

NEWSLETTER

BINDASS : BOL

JANUARY-MARCH'25



Anuja Receives an Oscar Nomination!



We are incredibly honored to share that *Anuja* was nominated for the 97th Academy Awards!

A powerful story of resilience, sisterhood, and hope, *Anuja* is a heartfelt tribute to the unbreakable bond between two sisters who dared to dream beyond their circumstances. At its core, the film honours the countless children around the world who face unimaginable challenges every single day. Despite the odds, their strength, courage, and spirit continue to inspire us and remind us that there is always a reason to smile.

We are especially proud to highlight that **Sajda Pathan**, the talented child actor who plays a leading role in *Anuja*, is a child from **Salaam Baalak Trust's DMRC Udaan shelter home**. Sajda previously lived on the streets near Yamuna Bazar, where she came in contact with our outreach worker during a routine visit. Recognizing her vulnerability and potential, she was brought into the safety and care of our shelter home.

Today, Sajda's journey from the streets to the silver screen stands as a powerful testament to what care, opportunity, and belief in a child's potential can achieve.

Mujhe Oscar mein rehna bahut accha laga. Mera yahan se jaane ka bilkul mann nahi kar raha hai. Anuja mere liye bahut acchi rahi aur mera experience bhi bahut accha tha. -Sajda

"Cervical Cancer: Prevention, Early Detection, and Awareness."

Cervical cancer, mainly caused by high-risk HPV strains, is one of the most common cancers in women but is highly preventable through vaccination and regular screening. Risk factors include early sexual activity, multiple partners, smoking, weakened immunity, and lack of Pap smear tests. Since early stages often show no symptoms, timely screening is vital. The HPV vaccine, ideally given between ages 9–14, offers strong protection and can be administered up to age 26 or beyond. Public awareness and education are key, especially in rural areas.

A cervical cancer vaccination camp was successfully held at the Girls' Children Home and daycare centers, vaccinating around 250 girls and safeguarding their health.



"DMRC Udaan Home Inaugurated on Women's Day"

On the occasion of International Women's Day, **Shri Tokhan Sahu**, Minister of State for the Ministry of Housing and Urban Affairs, inaugurated the **DMRC Udaan Home**. This newly constructed home, built by the **Delhi Metro Rail Corporation (DMRC)**, is dedicated to providing a safe and nurturing environment for girls in need.

As part of the celebrations, DMRC also distributed **bicycles and gifts** to the girls residing at Udaan Home, encouraging their education, mobility, and overall well-being.



Empowering Women Through Skill Development

Every woman carries a world of strength within her—whether she's caring for her family, working to support her children, or simply dreaming of a better life. Yet, so many women go unnoticed, their potential held back by circumstances beyond their control. When we take the time to listen, support, and stand beside them, something powerful happens: they begin to believe in themselves. Empowering women isn't just about opportunity; it's about recognizing their worth, their resilience, and their right to thrive.



Salaam Baalak Trust's **Kishalaya Centre** has launched a **skill development initiative** at **Rain Basera near Bangla Sahib Gurudwara**, empowering women with financial independence. With support from the **Rotaract Club**, sewing machines and materials were donated, enabling women to create handcrafted products for sale. The initiative has received an overwhelming response, with many actively participating.

The goal is to connect them with sustainable employment, fostering confidence and long-term success. Community support is key to making this vision a reality.

Together, we can drive lasting change!

HOLI AND IFTAR



Amidst joyous laughter, vibrant colors and delicious food ,we celebrated Holi and Iftar with our exted children.Together,we painted memories of unity and happiness.

REPUBLIC DAY



Salaam Baalak Trust proudly hosted a vibrant and joyous Republic Day celebration, bringing together children, staff, and supporters to honor the spirit of the nation. The event was filled with patriotic

performances, engaging activities, and heartfelt expressions of gratitude for the values of unity and freedom.

Adding to the joy of the occasion, our children made history by participating in a **Guinness World Record** for the largest Indian folk variety dance. The record-breaking performance featured **53 traditional dance forms** and an incredible **5,194 artists**, showcasing India's rich cultural heritage on a grand scale.



Earlier known as Aarushi Children's Home for Girls (CHG), the **Dr. Praveen Nair Home for Girls** is one of Salaam Baalak Trust's main initiatives. It was started in 1999 to provide a safe and caring home for girls rescued from the streets and difficult situations in and around Gurugram. The home has been renamed in honor of **Dr. Praveen Nair**, our Founder Trustee, who dedicated her life to helping children in need. This center continues to support and care for young girls by providing them with shelter, education, healthcare, and emotional support, helping them build a better future.

