

bachpan ki

udaaan

Creating a Child-Friendly World

December 2021

*“As the anti-slavery community,
we must together ensure that
this attention is transferred
into concrete action and results.”*

- Kailash Satyarthi

Our **Vision**

To create a child-friendly world where all children have access to their rights and become compassionate, responsible citizens and agents of change.

Our **Mission**

To empower children to realize their full potential and become advocates for rights and social justice, through equitable and participative reform.










Every end has a new beginning!

At the onset of the New Year, we want to thank everyone who supported us in our vision of creating a child-friendly world where all children have access to their rights and can become compassionate, responsible citizens and agents for change.

**BAL ASHRAM TRUST WISHES YOU
AND YOUR FAMILY A VERY HAPPY
NEW YEAR!**



Together we made a difference in 2021!

-  **30000** People were Impacted through Child-Friendly Villages (BMGs)
-  **25000** People were sensitized against child marriage
-  **6300** People were linked with Government Schemes
-  **2350** Sanitary napkins were distributed
-  **1315** Children continued online education through smartphones
-  **1277** Families received free ration kits during the year
-  **360** Children got nutritious mid-day meals everyday in Banjara Communities
-  **74** COVID-19 safety Kits were provided to PHCs, CHCs, Sub health Centres in Alwar & Jaipur districts
-  **45** Girls received skill training

Thank You for your incredible support!

DONATE NOW

प्रिय मित्र
सप्रिय नमस्ते



सबसे पहले आपको और आपके पूरे परिवार को मेरी ओर से Happy new year. इस नए वर्ष में आपकी सारी मनोकामनाएं पूर्ण हों। I hope you are doing well with your family. मैं भी यहाँ कुशलतापूर्वक हूँ।

My B.sc. physical education studies are going well. उम्मीद है कि आपकी भी अच्छे से चल रही होगी।

आपको और आपके पूरे परिवार को प्रणाम और ढेर सारा प्यार।

आपका मित्र,

मन्वू कुमार (बाल आश्रम)।

Dear Friend



I also wish you all a Happy New year I hope all your wishes come true in the new year. I hope you are well with your family. I am also well here. I am doing well in SRM university B.B.A'S studies and you must be studying well.

Greetings and lots of love to you and your family!

your friend
Mo. Chirag Alam (Bal Ashram)

Bal Ashram Updates



Bal Panchayat Elections recently held at the Bal Ashram- Rehabilitation Centre

Let your voice be heard- Vote!

While all of us at Bal Ashram were shivering in the December winter waves in Rajasthan, we were captivated to witness the enthusiasm of children representing different parties at the recent Bal Panchayat (Children's Council) Election held at Bal Ashram. 17 children contested for the elections out of which 12 were selected as members of the children's council. These children campaigned in the Bal Ashram campus, designed and distributed their party pamphlets, and were seen convincing other children to cast their vote for them.

Bal Panchayat is a platform that gives children a unique opportunity to voice out and share their ideas freely. Such initiatives are extremely helpful in boosting children's confidence and further promoting their participation in democratic decision-making. You would be delighted to see some pictures where our co-founders Nobel Laureate Kailash Satyarthi and Smt Sumedha Kailash are encouraging children and chanting child rights slogans with them during the Elections.

To watch more videos and photos click [here](#).



Ravi (name changed) one of the members shared – “My election symbol was a lock, I spoke to all the children to vote for me, it gave me so much confidence as I want to become Prime Minister someday”. Another child Kabir (name changed) said it was my first time as the representative, I enjoyed this process of election, I want to fight against child labour as a minister and this is the first step towards it.”



Nothing can be more stimulating than welcoming a determined and passionate government professional like Ms. Sangeeta Beniwal Chairperson, Rajasthan State Commission for Protection of Child Rights (RSCPCR) for her inspection visit at the Bal Ashram-Rehabilitation Centre. We were privileged to witness her meeting with our co-founders, wherein they discussed new collaborative ideas that can make the Rajasthan state an enabling place for children to thrive and flourish.

“I was so impressed to see the kind of holistic development environment that Bal Ashram has maintained for all the children who were either the survivors of child labour or child abuse. I believe it is a model rehabilitation centre and other centres should replicate the best practices adopted at the Ashram” shared by Ms. Beniwal. We are thankful to her for such an encouraging statement. Click [here](#) to see the glimpses of her visit.

