

UNIT -III

HUMAN INTEREST

THE CONNOISSEUR (TEXT BOOK)

Objectives of the Lesson

- This piece of prose explores human relations of the present day.
- Background of Miss Krishna, a connoisseur and her likes.
- Her fascination towards beautiful and rare artifacts.
- Miss Krishna's eccentric behaviour with the author.
- Ms. Krishna's angina attack and her death
- Ms. Krishna's sister return for Maya's funeral
- Ms. Krishna's sister became the soul beneficiary of the will
- Ms. Krishna becomes an unexpected humour in the life of the author

Fill in the Blanks for Bit Paper

- 1) Nergis Dalal is the author of The Connoisseur.
- 2) Miss Krishna was 65 and she had a slightly frenetic appearance.
- 3) When Miss Krishna's mother was dead, she was left with a small annuity and a small cottage.
- 4) Miss Krishna's mother lavished all her love on her younger daughter.
- 5) Nergis Dalal and Miss Krishna met first at an art exhibition.
- 6) Nergis Dalal invited Miss Krishna for a brief stay as her house was distempered and painted.
- 7) Miss Krishna entered Nergis Dalal's house with an array of black tin trunks.
- 8) Miss Krishna was so fuss about food; she wanted brown sugar for coffee and fresh butter on all vegetables.

- 9) Miss Krishna sent feelers to pool author's sources.
- 10) Miss Krishna always carried a large battered, leather purse.
- 11) Miss Krishna and her mother had a curious love-hate relationship.
- 12) Miss Krishna with her ailing mother had to live on the barest pittance.
- 13) Miss Krishna never makes a good quest.
- 14) Miss Krishna goes out and buys herself something beautiful when she finds life is quiet unbearable.
- 15) Tiny exquisite coffee cup and saucer, glazed red and gold were shown to the author by Miss Krishna.
- 16) Miss Krishna was dead when she got a heart attack (angina attack) second time.
- 17) The writer found her little-nine inch clock in black trunk after the death of Miss Krishna.
- 18) The relationship between and writer and miss Krishna was just a casual acquaintance.

Assignment Questions

1. What was the story of Miss Krishna's past?

Ans: Miss Krishna was a spry and thin spinster. She was aged about sixty five. She has a nervous and frenetic appearance which also reflects in her dressing. She has a great fascination to beautiful things and she steals these artifacts and preserves them carefully. She had habit of talking continuously and used to ask umpteen numbers of questions. She was so fuss about food.

All her life was spent in looking after her ailing mother. She had a younger sister who was married and had left home many years ago. Though Miss Krishna looked after her mother carefully, perversely her mother had lavished all her love and tenderness on the younger girl. Consequently, Miss Krishna had been left in the cold. When her mother died she had been left a small annuity and a tiny cottage for her to lead her life.

2. Did Miss Krishna make a good guest? Give reasons for your answer

Ans: Miss Krishna did not make a good guest. There are sufficient reasons to reinforce it. She makes fuss about every little thing and talks endlessly about her distressing past life. When the author had invited her for a short stay she moved in with an astonishing array of black tin trunks. A string of coolies brought all those black tin trunks on their head as if she was setting out on safari into the wilds of the Amazon. Seeing the entire luggage, the author felt half amused and half annoyed. She felt she cluttered her house and made lot of noise when the tins were moved. The writer shrugged the whole things off – and thought the sort of mild eccentricity common to ageing spinsters.

Moreover, she was an irritating guest. She fiddles with everything in the house. She picks every small thing and poses umpteen numbers of questions. Miss Krishna distracted the author all the time and she found it great difficult to write her book. She was astonishingly fuss about food as well, and insisted on brown sugar for coffee and fresh butter on all her vegetables. Staying two weeks with Miss Krishna, the author got vexed and decided strongly not to see Miss Krishna again. She felt it would be impossible to exist even one more day with Miss Krishna under the same roof.

Hence, it can be concluded that Miss Krishna does not make a good guest with the reasons presented here.

