

## Hope for changing lives of people



Pic: Rays of Hope

The Hope Project would like to express its gratitude for your continued donations and support. None of the work would be possible without you.

It is becoming more and more evident that the project is being integrated into the community surrounding it. The number of beneficiaries is steadily increasing and people in need are continuously approaching the numerous programs offered by Hope. The demands for education, skills training and health care are keeping everyone at the project on their toes and other NGOs have recognized the Hope Project's credibility. Collaboration with TALIM, a Delhi based NGO working in the areas of education for marginalized, offers promising community youths real chances at government jobs; what was recently considered impossible is now becoming a dream come true.

All photographs from the Hope Project



<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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Board of Directors: Pir Zia Inayat Khan, Carmen Hussain, Richard Cuadra, Kamini Prakash, Saroj Tucker, Rita Paul Mathew, Ambassador Fabian Kalarickal, Heiko Schrader

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Please send your donation to one of the following accounts.  
Do not forget your name and address!

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## Dargah Hazrat Inayat Khan Hope Project Newsletter

Dec, 2012

No. 24

Written by Elisabeth Henschel  
Edited by Samiur Rahman and Heiko Schrader

## Welcome to Dr. Kuljit Gill

The Hope Project is thrilled to welcome a new member of staff, medical director Dr. Kuljit Gill (MBBS, MS, Fellowship in USG & Echo & Intensive Care). Having joined the Health Centre only recently, it can be reported – with great pleasure – that Dr. Gill has made a place for herself quickly and already has a fantastic reputation with the patients and around the Basti. The number of people receiving care has increased dramatically. Beneficiaries come from all over, not just the community, portraying just how far Hope is reaching and branching out. Dr. Gill and her staff create a wonderful environment for the patients, making sure they are heard and that all of their aches, pains and problems are taken seriously. It is a relief and a joy to know that these people in need are putting more and more trust in modern medicine, instead of just seeking treatment on a spiritual basis. With this amazing new addition of Dr. Gill, the Health Centre continues to expand and brings Hope to more people than ever before.



Pic: Dr. Kuljit Gill at the Health Centre

## Abu Zafar

A man who was always committed to his faith, Abu Zafar left his home in West Bengal twenty years ago to pursue his dream of teaching religion in the basti of Nizamuddin. In all this time he has had to struggle to earn a decent living, but he was never willing to give up his dream, dedicated to teaching adults and selected children about the beauty he found in the holy Koran. Two years ago, the Hope Project was successful in implementing computer classes for several ulemas of the community to broaden their skills and to further their knowledge of the global developments. Abu Zafar joined and regularly attended classes, making him aware of and come to know the Hope Project.

He had initially intended to send his children to a Madrasa for a more religious education, but decided to send his four year old son Nisar to our pre-primary school and a year later his son Nafees as well. Religious education to the children is imparted by Abu Zafar himself at home. Both children excelled in their education. Nisar was accepted in a government school and Nafees now attends Delhi Public School, a prestigious and much sought-out school. Seeing the boys' commitment to learning, both schools dropped the tuition fees.

Abu Zafar and his wife find true joy and comfort in their sons bright futures.



Pic: Abu Zafar and his sons

## Mehak Saifi



Pic: Mehak Saifi

Mehak, a bright young girl in a small town in northern India, had always dreamed of an exciting future. Her mother and brother forcing her to quit school to pursue what they considered a woman's traditional and rightful future – running a household – was a change which Mehak failed to accept. Her father, an illiterate carpenter, was inspired by her devotion to education and brought her along to Delhi. But after one and a half years of trying everything, Mehak had still not been accepted at any of the schools in Delhi much to the father's and daughter's dismay; she was going to have to return to her mother. A fateful chance encounter with a former student of the Girls Non-Formal School was therefore a beacon of hope to Mehak and her father. Having been guided to the Hope Project, she entered the world of learning once more and devoured knowledge like it was air needed for breathing.

She recently received a SSE Certificate and is now, after some encouragement, pursuing higher studies. With financial aid from the Hope Project, Mehak is striving for a BA at Zakir Hussain College in Delhi. She was also awarded a scholarship. A role model for many attendees of the GNFS, Mehak is also the only educated member of her family. With a little help from the Hope Project and a tremendous amount of love, believing and support from her father, Mehak is living her dream.

## Bilquees

Five years ago, Bilquees, her husband and their three children moved to Delhi in the hope of a better life. However, her husband lost his job and spent all their savings on alcohol. They moved to Nizamuddin Basti in search of free food, depending on the mercy of others. By now she had given birth to two more children.

One day Bilquees took her handicapped son Sharuk to the Hope Project's Health Centre, where her story was heard and the desperation of her situation immediately understood. Social workers took the necessary steps to change this family's dire conditions; especially the children were in desperate need of shelter. Cleaning classrooms at the Hope Project part time and working as a domestic help simultaneously, Bilquees was quickly able to afford a small room in the Basti, supplying a roof over the heads of her children.

The eldest daughter Muskan and son Mushtaq were admitted to local government schools, while Sabir attends Hope's pre-primary school and two-year-old Sabra spends her days at the Crèche. Her handicapped son is being taken care of by her husband, who is too weak for physical work. Bilquees can now go to work without worrying about her children, they are well looked after and are acquiring an education, something she had always dreamed of for them.



Pic: Bilquees with her children