KISS

KALINGA INSTITUTE OF SOCIAL SCIENCES

KISS

HUMANITARIAN AWARD

Annual Humanitarian Prize by
Kalinga Institute of Social Sciences (KISS), Odisha, India

Instituted in 2008



KALINGA INSTITUTE OF SOCIAL SCIENCES (KISS)



9% of India's population is tribal. Despite the constitutional promise of social justice, the tribal population in India lives in deplorable conditions in the dense forests and remote hinterlands. In Odisha, over 22.8 percent of the population is tribal and live in utmost poverty with low literacy rates, rampant child marriage and superstition, and limited access to school and healthcare facilities. Poor infrastructure, teacher absenteeism, lack of toilets, and pressure to handle siblings bedevil the education system in tribal areas in India and Odisha.

In such a scenario, Dr Achyuta Samanta came up with a revolutionary initiative with his strong passion & commitment, called Kalinga Institute of Social Sciences (KISS), aiming to empower tribal communities through education. It comprises a not-for-profit foundation, school and college and a university. Right from his poverty-stricken childhood to his struggle-filled youth, he has worked towards arresting poverty & hunger, the two social ills that he faced from the age of five to twenty. In 1992-93, India was just starting to integrate with the global economy and progress in education was missing in Odisha, let alone education for tribal children. It was a grey area where the Government chose not to intervene and private organizations could not muster up the courage to create waves of change.

It was at that time, with limited or no finances, KISS was founded by Dr Achyuta Samanta with a belief that education can empower the people. It was not an easy start and he had to overcome several setbacks. The first ten years were extremely difficult. The common man considered KISS' initiative as an intrusion. However, he continued overcoming all adversities and the rest is history. His thought process was very clear and based on two important pillars -

- Procedural: Free education from KG to PG and beyond in a fully residential campus
- Substantive: A unique financial model for the sustainable functioning of KISS, contributed by the stakeholders of Kalinga Institute of Industrial Technology (KIIT), another self-financing educational institution founded by him.

KISS started with 125 poor indigenous students in 1992-93 and has now grown in scale and scope, catering to 80,000 indigenous children. Of these, 30,000 students study at the main campus in Bhubaneswar, 40,000 are alumni and 10,000 study at 10 satellite centres of KISS across Odisha, all free of cost. It's higher education wing, KISS Deemed to be University is the world's first and only university exclusively for tribals. It has indirectly impacted over eight million tribal children and youth. The students come from 62 different tribal groups within the region, of which 13 are Particularly Vulnerable Tribal Groups (PVTGs). In its course of inception, evolution and existence, KISS has been promoting quality, holistic education, girl child empowerment, vocational and life skill education, healthcare, scientific temper and humanism and sustainable development. It has arrested naxalism, hunger and malnutrition, child labour and trafficking, early girl child marriage and dropout to a large extent. The contribution of KISS in the field of sports is immense. KISS has groomed around 5000 sportspersons who have participated and excelled in prestigious national and international events.

Since 2015, KISS has been accorded Special Consultative Status by UN ECOSOC. It is associated with UNDPI and has worked in close collaboration with many agencies of the UN including UN Women, UNFPA, WFP, UNDP, UN Volunteers, UNICEF and other international organizations to implement the common objectives. KISS is the recipient of UNESCO International Literacy Prize 2022 and Green Gown International Awards. KISS proudly adheres to a 3E approach - Educate, Enable, Empower while ensuring that the model prioritizes indigenous control of education, to preserve the culture, heritage and traditions of India's diverse tribal communities and fulfill the Sustainable Development Goals 2030 in its entirety. The institution aims to reach over 2 million directly in the next decade with a dedicated vision of 'no child should be deprived of education because of poverty'.



KISS HUMANITARIAN AWARD

The KISS Humanitarian Award is a prestigious annual international award conferred by the Kalinga Institute of Social Sciences (KISS) in Bhubaneswar, India, conceptualized and the brainchild of visionary humanitarian and educationist Prof. Achyuta Samanta, Founder of KIIT and KISS. The award was initiated in 2008 to recognize and felicitate individuals for their exemplary and distinguished service to humanity across the globe. KISS is one of the greatest humanitarian works going on for the last 32 years and it recognizes individuals who do similar work on a large scale to inspire others. The award consists of a citation scroll and a gold-plated trophy that depicts a great social message given in a public function at KISS. The gold-plated trophy embodies a golden heart of a humanitarian with the virtues of purity, kindness, prosperity, and hope. It features a pair of hands uplifting a heart, which is textured with shapes resembling waving hands that symbolize how a pair of dedicated hands can make a significant difference in the lives of the helpless and make world a better place to live in. The award has attracted the attention of both domestic and international media and has attained much covetousness over the years.

GENESIS OF KISS HUMANITARIAN AWARD

The KISS Humanitarian Award was conceived by Dr. Achyuta Samanta, the founder of Kalinga Institute of Social Sciences (KISS). He was born into poverty and the loss of his father at a tender age of four plunged Dr. Samanta and his family, his widowed mother and seven siblings, into deep hardship and deprivation. His early years were a relentless struggle for survival. The family frequently endured days without a single square meal. From the age of five until now, he survived and achieved success due to the humanitarian attitude of people who sympathised with his condition. He understood how compassion and humanitarian treatment could provide respite from deprivation. This experience ingrained in him the importance of humanitarian values and inspired his lifelong commitment to helping others. His life embodies the essence of humanitarianism.

Dr. Samanta believes that humanitarian work, being carried out across the globe, deserves recognition and gratitude. He constituted the KISS Humanitarian Award to honour individuals making significant contributions to humanitarian efforts, making the world a better place by alleviating suffering and promoting peace and happiness. What is particularly beautiful about this award is that it comes from KISS, one of the largest humanitarian projects in the world.

To shortlist and finalise recipients for this award, the institute has formed a search committee. The objective of the search committee is to identify individuals from the submitted applications who have demonstrated excellence in humanitarian work. These individuals come from various fields, including social service, policymaking, philanthropy, sports, education, women's rights, among others. However, the primary focus is on their humanitarian work and their concern for the well-being of humanity

The award, regardless of caste, creed, race, place of birth, or gender recognises those who not only feel the pain of others but also take action and step forward to confront adversity, offer hope, and provide assistance to those in need. Despite the challenges and dangers associated with humanitarian work, they remain committed to overcoming these obstacles and make this world a better place. Through this award, KISS continues to celebrate and encourage the humanitarian spirit, inspiring future generations to uphold these vital principles of compassion, humanitarianism, and selfless service.

ELIGIBILITY AND NOMINATION PROCESS

The KISS Humanitarian Award honors individuals, teams, or organizations making significant contributions to humanitarian efforts. The nomination process is designed to recognize those who have demonstrated a substantial impact in the field of humanitarianism or related human rights work.

Eligibility

Open to Individuals, teams, or organizations with a track record of significant impact in humanitarianism or related human rights work.

