



Pic. Abdul Raheem

Abdul Raheem, a 21-year-old runaway from his home in West Bengal, came to Delhi after having had a fierce quarrel with his father. Unable to stay, he meant to make it on his own. But Delhi is a harsh place, and Abdul, illiterate and unskilled, yet trying his best to find any kind of job, was continuously refused. Sheer luck finally let him find a job in a hotel, but it was never easy. His illiteracy caused him many problems, getting him in trouble with his employers when he was unable to make food deliveries outside of the hotel. Abdul was unable to speak Hindi and English, and was thus cruelly ridiculed by his co-workers.

Nevertheless, Abdul refused to give up and fought to improve his outlook on life. His determination finally took him to the Hope Project where his story was heard and he was welcomed with open arms.

Abdul is now an eager student at Hope since two years, fighting for a better future. After much struggle, he is now able to read and write paragraphs in Hindi and English. Abdul's hard work is paying off; he is the first person in his family to acquire literacy.



Pic. Reechard, a scholar from the Software and Hardware programme



<http://www.hope-project.de/>
<http://www.hopeprojectindia.org>

Dargah Hazrat Inayat Khan Hope Project

Initiated by Pir Vilayat Khan in 1975

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Written by Elisabeth Henschel
Edited by Samuir Rahman and Heiko Schrader

Hope for Anju and Suraj

Anju is a single working mother of five children. Her husband Sunil, an abusive drunk, sold all of their belongings, including their house, to nurse his alcoholism. Barely making money as a sanitary worker, Anju and her children were forced to live in the streets, sleeping on the concrete pavement night after night.

A kind soul finally assisted this struggling family, finding Anju a job in a church. They are sheltered now in a small chamber within the church, grateful, because they know how much worse it can be.

School was never a possibility for any of the children as Anju only makes enough money to cover their basic needs. Yet this concerned mother desperately wants her children to receive an education. She hopes that one day, they will live a better life than what she can offer them. Anju had given up hoping when she found out about Hope. Her youngest son, Suraj, is now in the project's nursery class. After his studies, he comes to the Crèche for care, supervision and extra education. Here he can play and actually be the child that he is. He receives nutritious food and has a sheltered environment. Anju knows he's safe and well taken care of. The project's free clinic has been a blessing for the whole family.

Because of the project, Anju has finally allowed herself to hope again. Maybe now all her children will receive an education. And maybe someday, they will have a proper home again that they can call their own.



Pic: Suraj in the nursery class

Hope for a Better Option

With your kind donations and incomparable generosity you have continued to change the lives of the underprivileged, vulnerable and poor. For your benevolence we thank you whole-heartedly.

The vocational training perseveres with great success. The placement center recently accomplished the employment of two DTP computer operators and of seven boys in the 5-star Oberoi Hotel. Three groups of each 3 people were given loans of Rs.15000 to start their own mobile repair units. The youth forum continues to have frequent meetings, where they support one another and keep each other engaged in the community. Our OBGYN unit notes that ANC/PNC registrations (i.e. pregnancy and motherhood training) have increased exponentially reducing the risks of maternal and child mortality. The parent council of the German School New Delhi made a great contribution that permitted us to hire a trained professional for the Crèche. In these short six months, several positive changes can be noted: the curriculum aims more accurately at the different age groups, cognitive and motor skills development is amazing, and there is an earlier detection of physical and/or psychological problems (cont.).



Pic. Beauty Culture Training

Hope for a Better Option (cont.)



Pic: Community Interface

Additionally, the training of our support staff ensures lasting improvement as does the awareness instilled among the mothers to provide for their children beyond basic care. We are proud to note that the Hope Project has been certified as an accredited institution for Open Basic Education and selected vocational training by the National Institute of Open Schools (NIOS), the Ministry of Human Resource Development (MHRD), and the Government of India. Trainees of Beauty Culture, Computer Software, and Cutting & Tailoring will also be awarded certificates from the Government of India, ensuring a higher value in the job market.

For the first time in the history of the Hope Project beneficiaries, ulemas (religious leaders), community leaders, mureeds, members of Hazrat Inayat Khan Foundation, and staff met in the Noor Inayat Khan Library on the eve of Urs of Pir Vilayat Inayat Khan. Beneficiaries told of their success aided by Hope, of how migrants turned into permanent residents because of Hope. The ulemas and community leaders acknowledged Hope's contributions, were grateful for the opportunities given to their wives, daughters and sisters. This is evidence of community ownership.

After a brief schooling of certain staff members, a training initiative, training initiative with 200 adolescent boys & girls concerning reproductive and sexual health was a great success. Correct and vital information was disseminated and is expected to ensure more responsible sexual behavior among adolescents of the basti, reducing early marriage, early pregnancy, and the spreading of HIV (cont.).

Hope for a Better Option (cont.)



Pic: MMU

Hope's mobile medical unit has reached out to three more slum areas. The average number of patients treated on a visiting day is approximately 85. Primary health services and referrals are provided to them.

Recently, Mr. Thomas Matussek, German Ambassador to India, visited the Hope Project to inaugurate the extended kitchen and oven donated by the German Embassy, a great benefit to our Baking&Catering unit. The German Embassy has also extended its financial assistance to equip the health center initiated by the Hope Project in the village of Mattipooora near Srinagar in Kashmir, ensuring basic health care in 30 villages populated by economically poor people. We are more than grateful for this kindness.



Pic.: German Ambassador at the Hope Project