



AKSHY

ASSOCIATION

www.akshy.org

ANNUAL REPORT 2020

INDEX

1. Letter	3
2. About us	5
Our association	5
Cómo nació Akshy	5
How Akshy was born.....	6
Our team.....	7
3. Where we work	10
Our beneficiaries	11
4. How we work and what we do	13
How we act	13
Integral program	14
5. Achievements 2020.....	21
6. Origin and destination of resources	26
7. Awareness and outreach.....	27
8. Acknowledgments / Collaborate	28



Letter from the Director

Dear Friends of Akshy,

2020 due to the Covid-19 pandemic was a very difficult year for all of us throughout the world. The crisis affected not only India but also Spain and other countries where our benefactors reside. Some of you or some of those close to you have suffered this virus. In addition, in some cases there was a loss of jobs or lower income earned. In view of it, your help in 2020 was more valuable than ever; in spite of troubles, you have continued to help us in this part of the world, in India.

Thanks to your unconditional support we were able to keep on working for the benefit of children, women and the elderly in a most vulnerable sector of Indian society. Without it, last year we could not have upheld our projects since, as a result of the pandemic, we had no other means of obtaining income.

India suffered a devastating 70 day confinement, the strictest in the world, which closed a country with a population of 1,383 million people for over two months, causing a terrible effect on the country's economy, especially for the poorest families. 140 million lost their jobs and thousands were trapped in the slums, forcing them to walk kilometres to get back to their villages with no money for transport or food. Among these were many fathers of our pupils. The families found themselves with no money coming in and until very late in the day no Government aid either. The help you gave, therefore, in our Food Campaign where we were able to distribute food to almost 5,000 people for a full month was of vital importance. Similarly the Health Project Campaign was of great value as it guaranteed access to health care for all. We had to adapt our Education Project to avoid having the children leave their studies. We have a team of teachers who have worked with us at all times to ensure the children could continue to study.

2020 was difficult in many aspects, not only financially but also in our efforts to give continuity to our projects when faced with the numerous restrictions imposed by the Indian Government in its attempts to control the pandemic. We gave special attention to our social programme, making sure there was no one without food, a roof over his head or medical care. Through the Women's programme we were able to make contact with the families in a more direct manner.



You, our members, are AKSHY's pillar of strength, you have enabled our Association to carry on in spite of the terrible situation we are suffering. For this your help in such a complicated period has been of tremendous importance.

Many, many thanks.

Raquel Mason

Director
Association AKSHY



2 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, AKSHY 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. Akshy respects the multiplicity of traditions, cultures and religions of India, as well as its spirituality and customs.

HOW AKSHY WAS BORN

Akshy India was started when Raquel Mason (Founder and Director) visited Bodh-gaya, 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, Raquel was impressed by seeing a sick child whose name was Akshay. The poor boy looked sad, dirty, uncared for and surrounded by misery. Raquel 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.

OBJETIVES AND VALUES OF AKSHY

Our aim to is promote the development of the most ill treated rural communities in India, with special emphasis on the dalits, or “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 programme.



Raquel Mason

Founder and Director

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.



Enrique Tiscar

Secretary and Trustee

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.



Ana de las Heras

Vocal / Communication Manager and Trustee

Namaste! A few years ago I was a volunteer at the Akshy Educational Center. The students gave me life lessons that they would never imagine, since then, I collaborate whenever I can in the area of Communication.



Roberto Calderón

Vocal / Technology Manager and Trustee

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.



Ana Gutiérrez

Vocal and Trustee

Hello!! 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.



Alexis Roitman

Coordinator in Spain

Namaste! 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.



Hilary Lunn

Translator

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 .



Diana López

Graphic designer

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.



Juana Hidalgo

Collaborator

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.



Maribel García

Collaborator

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.

3 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 they 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 subSaharan 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 population is often forced to migrate to other states to earn 200 rupees a day (2 euros approximately) in temporary Works (harvests, construction works, etc.)

WHO BENEFIT 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 dominant 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 for 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.



4

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

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 on 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 an 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 , 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 PROGRAM

EDUCATION PROJECT

We have two 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 217 children attend the Akshay School in 8 different classes. We teach up to 8th Grade.



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" caste. 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.

Secondary and Higher Education

We finance Secondary Education and pre-university studies 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 13 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 their 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.

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 completes 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.

SOCIAL PROJECT

Health Care and Preventive Medicine

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 to access 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.



Dada-Dadi - attention for the disabled old people

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, beds 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 food for the whole month. 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.

