



Monsoon Edition

NEWSLETTER
JUNE & JULY
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33 Years
of
SEWA | SCHOLARSHIPS
EDUCATION
WELFARE
ASSOCIATIONS

NISHKAM TIMES

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Prospects Renewed: A future Re-imagined for Amandeep



Amandeep Kaur

Amandeep Kaur is based at Mansa Tehsil of Bathinda, Punjab. Her father is a Carpenter. She is pursuing M.Sc. in Information Technology (IT) and left the studies just because of extreme poverty. Our dedicated volunteer at Bathinda, S. Angrej Singh traced out her case. S. Harbhajan Singh (Founder member of Nishkam) who has been actively involved in education projects personally visited the family and assured her family for help from Nishkam under MCM Scholarship. **Nishkam has granted help of Rs. 18000/- for her education fee in M.Sc. (IT) degree course.**



Nishkam Team at work



The humble setup at home

Nishkam enlightened hope for Nisha Kaur- An IAS aspirant



Nisha Kaur

"My father though a skilled labourer in a small private company but with very less wages. I have completed my BA (Hons.) in Political Science from Janki Devi Memorial College, New Delhi this year with the help of Merit cum Means (MCM) Scholarship of Nishkam. **It's my dream to be an IAS Officer.** As there are financial setbacks of my family, it's been very difficult to pay fee of IAS coaching academy. At this stage **Nishkam helped me in supporting my ambition and paid Rs. 80000/- for my coaching classes in Dhyeya IAS (Coaching Inst.)** I am living in Tilak Vihar colony of New Delhi which is a poverty stricken area. I am focusing on my strategy to crack the prelims and then the interview of the Civil Services Examination."

3 Moral Education Teachers appointed for Karnataka Sikligar children

Nishkam welcomed three new moral education teachers across Karnataka for Sikligar Sikhs. S. Amarpreet Singh, S. Gurtej Singh and S. Amarjeet Singh joined with all smiles and brimming with confidence to impart morality among Sikligars. **About Sikligars:** They were known to be blacksmiths having incredible craft of weapon making and armed the Khalsa Army in many wars centuries ago but in the present era they are far from education, development and health facilities, they lead a poverty-ridden life, yet they are longing to return to the mainstream. We with your support are enabling them to stand on their own, to live dignified life. It may not be wrong to say that as a society today we are at the lowest aspect of morality and personal values. News is the evidence that there has been a constant deterioration of ethics year after year - we have felt that we must lay down the moral foundation in early age, at school level.



Bhai Gurdas Academy students visited Nishkam

To break the monotonous routine, students along with faculty of Bhai Gurdas Academy, Tarn Taran (Dist. Amritsar) visited Nishkam Bhawan during their summer break on 15th June'18. The Academy- a School is being run by Giani Kewal Singh Ji, (Former Jathedar Takhat Shri Damdama Sahib. Talwandi Sabo. He also accompanied the students. A warm welcome followed by students' folklores' on Sikh warriors was performed. It was a good hospitality gesture in all forms and was indeed a moment full of excitement, thrill and rejuvenation. Delhi was an apt destination which gave the students an opportunity to experience the urban life and see the capital closely. It was an enriching, exciting and a good learning experience for the future pedigree and their teachers to witness how the institution (Nishkam) has been running for past 34 years, inspired by Sarbat Da Bhala.



Children are singing folklores



Giani Kewal Singh Ji,
Former Jathedar Takhat Shri Damdama Sahib.
Talwandi Sabo



The gathering enjoying breakfast

5 needy Families got shelter in Tarn Taran- Amritsar



Transforming lives: Built pucca house at Tehsil Patti in Amritsar of poverty-stricken family



Transforming a shabby bathroom/toilet



AFTER



AFTER

Our family strengthening program offers a comprehensive package of services to enable families to stay together. Building houses for them is one such initiative. We are committed to change the lives of the poverty stricken Punjab villages and making good progress. Our team of Nishkam Sewadars- S. Harbhajan Singh (Founder Member of Nishkam); S. Jagdeep Singh and S. Kanwaljit Singh Talwar just came back from Punjab after spending good amount of time in identifying more needy families while living there. We already covered 12 villages and feel that, it doesn't take much to help the needy. So far we've built more than 190 houses for the poor and needy. It's shocking to see the divide of rich and poor, the gap has been widening with the time. We are not against the rich but as a human our conscious effort can cure the misery of common men who has equal rights to live a dignified life next to elite, so that he/she should not feel inferior to others and it creates mutual respect. Such an empathy and sensitivity if prevails among all of us then there is infinite potential to support many more in need.

Performing while Transforming

Equipping the future

₹ 2.62 Lacs

spent on 61 children from underprivileged families residing in Tilak Vihar area of Delhi, who can't afford books, stationary, school dresses and bags



₹3.07 Lacs

spent on 27 needy students who are in dire need of your support. Many of them are getting higher education and will be future startups/create more jobs and hopes for others.

Highlights
(April- July 2018)



MEDICAL ASSISTANCE

₹ 2.53 Lacs

Affection Is Greater Than Perfection

Your support is adding life to lives. More than 14 beneficiaries are appreciating your support for giving them a new hope to stand and walk with the world again.

