



swa**taleem**

NEWSLETTER

Volume 10. January 2022.

“If any female feels she needs anything beyond herself to legitimate and validate her existence, she is already giving away her power to be self-defining, her agency”.

– Bell Hooks, *Feminism is for Everybody: Passionate Politics*, 2000

We thank everyone who stood by us during the last year and supported us to persevere and thrive. We begin 2022 with dreams and hopes for working with Girls in Kasturba Gandhi Balika Vidyalayas (KGBVs) across Haryana, India. Our Ed-Tech approach was a major initiative during the pandemic and we shall ensure education for our Girls through a hybrid approach in the future. We

Reopening of Schools and Restarting our Field Work

After the Haryana Government reopened Schools in October 2021, we conducted:

- **In-School sessions with Girls**

A total of 5 In-School sessions, 3 sessions in KGBV Firozpur Jhirka, and 2 sessions in KGBV Punhana on Reading Hour were conducted to discuss the stories based on role models for the Girls. This allows practicing Socio-Emotional Skills and Language-based activities during the process. This process is facilitated by our Field Coordinators who are young women from the community. The discussion follows the content and prompts pertaining to the stories.

- **School Visits**

Conducted 16 visits across 5 Schools in Nuh, Punhana, Jhirka, Tauru, and Nagina to:

1. Collect 3-year enrollment data of Girls to identify dropouts
2. Meet Teachers after getting back on the field
3. Plan in-person cluster sessions for Teachers, Wardens, and Principals in KGBVs
4. Plan the next 3 months of In-School sessions for Girls in KGBVs

- **Teacher Workshops**

Workshops for Teachers in Mewat, Haryana, to share updates and plans. Discussed the aims of the upcoming cluster sessions and how this could be delivered to the remaining Teachers in the upcoming year through In-School sessions. We discussed topics on capacity building, learning pedagogy, Socio-Emotional Learning, and self-management. We also shared English Language Sessions on reading and shared videos with the Teachers to enhance the practice of the language.

OUR KETTER WITH GIRLS

Maintain Continuity In Education

Reduce Learning Gaps

Enhance Well Being

Ensure Long Term Life Outcomes

IVRS PROGRAM

85000 Calls
12 Months

With the calls we've made for Girls, we have facilitated 14000+ hours of learning sessions with 502 Girls and their families.

DIGITAL ENGAGEMENT PROGRAM

All Girls felt they made new friends in the program

All Girls felt they were able to relate the program with their real-life experiences. They shared digital skills sharpened through the program enhanced their comfort and confidence in navigating online learning spaces like Zoom.

PARENTAL ENGAGEMENT PROGRAM

3000+ calls were made to strengthen engagement with parents

Giving comprehensive updates about classes and their Girls guarantees the better engagements of Parents. IVRS stories are reaching the Girls and Parents are engaged in the process of making sure it reaches their daughters.

TEACHERS PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT PROGRAM

90% Teachers were able to implement activities

72% Teachers said that the SwaTaleem training activities complemented the Government-prescribed textbooks. Teachers reported that they overwhelmingly felt heard and supported during SwaTaleem training activities.

- **Virtual Sessions**

Conducted 2 virtual sessions for our Wardens in KGBV Schools on Self-Awareness

In these sessions, we covered the following topics on:

2. How to grow around Self Awareness as a facilitator and practitioner
3. Covered strengths and weaknesses
4. Managing emotions and thoughts
5. Sessions for Girls in hostels

- **Meeting with Government Officials**

On November 9, 2021, our Team met Mr.Shakti Singh, District Commissioner (DC), Nuh, and participated in a meeting on COVID-19 awareness and vaccination in the district which are state priorities affecting the schooling of girls.

On November 10, 2021, we participated in a review meeting with the Department of Education, Nuh, and Dr.Mahavir Singh, Additional Chief Secretary (ACS), School Education, Haryana, to plan further educational work in the district. Our Field and Project Coordinators continue to consistently engage with Teachers, Head Teachers, and District officials.

Google Impact Challenge Fund

In March 2021, we applied to the Google.org Impact Challenge for Women and Girls, an open call to organizations working on projects that create better opportunities for women and girls globally. We are grateful to share that SwaTaleem Foundation was selected alongside 33 incredible organizations globally from a pool of 7,800 applications to receive funding and additional support by [Google.org.g.co/womenandgirlschallenge](https://www.google.org/g.co/womenandgirlschallenge)

This is a testimony to the faith, support, and trust that you have shown in SwaTaleem's vision and approach to efforts with communities of Girls. This grant will propel us to scale our efforts and engage with 5000 Girls, families, and their Schools over the next 2 years.

[Global Release](#)

[Google President Statement](#)



Proud and humbled to announce that SwaTaleem is among 34 incredible organizations globally selected to receive funding and other support from the #GoogleOrgImpactChallenge for Women and Girls. Together, we can create opportunities for women and girls everywhere.



SWATALEEM USA CORPORATION gets 501(c)(3) status

SwaTaleem has been a registered Section 8 Non-Profit Company in India with 12A and 80G status. We are elated to share with our supporters that now, we are also an incorporated US entity and a 501(c)(3) non-profit in the USA. As a tax-exempt organization in the US, our donors will be able to claim tax benefits.

Donations became easier! Benevity-Techsoup

We are now registered and visible on [Benevity](#) and [Techsoup](#) by the name SWATALEEM USA CORPORATION! In November 2021, we started our

from companies across the globe.



Google Ad Grant

SwaTaleem has also been chosen as part of 5 organizations globally for the Google Ad Grant from a Google specialist. [Google Ad Grant](#) will enable SwaTaleem to share its cause and efforts with the world through campaigns on Google Search.