3. What caused Miss Krishna's stay at the writer's home to come to an end?

Ans: Soon after two weeks, Miss Krishna's stay has come to an end in the author's house. She was an irritating guest and nobody could bear with her. She fiddles every unnecessary thing in the house. She picks every small thing and poses umpteen numbers of questions which would annoy the author. Miss Krishna distracted the author's attention and she found it great difficult to write her book. She was astonishingly fussed about food. She insisted on brown sugar for coffee and fresh butter on all her vegetables. Staying two weeks with Miss Krishna, the author got vexed and decided strongly not to see Miss Krishna

again. She felt it would be impossible to exist even one more day with Miss Krishna under the same roof.

Miss Krishna was extremely inquisitive and looked at the photo of author's late husband and asked whether she had been happy with him. She went further into author's private matters and asked how much money he had left her and how much she could make on her writings. This besides, she sent feelers about to pool the author's resources and to share her house permanently. The author got terribly alarmed as Miss Krishna intruded into her privacy and became a pain in her neck. On her personal visit and interaction with Mali, she came to know that Miss Krishna's house had been distempered two weeks ago and was ready to be occupied. When the author came back, Miss Krishna was reading author's unpublished manuscript. She could not bare it and told callously that she did not like anyone reading her unpublished writings. She told Miss Krishna coldly to go back right away to her house.

As a result, Miss Krishna's stay with author has come to an eternal end.

4. How did the writer happen to make a shocking discovery about Miss Krishna?

Ans: The author got shocked when Mali informed her that Miss Krishna lying on the bed and did not wake up for her morning tea. The author visited her with a doctor but felt depressed to know about her death with angina attack. The author sent a telegram for Miss Krishna's sister and made arrangements for funeral. Her sister May was on time for the funeral. The author got astonished to see the number of people gathered there. Surprisingly, the author had no idea that Miss Krishna knew so many people.

After funeral, Miss Krishna's sister asked the author to stay back. She was sullen and stared at the author something like distrust. The author got particularly shocked to know that Miss Krishna is also called Maya and she wrote a will and left everything to her. The author told immediately that she was afraid she can not accept anything. She said firmly 'I have no wish to be rude, but really, I hardly

knew your sister. We were simply casual acquaintances. The author told it would be quite improper for her to take his/her things off.

5. How did Maya's sister first behave with the writer and what could have been the reason for the change in her attitude later?

Ans: Initially, Maya's sister was sullen and stared at the author with something distrust. It was because the will was not written on her name. Later, she said to the author Maya wrote a will and left everything for her which was legal and duly witnessed. The author told immediately that she was afraid she can not accept anything. Miss Krishna said firmly 'I have no wish to be rude, but really, I hardly knew your sister. We were simply casual acquaintances. She said it would be improper for me to take her things. She then asked who the next beneficiary was. Maya's sister said smilingly and agreeably 'I am'. Maya's sister behaviour was changed because of the author's noble response not to accept the will written on her name and gave away everything to Maya's sister.

6. Look up a dictionary to find out the meaning of 'connoisseur'. Why do you think the title is appropriate for the story?

Ans: The meaning of 'connoisseur' is an expert who has specialist knowledge of or training in a particular field of the fine or domestic arts, or whose taste in such a field is considered to be discriminating. The title of the lesson is quite apt as it deals with the story of Miss Krishna, a connoisseur. She has great appreciation for all beautiful artifacts and other exquisite household things. All through the story, one can come across how avidly Miss Krishna collects a wide variety of objects and preserves them with utmost care.

7. Give a detailed sketch of 'Connoisseur'

Ans: Miss Krishna was a spry and thin spinster. She was aged about sixty five. All her life was spent in looking after her ailing mother. She has a nervous and frenetic appearance which also reflects in her dressing. Maya, younger sister of Miss Krishna was married and had left home many years ago. Perversely, the

mother had lavished all her love and tenderness on the younger girl. Consequently, Miss Krishna had been left in the cold. When her mother died she had been left a small annuity and a tiny cottage in which to live.

Miss Krishna and the author met each other for the first time in an art exhibition, where they found each other looking bemusedly at an enormous, life-size nude portrait. They became quite familiar to each other. For the author, Miss Krishna seemed to be sympathetic and an abandoned dog. The author was impelled to invite her for a cup of tea. Then the author came to know about her interest for beautiful things. Miss Krishna went to raptures when she saw author's collection including tea set, Chinese carpet, crystal ash trays, red ceramic bowls filled with roses and carnations and petit-point footstool and the chair covers.