Annual Alumni Meet: Celebrating Journeys



As part of our yearly tradition, we hosted the **Alumni Meet**, where former beneficiaries of **Salaam Baalak Trust** reunited to share their **journeys, achievements, and experiences**. From pursuing careers to higher education, their inspiring stories reflected resilience and growth.

From Street to Champion: The Journey of Shivalak Raj



Once a homeless child, **Shivalak Raj** defied all odds to become a **karate champion**. Born in **Navtoliya, Bihar**, he lost his mother as a baby and was forced into child labor. Seeking a better life, he traveled to **Delhi**, only to end up living at a railway station, doing odd jobs to survive.

His life changed when **Salaam Baalak Trust** enrolled him in their program. Given shelter, education, and support, he discovered his passion for **karate** in Class 5. With dedication and hard work today Shivalik has won **over 20 national medals** and a **silver at the 2005 Asian Games**.

Today, Shivalak **teaches self-defense** and runs a **martial arts academy**, training students in **karate, kickboxing, and kobudo**. He dreams of **winning gold at the Ultimate Karate League** and opening his own martial arts school.

SPORTS

Street Child Cricket Team Meets Brett Lee!



Our young cricketers had a thrilling day at **Teri Cricket Ground**, thanks to **Creative Travels**, which organized a friendly match filled with fun, great food, and surprises! The highlight? A special visit from **Australian legend Brett Lee**!

Brett Lee interacted with the kids, shared cricketing tips, and inspired them with stories of his journey. It was a day of joy, learning, and unforgettable memories. A huge thanks to **Creative Travels** and Brett Lee for making this day truly special!

Heartfelt Gratitude to Our Generous Donors



In the small lanes of Kalandar Colony, a beautiful moment unfolded this week. A 10-year-old child, who faces both mobility challenges and an intellectual disability, received something that will truly change his world — a wheelchair.

This wasn't just a piece of equipment; it was a gift of freedom, comfort, and dignity. Thanks to the kindness and generosity of **Santlal Ji**, the child can now move around more easily, join in daily activities, and experience life with a little more ease and independence. Moments like these remind us how powerful a simple act of compassion can be.



We were delighted to receive **9 brand new Dell desktops**, along with **keyboards, mikes, and UPS systems**, generously donated by **Walk A Dream team** through their clients at **Creative Travels Pvt. Ltd.**

This contribution will greatly enhance our digital learning initiatives, empowering children with better access to technology. A huge **thank you** to Walk A Dream and Creative Travels for their invaluable support!



We are incredibly grateful to **McCain** for their generous donation of **₹2,50,000 worth of raw materials**, including approximately **4,500 kg of flour, rice, dal, salt, and more**. This support will go a long way in ensuring proper nutrition for the children we serve.

From Adversity to Aspiration: Annu's Inspiring Journey



In 2015, Annu and her younger sister entered the care of Salaam Baalak Trust through a POCSO case. With no parents to support them and their elder brother placed in another Child Care Institution (CCI), their early years were marked by hardship. Yet, Annu's indomitable spirit and passion for life set her on a remarkable path.

Annu exhibited extraordinary dedication from the beginning. She found solace and strength in dance, pouring her heart into every performance. Her brilliance in theatre made her a

natural on stage, captivating audiences with her talent and enthusiasm. With unwavering determination and the support of the Trust, she embraced every opportunity to grow. Her passion for beauty and aesthetics guided her toward a Bachelor's degree in Beauty and Aesthetics at DUSIB. She is now diligently working toward her dream of becoming a professional makeup artist, refining her skills with every step.

Annu's transformation from a vulnerable child to a confident, skilled young woman is inspiring. Her story is a beacon of hope, demonstrating that no matter where one starts, the future is limitless with hard work and passion. The world eagerly awaits the mark Annu will leave as a professional makeup artist.

HURRY UP AND BOOK YOUR SLOT

Our Citywalk and Old Delhi food walk is fascinating and a new experience for all those who book it, Don't miss your turn!

<https://www.salaambalaktrust.com/old-delhi-walk.php>

www.salaambalaktrust.com/

www.salaambalaktrust.com/newsletters.php

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