Centre for Global Studies Lecture - 2021

On October 11, 2021, SwaTaleem delivered an invited talk on “Resilience in the Times of COVID-19: SwaTaleem’s Experience with Rural Adolescent Girls”, at the Centre for Global Studies, the University of Illinois, Urbana Champaign. As part of the Global Intersections Project grant our Girls and Teachers spoke

members Ananya, Arzoo, Manorma, and Vaibhav, 3 Girls Divya, Habeeba, and Neha, and 1 Warden Dipti were part of the talk to highlight the Girls and other stakeholders resilient response to this crisis.



Center for Global Studies 
AT THE UNIVERSITY OF ILLINOIS AT URBANA-CHAMPAIGN

RESILIENCE IN THE TIMES OF COVID-19: SWATALEEM'S EXPERIENCE WITH RURAL ADOLESCENT GIRLS

DATE: OCTOBER 11, 2021
TIME : 9-10AM (CST)
Zoom Webinar (Registration Required):_
[https://illinois.zoom.us/webinar/register/WN_uuVGbKsQSNOSI_b6wn7uy4g](https://illinois.zoom.us/join/91174940406)



Divya
10th grade student



Habeeba
10th grade student



Vaibhav
COO at SwaTaleem Foundation



Arzoo
Program Lead at SwaTaleem Foundation



Dipti
Warden School- KGBV Nuh-uh, Mewat

An estimated 10 million girls in India may not return to school when they reopen after the second wave of COVID-19 earlier this year. Furthermore, there will be an increase of more than 30 million child brides in the next decade globally, due to COVID-19 (UNESCO, 2020). Girls aged 12-17 are at particular risk of dropping out of school (India Education Diary, 2021). In this seminar we will speak directly with girls from rural India and their teachers to understand how COVID-19 affected India, and in particular, girls' education which has been at the forefront in the Global South. We will also speak with grassroots team members and co-founder of the non-profit SwaTaleem to understand how girls and other stakeholders responded at this time. This event is part of the Global Intersections project series.

Co-sponsored by Women & Gender in Global Perspectives Program

The Center for Global Studies is a National Resource Center funded through United States Department of Education Title VI grants.

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2021

We launched our annual Crowdfunding 2021 to focus on Improving Digital Access for our Girls and other stakeholders in KGBVs. Girls, Teachers, and Schools continue to struggle with access to technology which continues to remain a hurdle in furthering their education. Given this reality, it is crucial that we expand digital access for them. We want to continue this relationship of trust, empathy, and excellence with you as supporters, as we expand our diverse set of programs to Teachers, Parents, and 5000 Girls in 2022. Your contribution can make that happen.

We also want to highlight that it was your contribution in 2020 that was the backbone of the IVRS pilot which went on to become one of the most significant parts of our upcoming projects and its expansions to other KGBVs.

The link for donation is [here](#)

Additionally, the Milaap platform will charge 0 fees for this campaign and match all donations above ₹1500/\$ 20 with a 5% matching donation by a Partner, on using the specific link above.

DIGITAL ACCESS CAMPAIGN 2021

" Schoolwork is sent to us on Whatsapp, but the only phone in our home is with my elder brother. Since he has board exams, he has to use the phone and I have to reduce my time on schoolwork and studies"

- Dua, 9th, KGBV Nuh

#GirlsGoDigital

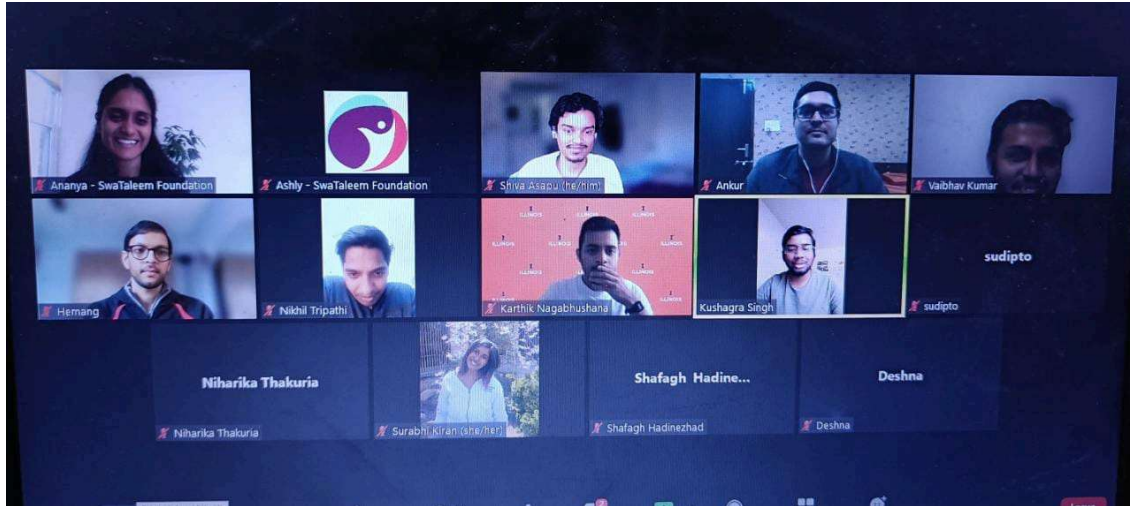


YOUTH KI AWAAZ
ACTION
NETWORK

When Champions are the reason to flourish!

Crowdfunding Champions Call

commitment, and loyalty to the cause. In November 2021, we started with an Orientation call with our Champions. We continue the calls every fortnight to discuss the ongoing campaign strategies, challenges, and action points from their perspective.



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