

Interaction on  
***“Relevance of Mother Teresa in today’s context”***  
with  
**Mr Navin Chawla, Former Chief Election Commissioner of India**  
5<sup>th</sup> May 2011, Kolkata



*Mr. Navin Chawla, Former Chief Election Commissioner (left) & Mrs. Rita Bhimani, Corporate Public Relations Consultant (right) 5<sup>th</sup> May, 2011, Kolkata.*

A portrait of Mother Teresa as a Management Guru, amongst her other roles, was emphasized by Navin Chawla, former Chief Election Commissioner and Author of Mother Teresa on 5<sup>th</sup> May in Kolkata in an interactive Session organized by the Kolkata chapter of the Aspen Institute of India.

Mr Chawla addressed a large group of people from all walks of life including Sisters and Brothers of the Missionaries of Charity, Corporate leaders, Consulates and students at the Assembly of God Church auditorium. He talked about his personal experiences over his 23 years of association with Mother Teresa.

According to Mr Chawla, Mother Teresa was a multi dimensional figure, both simple & complex at the same time. Her faith, compassion and religion aside, Mother Teresa had all the qualities of a Manager — grit, determination and getting the odds to work for her. Moreover she learnt to multi-task. “How else can one nun set up an order that is spread across 123 countries? She created a multinational enterprise but with a different motive than that of business and that, too, without accountants, computers or cellphones,” said Navin Chawla. Her Management Model was also “different”. She ran the organization through people. “She set up a base and then found people who would form a chain around that and work for her and that is how it expanded,” he said. From a geography teacher at Loreto Convent to a Nun whose persistence got Rome a soup kitchen, Mr Chawla narrated the journey of Mother. The interactive session that followed covered everything —

from Mother Teresa's sense of humour to her controversial crusade against contraception and abortion.

The session was skillfully moderated by Corporate Public Relations consultant Mrs. Rita Bhimani.



*(From right) Mr Navin Chawla, Sister Prema, Superior General of Missionaries of Charity, and Sister Nirmala-her predecessor.*



MOTHER TERESA THE JOY OF GIVING –

*"What we are doing is nothing but a drop in the ocean. But if we didn't do it, the ocean would be less because of that missing drop. I do not agree with the big way of doing things. To me what matters is an individual" was the philosophy of Mother Teresa.*