

Editorial

Dear Friends,

One horror story after another continues to tell the sordid story of crimes against women; the most recent one that made international headlines being, "Two minor girls hanged from a mango tree." In a village in Uttar Pradesh, these two minor girls were raped and their naked corpses hanged by a mango tree by none other than the cops themselves. There are many more such cases happening; its just that they do not make the headlines. As India moves on the road towards development and progress, the Indian girl child continues to bear the brunt from the womb to the tomb.

Centuries old mind-set, which continues to persist in the minds of billions, are causing a deep sense of insecurity as the patriarch finds power slipping from their hands, thus making women more prone to danger and violence. More and more men are losing job opportunities to women and the consequences of this are faced by the women as they are beaten in the privacy of their homes or raped on the road.

Disha foundation is persistently engaged in changing this mind-set which we do through our radio programs and conferences. In the last two years as we have systematically engaged with our listeners with various topics, our listeners are now coming out with their stories. We then invite them to come share their stories with the masses. Education of the girl children and imparting of vocational skills continues to be the need of the hour as we assist them on their journey towards self reliance.

Please pray for us and come join us in this endeavour. Thank you for your support.

Sincerely,

Vinita Shaw
CEO

PRODUCTS PREPARED BY BENEFICIARIES



Check out DISHA FOUNDATION'S BRAND NEW WEBSITE
www.dishafoundationindia.in



Mrs Vinita Shaw writes for City Lights, Alberta - www.citylightnews.com
Book "UNVEILED" available at www.certapublishing.com



Radio Programs

More and more listeners engage with our radio broadcasts on FM All India Radio - The Station of the Nation

The weekly **Khush Khabri** (meaning Good News) continues to advocate that the birth of girl child is not bad news but good news, even as through this program we speak to the Indian mind-set hoping and praying that change will come. In the last two months, we have interviewed the beneficiaries of our vocational training centre and have them share their stories of beauty from ashes so that our listeners are encouraged.

From economically very weak backgrounds, these three beneficiaries of Disha Foundation have reason to celebrate as they encountered violence and poverty but emerged winners. Disha Foundation has lent them a helping hand and continues to do so in their journey towards self reliance. Daughters of casual labourers and alcoholic husband, these three have defied every odd and stoically fought their circumstances to emerge winners. Self reliant and filled with pride, each one shed tears as they shared their stories with our listeners on our radio program.

They all had one message to give, “Do not give up. Stand firm and persevere. Victory will be yours.”

Baat Pate Ki (subject of importance), our weekly program creates awareness against trafficking. A few listeners were interviewed who had tales of horror of how they themselves or their family members were trafficked. This listener (picture below), his sister was trafficked but rescued after four days. He shares his experience to warn the listeners.

News from Kolkota – for Aashar Alo

Our Bengali program tells real stories of how economically weak girls and women were duped and pushed into flesh trade.

National crime record bureau reports:

- In the year 2012, 109 trafficking cases were reported in West Bengal only; and
- In the year of 2011, the report was more shocking: 113 cases of selling girls into prostitution were reported in the whole country and out of that West Bengal has counted 77% (87 out of 113).

It has all been reported, and everybody knows how many cases will never come in the eyes of the government.



SUPPORT FOR CHILDREN AASHRAYA CHILDREN SUPPORTED IN RAJASTHAN – JAIPUR

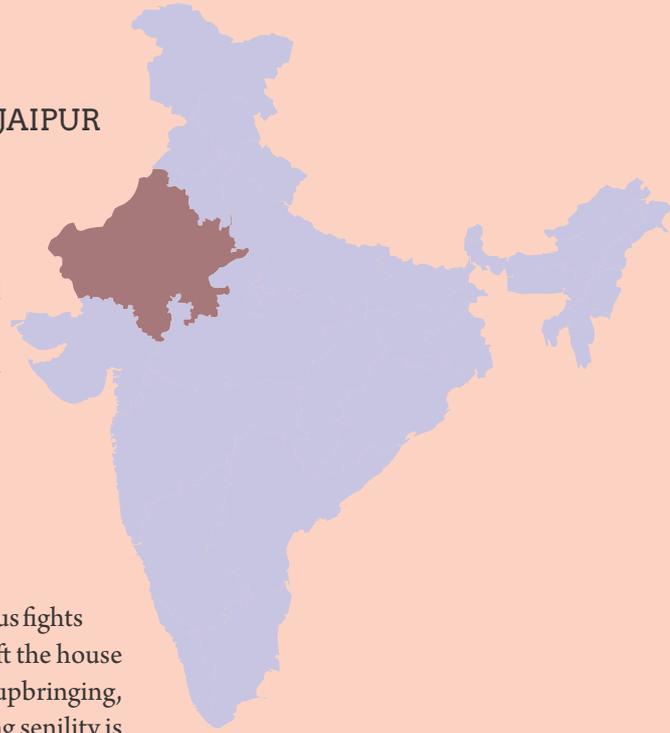
Aradhana Bhatt

Aradhana comes from a family of artists. Her father, an auto driver died because of a chronic disease. Deeply in depression, her mother started drinking and without a sound mind, was unable to cater to the needs of her children. Practically, with no guidance of parents, Aradhana's life was coming to an unexpected end.

Now, she is in class 10. A topper in her class, she aspires to become an I.A.S Officer.

Sahil Verma

Sahil Verma is a product of a broken home. His father and mother had continuous fights and there was a lot of strife at home. Finally her mother decided to quit. She left the house and got remarried. His father, a drunkard, doesn't care about Sahil and his upbringing, leaving studies. His Grandfather takes care of him. Sahil's grandfather, reaching senility is not able to get his son's education in a proper way. Aashraya is determined to uphold him and give him a secure future.



“BEST SUMMER CAMP EVER” - Report on summer camp at St Michael hostel, CNI, New Delhi



CONFERENCE/ WORKSHOPS

Mrs Vinita Shaw was invited to organise and speak at the St Thomas Church Teen Camp, which was attended by 18 boys and girls. A huge success, the three themes were:

1. Relating to God;
2. Relating to yourself; and
3. Relating to others.

There is a demand that these camps be held more often. In the coming days we have plans to invite more teens from other churches as well.



REMEMBER YOUR CREATOR IN THE DAYS OF YOUR YOUTH BEFORE THE DAYS OF TROUBLE COME..... - Eccl. 12: 1

WHY TEEN Camp, to avoid failing and falling...



Mrs Vinita Shaw was invited to speak on ARISE AND SHINE at the CNI Fatehpur Beri Church in New Delhi and minister to the 150 women leaders present from different churches of Diocese of Delhi.



PRAYER REQUESTS

1. Pray for an office location where a counselling/training centre can be established.
2. Pray for the fifth radio program that will soon be on air.
3. Pray for Mrs Vinita Shaw as she travels.
4. Pray for the listeners that their minds would be renewed and hatred for girl child removed.
5. Pray for volunteers and staff

