of Buddhist centres and monasteries in particular. The teachers imparting secular knowledge to the team of novitiates within the monastery has seen poor attendance this year. It is mainly due to the there are other curriculums within the the years before. As we have described back, we shall not elaborate on them

It will suffice to mention here that the before, is led by Kundeling Rimpoché, three weeks. These lectures are attended the senior inmates of the Kundeling



Projects also involve all other works embellishment, and maintenance edifices and property of the ACT and the

lockdowns imposed. Nonetheless, community that have carried on as in those routine happenings in the years here.

January course, like in the years who had given teachings for almost by visiting guests from Europe and monastery.

involving the renovation, required to preserve the standing Kundeling Monastery per se.



We have started a trend involving statistical reporting as a chart informing readers on the dates, nature of projects and expenses involved. We further hope to elaborate and offer as narratives other spiritual projects undertaken elsewhere. We do not wish to tax the general audience of persons who will be reading this report.