When she saw all those beautiful artifacts she cursed her depressed past and poverty. She told her life had been a continuous struggle and told all those coarse sheets on the bed, uncarpeted floors, pottery cups and plates and ugly discarded furniture. She envied author's house in a way she had been starved for beautiful things in all her life.

On one week moment, the author had invited her for a short stay with her while her own cottage being distempered and painted. She was glad and readily accepted and moved in with an astonishing array of black tin trunks. A string of coolies brought all those black tin trunks on their head as if she was setting out on safari into the wilds of the Amazon. Seeing the entire luggage, the author felt half amused and half annoyed as her house was cluttered noisy.

Moreover, she was an irritating guest. She fiddles with everything in the house. She picks every small thing and poses umpteen numbers of questions. Miss Krishna distracted the author all the time and she found it great difficult to write her book. She was astonishingly fuss about food as well, and insisted on brown sugar for coffee and fresh butter on all her vegetables. Staying two weeks with Miss Krishna, the author got vexed and decided strongly not to see Miss Krishna again. She felt it would be impossible to exist even one more day with Miss Krishna under the same roof.

To add to this Miss Krishna also intruded into the author's private life. Miss Krishna was extremely inquisitive and looked at the photo of author's late husband and asked whether she had been happy with him. She went further and asked how much money he had left her and how much she could make on her writings. This besides, she sent feelers about to pool the author's resources and to share her house permanently. The author got terribly alarmed as Miss Krishna intruded into her privacy and became a pain in her neck.

On author's personal visit to cottage and interaction with Mali, she came to know that Miss Krishna's house had been distempered two weeks ago and was ready to be occupied. When the author returned, Miss Krishna was found reading author's unpublished manuscript. She got up out of fear and said, 'I was looking for a stamp and could not help just peeping into this'. She could not bare it and told callously that she did not like anyone reading her unpublished writings. She told Miss Krishna coldly to go back right away to her house. Then, Miss Krishna went right backing a safari style to her cottage.

Miss Krishna continued her visits to author now and then in her usual untidy appearance. She would generally sink back against the cushions of the sofa with a luxurious sigh. She carried a large, battered leather purse and its handles looped over her wrist securely. She never put that bag down, as though it were an extension of herself. She used to share her marred past life about her domineering and ailing mother whom she looked after all her life. She said how her mother lavished all her love on her younger daughter and how she coldly she was left alone

Once, Miss Krishna opened her handbag and shown a tiny exquisite coffee cup and saucer, glazed red and gold, delicately translucent. She told 'this is my panacea of all my ills'. Author opined that that cup would be expensive but she mildly refused and said u it was not at all expensive. Later, she put back cup and saucer in her purse. Then, the author forgot all about it until she dined with Lalls. Raina was an old friend of the author and enjoyed the evening. When coffee was served, the author reminded of the same set of cup and saucer shown by Miss Krishna.

Next time, when Miss Krishna came, the author asked her whether she knew Lalls and told about the 11 cups she saw there. Then the author sensed Miss Krishna's feelings. Since then the author had an eye on Miss Krishna's moves. Once, Miss Krishna offered Burmese lacquered box in black and gold. But the author refused it and said she never accepted any presents from anyone. Miss Krishna became sulky and never offered to her any.

One day, when Mali informed her that Miss Krishna lying on the bed and did not wake up for her morning tea, the author got shocked. The author visited her with a doctor but felt depressed to know about her death with angina attack. The author sent a telegram for Miss Krishna's sister and made arrangements for funeral. Her sister May was on time for the funeral. The author got astonished to see the number of people gathered there.

After funeral, Miss Krishna's sister asked the author to stay back. She was sullen and stared at the author something like distrust. The author got particularly shocked to know that Miss Krishna is also called Maya and she wrote a will and left everything to her. The author told immediately that she was afraid she can not accept anything. She said firmly 'I have no wish to be rude, but really, I hardly knew your sister. We were simply casual acquaintances. The author told it would be quite improper for the author to take his/her things off.