Nominators

The KISS Humanitarian Award is overseen by an independent international panel responsible for selecting the laureates. Nominations for the KISS Humanitarian Award may be submitted by any qualified individuals.
A nomination for the KISS Humanitarian Award is only considered valid if submitted by a person who meets specific criteria. According to the guidelines of the KISS Foundation, a nomination is considered valid if it is submitted by a person who falls within one of the following categories. Personal applications for the award will not be considered:

- Members of national assemblies and national governments (cabinet members/ministers) of sovereign states as well as current heads of state.
- United Nations bodies (e.g., UNHCR, WHO, UNICEF, UNFPA, UNEP, UN Women).
- International Committee of the Red Cross (ICRC).
- University professors, professors emeriti and associate professors of history, social sciences, law, philosophy, theology, and religion; university rectors and university directors (or their equivalents); directors of peace research institutes and foreign policy institutes.
- Indian representatives in UN committees/agencies.
- Humanitarian organizations.
- NGOs working in humanitarian fields and human rights.
- Previous winners of the award.

The nominator should have direct knowledge of the nominated individual or organization's work. The nominator may not be an officer or employee, or any individual receiving remuneration for his or her services from the nominated organization. Board members may nominate providing they receive no payment for their service. The nominator may not be a family member of an officer or employee of the nominated organization. The nominator may not be the founder of the nominated organization. The nominator must submit a signed nomination letter in English through the nominations portal.

Evaluation Considerations

The following are considered when evaluating the work of the nominee:

- Extraordinary contributions toward alleviating human suffering.
- Significance of the issue(s) the organization is addressing.
- Established record of achievement in significantly contributing to solutions.
- Demonstration of a compelling programmatic approach to make a lasting impact.
- Organizational capacity and administrative efficiency to address the issue(s) at hand.
- Prioritization of diversity, equity, and inclusion in strategies, programs, and operations.
- Demonstration of effective partnerships to leverage further impact.
- Prioritization of evaluating programmatic approach for continual improvement.
- Impact the award would have on the organization and the issue(s) on which the organization focuses.

Evaluation Considerations

Step 1 Nominator nominates an individual, team, or organization by completing the nomination form and uploading a signed nomination letter on the KISS Humanitarian Award nominations portal.

Step 2 The Foundation notifies the nominee of their nomination through email with a request to submit additional information online.

Step 3 Nominee completes Phase 1 application. The nominee will have approximately five business days to complete and submit their application through our online portal.

Step 4 Application review. After the nominee submits their application, it undergoes an internal review process.

Step 5 Select nominees invited to complete Phase 2 application. Select nominees will be notified via email to submit additional information through the online portal. The nominee will have approximately ten business days to complete and submit their second application through our online portal.

Step 6 Finalists selected. After the nominee submits their second application, it undergoes an internal review process leading to a shortlist of finalists.

Please note: Due to the volume of nominations received, if at any point in the process we identify that a nominee does not meet the eligibility requirements, the nominee will be removed from consideration without notice. Through this detailed procedure, KISS ensures that the process for applying and selecting recipients of the Humanitarian Award is thorough, transparent, and upholds the highest standards of humanitarian principles.

Jury composition and selection:

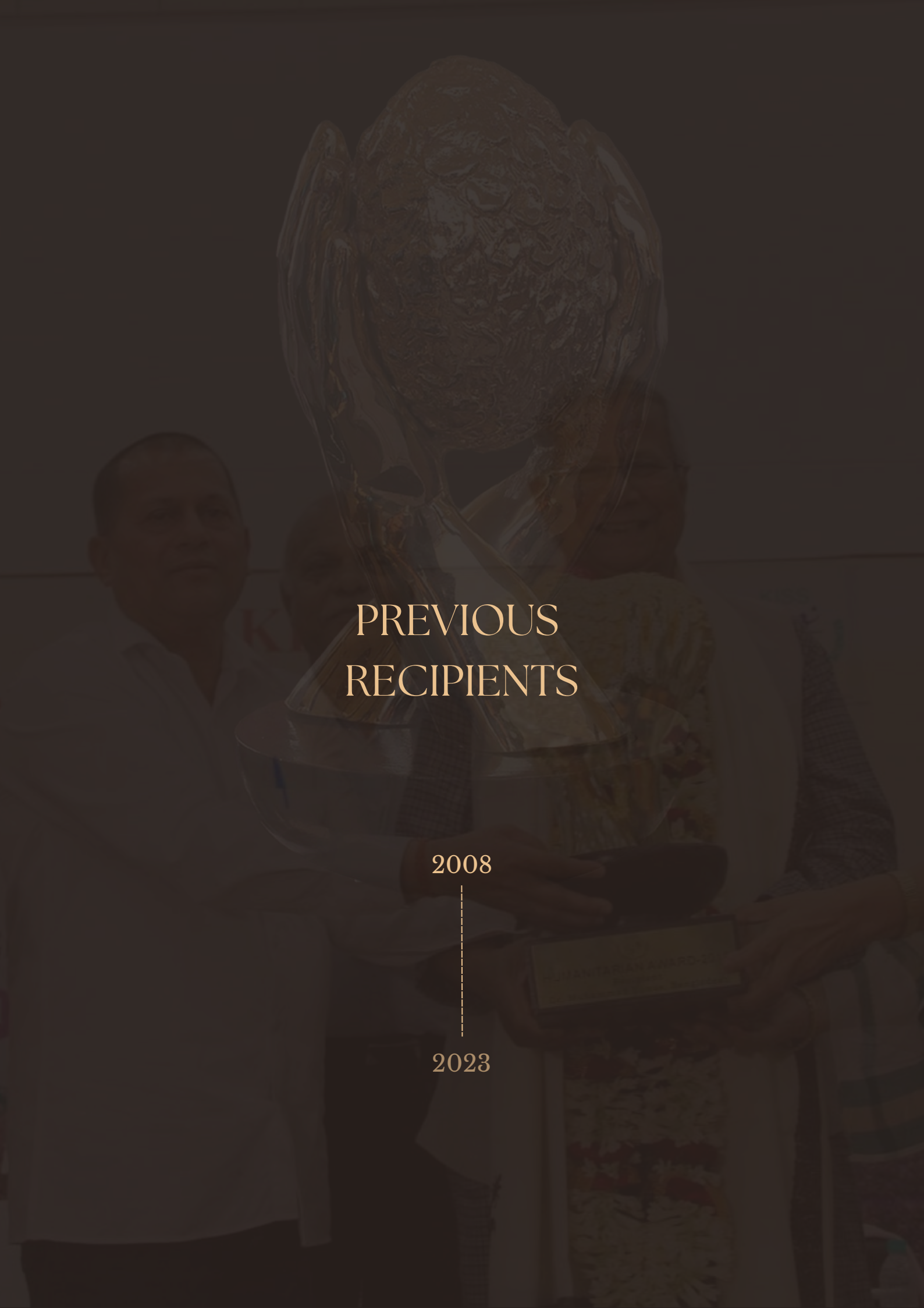
- A three-member KISS Humanitarian Award Committee, headed by the Founder, will be constituted. This committee will nominate a seven-member jury consisting of prominent national and international figures.
- The seven-member jury will submit three names to the KISS Humanitarian Award Committee. From these three names, the committee will consider two candidates based on availability and merit. After due diligence, one/two individual will be finalized for the KISS Humanitarian Award for the current year.

