

DISHA FOUNDATION

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BURDEN , FIRE AND DANCE- MEET THE INDIAN WOMAN



At a Corporate organised event in New Delhi where our girl children were treated with gifts and a lovely dinner, a dance performed by a women troupe left me dumbstruck !

Women carrying water pots balanced on their heads as well carrying in their hands is a common sight in rural India. What surprised me was the dancers balancing pots containing fire on their heads and yet dancing with effortlessly with a smile (Chari dance from State of Rajasthan). I do not know about them, but I was definitely prespiring just looking at them.

While others applauded the dancers, I was not happy because I was reminded of how Indian girls and women walk a fine line balancing themselves with burden on their heads, almost like walking on egg shells, with the dangerous fire tongues waiting to devour them, yet they are to smile and dance. Challenging. Very challenging, I mused !

Everyday newspaper headlines scream of gang rapes, killings, kidnappings of girls and women, those in-charge make statements like – “Keep your girls at home if you want them to be safe.” In a recent molestation bid, the perpetrators have shot a video film and posted online as if to “tease” the women who have undoubtedly been found fuming , and in many cases manipulating the law by making false allegations.

In the midst of such a scenario, through our radio broadcasts, we share the love of Christ and show the way through repentance and forgiveness. We also try to speak to the masses , in love, to love and respect all human beings from the womb to the tomb, with special emphasis on the conditions of girls and women.

Thank you for standing with us and for praying with us.

Vinita Shaw
Managing Trustee



RADIO BROADCASTS TOPICS covered



Our girls were interviewed for our social programsthey had great stories to tell about real life struggles and encouraged girls and women to be strong and stand firm as they journey towards self-reliance

1. Almost got trafficked – a real story
2. Importance of education for girls
3. Why self reliance is important
4. Abused at home
5. Child marriage
6. Consequences of abortion
7. Listeners ask questions
8. Gender equality
9. Domestic violence
10. Indian parents to teach their sons to respect girls from childhood
11. What is marriage

LISTENERS CONNECT

- **Dolly from Aligarh** - I am 15 years old. My mom passed away and my father works in Delhi. My father's brother who is our guardian abuses me sexually. I am scared to tell any one including my grand mother because I have no where to go. If I run away, he will do the same with my younger brother and sister. I cannot tell any one. Even my grand mother.

Our Counselor is encouraging her to share with the women in the family and we have also connected her t o the local women cell in her city where minors are protected

- **Seema** - In our village, it is very common to get little girls married. I was married at the age of 14years. My husband used to beat me and many times added poison in my food. They used to do all magic on me and when I got possessed, and began to behave like a mental person, they threw me out of the house. Then my father came and took me to a religious temple in Hardwar and left me there. I was suicidal and then one day I heard your radio broadcast Disha. I regularly began to listen and speak to your counsellor who told me about Jesus. I began listening to your Christian program , asked for a Bible. I love the songs and messages you play. I receive a lot of peace. Slowly, I began to get better. Now I am in Mumbai and have a job. I am totally fine and worship Jesus now.
- **Shaheen from West Bengal** - I am in grade 10 , am 17 years of age. My parents want to get me married while I do not wish to marry now. They are not listening to me. Please help me. I heard your program on child marriage. I feel like running away from home. Please help me.

Radio listeners



DELHI'S LIFE CENTER STARTS

OFFICE AND LIFE CENTER IN NEW DELHI- INAUGURATION

Disha foundation has opened a Life center in West Delhi from where our Counselors work and listeners data is maintained. We praise God for Kurt and Anne from Life International with their Pastor Friend who visited the Life center and prayed for it and the work of Disha Foundation.



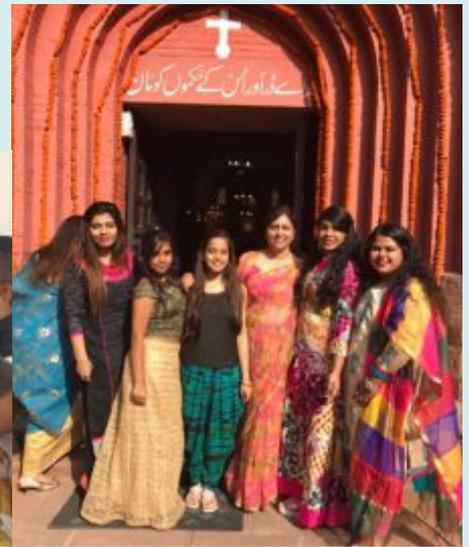
GIRL CHILDREN EDUCATION AND SUPPORT CONTINUES

The grade 9 and 10 girls with the staff were taken to Palampur for a time of picnic and refreshing. Disha Foundation continues to support the education and special coaching of girls at St Michael .



LIFE CONFERENCE

Mrs Vinita Shaw shared about Life in the womb at the teens hang out held at St Thomas church where 80 teenagers from all over Delhi were invited. They had never heard such teachings before



Never heard before the teaching on life in the womb and sexual purity- All eyes and all ears.

WOMEN CONFERENCE

Mrs. Vinita Shaw was invited at the Baptist women conference in New Delhi where she ministered to 150 women leaders.

She spoke on the Lies Cultures teach and women believe vs Truth from the Holy Bible And the influence that women have in their families, society and nation.



SMALL BUSINESS TAKES OFF IN NEW DELHI



Disha foundation has been helping, for the last 4 years economically weak women pick up a skill in life. Now, we have set up a business center for them and provided them with machines so they can take large orders.

THE EXTRA MILE

- lending a helping hand to girls who are no longer in St Michael hostel but are Disha girls.



Toshi was abandoned by her mother as a young child. She and her sister were brought up by a not very responsible driver father who put them in St Michael hostel.

Toshi is one of the girls who secured admission in an English medium school in New Delhi but her heart is in fashion designing. She is very creative and stood first in the tailoring classes that we gave at the hostel while she was there.



Gita is the eldest of the three siblings. Born in a village in Nainital, Uttarakhand, her father used to beat her mother for producing three girls. Finally, with the three girls, he threw the mother out of his house. She came to Delhi and put her daughters in St Michael. She was supported by a man. She raised her three girls. Today, Geeta is supporting her

younger siblings by making hand made cards. Her mother is a mid wife and has to travel for work.



Senior girls filling in forms for financial assistance Roshni, one in the pink, is one of our bright students. She finished 12 grade and got a job in an English speaking call center. She also wants to learn Hindi typing with which we will be assisting her so she can

work in the office of Disha foundation.

Prayer requests

1. Please pray for our counsellors who speak to the listeners
2. Pray for our senior girls whom we are helping to stand on their feet
3. Pray for our radio programs as we try to keep up with the context
4. Pray for the Board, staff and CEO of Disha Foundation

Donations can be made through cheque or DD in favour of Disha Foundation.
All donations are exempt from income tax under section 80G