

ONE BILLION RISING

I am a Woman.
What's your Superpower?



**I am Quiet but never
silenced.**



One Billion Rising: A Global day of action and dancing in protest against violence against women



The one Billion Rising campaign founded by Eve Ensler to end rape and sexual violence against women was observed as a V-day movement on 14th February in Loreto Convent Asansol. The importance of the day was explained, the reason for observing it was mentioned. It was to engage, awaken and make girls realize to stand up against the evils of society and to be united.

A video was shown to create awareness. Meaningful prayers, dance based on liberation of women and the special dance on the song “Rise” was performed. Banners were exhibited and the colour pink was worn by the children on their wrist as well as by the teachers in order to show that we rise to resist.

The motto to observe the V-day is to escalate collective actions for systematic changes towards ending violence. The programme ended with our Principal addressing our children and enlightening them about the envisions, possibilities and a future.



THE POWER OF WOMEN

Loreto Convent, Darjeeling ONE BILLION RISING- 14th February,2020

Many world leaders and scholars have argued that sustainable development is impossible without gender equality and women's empowerment. One Billion Rising is a global campaign, founded by Eve Ensler to end rape and sexual violence against women.

The campaign expands each year and we were fortunate enough to be invited this year to "RAISE THE VIBRATION" through action, art, imagination and love. This year "One Billion Rising" organised by Darjeeling Mary Ward Social Centre was held on 14th February at Dagapur football field, Siliguri, West Bengal. There were many schools, NGO's and colleges who had participated in the programme.

The event was inaugurated by welcoming the chief guest with a special dance by the women who worked in the tea gardens. This was followed by various performances all of which held the same message of women empowerment. Our urban dance style brimmed with girl power motif dressed up in military metaphors, affirming that being girl or a woman is more than just looking good. The underlying theme throughout our performance was the strength of womanhood. The experience was edifying as the event consisted depiction of deep message through powerful and brilliant performances.



LORETO CONVENT DELHI

ONE BILLION RISING – ASSEMBLY 14TH FEBRUARY, 2020

14th February, 2020 was a special day in all our Loreto Schools in India as it began with a prayer, generating awareness about the "One Billion Rising", movement and sensitizing our students to the problems faced by women. It focused on Eve Ensler, its foundress and how globally this movement has been successful in uniting women to stand against all forms of exploitation. It was thereafter, followed by a short presentation and a flash mob dance, on the song, "Break the Chain".

THE CRY OF THE LONE SOUL

*As the first tear escaped my eyes,
And rolled down my cheeks,
I looked around for someone,
To hold my nimble hands
But little did I know,
I would become a prisoner of those,
Same hands that held mine
My eyes and my cheeks now,
Are always drenched with burning tears.
Until my tears changed to fire.
Raging within me.
I held the hands of all those like me.
We marched together to say
"We have risen together, to tell the world,
We are women with a difference."*



*Recited by: Sara Singh IX
(Composed by: Mrs Andrews)*

One Billion rising is a global campaign founded by Eve Ensler to end rape and sexual violence against women. It was started in 2012, as part of the Valentine Day Movement. The "billion" refers to the UN Statistics that one in 3 women will be raped or beaten in her lifetime.

Eve Ensler is an award-winning American Playwright and activist who has spent a decade campaigning against violence on women. She herself was ritually assaulted, sexually abused and beaten by her own stepfather, while her mother looked on in silence.

SHE

*As she comes into the world
Ten fold happiness unfurled
Those twinkling eyes
That bright smile
Birth of a girl never goes futile.*

*Society displays its wrath
Defines feminism of that
One of dowry, one unclean
Yet the power of 'her' remains to be seen.*

*She is a breeze: soft and kind
She is a storm: rage unwind
Under the veil of physical lack
Echoes a voice you cannot hold back.*

*Trample her, she'll ride again
Your efforts to quieten her in vain
A goddess in human avatar
A lioness of unpredictable power
In her hands the world shall nurture
I am a girl; I am the future.*