Timeline:

- **Call for Proposal Start:** January 1
- **Proposal Deadline:** March 31
- **Committee Review:** By April 30
- **Board Report Submission:** By May 30
- **Jury to Advise:** June 30
- **Announcement:** July 31
- **KISS Humanitarian Award Ceremony:** December 10 (Human Rights Day)

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PREVIOUS RECIPIENTS

2008

2023

KISS HUMANITARIAN AWARD 2008



Ms. Edna Bomo Molewa

Noted Social Worker & Hon'ble Cabinet Minister,
Social Development, South Africa
National Assembly, South Africa

Ms. Edna Bomo Molewa, a dedicated social worker and political leader, served as the Premier of North West province, South Africa. Known for her commitment to social justice, she fought for the rights and protection of crime victims. She held influential roles, including Member of the Executive Council for Tourism, Environment, Conservation, and Agriculture, and Chairperson of the Women's League of the African National Congress. Ms. Molewa received several prestigious awards, showcasing her impactful leadership in various fields.

KISS HUMANITARIAN AWARD 2009



Dr. Ham Kee-Sun

Eminent Educationist & Physician and Hon'ble President &
Founder, Hanseo University, South Korea

Dr. Ham Kee-Sun, an educationist and physician, founded Hanseo University in South Korea. Leaving a lucrative profession as a renowned plastic surgeon, he established the university, rapidly making it a global player. His versatility is evident through his roles as Chairman of professional bodies, Vice President of Korean national records, and a sensitive poet. Dr. Ham's contributions have earned him worldwide recognition, numerous honorary degrees, and leadership positions. His compassionate humanitarian work, poetic talents, and exceptional leadership reflect his multifaceted, charismatic personality, dedicated to creating a better world through education.

KISS HUMANITARIAN AWARD 2010



Rt. Hon. Sir Anerood Jugnauth

President, Republic of Mauritius

Sir Anerood Jugnauth is a legendary figure known for his commitment to justice and equality. As the President of the Republic of Mauritius, he has been a beacon of hope and aspiration for the common people. He demonstrated remarkable courage by challenging a mighty empire, protesting against the harsh treatment of people over the leasing of Chagos Islands. Sir Anerood's dedication to uniting the hearts and souls of Indians in Mauritius and India, along with his lifelong contributions to society, have earned him immense respect and recognition.

KISS HUMANITARIAN AWARD 2011



Rt. Hon. Lord Nicholas Addison Phillips

President (Chief Justice) of
the Supreme Court of the United Kingdom

Lord Nicholas Addison Phillips is a distinguished legal figure, serving as the President of the Supreme Court of the United Kingdom. Known for his conviction and commitment to justice, he has made significant contributions to the legal system. Despite his high-profile position, he worked closely with community workers, demonstrating humility and dedication. His pragmatic and incisive judgments have influenced the Supreme Court, particularly in adapting to new technologies. Lord Phillips' liberal outlook and emphasis on diversity and equality have marked him as a towering personality in the judiciary, dedicated to a fair and just legal system.

KISS HUMANITARIAN AWARD 2012



His Excellency Lyonchhen Jigmi Y. Thinley

Prime Minister, Royal Government of Bhutan

His Excellency Lyonchhen Jigmi Y. Thinley is a visionary leader dedicated to true societal progress through human happiness. As the Prime Minister of Bhutan, he introduced the concept of Gross National Happiness (GNH), a holistic and sustainable development model addressing educational attainment, income distribution, environmental resilience, cultural diversity, community vitality, balanced time use, emotional and psychological well-being, and quality governance. Concerned about widening inequality, environmental degradation, and socio-economic crises, he has focused on eradicating poverty, sustainable employment, and conserving the fragile Himalayan ecology. His efforts have earned global recognition and appreciation for his compassionate leadership and commitment to humanity.

KISS HUMANITARIAN AWARD 2013



Madam Albina Du Boisrouvray

Founder, Association François-Xavier Bagnoud (FXB International), Switzerland

Madam Albina Du Boisrouvray is the founder of Association François-Xavier Bagnoud (FXB International) in Switzerland. She has dedicated her life to humanitarian work, focusing on the well-being and development of vulnerable populations worldwide. FXB International, under her leadership, has implemented numerous programs to combat poverty and support communities affected by HIV/AIDS. Her tireless efforts have earned her global recognition and respect, highlighting her commitment to improving the lives of those in need through innovative and sustainable development initiatives. Madam Du Boisrouvray's visionary approach and compassionate leadership continue to inspire positive change.

KISS HUMANITARIAN AWARD 2014



Ms. Anne F. Stenhammer

Regional Programme Director, UN Women, South Asia Regional Office

Ms. Anne F. Stenhammer, an alumnus of Copenhagen Business School and the London School of Economics, is a seasoned bureaucrat, visionary politician, and ardent feminist activist with a career spanning over 40 years. Her experience in education, governance, administration, and management has left an indelible mark of excellence in public service. As the former Regional Programme Director for UN Women in South Asia, she notably addressed women's safety in New Delhi following a tragic incident. She served as Deputy Minister of International Affairs in Norway, advocating for peace, human rights, and gender equality. Ms. Stenhammer's illustrious political career includes high positions in Norway's Socialist Left Party and roles such as Mayor and Administrative Chief of Fauske. Her dedication to development issues, involvement in international projects, and numerous publications highlight her impactful contributions to society. Her lifelong commitment to humanitarianism and public service has earned her international recognition and respect.

KISS HUMANITARIAN AWARD 2015



His Excellency Dr. Alejandro Toledo

Former President of Peru

Dr. Alejandro Toledo's life is a testament to remarkable hard work, strong determination, and persistence. From shining shoes and hawking newspapers in his childhood, he rose to become the first indigenous President of Peru, democratically elected in 500 years. His academic brilliance led him from a fishing village school to the University of San Francisco, and then to earning a Master's and Ph.D. from Stanford. As President, he stabilized Peru's economy, reducing inflation from above 23% to 1.5% and achieving a 6% annual growth rate. Dr. Toledo is a distinguished professor, economist, visionary statesman, human rights supporter, and champion of indigenous rights. He has received more than 75 honorary degrees, peace prizes, and recognitions from prestigious institutions worldwide. His dedication to education, healthcare, and poverty eradication has left an indelible mark on society.

