

Dominique Lapierre

Born in France from a father who was a diplomat and a mother who was a journalist, **Dominique Lapierre**, aged 67, has travelled the world since he was 14. After fifteen years as international correspondent with the European magazine 'Paris Match', he joined with US journalist Larry Collins to write five of the major bestsellers of the last thirty years: **Is Paris Burning? - Or I'll Dress You in Mourning - O Jerusalem -Freedom at midnight** and **The fifth horseman**. These books were read by more than 100 million readers. **Is Paris burning?** was made into a major movie by Paramount with fifty international stars. In 1981, Dominique Lapierre temporarily separated from his partner Larry Collins to write in solo **The City of joy**, a book about the courage, the love, the faith of a community of people living in a slum of Calcutta. Translated in some thirty languages, and made into a film with **Patrick Swayze** in the leading part,

The City of joy was sold more than seven and a half million copies. Lapierre donated half of his royalties to create a whole network of humanitarian actions in Calcutta and very poor areas of the Ganges delta. In 1991, Lapierre published another bestseller, **'Beyond Love'**, the epic story of the discovery of the Aid's virus. His last book **'A thousand Suns'** is the saga about the Extraordinary heroes and events which have shaped the life of this remarkable author-philanthropist.



Dominique Lapierre is the famous author of the book **'City of Joy'**. This great Philanthropist decided to Contribute the royalty of his book for the service of mankind. Mrs. & Mr. Dominique Lapierre visited India in 1986 with the objective of assisting some of the non-government organizations (NGOs) engaged in working for the improvement of life of economically deprived and underprivileged people. We, at SHIS, are proud of our association with Mr. Dorninique Lapierre, who has been visiting our Medical centres for the poor since 1986 and taking interest in our activities.

Dominique said, **"No patient should die here without medicine"** and kept his commitment. Every year he not only visits the Sunderbans area but also contributes substantial amount of money from the royalties earned through sales of his books. The people of Sunderbans and the TB patients those who have availed of the medical treatment extended by **SHIS**, meet **Mrs. and Mr. Dominique** in get-together every year when they pay visit to **SHIS**.

Dominique says, The great Indian poet Tagore once wrote: **'Adversity is great but man is greater than adversity'**. My years in India have taught me how true is this saying. I like to add to it an other proverb which I have learned in the slums of Calcutta researching for my previous book **'The City of Joy'**. We should all meditate its meaning. It says: **'Everything that is**

not given is lost'. It is with great expectation that we are coming back to Basanti on February 23 to launch the Indian edition of my new book '**A Thousand Suns**' which royalties will go to the underprivileged. My wife and I have been serving for all these years. For an author, it is an extraordinary experience to celebrate the birth of my book with the very people it will serve. I call it a mythical communion. '**A Thousand Suns**' is about some of the exceptional people I have met during my life as a journalist, an historian, and a philanthropist.

The title comes from an Indian proverb I have discovered with my wife one day, written on a bus shelter in the South of India. It said: '**There are always a thousand suns beyond the clouds**'.

This message corresponded exactly with his philosophy of life.