Reopening of the Vocational Training Centre for Women



“We are excited and happy to be back- a voice that keeps echoing at the Balika Ashram, where young girls from nearby banjara communities and villages walk in every morning to their stitching and tailoring classes organized at our Vocational Skill Training Centre. It is invigorating to know that most of the girls who have completed their 6-month-training with us, are now either teaching some of their friends/siblings or have opened a small shop with a tailoring machine to earn and meet their daily financial needs. Currently, 15 girls have been regularly attending the classes.

Radhika from the centre shared” **My sisters and aunts ask me to stitch blouses for them and they pay me back for my work, it feels so empowering.”**

Education and Skill Development of Children at Bal Ashram



82 children received rehabilitation and care at Bal Ashram



61 children received Formal Education while 10 children received Non-Formal Education



7 children were supported by Bal Ashram as part of our Aftercare Facility



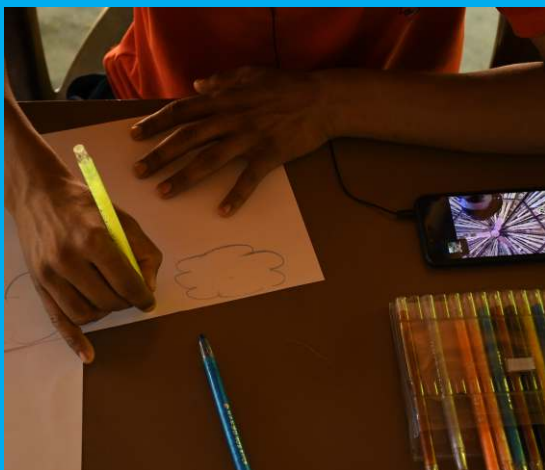
11 children from Bal Ashram received skill training in Stitching & Tailoring, Carpentry, and Electrical Units



Mental Health at Bal Ashram

19 children received mental health counseling from a dedicated team of counselors at the Department of Mental Health and Behavioral Sciences (Fortis Healthcare). The counselors from Fortis and Bal Ashram are using a variety of therapeutic techniques including Cognitive Behavioral Therapy (CBT), Interpersonal Therapy, and Art Therapy to enhance the overall well-being of children at Bal Ashram.

"I do not fight with Akhil (name changed) anymore. We are friends!" Whenever I feel angry, I use the technique didi has asked me to do. It works like magic!! Akash (name changed) from Bal Ashram mentioned to us in his recent conversation with our in-house counselor. It is soothing for us to observe such positive change among children and how they are gradually learning to regulate their emotions and control anger.



M-learning for children at Bal Ashram

Since the beginning when schools moved online amid the pandemic, we at Bal Ashram switched to the online mode of teaching and explored ways to ensure children do not miss out on their regular classes. The partnership between Bal Ashram Trust, BYJU's, and HMD Global has been rewarding in terms of providing constant support to children for continuing their education through online mode.

18 children from grades 9 to 12 continued their online formal education through Nokia smartphones. Children are thrilled to learn from the interactive learning material provided to them that includes, different types of fun puzzles, general knowledge quizzes, and NCERT multiple-choice questions that the children learn in the M-learning classes.

Building Systemic, Sustainable Change in the Communities

Community participation through Community Film Screenings

Movie Marathon Month- As part of our commitment to community development through our Bal Mitra Gram program, we decided to watch together some engaging films around child rights including 'Jhalki' and 'Price of Free' with our community members in Bal Mitra Grams. Community film screening marathon #FilmMahotsav helped ignite conversations, raise awareness in the communities as 7500 adults and children from our 30 #BMGs participated and were sensitized in Rajasthan.

Sharing here a few glimpses of the #FilmMahotsav, click [here](#) to read more.



Meet the young emerging leader from our BMG program

Mid-December was a time where each of us at Bal Ashram Trust reached the highest level of happiness. It was because **Payal Jangid- President of Bal Panchayat (Children's Council)** Hinsla BMG was nominated in the unique '25 under 45 survey' organized by Dainik Bhaskar Rajasthan.

Payal is our young leader from BMG, who fought against her own child marriage and has already been awarded the 'Goalkeepers Global Goals Changemaker Award' by the Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation for her significant contribution in spreading awareness about child marriage in her village. Kudos to her relentless efforts!

To read more click [here](#).

