

MONTFORT BROTHERS OF ST.GABRIEL, Province of Ranchi.  
Social Action for Social Change:  
Pratyasha (HOPE)  
Vill. Sahera, Tetri-P.O. 834 010, Namkum, Dist. Ranchi. Jharkhand.N.India.  
E-Mail: jacobpanjekaransg@gmail.com

Annual Report 2018 – 19.

Here I am presenting the events and involvement of Pratyasha during the fiscal year 2018 to 19.

April 19. We along with the people of Kharsidag, Hurwa, Siri and Kerketa went to Bundubera to attend the Pathalgari (Erection of tomb Stone) meeting organised by the Tribal leaders of the area. The Pathalgari is the traditional way of erecting tomb stone in memory of the Ancestors. The second meaning of the Pathalgari is to demarcate the village area and to inscribe on the stone the traditional rules and rights granted to them by the Constitution of India.

April 26. I went to Provincialate to submit the accounts for auditing.

April 28. Feast of St. Louis Mary Gregnon the Montfort.

I spoke to the people who gathered for the Holy Mass about the Life of Montfort. I spoke on the meaning and message of my involvement with the people in the villages. The following day being Sunday, I addressed the Sunday gathering on the mission and vision of the Saint. The Montfortian presence in 33 countries of the world was highlighted and Montfort's True Devotion, a short cut to go to Jesus through and with Mary.

May 2. We selected two Montessori teachers for Devgain and Raitoli village schools for quality and proper education to the Primary school students..

May 3. We started a series of meetings in all the villages to disseminate the proper laws and rules regarding Land Acquisition Bill introduced by the present Government bypassing previous government's pro-people Bill. We also distributed booklets on the Bills to use in the village meetings. The introduction of Land Bank and single Window system were to grab the Tribal land to make available to the corporate sector. The result will be lacs of Tribals, Dalits and Backward people will be displaced. The compensation is a meager amount which is insufficient to live a decent life.

May 21. A Summer Camp was organised for the school going students of St.Thomas' School and Village Siri. We engaged the Christian children in teaching prayers and reciting Rosary.

May 26. The villages Leaders were taken to Jesuit Social Action Centre to attend the workshop on Constitutional Rights. This is to give proper knowledge to save Land, forest and Water. It was to instill in them the role of village leaders to understand the powers of the Gram Sabha (a village unit for self governing.)

June 9. We installed a Television Set in the village Siri for them to touch in with the happening of the nation and state. It was gifted by St. Aloysius community when they purchased a new set. It is very useful for the students to learn and enjoy week end.

June 24. We honoured the students who passed the Class X public examination. There were 8 of them. They were all given a medal and file to preserve the documents.

It was a community oriented programme to encourage and motivate the followers. The initiative was taken by Mr. Silas Horo, Jura Pahan and Asim.

July 19. I taught English for the Class V students of St.Thomas School. I took classes for them when teachers were on leave or when they are engaged in government duty.

I went to Ranchi to participate in the protest Rally. It was organised by the NGOs to take stern steps to implement the RIGHT to Food schemes.

August 14. I had gone for home visit and visit the Doctor who treated my varicose vein but was caught up in the flood. All the family members left home leaving everything into the providence of God. It was the first time the flood water got into our home. We were taken to a high place by the rescue team. It was a nerve breaking event in the history of my life.

September 13. I went to Ranchi to attend the core committee meeting of the NGO Forum to Save Constitution and democracy. The discussion oriented to draw action plan to pressurize the government to stop the unjust move of the ruling class.

September 17... We had several meetings in the villages to mobilize the people to Health Camp and Social Security Pension of the government.

September 18. I had gone for medical test and found that I am suffering from Typhoid. I was under bed rest for a few days.

September 28. Protest Rally and Fast and community hearing of people on various pension schemes of the government and demand for social security pension for all above 60 years. It was held in front of Governor's Palace for her intervention in the proper implementations of the schemes.

