

In Oct 1950, Mother Teresa founded an organisation called the Missionaries of Charity, which was a sisterhood dedicated to helping the poor, she changed the nuns' clothes into traditional white cotton sari, worn by lower class Indian women. Following the traditional chastity, respect and obedience to the three Catholic vows, missionaries are to also observe the fourth vow, which is to serve the poorest wholeheartedly.

During the bloodiest siege of Beirut, she persuaded Israelis and Palestinians to temporarily stop fighting so 37 children trapped in a front-line hospital could be rescued. The frail figure of Mother Teresa was also present in the Kosovo war. UN Secretary-General Kofi Annan, once said with emotion, "I can't do what she did!"

Besides providing shelter for those suffering from AIDS, leprosy and tuberculosis, Mother Teresa also set up hospice where the terminally ill can die with dignity. Although her death led to some attacks, including her anti-abortion views, it is undeniable that her life and humanitarian efforts had impacted the world, she had operated 517 charitable programs in more than 100 countries. Today, more than 740 relief homes, 119 leprosy centres and more than 700 clinics have been set up in 71 countries across the world. Nearly 5,000 nuns continue her vocation, and more than 1 million volunteers were motivated and inspired by her.

As Mother Teresa said, "I alone cannot change the world, but I can cast a stone across to create many ripples."

"Yesterday is gone, tomorrow has not yet come, we have only today, let us begin" .