KISS HUMANITARIAN AWARD 2016



Ms. Ashley Judd

Noted Hollywood Actor & UNFPA Global Goodwill Ambassador

Ashley Judd, a renowned humanitarian, writer, and actor, is dedicated to social justice, particularly advocating for the sexual and reproductive health of girls and women. She believes this is crucial for poverty eradication and sustainable development. Judd serves on various boards, including the Leadership Council at the International Center for Research on Women, and holds ambassadorial roles with Population Services International and Polaris Project. As a global citizen, Judd has traveled extensively, visiting diverse locations worldwide, contributing to the legal, economic, social, and health empowerment of marginalized communities. Her appointment as a UNFPA Goodwill Ambassador reflects her commitment to global advocacy for women's rights.

KISS HUMANITARIAN AWARD 2017



His Holiness Dalai Lama

Nobel Peace Laureate

His Holiness the 14th Dalai Lama, born Lhamo Dhondhup on July 6, 1935, in Taktser, Amdo, Tibet, is a renowned spiritual leader and Nobel Peace Laureate. Recognized as the reincarnation of the previous Dalai Lama at the age of two, he began his monastic education at six and completed the Geshe Lharampa degree, equivalent to a doctorate in Buddhist philosophy, at 23. The Dalai Lama has dedicated his life to promoting peace, compassion, and human values. In 1989, he was awarded the Nobel Peace Prize for his nonviolent struggle for the liberation of Tibet and his efforts to foster global peace and understanding. His teachings and writings on compassion, ethics, and happiness have inspired millions worldwide. Despite living in exile since 1959, the Dalai Lama continues to be a beacon of hope and spiritual guidance, advocating for the rights and welfare of the Tibetan people and promoting interfaith dialogue and harmony.

KISS HUMANITARIAN AWARD 2018



Prof Muhammad Yunus

Founder, Grameen Bank, Bangladesh and Nobel Peace Laureate

Dr. Muhammad Yunus, born on June 28, 1940, in Chittagong, Bangladesh, is the distinguished Founder of Grameen Bank and a Nobel Peace Prize laureate. Known as the 'Banker to the Poor,' Dr. Yunus initiated groundbreaking work during the Bangladesh famine of 1974, leading to the creation of the Grameen Bank. The bank's innovative microfinance model, which boasts 97% women borrowers and near-zero default rates, has been replicated in over 100 countries. Dr. Yunus's dedication to eradicating global poverty and fostering economic and social development has earned him numerous accolades, including the Nobel Peace Prize in 2006, the Ramon Magsaysay Award in 1984, the United States Presidential Medal of Freedom, and the United States Congressional Gold Medal. He holds more than 55 honorary degrees from universities across 20 countries. Dr. Yunus's pioneering efforts in social entrepreneurship and microfinance have made a significant global impact, transforming the lives of millions and contributing to sustainable development worldwide.

KISS HUMANITARIAN AWARD 2019



Mr. Dansa Kourouma

Hon'ble President of the National Transition Council of Guinea

Mr. Dansa Kouruma, through his journey in the fields of medicine and strategic planning, has emerged as a remarkable figure in global humanitarian efforts. His academic background, coupled with a deep commitment to social work, reflects a dedication to addressing complex societal challenges. With a wealth of knowledge in medical expertise, governance, electoral processes, and human rights, Kouruma has positioned himself as a paragon of leadership and innovation. Over the years, Kouruma's expansive experience, particularly in roles such as President of the Transition Council of Guinea and past presidency of the National Council of Genuine Civil Society, showcases his multifaceted contributions to various sectors. His involvement in these distinguished positions demonstrates an understanding of the intricate social landscape and a commitment to finding solutions to institutional and community challenges. KISS acknowledges Dansa Kouruma's outstanding efforts in pursuing solutions to both institutional and community challenges.

KISS HUMANITARIAN AWARD 2020



Mr. Gianni Infantino

President, Fédération Internationale de Football Association

Gianni Infantino, born in Brig, Switzerland, is a distinguished global sports leader and current President of FIFA. His journey from a multilingual childhood to UEFA's General Secretary in 2009 and FIFA's President in 2016 highlights his resilience and dedication. Infantino's tenure has been marked by transformative reforms including the introduction of VAR, the expansion of the FIFA World Cup, and significant advancements in women's football and human rights integration. His initiatives like the FIFA Football for Schools Programme underscore his vision of football as a catalyst for social progress. Infantino's innovative leadership has garnered numerous accolades, solidifying his influence in the sports world.

KISS HUMANITARIAN AWARD 2021



Shri Ratan N. Tata

Chairman Emeritus, Tata Trusts

Shri Ratan N. Tata, born in 1937, is a revered industrialist and philanthropist, serving as the Chairman Emeritus of Tata Trusts. Known for his visionary leadership, Ratan Tata guided the Tata Group from 1991 to 2012, transforming it into a global conglomerate. Under his stewardship, Tata Group expanded its international footprint and diversified its portfolio. Ratan Tata is equally celebrated for his philanthropic endeavors through the Tata Trusts, which focus on education, healthcare, rural development, and social innovation. His efforts have significantly impacted India's socio-economic landscape. Among his many accolades, Ratan Tata has received the Padma Vibhushan and Padma Bhushan, India’s second and third highest civilian awards, respectively. His commitment to ethical business practices and corporate social responsibility continues to inspire generation

KISS HUMANITARIAN AWARD 2022



Her Excellency Mama Rachel Ruto E.G.H.

First Lady of the Republic of Kenya

Her Excellency Mama Rachel Ruto is the Founder and Patron of MaMa Doing Good, an initiative championing Women's Economic Empowerment, Environmental and Climate Action, and Faith Diplomacy. As a change and social impact agent, Mama Rachel has received numerous awards and recognitions, including the Elder of the Order of the Golden Heart by the Government of Kenya and the International Honorary Fellowship Award on Women Empowerment by Binary University in Malaysia. Appointed as one of the high-level champions of women's economic empowerment and financial inclusion by the African Union Commission and the World Economic Forum, Mama Rachel has demonstrated unwavering commitment to driving positive change globally. Her dedicated efforts to support society's most vulnerable sections, including women, children, and the marginalized, align perfectly with the mission of KISS.

KISS HUMANITARIAN AWARD 2023



Mr. Bill Gates

Co-chair of the Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation and
Co-founder and Former CEO of Microsoft

Bill Gates, is the co-founder and former CEO of Microsoft, one of the world's most influential technology companies. As Co-chair of the Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation, he focuses on global health, education, and poverty alleviation, striving to improve the quality of life for millions worldwide. Gates has been pivotal in initiatives such as eradicating polio, combating malaria, and enhancing educational opportunities. His visionary approach to technology and philanthropy has had a profound global impact, earning him numerous awards and recognitions, including the Presidential Medal of Freedom and the Padma Bhushan. His work continues to inspire efforts toward creating a better and more equitable world.