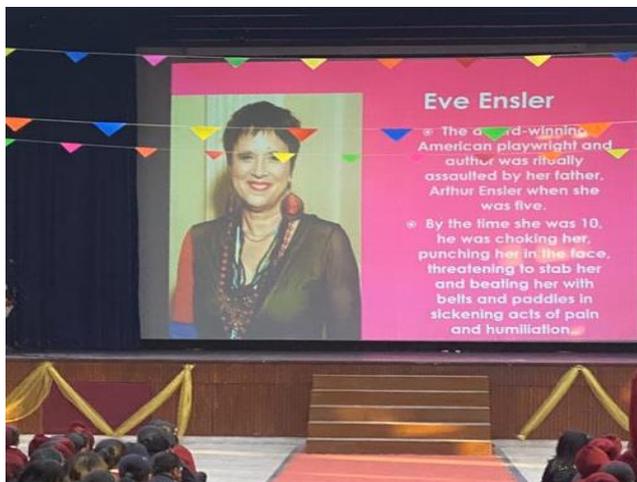


Written by: Anushka Lal Class VIII

This year, that is 2020 a massive rally is being organized called “Million women Rise” in London to mark the One Million Rise movement and the International Day of Women on the 7th of March where oppression and celebration of womanhood is coming together.

The colour they have chosen is Red, signifying women’s power, strength and determination as well as passion, fire and love.

View the short presentation compiled by our students: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=1qSp8mLaM9s>



STRIKE AND RISE!

We rise to demand freedom and justice. So, we campaign to end violence which is part of global struggle for our liberation. In order to take the "One Billion Rising", movement forward, the students of Delhi marched to Gopinath Bazar - a crowded market road on 19th February 2020. The aim was to create awareness and sensitise the general public on social evils faced by women. Powerful slogans in Hindi, got the public curious about the event, so much so that they too joined in the campaign.

This is an opportunity for us to come together in sisterhood, solidarity, unity and upliftment to march together to feel the strength, exhilaration and power of being with other women.



LORETO ELLIOT ROAD, KOLKATA
REPORT ON ONE BILLION RISING 2020

One Billion Rising is a global movement and in India, in its 6th year, Kolkata Mary Ward Social Centre collaborated with Loreto Day School, Elliot Road to participate in this movement at Allen Park on the 31st January, 2020. The last few years KMWSC actively observed OBR at various venues on their own. 2020 ushered another new aspect when they had the complete support of the Kolkata Municipal Corporation with them. Apart from the Mayor, support came in from the counselor of Ward 63, Mr. Mukherjee of KMC, Mr. Shane Calvert, MLA representing the Anglo Indian Community and the Police Commissioner, Mr. Anuj Sharma.

The event started with the distribution of the pink cap shades to all present there. These were designed by the two Loreto Elliot Road teachers and were there at the Park for all who came in. The pink T-shirts designed by KMWSC were seen on the ushers and other teachers who were on duty.

This occasion was observed keeping in mind the concept of Rise, Resist and Unite. So, all at Allen Park were there to raise the vibration against any form of discrimination and exploitation against women, we were there to celebrate womanhood, we were there to show solidarity against all discrimination -be it caste, creed, religion, gender, ethnic group or minorities. The day's events were set in motion by the original poem composition by Ameerah Rehman of Loreto Day School, Elliot Road.

The One Billion Rising dance by the Loreto Elliot Road saw about 200 + students on the floor... They certainly did Break the Chain and shake the Earth with it. Loreto Bowbazar's powerful dance portrayed the exploitation and atrocities committed against women. Their presentation concluded with elocution by one of the Loreto Bowbazar students.

The highlight of the programme was the panel discussion, "Addressing the Inequality challenges". Renowned panelists like Saira Halim, Deep Purkasyastha, Madiha Ahmed, Nandita Palchoudhury, Anchita Ghtatak and Nick Rampal, all addressed the topic from their respective perspective. This hour long panel discussion was moderated by none other Mr. Shane Calvert who summed up beautifully ending with the famous quote of Charlie Chaplin.