Initially, Maya's sister was sullen and stared at her with something distrust. It was because the will was not written on her name. Maya's sister behaviour was changed later because of the author's noble response not to accept the will written on her name and give everything to Maya's sister who is considered to be Maya's next beneficiary. When they opened the trunks, to their surprise, they found a plethora of artifacts and all are single and the author found her own little-nine-inch clock half hidden by chiffon scarf, which she lost it three months ago. When she took her watch Maya's sister got relieved as she did not pick anything more valuable.

For the author, Miss Krishna's memory always reminds her of an unexpected sense of humour.

UNIT –III

MOTHER TERESA (1910 - 1970)

(NON - DETAILED)

Objectives of the Lesson

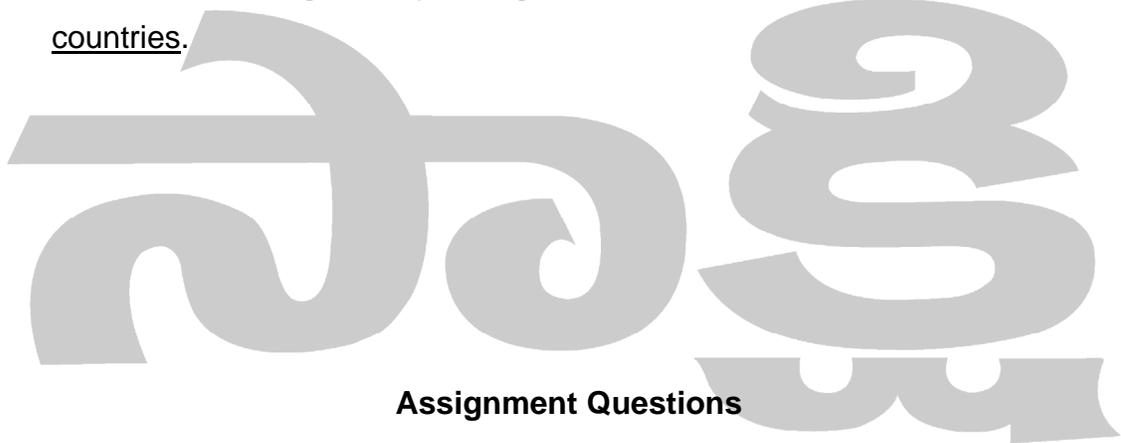
- ✓ To introduce the biography of the greatest humanitarian of all times, Rev.Mother Teresa.
- ✓ To exhort the philanthropic services of Mother Teresa to the impoverished and destitute of the society.
- ✓ To motivate and enthuse today's youth to serve their fellow beings
- ✓ To inspire the people from the hardship and hurdles of Mother Teresa in serving the society
- ✓ To detail about the establishment of Missionaries of Charity
- ✓ To introduce the awards, honours rewards conferred.
- ✓ To explore about the expansion of the Missionaries of Charity in India and abroad.

Bit Questions for the Objective Paper

1. The original name of Mother Teresa is Agnes Gonxhe Bojaxhiu.
2. Mother Teresa was born on Aug 26 1910.
3. Mother Teresa consider her “true birthday” on Aug 27 1910 as she was baptized on the same day.
4. Mother Teresa was an Albanian Roman Catholic nun.
5. Mother Teresa won the Noble Prize in 1979.
6. Mother Teresa was awarded Bharat Ratna in 1980.
7. Missionaries of Charity were founded by Mother Teresa in 1950 in Calcutta.
8. According to the biography of Joan Graff Clucas, Agnes was fascinated by the stories of the missionaries in her early years.