PERSON BEHIND THE AWARD

Dr Achyuta Samanta



Dr Achyuta Samanta is an educationist, philanthropist and social worker. He is the founder of an international philanthropic marvel, the Kalinga Institute of Social Sciences (KISS), home to 80,000 indigenous and tribal children from all over the state of Odisha. These children are provided free education, food and accommodation, sports and vocational training in a sprawling campus that has state-of-the-art facilities. Dr Samanta is also the founder of Kalinga Institute of Industrial Technology (KIIT), one of the most prominent global universities, renowned for its excellence in professional education. Besides education, tribal uplift, healthcare and rural development, Dr Samanta has contributed immensely to promoting Odisha's art, culture, literature, film industry, media and sports. He has undertaken a mission of national integration by helping society develop. He converted his birthplace, a remote village called Kalarabanka, into perhaps Asia's first Smart Village. He has been conferred with more than 50 international and national awards and over 200 state awards besides two highest civilian awards from the Royal Kingdom of Bahrain and Mongolia. Dr Samanta has traveled to 60 countries to represent India and his institutions. He has been awarded 60 honorary doctorates before turning 60. In addition, KIIT and KISS have been bestowed the Rashtriya Khel Protsahan Puruskar 2022, UNESCO Literacy Prize 2022, Green Gown Awards and appreciation from UNECOSOC. He has lent this face value to build the brand of KIIT and KISS. Dr Samanta is a former Member of Parliament (Lok Sabha) from Kandhamal, Odisha. He has been propagating the Art of Giving as a way of life, which is aimed at bringing peace and happiness around the globe. Despite all his achievements, he has a very simple lifestyle, and works tirelessly to achieve zero poverty, zero hunger, zero illiteracy. He has made it his mission to spread humanity and compassion and the institutions he represents embrace compassion as the true hallmark of greatness. He leads a simple life dedicated to the growth of KIIT and KISS. Despite giving so much to these institutions, he has nothing formally to his name or in the name of any member of his family at KIIT and KISS. His complete surrender to God to lead him has made him take decisions that have changed the course of history for educational institutions and made Odisha a prominent name in the education map of India. The saga of Dr Samanta finds its epilogue in his enduring legacy as he continues to script new chapters of change, thereby leaving an indelible imprint on the sands of time.

www.achyutasamanta.com

OTHER MAJOR INSTITUTIONS FOUNDED
BY DR. ACHYUTA SAMANTA



KALINGA INSTITUTE OF INDUSTRIAL TECHNOLOGY (EDUCATION)

www.kiit.ac.in

Kalinga Institute of Industrial Technology (KIIT), a household name in the education sector, has become a sought-after destination in India for professional studies. It is admired all over for the quality of its academic courses, its community outreach work and as a university of compassion and humanitarianism. It has become a case study because no other educational institution in India has grown in its scope and scale as much as KIIT has in a short span of time.

KIIT started in 1992-93 as an Industrial Training Institution. However, 1997 is considered the base year for the University as undergraduate and postgraduate courses in Engineering, Management and Computer Applications were added. In 2007, many new schools were added to its umbrella - School of Law, Biotechnology, Medical Sciences, Dental Sciences, Nursing, Mass Communication, Film and Media, Fashion and KIIT International School. Since then, there has been no looking back! Today, KIIT offers professional education to around 40,000 students from across India. This includes 2000 international students from 65 countries. The alumni of KIIT, over a lakh of them, have made their mark in their respective careers in academics, corporate organisations, civil services and enterprise.

One would find it difficult to imagine that such a celebrated institution with a global reputation was established by an unassuming humble being, Dr Achyuta Samanta, the Founder of KIIT and KISS, who started the institute with all of Rs 5000 as the initial investment. He had big dreams and a passion to make a difference. Dr Samanta started KIIT in two rented rooms with 12 students and 2 staff. The modest institution has now grown to incomprehensible propositions and is spread over a vast 36-square-kilometre academic township. Its 30 lush green campuses employ over 3000 eminent faculty and researchers and 15000 staff. KIIT and KISS together is a family of over a lakh people. The campus houses a 2600-bedded super speciality hospital, KIMS, a multi-storey central library, a central research facility, a 22-storey research and innovation wing, auditoriums - the largest one with 5000 seating capacity, 18 sports complexes, many international standard stadiums covering all sports, 30 food courts, and a rose garden. The institution takes pride in being the greenest campus in India.



It has received all accreditations and affiliations from prestigious national and international bodies such as the Accreditation Board for Engineering and Technology (ABET), USA and the Institution of Engineering and Technology, (IET), UK because of its quality research, innovation, and publications and citations. KIIT has had an excellent placement record since its inception owing to its quality teaching and learning process, and the brand value that it carries. KIIT is ranked in the cohort of 601-800 in the Times Higher Education 'World University Ranking' for 2024 and declared as the sixth best university in India, among Government and Private. Its Computer Science Engineering ranks in the cohort of 301-400 and its overall Engineering ranking is 401-500 in the world. KIIT has been accredited with an A++ grade by the National Assessment and Accreditation Council (NAAC) with an all-India 16th rank by the National Institution of Ranking Framework, NIRF, Ministry of Education. It has also been the top university for innovation among private institutions for two consecutive years (2020, 2021) according to AICTE, Government of India. It has been ranked among the top 151-200 universities in the world as per the Times Higher Education Young University Ranking 2024.

KIIT has made colossal contributions to Sports. Currently, 24 Olympians pursue their education at KIIT and 12 are participating in the Paris Olympics 2024, inckufi. The University has been conferred the Sportstar Award, FICCI India Sports Award for the promotion of sports and CII Sports Business Award 2023 for best Sports Facility. KIIT and KISS are the nodal centres for the FIFA Football For Schools Programme in Asia. KIIT has been chosen for the Rashtriya Khel Protsahan Puruskar 2022 for encouraging sports through Corporate Social Responsibility. Four students of KIIT have bagged 2 Gold medals and 2 Silver Medals at Asian Games 2022 in China. Besides its immense contribution to the development of the state and the city, KIIT has also promoted local art, culture, sculpture, rural development, literature and spiritualism. All the achievements of KIIT have been possible because of its founder - Dr Achyuta Samanta - lovingly called Samanta Sir - the epitome of principles, discipline, hard work, and selfless service. It truly is an inspiring story of a humble man steering two institutions to glory despite all the hardships and struggles.

KALINGA INSTITUTE OF MEDICAL SCIENCES (KIMS) (HEALTHCARE)

www.kims.ac.in



Kalinga Institute of Medical Sciences (KIMS) began in 2007 as a small medical college and hospital, founded by Dr. Achyuta Samanta to provide quality healthcare to Odisha and neighboring states. Today, it has grown into a comprehensive medical institution with 250 undergraduate and 150 postgraduate seats, and around 3000 students in medical, dental, and nursing fields. KIMS is renowned for its state-of-the-art infrastructure and its attached 2600-bed multi-speciality hospital, which includes a 300-bed Super Speciality Hospital, a 300-bed Cancer Care Centre, and a 1600-bed General Hospital that serves economically disadvantaged sections of society. KIMS has built a strong reputation for research, innovative treatments, and healthcare solutions. It has attracted renowned physicians and doctors from around the world. The institute is an empanelled hospital for several healthcare schemes and features a NABL-accredited central laboratory and a state-of-the-art blood bank. In addition to its medical services, KIMS offers routine health check-ups, 24x7 ambulance services, and continuous medical counter availability. It conducts healthcare camps in rural areas across Odisha, providing free medical services to the poor. KIMS also has 10 satellite centers in different districts, with plans to establish ten more 200-bedded hospitals in the future. KIMS reflects Dr. Samanta's commitment to serving society with quality healthcare, inspired by his own experiences of healthcare challenges in his childhood.

