

# EOFY APPEAL 2024

## *Empower Dreams, Build Futures*



**DONATE TODAY TO  
EMPOWER DREAMS AND  
BUILD FUTURES!**

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ABN: 14 955 698 02  
May 2024

**Women and children in India and Sri Lanka are trapped in a generational cycle of poverty, often feeling invisible to those around them.**

**They deserve a chance to be seen, valued and to reshape their destinies.**



Empowering through education

## *India*

### **Empowering Education in India: Help Complete the Junior College!**

In rural villages and underserved communities, countless children grapple with formidable barriers such as poverty, challenging family situations, and limited resources, hindering their access to quality education.

The Manorama Memorial High School (MMHS) at Mukti Mission (Year 5 – 10) has seen a significant surge in enrolment (400 new students in 2023 alone!), with some classes reaching 72 students. This reflects the eagerness for education, with some students commuting up to 40 minutes. This increase points to an urgent need to expand capacity at the Junior College for Years 11 and 12, ensuring a seamless educational journey.

Founded in 2013 and funded by the generosity of Australian supporters, the Junior College has empowered over 550 students, particularly girls from rural communities, to break free from educational limitations and pursue their dreams beyond Year 10.

*“Prior to the Junior College, students faced stark choices - pursue education elsewhere, drop out of school or, for some young girls, succumb to early marriages. The lack of accessible, quality education options forced many to compromise their futures.”*

Thanks to the incredible generosity of Australian donors, Phase 1 of the expansion to add a third floor is underway, creating much-needed classrooms and restrooms. This expansion will not only address overcrowding but also allows the offering of a wider range of courses beyond the current Arts, Commerce and Science streams and Computer Programming classes. Practical courses in skills development, agricultural science, mechanics, and language modules, will not only broaden educational horizons of the students but empower them to contribute to their respective communities.

We believe that every child deserves access to education. As we continue this transformative journey of empowering dreams, **we urgently seek your support to fundraise for the remaining 50% of the project.** Your tax-deductible contribution will help build futures, offering opportunities that were once unimaginable for these children.

## Sri Lanka

### **Building Dreams, Brick by Brick: Restore Dignity and Give Hope!**

Sri Lanka's economic struggles continue to devastate vulnerable communities. Despite glimpses of hope from economic growth and reduced shortages, the reality on the ground remains alarming. The record-breaking inflation in 2022 pushed many families into a humanitarian struggle.

**In 2023, 7 million Sri Lankans were living in poverty, from 3 million in 2019, with the poorest hit hardest** <sup>1</sup>. While the International Monetary Fund bailout offers temporary relief, measures like increased electricity costs and taxes threaten to reignite inflation and worsen the plight of those already struggling.

1. Source: LirneAsia Survey 2023

**Divya:**  
**A home and a future when I needed it most**



When I was 11, my five siblings and I lost our parents. Fortunately, our aunt admitted us to Mukti Mission when she could no longer care for us, turning what could have been a dire situation into a blessing. It granted me the opportunity to attend school, which I have not before. I went on to attend both the High School and Junior College, which paved the way for me to pursue a degree in Commerce and later, a Masters in Social Work, which Mukti Mission help support. I came to Mukti Mission as a blank forgotten page and today, this page has beautiful memories etched on it.



Extension of Junior College



Hope Centre, packed as students participate in concurrent classes

Many continue to face heartbreaking choices: skipping meals, sacrificing education, and living in inadequate housing. A growing number of women and men migrating to the Middle-East for work is also creating significant social challenges.

With your support, our local partner, Wings of Hope Lanka can walk alongside communities, helping them to rebuild shattered dreams and restore dignity.

# 2024 EOFY APPEAL

## Help Us Build Futures: Empowering Communities Through Education and Skills!

Thanks to the generosity of Australian donors, the current Hope Centre in Hatton provides a vital lifeline for 200 children. These children, from families facing poverty and instability, currently receive a nutritious meal twice a week, academic support, and enriching activities that promote holistic development. For many, the Hope Centre is not just a place to learn, but a safe haven.

### Expanding Our Impact

The Hope Centre is bursting at the seams! Expanding with an additional floor will allow Wings of Hope Lanka to better serve the children and community, offer more regular meals and learning support, create dedicated classrooms, and run expanded women's and men's empowerment programmes – all fostering a brighter future for the entire community.

**Note:** Names changed for privacy



### Breaking the Cycle (Tula's story)

Tula's life is one marked by hardship. A domestic worker since the age of nine, she has endured an abusive father who exploited her earnings to feed his addiction. Now, a single mother, her greatest desire is to break the cycle of poverty and abuse for her two daughters. While city work keeps her away with once a month visits to see her daughters, she is thankful for the safe haven and love of their grandmother and the Hope Centre.

By expanding the Hope Centre, you can help create a safe haven, provide vital educational resources, and unlock a brighter future for Sri Lanka's most vulnerable communities.

**Your Tax-Deductible Donation this End of  
Financial Year will make a real Difference!**

**With your gift, we can help communities like  
Divya's and Tula's rebuild their lives. Please  
donate today and offer hope for a brighter future.**

## WILL YOU JOIN US IN STANDING IN THE GAP FOR THOSE WHO FACE LIMITED OPTIONS?

Many of us look at our finances at the end of the financial year (30 June) and realise how blessed we are to live in Australia. It is a privilege to invest in the lives of others in India and Sri Lanka. Every gift \$2 and over will receive a tax-deductible receipt.

**Your support has the power to rewrite narratives - Offer Hope,  
Empower Dreams, and provide a chance to Build a Brighter Future.**

Thank you for your generous donations, which help make freedom a reality. I am so incredibly grateful for our Mukti Australia family and your faithful giving.



With heartfelt thanks,  
**Kim Hammond**

National Director,  
Mukti Australia



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**Yes! I want to open opportunities to Empower Dreams and Build Futures!**

## INDIA

**EMPOWERING EDUCATION IN INDIA:  
HELP COMPLETE THE JUNIOR COLLEGE**

- \$50
- \$100
- \$250
- \$500
- \$\_\_\_ Other, Please Specify

## SRI LANKA

**BUILDING DREAMS, BRICK BY BRICK:  
RESTORE DIGNITY AND GIVE HOPE!**

- \$50
- \$100
- \$250
- \$500
- \$\_\_\_ Other, Please Specify

## THE GREATEST NEED

- \$50
- \$100
- \$250
- \$500
- \$\_\_\_ Other, Please Specify



**SCAN TO  
DONATE  
ONLINE**

### **How would you like to donate?** (Please tick boxes where necessary)

- Cheque – Please send in a cheque or money order with this form made payable to Mukti Australia
- Credit Card – Please fill out this form and send to Mukti Australia  Master Card  Visa

Name on card: \_\_\_\_\_

Card Number: \_\_\_\_\_ Expiry Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Email: \_\_\_\_\_ Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

Signature: \_\_\_\_\_

I want to deposit \$ \_\_\_\_\_ into the Mukti Australia Overseas Fund, as outlined below.

BSB: 013 225 Account: 250 101 234 (For reference, use your 'Surname' and 'Name of Project') OR you can donate online to our EOFY Appeal by visiting our website at [www.mukti.org.au](http://www.mukti.org.au)

### **All gifts \$2 and over will receive a tax-deductible receipt.**

In the event of this appeal being oversubscribed, funds will be used for a similar purpose in India or Sri Lanka as designated.