9. At the age of 18, Teresa left home and joined Sisters of Loreto Abbey, Rathfarnham, Ireland, to learn English.
10. Teresa came first to Darjeeling, India in 1929.
11. Teresa took her first religious vows as a nun on May 24, 1931.
12. Teresa took her solemn vows as on May 14, 1937 during her career in Loreto convent as a teacher.
13. A famine in 1943 and a communal outbreak in 1946 damaged Calcutta badly.
14. Teresa experienced 'the call within the call' on September 10, 1946.
15. Vatican gave permission to Teresa on Oct 7 1950 to start the diocesan congregation that would become Missionaries of Charity.
16. The objectives of Missionaries of Charity were to care of "the hunger, the naked, the homeless, the crippled, the blind, the lepers, all those who feel unwanted, unloved, uncared for throughout society, people, that have become, a burden to the society and are shunned by everyone".
17. In 1952 Mother Teresa opened the first Home for the Dying later renamed Kalighat the home for the pure heart (Nirmal Hruday).
18. Mother Teresa opened a home for those suffering from leprosy called Shanti Nagar or City of Peace.
19. In 1955 Mother Teresa, for lost children, opened Nirmala Shishu Bhavan, the children's Home of the Immaculate Heart, which becomes heaven for orphans and homeless youth.
20. By 1970's Teresa was internationally famed as a humanitarian.
21. Teresa opened its first house in Venezuela in 1965 and opened in Rome, Tanzania and Austria in 1968.
22. The missionaries of charity brothers founded in 1963 and charity sisters in 1976.
23. Teresa's life was made into documentary and book titled 'Something Beautiful for God' by Malcom Muggeridge.
24. Teresa began Corpus Christi Movement for Priests in 1981 and founded with Fr. Joseph Langford the Missionaries of charity fathers in 1984.

25. Teresa suffered her first heart attack in 1983 while visiting Pope Paul II and a second attack in 1989.
26. Mother Teresa suffered a heart attack in Rome in.....(1983)
27. Mother Teresa stepped down from the head of Missionaries of Charity on March 13, 1997.
28. Teresa died on Sept 5 1997, just 9 days past her 87th birthday.
29. Beatification is the second step towards canonization.
30. Mother Teresa was formally beatified by Pope John Paul II on Oct 19 2003 with the title of Blessed Teresa of Calcutta
31. Till her death in 1977, It was operating 600 missions in 120 countries.
32. By 2007, the Missionaries of charity numbered about 450 brothers and 5,000 nuns all over the globe, operating 610 missions, schools and shelters in 123 countries.



Assignment Questions

1. Whose name was Agnes Gonxhe Bojaxhiu?

Ans: Mother Teresa

2. What happened in 1950?

Ans: On 7th October, 1950, Mother Teresa was given permission by Vatican to start Diocesan Congregation that would become the Missionaries of Charity. Its aim is to 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 and are shunned by everyone. It started on a small scale with 13 members in Culcutta. Today it has expanded with more

than 4,000 nuns running orphanages, AIDS hospices, and charity centers worldwide, and caring for refugees, the blind, disabled, aged, alcoholics, the poor and homeless, and victims of floods, epidemics, and famine.

3. When did Teresa consider her birthday to be?

Ans: Infact, Mother Teresa was born on August 26, she however, considered August 27 as her birthday. It is because she was baptized on that day and it was 'true birth day' for her.

4. What stories fascinated the young Agnes?

Ans: According to the biography by Joan Graff Clucas, Mother Teresa, in her early years, got fascinated by stories of the lives of missionaries and their service. At the age of 12, she was convinced and determined that she should commit herself to a religious life. Consequently, she left home at the age of 18 to join the Sisters of Loreto as a missionary. She never again saw her mother or sister.

5. What did she do at the age of eighteen?

Ans: Mother Teresa left home at the age of 18 to join the Sisters of Loreto as a missionary. She never again saw her mother or sister. Agnes initially went to the Loreto Abbey in Rathfarnham, Ireland, to learn English. It is the language in which the sisters of Loreto used to teach school children in India. She stepped on Indian soil in 1929 and began her work in Darjeeling, near the Himalayan Mountains.

6. When did Agnes arrive in India and where did she begin her work?

Ans: She stepped on Indian soil in 1929 and began her work in Darjeeling, near the Himalayan Mountains. Later, she took her first religious vows as a nun on May, 24, 1931. This was the time she chose the name Teresa after

Therese de Lisieux, the patron saint of missionaries. She took her solemn vows on May 14, 1937, while serving as a teacher at the Loreto Convent School in eastern Calcutta. Though she found the teaching profession interesting and rewarding, she was constantly disturbed by the poverty-stricken lives of the people around her in Calcutta.

7. When did Agnes become Teresa?

Ans: Agnes became Teresa when she took her first religious vows as a nun on May, 24, 1931. This was the time she chose the name Teresa after Therese de Lisieux, the patron saint of missionaries. She took her solemn vows on May 14, 1937.

