



Eminent Social Activist and Founder & Executive Director,

Banchte Shekha, Bangladesh



Most Illustrious

Ms. Angela Gomes

Madam,

One needs courage to convince the orthodox Muslim clerics that Quran does not approve the practices demeaning to women. Despite being a Christian in an Islamic Bangladesh, you studied Quran to prove your point through 'Banchte Shekha' - learn to survive. As a strong, determined, confident fighter and survivor, you inspired thousands of hapless women; thus, giving them the skill, strength and self-confidence to change their fates by education and survival strength. As Anju with an imaginary husband with two adopted children, you dared to put yourself in the midst of huge risk to help women to learn to survive - 'Banchte Sekha'. Your contribution to educate the oppressed, destitute, exploited, neglected and backward women braving the hostile environment and attempts to cow down endeared you to thousands of women and men across the world, and no wonder Magsaysay Award came your way.

In recognition to your indomitable spirit, courage and mental strength to change the perspective of the society towards women, KIIT University unanimously resolves to confer the Degree of Doctor of Letters (Honoris Causa) on you, this day, 8^{th} November, 2014, on its 10th Annual Convocation.

(Achyuta Samanta)
Founder - KIIT

Bhubaneswar