



NEWSLETTER

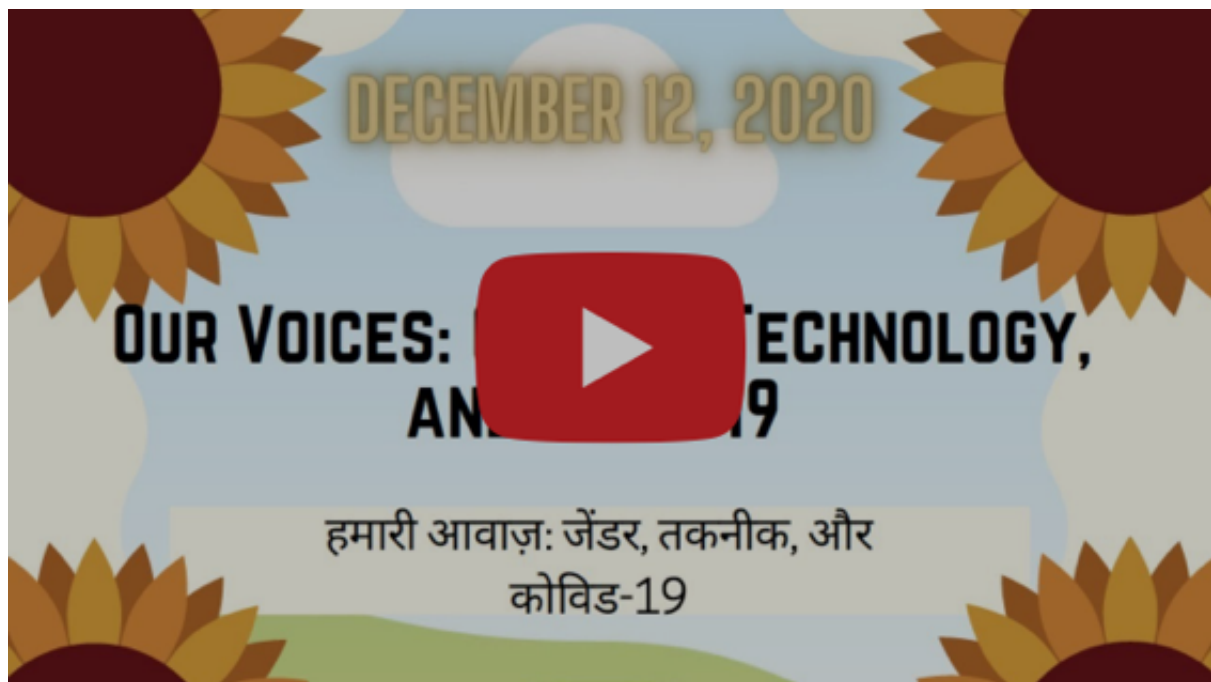
Volume 8. April 2021.

... If we merge mercy with might,
and might with right,
then love becomes our legacy
and change our children's birthright
So let us leave behind a country
better than the one we were left with...
- The Hill We Climb, Amanda Gorman

While tough times still prevail, SwaTaleem is committed to its purpose and cause to further girls' education through a holistic approach. In the past months, we have faced challenges and turned them into opportunities to do better - but

only with YOUR support all along!

Celebrating the success of Interactive Voice Response System (IVRS)



To engage with our Girls despite the COVID-19 induced challenges, we mapped stories on concepts that were Girl-centric and embedded curriculum related key points in them. This was followed by assessment questions which were specifically created and mapped onto six main areas: English, Hindi, Maths, Reproductive Health, Science and socio-emotional skills. Both these were then administered through the IVRS system. **Each week we administer close to 850 calls amounting to 200+ hours of educational sessions. Catch more in our [Dissemination session](#)**

COVID Support for Parents and Girls ...understanding their journeys and stories

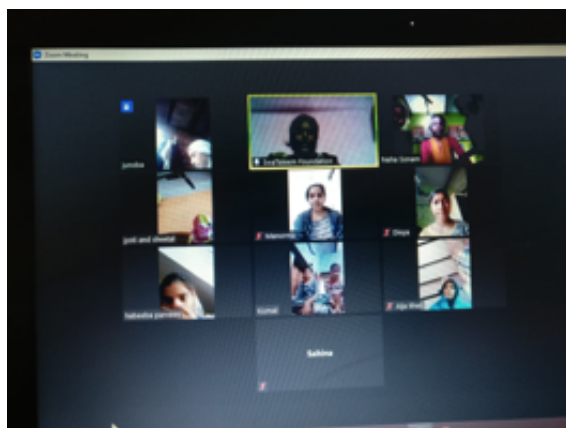
We used digital platforms like Zoom and Google Meet to conduct extracurricular sessions and introduce role models to the Girls.

The overall themes of the '**Masti Ki Paathshala**' program with Girls include Digital Literacy, School subjects like Mathematics, Science, Critical Thinking, Life Skills, Role Model sessions, Career Counseling and Gender.

Our surveys indicate 100% participants felt they made new friends in the sessions and learnt how to use Zoom as a digital platform.