KIIT AND KISS:
PILLARS OF EXCELLENCE



The soul of any university lies in its campus, which rests on two pillars - facilities and infrastructure on one hand and culture and evolution on the other. While facilities and infrastructure encompass the physical aspects such as buildings, labs, classrooms, hostels, canteens, and playgrounds, culture and evolution are driven by students, staff, alumni, and their interactions with stakeholders. Facilities help culture grow and sustain, and both have a beautiful correlation, with KIIT and KISS serving as a blueprint of this integration.

KIIT and KISS offer the best and most convenient campus life, located in the thriving area of Bhubaneswar, the capital city of Odisha. Both campuses are just 15 minutes away from the airport and the railway station. Collectively spanning over 500 acres (200 hectares) and including a total of 30 campuses, they provide a complete educational experience with extensive facilities. KIIT and KISS are renowned for their state-of-the-art infrastructure. Each school is self-contained with smart, air-conditioned classrooms, advanced laboratories, and dedicated facilities such as libraries, food courts, amphitheaters, and seminar halls. The campuses are fully WiFi-enabled, eco-friendly, and equipped with modern technology.

As residential universities, KIIT and KISS offer top-notch hostel facilities, with over 60 hostels providing separate dining halls, recreation facilities, with mentors ensuring a home-away-from-home experience for students. The campus has an in-house 2,600-bedded super-specialty hospital called Kalinga Institute of Medical Sciences (KIMS). Students also have access to 24/7 IT support, transportation services, and essential amenities such as banks, post offices, and ATMs around the most vibrant part of the city. The campuses feature numerous cultural and recreational facilities. The seven-storied Central Library, extensive sporting arenas, and the KIIT Student Activity Centre (KSAC) cater to the diverse needs of the student community. KIIT and KISS have spectacular infrastructure for supporting a wide range of sports, contributing to their reputation as producers of Olympians. In the 2024 Paris Olympics, 15 students from KIIT are participating, making it the record number of students from any university in the world.

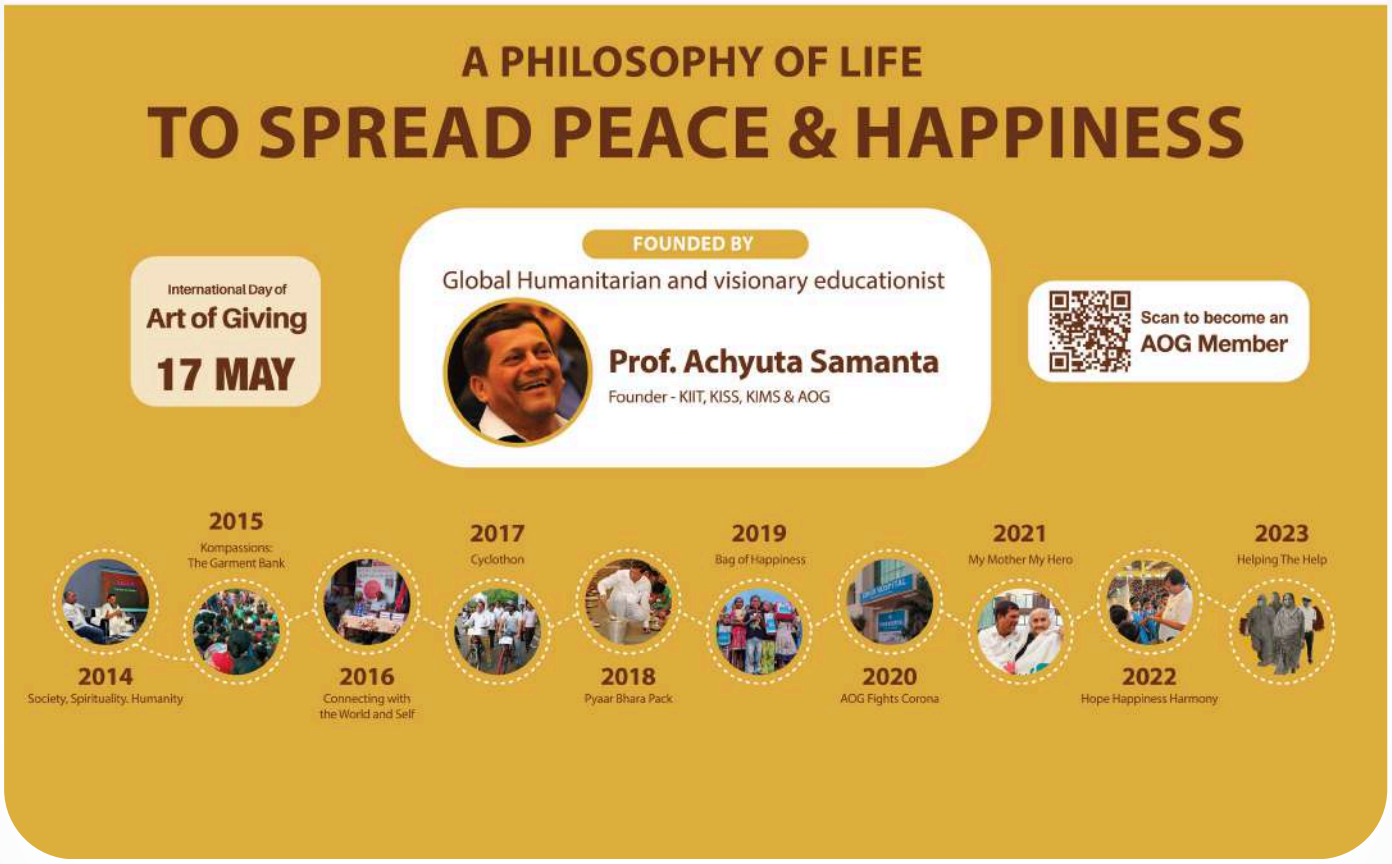
A university is known by its people and human resources. With a community of 100,000 members, including 40,000 students at KISS, 40,000 students at KIIT, and 20,000 staff, KIIT and KISS are the largest student campuses globally. Both institutions have achieved numerous national and international accreditations and rankings. KIIT is ranked 16th in the National Institutional Ranking Framework (NIRF) and 168th globally and 10th in India by Times Higher Education Young Universities Ranking. It has also been recognised as the top university in the world for its efforts in reducing inequalities by Times Higher Education Impact Rankings 2024. KIIT Deemed to be University received the 'Special Consultative' status by the United Nations Economic and Social Council (ECOSOC) in 2024, while KISS has held this status since 2015. It is a first for any university in India and KIIT and KISS, two sister institutions have unique recognition of being accorded with the special status. This recognition enhances their global engagement in education, human rights, and sustainable development. KIIT also signed an MOU with the United Nations Volunteers, providing students with opportunities to engage with various UN agencies as volunteers, gaining unique professional experience in international development. It is the only private university in South Asia to have such a tie-up. A historic collaboration with the American Council of Young Political Leaders (ACYPL) has also been established, fostering international diplomacy and leadership exchange programs.