8. What incidents disturbed Teresa while she was teaching in Calcutta?

Ans: After taking solemn vows on May 14, 1937, Mother Teresa entered into the teaching profession which was of a great satisfaction to her. During her service as a teacher at the Loreto Convent School in eastern Calcutta, she came across many tragic incidents. She was constantly disturbed by the poverty-stricken lives of the people around her in Calcutta. There were two major incidents which upset her deeply. Firstly, a famine which brought misery and death to the city in 1943. It was followed by the outbreak of communal violence which plunged the city into despair, horror and hopeless condition in August 1946.

These incidents disturbed her deeply while she was teaching in Calcutta.

9. What kind of a call did Teresa experience in September 1946?

Ans: On September 10, 1946, Teresa experienced what she later described as “the call within the call”. She experienced it while she was traveling to the Loreto convent in Darjeeling from Calcutta for her annual retreat. Expressing In her words, “I was to leave the convent and help the poor while living among them. It was an order. To fail would have been to break the faith”.

Thus, she experienced a call within a call which transformed and enlightened her.

10. When did she begin her work with the poor and how did it begin?

Ans: Soon after experiencing “the call within the call”, Teresa began her missionary work in 1948. She was completely engrossed in uplifting the poor and needy of the society. In this process, she replaced her traditional Loreto habit with a simple white cotton sari decorated with a blue border, adapted Indian citizenship, and slums. She initiated it by starting a school in Mothijhil. Immediately, she started attending to the needs of the destitute and starving. Her philanthropic efforts were received immediate attention by the Indian officials. She soon won a word of praise and encouragement from the Prime Minister of India.

11. What kind of temptation did Teresa overcome initially?

Ans: Soon after beginning her philanthropic efforts, she experienced many hurdles and problems. She had to struggle to overcome her initial temptations. During these trouble times, she wrote a diary and mentioned how her first year was fraught with difficulties. This was because

She had no income and support. She had to resort to begging for food and supplies. During these testing times, she experienced doubt, loneliness and the temptation to return to the comfort of convent life. During these early months, she wrote in her diary: God asks her to be a free nun and serve the poor.

She personally experienced how hard and tough life was when she walked miles looking for a home. She imagined the case of the poor and destitute and felt distressed deeply. At times, she got tempted to back to her comfort profession in the convent. But she surpassed her temptation and remained in the service of the mankind and she never let a single tear come.

12. When did Teresa start the Missionaries of Charity and what was its primary objective?

Ans: On 7th October, 1950, Mother Teresa was given permission by Vatican to start Diocesan Congregation that would become the Missionaries of Charity. Its aim is to 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 and are shunned by everyone.

Mother Teresa started the first Home for the Dying in space made available by the city of Calcutta in 1952. With the help of Indian officials, she transformed an obsolete structure into the Kalighat Home for the Dying, a free hospice for the poor. She renamed it Kalighat, the home for the pure heart (Nirmal Hriday). Its objective is to treat patients and give them medical attention and to give an opportunity to die with dignity, according to their respective religion's rituals.

Teresa later opened a home for those suffering from Leprosy, and called the hospice Shanti Nagar (city of peace). The Missionaries of Charity gradually expanded its operations and facilities to several Leprosy outreach clinics throughout Calcutta, providing necessary facilities such as medication, Bandages and food. This was followed by the need for lost children taken up. Teresa opened the Nirmala Shishu Bhavan (The Children's Home for the Immaculate Heart) in 1955. It soon becomes a heaven for orphans and homeless youth. In the process of expansion, she started hospices, orphanages, and Leper houses all over India. She started first house in Venezuela in 1965 with five sisters and in Rome, Tanzania, and Austria in 1968. This apart, during 1970's she opened houses and foundations in dozens of countries in Asia, Africa, Europe, and the United States.

The Missionaries of Charity Brothers was founded in 1963 and a contemplative branch of the Sisters founded in 1967. By the 1970's, Teresa earned name and fame internationally through her selfless service to the poor and needy. She famed as a humanitarian and an advocate for the poor and

helpless, due in part to a documentary, and book, *Something Beautiful for God* by Malcolm Muggeridge.