A play by the boys of Saraswati Sadan High school (Government School) reflected the patriarchal mindset of Indians where the voice of a male is suppressed. This mental conditioning was powerfully portrayed through their skit titled, 'Unsuni Awaz'.

The beauty of the programme was the presentation of the theme from various angles and through the medley of songs by Loreto Elliot Road, the idea of empowerment of women came through loud and clear.

The last segment of the event was the foot tapping songs by Kamran and his band, Mantasha of Barefoot and by Shane Harpreit. One after the other, the songs rang out and all were on their feet letting their hair down.

In attendance at the event were all the Loreto schools, Loreto College, other schools and Institutions, Corporate Houses, NGOs and the footfall would have been over 6000. What gave a boost was the presence of school principals, media houses, activists and Sr. Sabrina Edwards, Province Leader and her team.

It was truly a one of its kind out of school celebrations that Loreto Elliot Road were a part of. We, under the dynamic leadership of Sr. Marilla had an exposure which we wouldn't have normally got. The sea of cloth pink caps with the paper bandanas were a show stealer for sure.

We take this opportunity to thank the Kolkata Mary Ward Social Centre team under the vibrant Director, Sr. Monica Suchiang to have invited us to collaborate in their mega event. They truly showed us the path. This was the fitting end in the true Mary Ward style, "Women in time to come will do much" and we showed that to all that we CAN do things with aplomb.



FLASH MOB DANCE BY LORETO ELLIOT ROAD STUDENTS AND RAINBOW GIRL



SELF WRITTEN POEM RECITED BY AMEERAH RAHMAN OF LORETO ELLIOT ROAD



MEDLEY BY LORETO ELLIOT ROAD STUDENTS



DANCE BY LORETO BOW BAZAR STUDENT

LORETO HOUSE

On 14th February 2020 Jpic unit of Loreto House organised a special assembly on the occasion of One Billion Rising to support the campaign of atrocities against women and to Raise the Vibration and Rise to Revolution.



LORETO SELDAH



JOIN HANDS WITH YOUTH

ONE BILLION RISING- 14TH FEB2020

Darjeeling Mary Ward Social Centre organized ‘One Billion Rising’ on 14th February 2020 in Dagapur football ground, Siliguri. It was a very colourful evening as many schools and NGOs participated in the event. Our school performed a dance on the theme of OBR 2020-“ Raise the vibration, rise for Revolution.” There were dances, music and skit performances by St.Teresa’s School , Loreto Convent, Darjeeling and many other NGOs .

The day ended on a high note with a thought provoking speech by the Chief guest. The campaign was organized in order to create awareness on women empowerment .Our students were enlightened on many important things and certificates were awarded to each and every participant.

**ONE BILLION RISING CAMPAIGN -2020****LORETO SCHOOL PANIGHATTA**

One Billion Rising - 2020

A Special assembly on One Billion Rising was held on 6th February 2020 in the school campus during break time. A group of students presented a flash mob through which they spread the message among others that women are not objects and therefore, cannot be forced to submit to the sexual desires or needs of anyone. They also showed that women possess immense power. The audience was briefed about the One Billion Rising campaign. We all prayed for the safety and protection of women.



ST. TERESA'S GIRLS' H.S. SCHOOL, DARJEELING**ONE BILLION RISING, 14th February, 2020**

Loreto St. Teresa's participated in the ONE BILLION RISING organized by Mary Ward Social Centre on 14th February, 2020 at the Dagapur Football Ground in Siliguri. The theme of the One Billion Rising programme – RAISE THE VIBRATION RISE FOR REVOLUTION was showcased through dance and music. The call to RISE, RESIST and UNITE became all the more effective with students of the participating schools as well as women from the tea gardens coming together to raise a voice against the injustices meted out to women.

13 students of St. Teresa's put up a dance performance exhibiting the inborn strength of women to make a difference, to break the shackles of injustice and to overcome all hurdles. A student, Nazia also recited a self composed poem in Hindi calling all women to be fearless and to realize the strength that lies within.

The event was a great celebration of womanhood and indeed as foreseen by our Foundress, Venerable Mary Ward, "women in times to come will do much", women today are indeed doing much!

