

Message from the Secretary General on World Red Cross Day 2025



My dear colleagues, volunteers, partners, and friends,

Today, May 8th, we join to celebrate World Red Cross and Red Crescent Day – a day to honour the unwavering spirit of humanity and the incredible work of our global Movement. This year, our theme resonates deeply: **"On the Side of Humanity."**

This theme is not just a slogan; it is the very essence of our existence. It speaks to our fundamental commitment to stand with those who are most vulnerable, to offer a helping hand without discrimination, and to alleviate suffering wherever it is found.

In India, the Indian Red Cross Society has a long and proud history of being "On the Side of Humanity." From responding to natural disasters and health emergencies to providing vital healthcare and promoting social well-being, our volunteers and staff are on the ground, day in and day out, embodying this principle.

The past year has once again reminded us of the challenges and complexities facing our world. Conflicts, climate change, economic hardship, and health crises continue to impact millions. In the face of these challenges, our role as a neutral, impartial, and independent organization is more crucial than ever. We remain committed to reaching those in need, regardless of their background, beliefs, or circumstances. We are here to offer hope, comfort, and support to those who feel forgotten or marginalized.

Being "On the Side of Humanity" means more than just providing aid; it means advocating for dignity, promoting respect for international humanitarian law, and building resilient communities. It means fostering a culture of empathy and understanding, where everyone is treated with compassion and kindness.

To our dedicated volunteers, who are the backbone of the Indian Red Cross Society: your tireless efforts, your selfless dedication, and your unwavering commitment to serving others are truly inspiring. You are the living embodiment of what it means to be "On the Side of Humanity." Thank you for your invaluable contributions.

To our staff, who work tirelessly behind the scenes to ensure our operations run smoothly and effectively: your expertise, your dedication, and your passion are essential to our success. Thank you for your commitment to our mission.

To our partners, donors, and supporters: your generosity and trust enable us to carry out our vital work. Thank you for standing with us "On the Side of Humanity."

As we celebrate World Red Cross Day 2025, let us reaffirm our commitment to the fundamental principles that guide us. Let us continue to work together, hand in hand, to build a more humane and just world. Let us be a beacon of hope for those in despair, a source of strength for those who are weak.

Let us all strive to be "On the Side of Humanity" every single day. Happy World Red Cross and Red Crescent Day!

With deepest gratitude and respect,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be 'R.K. Jain', written in a cursive style.

R.K. Jain,
Secretary General, IRCS