For her relentless efforts to uplift the poor and needy, she was honoured with the Nobel Peace Prize in 1979 and India's highest civilian award 'Bharat Ratna' in 1980 for her humanitarian work.

13. What did Teresa mean by the expression 'a beautiful death'?

Ans: Mother Teresa started the first Home for the Dying in space made available by the city of Calcutta in 1952. With the help of Indian officials, she transformed an obsolete structure into the Kalighat Home for the Dying, a free hospice for the poor. She renamed it Kalighat, the home for the pure heart (Nirmal Hriday). Its objective is to treat patients and give them medical attention and to give an opportunity to die with dignity, according to their respective religion's rituals; Muslims were read Quran, Hindus received water from the Ganges, and Catholics received the Last Rites. She called it 'the Beautiful Death' for those who lived like animals to die like angels – loved and wanted.

This was what meant by Mother Teresa by the expression 'Beautiful Death'.

14. What is Shanti Nagar?

Ans: Teresa opened a home for those suffering from Leprosy, and called the hospice Shanti Nagar (city of peace). The Missionaries of Charity gradually expanded its operations and facilities to several Leprosy outreach clinics throughout Calcutta, providing necessary facilities such as medication, Bandages and food.

15. Who is the author of the book *Something for God*?

Ans: Teresa earned name and fame internationally through her selfless service to the poor and needy. She famed as a humanitarian and an advocate

for the poor and helpless. Malcolm Muggeridge was the author of the book, 'Something Beautiful for God' where he described the noble service rendered by Mother Teresa.

16. In which year did Teresa step down as Head of Missionaries of Charity?

Ans: Teresa stepped down as Head of Missionaries of Charity on March 13, 1997 and died on September 5, 1997, just 9 days after her 87th birthday.

17. What proof made the authorities beatify Mother Teresa?

Ans: Soon after Teresa's death, the Holy See began the process of beatification, the second step towards possible canonization. This process requires the documentation of a miracle performed from the intercession of Mother Teresa. In 2002, the Vatican recognized a miracle the healing of a cancer tumor in the abdomen of an Indian woman, Monica Besra, following an application of a locket containing Teresa's picture. Monica said that a beam of light emanated from the picture, curing the cancerous tumor. Mother Teresa was formally beatified by Pope John Paul II on October 19, 2003 with the title Blesses Teresa of Calcutta. A second miracle was required for her to proceed to canonization.

18. What as the range of work of Mother Teresa's Missionaries of Charity at the time of her death in 1997?

Ans: Mother Teresa's Missionaries of charity continue to expand indifferent parts of the world. It was operating 600 missions in 120 countries at the time of her death I 1977. Their operations include maintaining hospices and homes for people with HIV/AIDS, leprosy and tuberculosis, soup kitchens, children's and family counseling programs, orphanages, and schools. By 2007, the Missionaries of charity numbered about 450 brothers and 5,000 nuns all over the globe, operating 610 missions, schools and shelters in 123 countries.

19. Give a detailed sketch of Mother Teresa's background and her service to the poor and needy?

Ans: Mother Teresa is one of the world's leading humanitarians who advocate the responsibility, love, care and compassion towards the fellow beings. She is an epitome of selfless service to humanity. She was born on August 26, 1910 and her original name was Agnes Gonxhe Bojaxhiu. She was an Albanian Roman Catholic nun who later acquired Indian citizenship. She started the Missionaries of Charity in Kolkatta (Calcutta), India in 1950. Since then she has been rendering her noble services for 45 years for the betterment of the poor, sick, orphaned and dying. She worked hard for the expansion of these missionaries in India and abroad. Recognizing Mother Teresa's philanthropic services, she was honoured with the Noble prize in 1979 and Indian government conferred her with 'Bharat Ratna' in 1980.

Though she was born in August 26 she decided to celebrate her 'true birth day' on August 27 which was to day on which she got baptized. After her father's sudden death, her mother raised her as a Roman Catholic. Since her early age, Teresa had a great fascination to of the lives of missionaries and their service which was also mentioned in the biography of Joan Graff Clucas. As a result, she left home at 18 to join the Sisters of Loreto as a missionary.