लक्ष्यराज और पायल ने लोगों की सेवा करके दुनिया में रिकॉर्ड कायम किए



महलों के लक्ष्यराज झोपड़ियों तक मदद पहुंचाते हैं

प्रभावी क्यों? लोगों की मदद करने के कारण लक्ष्यराज को 4 बार गिनीज बुक ऑफ वर्ल्ड रिकॉर्ड ने जगह दी। इन्हें 7% वोट मिले। रोटी-कपड़ा-दवा-शिक्षा-पर्यावरण में सक्रिय।

आगे क्या? महाराणा ऑफ मेवाड़ चेरिटेबल फाउंडेशन की विरासत को आगे बढ़ा रहे हैं। लाखों लोग उनके साथ जुड़े हैं। उदयपुर में युवाओं के लिए मौका और मिसाल की तरह हैं।



बड़ों के लिए आदर्श है यह कम उम्र लड़की

प्रभावी क्यों? बाल विवाह के खिलाफ खड़ी हुईं, फिर इसी को उद्देश्य बना लिया। गेट्स फाउंडेशन ने इनको चेंज मेकर खिताब दिया। बदलाव अभी जारी है। 6.5% वोट मिले।

आगे क्या? बेटियों की रोल मॉडल। बेटियों को पढ़ाने और आगे बढ़ाने की सोच रखती हैं। अलवर की इस बेटि ने दुनिया का ध्यान वैसे ही अपनी ओर खींचा है, जैसे मलाला ने।

Visit to our Banjara Education Centres

And that's what we call expressing mixed emotions- there were smiles, laughter, and tears in the eyes of people from Banjara communities from village Bansoor when they met Smt. Sumedha Kailash and Nobel Laureate Shri Kailash Satyarthi after almost 2 years who they fondly call Matai Ji and Bhaisahab.



The pandemic has delayed their physical meeting with the community however the enthusiasm and zeal of the community to meet their leaders were incredible. Women and children from the Banjara community greeted and danced with them on the tunes of their traditional Banjara songs.

A woman from the Majara Rawat shared **“I am so grateful to meet Bhabhi Ji and Bhaisahab Ji today, they have been a constant source of inspiration for all of us in the village. My children today are now enrolled in the Government school only because of their support.”**

Capacity Building Workshops for Teachers from Banjara Education Centres

To strengthen the functioning of our Banjara Education Centres, an intensive two-day teacher training program was organized at the Bal Ashram campus. Our flagship program- Banjara Education Centre has played a pivotal role in creating first-generation learners from Banjara Communities of Rajasthan. To further enhance the capacities of the teachers from these centres, the training was conducted by using an interactive training module that guided them on the importance of child development and enabling child-friendly classrooms for children.



Constitution of Bal Panchayat

After the election of Bal Panchayat held in our 10 BMG got over the last month, the process of the constitution of Bal Panchayat began; recognition from Gram Panchayat is an important step to certify Bal Panchayat as a legitimate institution of villages. We were contented to be a part of the pledging ceremony of Bal Panchayat members in the presence of Head- Gram Panchayat of each village. All the 110 elected Bal Panchayat children received recognition certificates along with guidelines of their roles and responsibilities.



Life at Bal Ashram

7th Anniversary of the Nobel Peace Prize Award and Human Rights Day

Our team and children celebrated the 7th anniversary of the Nobel Peace Prize Award and Human Rights Day

- by writing **slogans on freedom**,
- attending the one-month long **Film Mahotsav** on child rights and
- making beautiful paintings and artwork on the **#HumanRightsDay!**



Christmas Celebration

Christmas brings love and joy and we at Bal Ashram Trust celebrated it with the same fervour! Our children lighted up the entire Bal Ashram campus with a variety of Christmas bells, stars, and garlands. They also exchanged beautiful handmade Christmas cards with each other. We are thankful to our forever Santas Nobel laureate Shri Kailash Satyarthi and Smt. Sumedha Kailash, for gracing the occasion and bringing yet again the biggest smiles on our children's faces. Click [here](#) to know more.



Children's Corner



Best Performer of the Month



RAMKRIPAL TRIPATHI

**BEST PERFORMER OF THE
MONTH**

DECEMBER 2021

Thank you for being the constant
guiding force and for your commitment
towards the betterment of children at
Bal Ashram!





“LIGHT THE SPARK
OF COMPASSION FOR CHILDREN
TO REMOVE THE DARKNESS
OF APATHY, FEAR, AND INTOLERANCE
FROM THE WORLD”

- Smt. Sumedha Kailash, Founder, Bal Ashram Trust