For the first time 1937 students from Sikligar community (Forgotten Sikhs) who doesn't know the meaning of education in their lives are studying and changing the world around us.



Highlights
Sikligar Education Project



68 Sikligar students are in higher education and for the first time 17 girls are pursuing professional education. Two of them have completed B. Ed. and pursuing M.A.

Sharing is Caring *It is not what we take, but what we give matters the most !*



Suner Neeya Kaur Chopra



Recently Suner Neeya Kaur Chopra, the granddaughter of Nishkam President Dr. JS Nanra visited Nishkam Bhawan and shared her knowledge and goodies with children of Nishkam Tuition Center. The 10 years old also shared the environment friendly tips and thoroughly read the story of Tenali Rama. Suner decided to donate her piggy bank savings for Nishkam children. She gifted stationary items, chocolates and books. Dr. Nanra, the grandfather of adorable Suner stated that she feels inspired by Nishkam's activities whenever we discuss Nishkam at home. It was her first visit to India from Massachusetts, USA.

Her desire to visit Nishkam increased by many folds after browsing the website. Nishkam has been working on the issues concerning underprivileged children since its inception. She thinks to bring about a change in her fraternity as they being not so privileged must have awareness on environmental issues. One of the best things any parent can do is to give their children moral values, values of caring & sharing. Nishkam congratulates the efforts of her parents for instilling such values in Suner and making her realize the responsibilities as a conscious member of the society-the responsibilities that most of us close the eyes to.

Sewing livelihoods: A stitch in time for Asha & Jasbir Kaur

It was an emotional moment for Asha Kaur and Jasbir Kaur. They are from low-income group families and Nishkam out of charity distributed free sewing machines to them for their livelihood. S. Daljeet Singh along with S. Lakhwinder Singh both Nishkam members handed over the sewing machines to these women. Their family income is just insufficient to support their livelihood. One of the recipients, Ms. Asha Kaur had tears in her eyes when she said: "I have wanted to get a sewing machine for a very long time but was not able to afford it. I have three sons and one daughter, of which two are handicapped. My husband being a disabled cannot do any job or work. I don't have enough to fulfill their requirements and so I had been thinking of using my garment stitching talent to get some additional income. It was a dream for me to have a machine." Ms. Jasbir Kaur, a widow, said: "By giving this sewing machine to me, they are helping me stand on my own feet." Sometimes people don't need help in the form of money and things, they just need a chance to get back on their own. We hope this will not only support their family income but also be the first step on their way of being self-reliant. Mrs. Khushwant Kaur Babra, one of our donors residing in USA for financially supporting this cause. In addition to the sewing machines, the women were also given Steam Irons, Table Base, Sewing accessories and other related stuff.

If anybody would like to contribute in our initiatives of distributing sewing machines, etc. please get in touch with us on:
nishkam84@gmail.com



Ms. Asha Kaur (Center)



Ms. Jasbir Kaur while receiving Iron

No more pain & sufferings left for Gurpreet

"The pain and suffering, I had to pass through due to Brain Tumor, is beyond expressions. In this young age I had lost every hope in life and left everything over 'Waheguru' taking it as my destiny" exclaimed Gurpreet a 22 year old young graduate and resident of Sant Nagar Ext. of Tilak Nagar, New Delhi. There is delay in His House but not darkness. The Almighty didn't disappoint me as it came to my rescue through 'Nishkam' who paid funds for my treatment at AIIMS. It was due to the sincere efforts of Nishkam that I was **successfully operated for my Gamma Knife Treatment** at AIIMS on 25 July, 2018. My father is a small level Electrician and couldn't earn enough to get treatment for my illness. Thank you Nishkam for giving me a hope to live a normal life."



(L) Gurpreet Kaur (R) The stitches aftermath

More than 1150 Applications received for SHDF Scholarships Exam

SHDF Scholarship exam for (2018-19) is scheduled to be held on **September 9, 2018**. The exam will be held in morning session at various educational institutions of Faridkot, Bathinda, Moga, Ludhiana, Amritsar, Chandigarh and New Delhi. This year, we have received more than 1150 new scholarship applications. In addition, 388 students have applied to renew their existing scholarships after meritoriously clearing their professional examinations. These scholarships are fully funded by SHDF. Sikh Human Development Foundation (SHDF) is an organization run by NRIs based in Washington (USA) The scholarships are awarded every year to marginalized but brilliant students who with maximum annual family income of Rs. 1, 80000/- and securing minimum 60% marks in their academics and enrolled in professional education (Degree/Diploma courses) from various recognized educational institutions in Punjab and Delhi. Nishkam Sikh Welfare Council (Regd.), New Delhi (Nishkam), the associate partner of SHDF has been imparting, organizing and promoting the scholarships since 2000 in India. The project was started with merely 22 scholarships and in the span of 18 years; it has crossed more than 650 scholarships mark. This year we awarded Rs. 1, 42, 90500 to 656 students. SHDF Division, New Delhi screened these applications for the written test and interviews as stated above.

Highlights of Yamuna Nagar Project July 2018



374 Donors contributed Rs. 28120 for welfare



Medical Care Stats

Providing Relief to Patients
OPD- 1495 Patients
Lab Tests- 365
ECG- 6
Dental Care- 54
Dental X-Ray- 26
Physiotherapy- 155



56 Students are getting Computer Education