



The House of Mercy

Prayer Hall

Greetings dear friends and precious supporters,

I have some important news I wish to share with you as my fellow labourers in Christ, many of whom have continued to be my constant rock of support and encouragement for the **House of Mercy** Church here in Kalinda, India.

A new opportunity to purchase an existing purpose-fit building and land in our neighbourhood has presented itself as potentially the next stage in our 'stretching of faith' towards the establishing of what I am calling the *Mercy Mission House*. As context, many Christian missionaries visit India once a year, for a short period of time and most of them have no choice but to stay in registered hotels. The Indian Government more recently placed an order with the Intelligence Bureau (Police dept) to collect the details of the missionaries from these hotels so that they will be passed on to the Indian Embassy in order to restrict the likelihood of their future return! So many missionary VISAS have been rejected for the past 9 years as a result of this strategy and the situation is becoming more serious now than ever.

Surely, I thought to myself, the God of all mercy has a divine plan, and so I prayed. Not long after this, God inspired my heart through a vision to build a Mission House where missionary passport details would be secured under a residential address (the Mission House) and not a commercial hotel where such details are otherwise mandatorily collected. This would enable our Mission House guests to safely move back and forth with their mission activities without fear or intimidation. This reminds me of Jesus' own instructions to his missionary disciples: ***"When you enter a house, first say, 'Peace to this house.' If someone who promotes peace is there, your peace will rest on them; if not, it will return to you. Stay there, eating and drinking whatever they give you, for the worker deserves his wages."*** Luke 10:5-7. Subsequently a neighbouring building and land came up for sale before our eyes and it seemed an ideal fit for the vision I had only just been given. In response, our community and I have been seeking the Lord in extended prayer to discern His will in bringing this about if it should so please Him.

My personal appeal to God was that the raising of such a missionary safe-house would not be my task alone but must be a united collaboration involving the whole body of Christ, perhaps from wide reaching nations and other Christian denominations. **Psalm 133** reminds us that ***"how good and how pleasant it is for brethren to dwell together in unity"*** and that it commands a great blessing. Practically speaking, we were more recently welcomed into the house of the current owners of the property for sale. They fed us and loved on us in a Christian spirit which took me by surprise and was really an added encouragement.

(Registered Under Society Act. of Andhra Pradesh)

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He committed to sharing his preference to sell the house to us alone and at the most reasonable price (although I would see to making sure about this in any potential sale) . In short, they are currently asking for \$200,000 USD. After speaking with the bank, we must raise \$100,000 in order that the remaining \$100,000 will be approved as a loan which is also a more realistically manageable amount for the community to pay off in instalments over say 20 years or earlier.

So I therefore find myself (again) asking, seeking and knocking and trusting that God will move only those hearts who are in a position to step out (or be stretched) with me in faith so that the word might continue going out to the hungry and to the remotest parts of the earth. As you prayerfully seek whether you can help us financially and/or spiritually, please do so in peace (***“Unless the Lord builds the house, the workers labour in vain” Psalm 127***).

The first good news is that one of our kind supporters all the way from Australia (and a Spirit-filled Catholic man who I met in 2019 with the Dayspring conference in Sydney) has pledged a gift of \$20,000 USD on the condition that the remaining \$80,000 USD is raised (or pledged). Equalling his step in faith, I would like to suggest that any pledges from any kind supporter made now will only be expected if and when the full \$100,000 deposit has been raised. This will assure that the funds will be directed to this vision project I am presenting to you today and only when we can guarantee the sufficient deposit amount has been pledged. Having said that, we would hope to obtain the pledge total at the earliest time in order to not miss the opportunity that be currently before us.

In the end, should a community of generous helpers begin to cluster around any obedience on my behalf, then this will become a sure confirmation and encouragement that we are indeed about an ordained work of the Father in our time and place. Together we can therefore confidently build on that shared foundation with a united conviction to raise up a centre that best reveals the true name of God : *Mercy*.

Please join me in praying for the current process of negotiation as we use our growing partner pledge sums to provide the confidence necessary to move forward in faith in order to fulfil our deposit obligations. We will then be working as a community in paying off the remaining loan instalments while the building acts as the necessary security for the bank while being immediately activated for the work of the Kingdom - and believe me, there is much work to be done here!

Thank you for your time to consider partnering with our good good Father in boldly turning up the light of his mercy in the places of growing darkness.

With much love,

Pastor Rao