KIIT and KISS have hosted 22 Nobel laureates, representatives from all UN agencies and universities, as well as ambassadors and high commissioners from 90 countries. Besides education as a primary focus, both universities have made significant contributions to art, culture, film, media, literature, sports, rural development, women empowerment, and spiritualism. KISS has been awarded the UNESCO Literacy Prize 2022 for its contribution to indigenous education. KIIT and KISS have also received the Rashtriya Khel Protsahan Puraskar 2024, CII Sports Business Award 2023, FICCI India Sports Award 2022, Sportstar Aces Award 2022, and Biju Patnaik Sports Award 2019 for their outstanding contributions to sports. KIIT and KISS have been chronicled in the Limca Book of Records and Guinness World Records four and five times respectively. The Technology Business Incubator at KIIT has revolutionised the startup landscape, significantly contributing to the state's economic growth. The presence of KIIT and KISS has transformed Bhubaneswar into the education capital of Odisha. Policymakers, educationists, academicians, jurists, and celebrities visit the campuses throughout the year, contributing to their thriving environment, especially through MICE (Meetings, Incentives, Conferences, and Exhibitions) events.

A university is known by how it breathes life into its bricks and mortar, how it empowers human resources, and how it inspires other universities and institutions. In this true sense, KIIT and KISS are unique and are propelling India, fostering innovation, excellence, and social progress.

Art of Giving

www.artofgiving.in.net



Art of Giving is a flagship campaign devised by noted educationist and global humanitarian Prof. Achyuta Samanta, Founder of KIIT and KISS to promote peace, happiness and compassion around the world. It was conceptualized in 2013, and since then it has grown from a campaign to a movement. It is all about spreading happiness in the world and reducing the sufferings of the people in the neighbourhood and in society.

Peoples' Contribution.
Peoples' Participation.

Art of Giving is a humanitarian movement engaged in service initiative with an aim to promote love, peace, and happiness. The organization founded in 2013 by Prof Achyuta Samanta operates globally in 220 countries, all states of India, and all blocks and Panchayats of Odisha, touching lives of about 30 million followers and practitioners.



AOG COMMUNITY

30 Million People

- Well-Wishers
- Staff
- Students
- Alumni
- Sports Associations abroad, in India and Odisha
- Civil Society Organisation
- Youth Clubs
- National Youth Volunteers
- Corporate Organisations
- Schools
- Universities in India
- Universities abroad
- Colleges
- Hotels and Restaurants
- Hospitals and Health Care Centres
- Gyms and Wellness Centres
- Ration Shops and Street Vendors

OUTREACH AND HUMANITARIAN CAMPAIGNS BY DR ACHYUTA SAMANTA

1. The Art of Giving (AOG): Art of Giving is a social movement to promote kindness, comapssion and generosity in society. It encourages people to give in all forms, not just material things, and promotes the idea that giving can bring peace and happiness to both the giver and the receiver.
2. Kanya Kiran: Kanya Kiran is an initiative that focuses on creating a safe environment for girls and promoting education to empower them. The program aims to eradicate sexual violence against girls and bring awareness about the importance of education for their overall development. Etymologically, it means girls are like ray of sun.
3. Education for All: Education for All is an initiative that emphasizes the importance of quality education and strives to ensure that every child has access to it. The program aims to remove barriers to education, such as poverty, lack of infrastructure, and promote a culture of learning.
4. Health Empowerment for Rural Odisha (HERO): This initiative aims to provide quality healthcare in rural areas of Odisha just like its urban counterparts. It aims to reach the unreached and focuses on building health infrastructure, training healthcare professionals and conducting health camps to offer better services to rural communities.
5. India Against Negativity: India Against Negativity is a forum for positive-minded people who want to combat negativity and promote positivity in society. It's a forum where like-minded positive people congregate to raise their voice to empower the victims suffering at the hand of negativism. It is just a way to promote positive change.
6. New Mind New Dreams: New Mind New Dreams is an initiative that promotes awareness about education, health, human rights, sanitation, and hygiene among marginalized children and people. The program aims to empower children and people to see and achieve their dreams.
7. Art of Appreciation: The Art of Appreciation is a movement to promote happiness and positivity by appreciating the good qualities of people and things around us. The program encourages people to focus on the positive aspects of their lives and appreciate the good deeds of others. Speaking a few good words costs nothing but can be grounding mechanism to make people resilient and face crisis.
8. Kalinga Fellowship: The Kalinga Fellowship in collaboration with Bridge Institute, Singapore is an international program that focuses on eradicating sexual harassment against women. The program offers fellowships to individuals and organizations that work towards empowering women and promoting gender equality.
9. Society Humanity and Spirituality: Society Humanity and Spirituality is a movement that aims to make society a better place to live in by inculcating humaneness and spirituality. The program emphasizes on promoting spiritual values to lead a fulfilling life.
10. The Network for Empowering Indigenous Peoples (NEIP): The Network for Empowering Indigenous Peoples (NEIP) is dedicated to fostering empowerment, education, and sustainable development for Indigenous communities worldwide. Through collaborative initiatives and innovative programs, NEIP strives to create a more inclusive and equitable future for Indigenous Peoples.

AWARDS BY KIIT AND KISS

KIIT and KISS are two prominent institutions that have been making significant contributions in the fields of education, social development, and humanitarian work. Both KIIT and KISS share a common vision of creating a positive impact on society and bringing about meaningful change in the lives of individuals and communities. They are known as universities of compassion, humanitarianism and impact. As part of their mission, these institutions recognize and appreciate individuals who have made exceptional contributions in their respective fields through various awards. These awards serve as a means to acknowledge and honor individuals who have demonstrated outstanding achievements, exceptional leadership, and exemplary dedication in their areas of expertise - academics, art, culture, literature, social work, sports and spirtitualism.

The awards given by KIIT and KISS not only recognize excellence but also serve as a platform to raise awareness about critical issues, promote social justice, and inspire others to actively contribute to the betterment of society. These awards act as a catalyst to encourage innovation, compassion, and commitment among individuals, driving them to go above and beyond in their pursuit of creating a positive impact. By seeking to give awards, KIIT and KISS aim to celebrate and honor individuals who have dedicated their lives to making a difference, while also inspiring others to follow in their footsteps. Moreover, the awards highlight the core values and principles that KIIT and KISS stand for, such as inclusivity, social responsibility, and compassion inspired by its humanitarian Founder, Prof. Achyuta Samanta.