We ran a volunteer driven '**Parent Engagement Program**' and used phone calls to engage with the girls' families on the following fronts:

1. To know more about their context and challenges
2. Engaging parents in their daughter's education
3. Based on their responses customizing elements in our approach in order to better our programs



SwaTaleem Dissemination: Kamla Bhasin on Gender and Constitution



To celebrate Women's Day in 2021, SwaTaleem invited Kamla Bhasin in a much loved open [Webinar](#) to speak on Gender, Constitutional Values and Inequities in Education.

Kamla Bhasin is a feminist social activist who is constantly active on issues like gender equality, education, poverty alleviation, human rights and peace in South Asia.

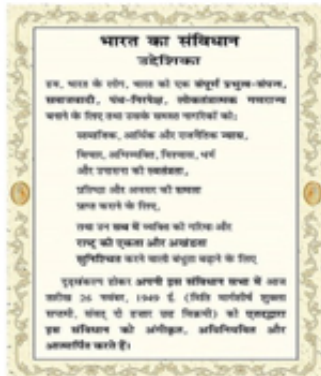
Teacher Professional Development Program takes a new shape!

With COVID-19, SwaTaleem took Teacher capacity building online and created digital sessions on aims of education, language related pedagogy inside classrooms and socio-emotional learning along with digital literacy.



Teacher Professional Development Program

Session-4_ सर्विधान की उद्देशिका व शिक्षा के उद्देश्य -I



Saheli Ki Udaan

Creating Thriving School Communities for Adolescent Girls in India

Dr. Saundra M. Nettles in the SwaTaleem U.S. Board of Directors



We are extremely grateful and excited to announce that [Dr. Saundra Murray Nettles](#) has joined our Board of Directors in the US. Dr. Nettles is a **feminist writer and scholar of environmental psychology and human development**. She

is the author of 'Crazy Visitation', a memoir of life with and without a brain tumor. She has published numerous academic articles and book chapters, and her poetry appears in Double Stitch: Black Women Write about Mothers & Daughters and I Hear a Symphony: African Americans Celebrate Love. Dr. Nettles is also the **co-founder** of the Section on Black Women, Society for the Psychology of Women and 2009 President of the American Psychological Association Division of Population and Environmental Psychology.

We Create Evidence for Change!

Society for Research in Child Development recognizes our work as exemplifying International and Policy Research



April 8, 2021, USA. Our work on 'Child-Marriage, COVID-19 and Education: Investigating socio-cultural challenges and navigating gendered access to technology in India' received a **special designation** at the Biennial Meeting of the Society for Research in Child Development and has been recognized as exemplifying International and Policy Research related to children's development. Catch our work [here](#).

American Educational Research Association hosted us in their Annual Conference



April 10, 2021, USA. Ananya Tiwari, our Co-Founder, gave a talk in the annual conference of the American Educational Research Association on '[Using Participatory Action Research in the Context of Child Marriage in India: Lessons Learned and Challenges](#)' as part of the Gender Equity in Global Perspective unit.

The 2020 SwaTaleem Speaker Series at a Glance

SwaTaleem organized a series of discussions and lectures in 2020 for internal capacity building as well as to initiate deeper discussions in and around Education.

Amal Elassi - Navigating Muslim identities by adolescent girls

Alina Alam - Crowdfunding

Bhaskar and Rama Ramdas - Experiences in Tribal Education

Daya Kori - Well Being of Team Members

Dr. Aravinda Garimella - Learnings from Crowdfunding

Dr. Mona Yadav - Teacher Trainings for KGBV

Dr. RajMohan Gandhi - Dialogue on KGBVs and Gandhian principles in Modern Times

Dr. Sandra Nettles Murray - Necessary spaces for children to learn

Jyothi Ravichandran - SEL in times of COVID 19

Hemang Srikishan - Trauma and Learning

Mehmood Khan - What is Mewat? A Journey through Years

R. N. Syag - Constitutional values

Sandhya Gupta - Bringing Science to Community

Sarah Brotman - Introduction To Evaluation

Tanushree Sarker - Disability and Gender

The 2020 Crowdfunding: Story of Success and Friendships

During the COVID-19 pandemic, we launched our first systematically planned [crowdfunding campaign](#). In two months, we managed to raise INR 20,00,000 with the help of 600+ supporters spread across four continents. We could do this only with the support of our wonderful champions who were the fundraising drivers in their networks. This journey not only brought the cause of girls' education to centerstage but also forged strong friendships along the way. Guided by our philosophy of sharing, we published our [work](#).

You are NEEDED more than ever before in COVID-19!

COVID-19 has affected the landscape for underrepresented Girls in unimaginable ways. **It has not just triggered rural adolescent girls to be pushed out of schools but also massively increased the probability of**

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COVID induced dropping out of school (UNFPA).

Support us to make quality education possible for many such Girls by becoming part of our journey!

Contribute to the [Covid-19 Education Resilience Fund](#)
[for 900 Girls from rural Haryana](#)



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