



PROPOSAL

TALENTED STUDENT SPONSORSHIP (TSS)

**FOR
Nagendrapur Chapter
VERSION 2.0**

FEBRUARY 2006
MUKTI CONFIDENTIAL & PROPRIETARY



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1 About Mukti.

1.1 Formation

Mukti is a charitable and socio-economic development trust established in 2003 by Sunderban native Sankar Halder. Having grown up in an underprivileged Sunderban family, he experienced first-hand the infrastructural and economic hardships rife in the area. He decided to involve educated and energetic local youth in various community development projects to redress some of the intrinsic problems. This vision led to the foundation of Mukti.

1.2 Legal Status

Mukti is registered under the Government of India Trust Act Section 64. It has an executive board that frames the policies and passes down action items to the ground level working committee. There are several different wings of the ground level working committee and every wing has several general members who implement the policies and work items of the board. A general body meeting is held every year. The executive board is elected for a two-year term and is dissolved and newly elected by and from the members by an electoral process.

1.3 Vision

The Sunderbans is beset with problems of poverty, illiteracy, unequal distribution of wealth, exploitation and all the associated ills. This is a result of lack of awareness, illiteracy, poor planning and the wanton greed of human society. Our vision is to exonerate the underprivileged in the Sunderban of this curse through their empowerment. To be precise, our vision is to create such an environment whereby any and every individual in the society can look forward to a promising future.

1.4 Mission

Mukti's mission is to implement programs for uplift of the underprivileged, illiterate, poor and backward people of the Sunderban region by way of motivation and human resource development. This mission is aimed at creating a self-reliant society through efficient and effective utilization of local resources through the implementation of environmentally sound policies.

1.5 Members

Mukti's members are spread all over and outside India (including the USA) with an especially strong presence in the Sunderban area. There are more than 200 locals in the organization who are working for the sole development of the Sunderban region. Our working members are divided into four wings: **Health, Education, Economic and Cultural**. All individuals motivated to making a difference and possessing a broad vision to work for the underprivileged are welcome to join the group.

1.6 Projects

A list of Mukti projects are listed below:



Current Projects:

- * Village Sanitation
- * Talented Students Sponsorship
- * Book Bank for underprivileged students
- * Flood Relief

In the pipeline:

- * Village Primary School
- * Special Coaching for underprivileged students



2 The Talented Students Sponsorship (TSS) Project.

Mukti has dedicated itself to changing the lives of the Sunderban inhabitants through education. The generations of tomorrow will require training in order to be prepared for an ever-changing world and to avail of the opportunities that are now cropping up in India. The low literacy rate in the area is significantly affected by the lack of sufficient income, which puts pressure on the children to work to provide for themselves and the family. The TSS Project is a scholarship program created by Mukti through which individual students are provided with the support required to get access to a structured education. This proposal, prepared by the board of Mukti, outlines the financial support required for implementation of the project. Additionally, Mukti requests the sponsor to consider extending financial support over several years for the selected student so that the targeted student can get established in his/her life.

2.1 Selection criteria

The selection of students is based on both means and merit. The following criteria are used for selecting students for TSS funding:

1. Past results from school exams and feedback from their respective schoolteachers are indicators of the student's ability.
2. Local knowledge and feedback is utilized to appraise a family's financial situation. The approximate annual income of the family is used as an indicator to determine the family's inability to provide adequate financial support for their child.

2.2 Budget Details

The assessed annual budget per student is \$100 (~ Rs. 4,400). This amount takes care of the following:

1. All required textbooks will be purchased and provided to students by Mukti
2. Other required expenses like school fees, exercise books, pen, pencil etc will be provided.
3. A school uniform will be provided to each student.
4. A small amount is provided to each student on a monthly basis to provide for some basic necessities such as nourishment (Rs. 100).

2.3 Project Management & Feedback

Mukti will be gathering feedback on a routine basis through its network of volunteers. This activity will be coordinated by Mukti's regional Education Coordinator. Performance indicators such as updated school results will be gathered; feedback from school teachers will be solicited as necessary. Mukti will track on-going needs for each student and will communicate this to sponsoring individuals/agencies to ensure that there is no interruption in a child's education. Mukti will also elicit local feedback on the financial situation of the families.



The students will be encouraged to communicate with their sponsors. Mukti will send the sponsor a performance summary and any other pertinent information on a routine basis. The sponsor is requested to monitor the performance, and provide tips and suggestions. Mukti believes that inspiration and advice are as valuable as financial support, and strongly encourages the sponsor to communicate with the student. Mukti also actively encourages the sponsor to visit the student and will facilitate such visits.

2.4 Requirements from Sponsor

A list of students and respective bio-data are attached.

1. Sponsors should specify the name of student they wish to sponsor. A pledge to continue support for additional years will be appreciated. Current payment should be restricted to one year.
2. Sponsors are requested to fill up the 'Sponsor Information Form' for future correspondences (attached).
3. Sponsors are requested to communicate changes to their information, including address or contact information changes to Mukti. Such information should be e-mailed to sankar.halder@Muktiweb.org

Additional information about where funds should be sent is presented in Sections 4 & 5 of this proposal.

2.5 Expectations from the sponsored students

1. The student should continue their education and strive to improve their results within a reasonable time.
2. Students have to send examination results to their sponsor at least once every six months. This communication will be facilitated by Mukti.
3. If a student faces unforeseen problems, he or she is expected to communicate the problem to the sponsor through Mukti.
4. Elder students in the program will be expected to aid the younger ones through study tips and advice. Local tutorials involving children from an area will be organized by Mukti.
5. Students are expected to maintain the textbooks given to them. These will be returned to Mukti for use by other students in the future.

2.6 Location

The project will be implemented in the village of Nagendrapur in the Sundarban delta. Nagendrapur is on an island in the delta surrounded by rivers Muni and Thakuran. The selected students are from the two high schools in the Nagendrapur area.

Mailing Address:

Mukti

Village + Post: Purba-Sridharpur.

P.S Raidighi, Dist: 24 Pargs (South), West Bengal 743383. India



3 Our Appeal

Currently, 17 students are a part of the TSS program. These students have all scored in the top 10 of their respective class. An additional 60 students, who still need sponsors, are also on the list. The main concern now is to collect sufficient fund for supporting the project.

We strongly request your patronage so that these students and many others can avail of this opportunity created by Mukti. Our appeal is for you to come forward for the noble cause and donate for people who need you the most. Any effort to support the movement either through financial assistance or through volunteering is welcome.

For MUKTI the challenge has just begun, it has miles to go and would never sleep.



4 Mukti Contacts and Web Site

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Web Site URL : www.Muktiweb.org

5 Donating to Mukti

To make donations to Mukti, please send a check payable to “Mukti”. The check can be mailed to either contact listed above but preferably to the contact in India. Contributions can be made in USD or Indian Rupees. Contributions are tax deductible in India.