Loreto Abbey, Rathfanham, Ireland was her chosen place to learn English which is the language used by the sisters of Loreto to teach English to Indian children. She first came to Darjeeling (near the Himalayas), India in 1929. During her first religious vows as a nun (on May 24, 1931) she chose the name Teresa after Teresa de Lisieux, the patron saint of missionaries. She later took her solemn vows on May 14, 1937, while serving as a teacher at the Loreto convent, Calcutta. During this period, she came across many tragic incidents. She was constantly disturbed by the poverty-stricken lives of the people around her in Calcutta. Firstly, she came through a famine in 1943 and secondly experienced the outbreak of communal violence in August 1946 which brought misery despair and death to the city. Since then she was constantly disturbed

On September 10, 1946, Teresa experienced 'Call within the Call' which enlightened and transformed her life completely. It realized her to leave the convent and dedicate herself for the service of the poor. It was an order failing which is breaking the faith. She then adopted Indian citizenship and began her journey in the slums. She began it with a school in Motijhil and started attending to the needs of the poor and soon got a wide attention and won a word of praise from the Indian Prime Minister.

Soon after beginning her philanthropic efforts, she experienced many hurdles and problems. She had to struggle to overcome her initial temptations. During these trouble times, she had no income and support. Though she experienced doubt, loneliness and the temptation to return to the comfort of convent life she never gave up.

Teresa began her journey of serving the poor and needy by establishing the Missionaries of Charity. On 7th October, 1950, with the permission of Vatican she started Diocesan Congregation that would become the Missionaries of Charity. Its aim is to 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 and are shunned by everyone.

Mother Teresa started the first Home for the Dying, Kalighat Home for the Dying, a free hospice for the poor in Calcutta in 1952. She renamed it Kalighat, the home for the pure heart (Nirmal Hriday). Its objective is to treat patients and give them medical attention and to give an opportunity to die with dignity, according to their respective religion's rituals.

Teresa later opened a home for those suffering from Leprosy, and called the hospice Shanti Nagar (city of peace). The Missionaries of Charity spread throughout India, providing necessary facilities such as medication, Bandages and food. For the sake of lost children, Teresa opened the Nirmala Shishu Bhavan (The Children's Home for the Immaculate Heart) in 1955. It soon becomes a heaven for orphans and homeless youth. She started first house in Venezuela in 1965 with five sisters and in Rome, Tanzania, and Austria in 1968.

This apart, during 1970's she opened houses and foundations in dozens of countries in Asia, Africa, Europe, and the United States.

The Missionaries of Charity Brothers was founded in 1963 and a contemplative branch of the Sisters founded in 1967. On the requests of many priests in 1984, Teresa began the Corpus Christi Movement for Priests and in 1984 founded with Fr. Joseph Langford the Missionaries of Charity Fathers to combine the vocational aims of the missionaries of charity.

Mother Teresa Suffered a heart attack in Rome in 1983, while visiting Pope John Paul II. She received an artificial pacemaker after second attack in 1989. she suffered further with pneumonia and heart problems and consequently offered resignation to her position as the head of the Missionaries of Charity. Because of requests, she had to continue her work as a head of the order few more years. On March 13, 1997, she stepped down from the position and died on September 5, 1997, just 9 days past her 87th birthday.

Soon after Teresa's death, the Holy See began the process of beatification, the second step towards possible canonization. This process requires the documentation of a miracle performed from the intercession of Mother Teresa. In 2002, the Vatican recognized a miracle the healing of a cancer tumor in the abdomen of an Indian woman, Monica Besra, following an application of a locket containing Teresa's picture. Monica said that a beam of light emanated from the picture, curing the cancerous tumor. Mother Teresa was formally beatified by Pope John Paul II on October 19, 2003 with the title Blessed Teresa of Calcutta. A second miracle was required for her to proceed to canonization.

Mother Teresa's Missionaries of charity continue to expand globally and It was operating 600 missions in 120 countries till her death in 1977. By 2007, the Missionaries of charity numbered about 450 brothers and 5,000 nuns all over the globe, operating 610 missions, schools and shelters in 123 countries.

Her life is ideal for generations so her life was made into documentary and book titled 'Something Beautiful for God' by Malcom Muggeridge. Thus, Teresa earned name and fame internationally through her selfless service to the poor and needy. She famed as a humanitarian and an advocate for the poor and helpless.