Humanitarian Assistance



We set up a campaign of Humanitarian Assistance for times of crisis caused by the pandemics or other tragedies which the vulnerable families of the villages may have to suffer. When a family is deprived of its work through illness or natural causes or other calamities and have no savings or properties to guarantee them a loan to face the unexpected, and in order to avoid these families falling into debt with money lenders for years to come, we help them in an emergency, for example a house fire, an accident by the person who works to keep the family, etc.

Construction of Water Pumps



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.

PROJECT - WOMEN

United Women's Centre

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. Those women who are illiterate receive basic classes so that later they can follow the sewing course.



Sewing workshop

The women take a 6-month course, attending school daily and finally obtaining a diploma after passing an exam. Also, they learn to make clothes for their family.

They can then take the advanced course where, in addition, they learn other techniques, such as textile painting, embroidery and sewing uniforms, bags, purses, tablecloths, etc.

This provides them with the opportunity to receive compensation for their work that will help their families' finances.

Those women who are illiterate receive basic classes so that later they can follow the sewing course.



5 OUR 2020 ACHIEVEMENTS

Following is a short outline of the results of the projects mentioned at the start of the 2020 Annual Report.

EDUCATION

Primary Education

We have continued our Primary Education for 321 children in the villages of Amwan, Nautapur, Amwan Colony and Jaitiya.



Primary Education is given in the Akshay School and the Kamal Infants Centre.

The centres have given their pupils all the school materials they require, as well as medical care and extramural activities.

16 children completed their Primary Education.

Secondary Education

13 young people completed the course in different educational centres in Bodhgaya and were given daily supervision by us, thus ensuring success in their studies. The students continue their advanced studies either in College on a pre-university course or, once at University, are given financial support and guidance by the AKSHY ASSOCIATION.

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 indepth studies for the subjects they have at college.

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 considérate among companions, as well as with their families and neighbours.



Social Project, achievements 2020

Preventive health care

- 450 masks were distributed in the primary Health Centre in Bodhgaya
- 301 masks for all the Akshy children
- A talk on toilet hygiene was given in Amwan Colony for 70 women
- Talks on the importance of toilet hygiene were given in Jaitiya for 100 people
- During the Covid crisis a monthly supply of food was distributed to 4,890 people
- Talks on menstrual hygiene were given in 4 different settlements for a total of 152 women
- Talks on menstruation and a hygiene kit were given to 81 girls.

Project for women



There are now 200 women taking part 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 sewing workshop for six months,

26 women have obtained a tailoring degree that enables them to work.

- 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.
- Feminine hygiene kits were given to the young girls and a workshop was held for them as well.
- A computer course has been carried out for 20 girls.
- Project ABC - this is an initiative where young women who as little children could not go to primary school, are taught to read, write and do simple sums.
- A talk was given to 44 girls on the problems they have to face with regard to their sex and local traditions.
- The International Women's Day was celebrated in Jaitiya with 100 women present.

Social Program, achievements 2020

Dada-Dadi Project - Help for the Abandoned Old People



15 older persons abandoned by their families or completely alone, widows or disabled have received help through our DadaDadi Project.

Repairs were carried out on the roofs of their huts with tiles replacing bamboo to stop leakage during the Monsoon season.

Clothes were given them on two occasion 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 social worker 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.

We have covered their needs for food every 2 weeks besides giving them hygiene and cleaning materials