Award Name	Timeline	Entitlement	Eligibility
KISS Humanitarian Award	Annually	Trophy, Citation, Public Felicitation	At the level of Nobel Laureates, global recognition
KIIT/KISS Lifetime Achievement Award	Discretion of the Awards Committee	Trophy, Citation, Public Felicitation	Lifetime of Work in their field
KIIT/KISS Eminence Award	Discretion of the Awards Committee	Trophy, Citation, Public Felicitation	Eminent but not qualifying for Lifetime
KIIT/KISS Excellence Award	Discretion of the Awards Committee	Trophy, Citation, Public Felicitation	Young and emerging
KIIT/KISS Friendship Award	Discretion of the Awards Committee	Memento	Well-wishers
Women of the Year Award	Annually	Purse - Rs. 1 CroreTrophy, Citation, Public Felicitation	10 women to be funded for their projects that empowers many women
AOG Heroes	Annually	Trophy, Citation, Public Felicitation	Unsung Heroes

KISS Humanitarian Award

The KISS Humanitarian Award is a prestigious annual international award conferred by the Kalinga Institute of Social Sciences (KISS) in Bhubaneswar, India. The award was initiated in 2008 to recognize and felicitate individuals for their exemplary and distinguished service to humanity across the globe. KISS Humanitarian Award is a prestigious international award that recognizes individuals who have demonstrated outstanding commitment and contribution to the betterment of society. It is a symbol of hope, compassion, and altruism, and its recognition of deeds of kindness is a mechanism that inspires others to follow the same path. It is the highest award given by the Universities.

KIIT/ KISS Lifetime Achievement Award

The KIIT/KISS Lifetime Achievement Award is a prestigious recognition conferred by KIIT/KISS to honor individuals who have made exceptional contributions and achievements in their respective fields over their lifetime. The award acknowledges their significant impact and legacy. While the KIIT Lifetime Achievement Award seeks to honour the individuals with a lifetime of achievements in the sphere of Science, Academics and Innovation, KISS Lifetime Achievement Award seeks to honour individuals with achievements in social work and public service. It is not an award based on timeline. It can be awarded as when the Committee decides to recognise the individuals. Some notable recipients of the KIIT/KISS Lifetime Achievement Award include Justice Dr. Dalveer Bhandari, Judge, International Court of Justice, Padma Bhushan A.R. Rahman, Music Maestro, Her Holiness Swami Suryaprabha, Minister of Religion at Brahmrishi Mission, UK, Dr. Ricky Kej, Multiple Grammy Winner, Mr. Virendra Sharma, Member of Parliament, UK, Ms. Anne Basham, Chair, International Task Force on Human Trafficking, USA, Dr Nik Gugger, Swiss Parliamentarian, Mr. Robert Pittenger, Former U.S. Congressman and so on

KIIT/KISS Eminence Award

The KIIT/KISS Eminence Award is a distinguished accolade presented by KIIT/KISS to recognize individuals who have achieved exceptional eminence and distinction in their respective fields. The award honors their exemplary accomplishments, leadership, and significant contributions to society. KIIT Eminence Award seeks to recognise eminent individuals who have and are contributing in the field of academics and research, KISS Eminence Award seeks to honour individuals with achievements in social work and public service. It is not an award based on timeline. It can be awarded as when the Committee decides to recognise the individuals. The previous recipients include Dr. Andreas Jahn, Foriegn Policy Advisor, Germany, Mr. Andreas Schwarz, Member of Parliament, Switzerland, Mr. Olivier Dje bi Dje, Member of Parliament, Ivory Coast, RNDr. Mgr. Ján Szollos, Member of Parliament, Slovakia, Honourable Sahr Charles, Member of Parliament, Sierra Leone, Ms. Camila Lopez-Badra, Executive Director, Democracia Global, Argentina and so on.

KIIT/KISS Excellence Award

The KIIT/ KISS Excellence Award is a prestigious recognition presented by KIIT to honor young and emerging individuals who have demonstrated excellence in their respective domains. The award acknowledges their outstanding achievements, innovative approaches, and positive impact on society. The KIIT/KISS Excellence Award has been bestowed upon individuals who have set exemplary standards of excellence in their respective fields like Prof. Dr. Roger Moser, Director, Asia Connect Center and India Competence Center, Switzerland, Ms. Yulia Klymneko, Member of Parliament, Ukraine, Mr. Dimitar Tashev, Member of Parliament, Bulgaria, Ms. Tsovinar Vardanyan, Member of Parliament, Bulgaria and so on.

Women of the Year Award

It is a highly esteemed recognition presented by KIIT and KISS to celebrate the outstanding achievements and contributions of remarkable women across various fields.This prestigious award aims to honor 10 women who have demonstrated exemplary leadership, exceptional accomplishments, and a commitment to making a significant impact in their respective domains. The award serves as a platform to recognize and showcase the inspiring stories and achievements of women who have broken barriers, overcome challenges, and become influential role models for others. The Woman of the Year Award is bestowed upon women who have excelled in diverse fields such as academia, science, technology, arts and culture, social work, entrepreneurship, sports, and various other areas and have opened avenues of women empowerment for other women. They are the ones who have uplifted other women while becoming successful. The award recognizes women who have made remarkable contributions to their communities, society, and nation, inspiring others through their achievements and dedication. It is open to women from all walks of life, irrespective of their age, nationality, or background.

KIIT/KISS Friendship Award

KIIT-KISS Friendship Award, a prestigious honor that celebrates the profound bond, support, and well-wishing of an individual towards both KIIT and KISS. This award holds great significance as it recognizes those exceptional individuals who have played an instrumental role in helping KIIT grow and flourish, while also being a steadfast supporter and well-wisher of our esteemed founder. The KIIT-KISS Friendship Award is a symbol of gratitude and appreciation, acknowledging the deep-rooted connection and long-standing relationship between the recipient and our institutions. It serves as a testament to the unwavering support, encouragement, and guidance provided by the recipient to KIIT and KISS over the years.This award holds immense sentimental value. The recipient of the KIIT-KISS Friendship Award is presented with a special memento, representing the enduring bond and appreciation between the recipient, KIIT, and KISS. This memento serves as a cherished reminder of the recipient's role in shaping the success story of our institutions and serves as an inspiration to others.

AOG Heroes

The Art of Giving Heroes, a prestigious initiative introduced in 2022 by the organization Art of Giving, celebrates individuals who go above and beyond the call of duty in their acts of giving. The AOG Heroes award has become renowned for recognizing these exceptional individuals, honoring them with not only a cash prize but also a heartfelt citation. By acknowledging their remarkable deeds, the Art of Giving aims to inspire and motivate others to embrace the spirit of giving and make a positive difference in their own communities.

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