October 13. I went to attend the Golden and Silver Jubilee of 5 Brothers a Hazaribagh. It was followed by Province Chapter.

October 26. At village Kharsidag a meeting was held to discuss about the Forest Dept. to demarcate the forest area from the village. The people of Kharsidag are cautious to save forest. The Forest Dept. did not divulge the hidden agenda of the present move. A decade ago the department tried in a similar way to separate the forest area. The people were coaxed under the pretext of benefits from the department. They smelt fishy so they protested. The Officials came to talk to the villagers. The people asked to tell them what was motto for doing such separation. The Officer in-charge revealed the truth to the people and they objected to the action. The people will be prevented the entry into the forest once it was done. The Village Self Rule Unit (Gram Sabha) told their decision to the Forester and he quietly walked away from the meeting. The people had been protecting the forest ever since independence. This was the only village, where many huge Sal trees seen in the forest.

October 30. We participated in the sit in fast in front of the Governor's Palace by the NGOs to demand from the Government for the implementation of 1, SC, ST Rights, 2, Regularization of Para Teachers honorarium, 3, Regularity of mid- day meal programme in schools, 4, regularity of PDS. (Public Distribution System)

December 21. The village Leaders attended a meeting at Ranchi, HRDC.(Diocesan Human Rights Centre ) on the burning issues that affected the life of the Tribals of Jharkhand. This was a preparation to present a people's manifesto to the leaders for the coming election in May 2019. The forty NGOs collated the demand of the people from the grass-root level to make a comprehensive report.

Jan.1. Bro.John Asst. General, Bro. T.K. James Asst.Gnl., Bro.Clement Kandulna –Provincial and Bro.Sylvester Bara former Provincial inaugurated the year 2019 by their gracious presence. We celebrated the Birthdays in anticipation of Bro. T.K.James 10 Jan. and Bro.Jacob Panjikaran Jan.3. by cutting the cake. It was a memorable Day for Pratyasha – Sahera.

Jan 6. I took a class on Displacement for the Social Activists of District Chatra- Jharkhand. There were forty participants involved in empowering the rural poor against the displacement. I used the smart Board to present the past and present facts figures on Displacement. 1. The effects of displacement on the rural poor. 2. How they were dragged into poverty. 3. How the basic life was disoriented. 4. How the fabric of social life was dismantled in the name of development. 5. How they were psychologically, mentally, physically and spiritually broken into pieces. 6. How they became a rootless mass in the society.

Jan. 8 We had a meeting of the Religious Forum for Social Justice of Ranchi Unit to evaluate and to choke out action plan for 2019. It was an opportunity for us to pat our back for the prophetic role we played during the year 18.

Jan 26. I went to Kerala to meet the Doctor who treated for varicose vein . I was admitted in the hospital on 31<sup>st</sup>. The process was done on 4<sup>th</sup> February 19. I was discharged on 6<sup>th</sup> and returned on 12<sup>th</sup> .

March 3. I attended the Funeral of Bro. CM. Joseph at Konbir-Noatoli. He was an Authentic Religious who took a leap from the comfort Zone to the unfamiliar path. I call it as 'One flew over the Cookies Nest'.

March 9. I went to Dhawaiya St. Gabriel's High School Campus to attend the 'Shok Sabha' **in memory of Bro.C.M.Joseph** organised by the old boys of the area. We paid Homage to him. We vowed to keep Alive '**the dangerous Memory**'.

March to April. The main focus was to disseminate proper in- formation to the people. The forty NGOs of Jharkhand together had made a pamphlet to distribute to the people about the drastic steps the present government took against the SCs, STs and Backward Class during the past 4years. This leaflet was to highlight the anti poor steps taken to displace them in the name of development keeping aside the Constitution, Rights of '**Gram Sabha**', land acquisition Bill, unemployment and hundreds of Tribal youth had been implicated in Naxel activities (Anti social elements) . It is time now to use their franchise for the formation of the next government. The power is vested in their hands.

Bro.Jacob Panjikaran SG.

=====