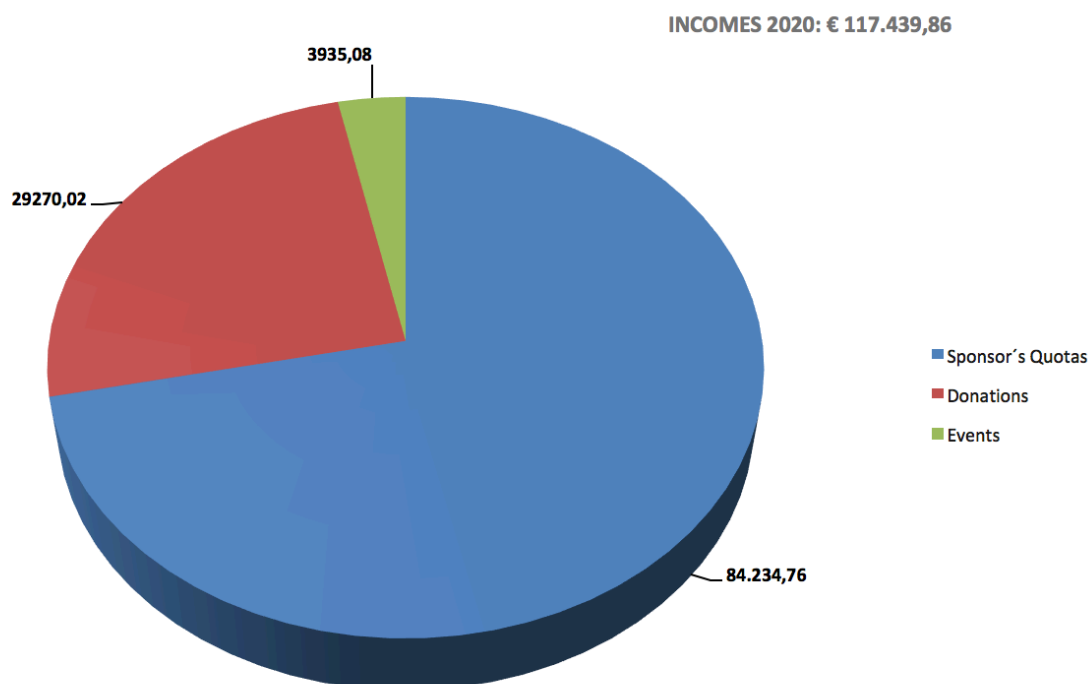
Other Activities in the Social Project

- 245 blankets have been distributed in the village of Jaitiya.
- 245 shawls were given to members of the Self-Help Groups
- A rally to show the disadvantages of child marriage was organized.
- A talk was given to 71 boys on puberty and hygiene and respect for the girls
- A course was held for 20 fathers to teach them how to sign their names
- Aid for the ration letter has been given to 100 families.
- A special computer course was held for teachers.
- A brick house was built for a family whose dwelling was destroyed in a storm.

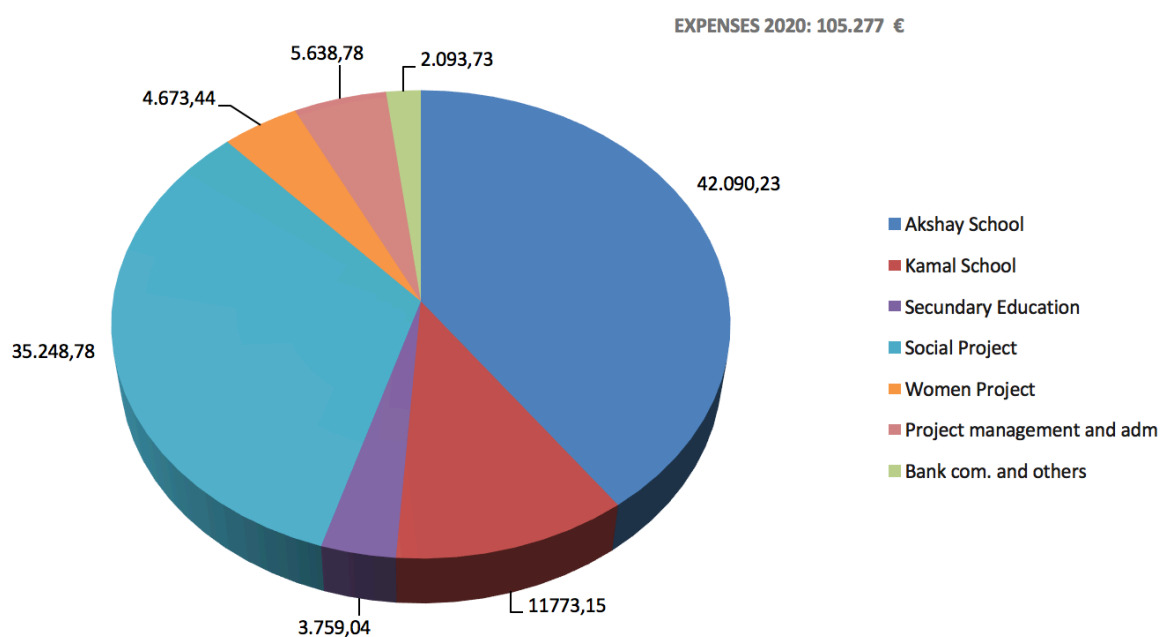


6 ORIGIN AND DESTINATION OF RESOURCES

Incomes



Expenses





7 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 presentday 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”.



8 ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

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 empty 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 "Dia de Reyes" and to Sam from Taiwan for his individual donation, we were able to begin building the Kamal School. Thanks also to Facilísimo who made an importante donation at Christmas for educational materials for our schools. Also worthy of special note is the regular 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 to them, in many cases, merely by belonging to the "untouchable" class.

Thank you very much!





ASSOCIATION

AKSHY

www.akshy.org