

NEWS IN FOCUS

Divine Onkar Mission

HOW YOU CAN HELP THE VICTIMS OF THE PAKISTAN FLOODS



OUR CHAIRMAN TURNS 90!

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DISASTER RELIEF

Pakistan Flood Relief



After seeing the news and social media stories of the devastation caused by the floods in Pakistan, staff, members, and volunteers at Divine Onkar Mission decided that we needed to provide help.

Mr. Peter Mann, one of our members, got in touch with Mr. Rashid Nazir. Mr. Nazir has a reputation for compassionate, humanitarian philanthropy; he works independent of other NGO's and ensures his proceeds go directly to charitable causes.

Mr. Tersam Lal, the founder of Divine Onkar Mission, initiated proceedings to adopt one of the areas hit by the flood called Balochistan. This area had been almost completely flattened by the flood, there were no homes or facilities and it had virtually become inaccessible by road.

Our first consignment was a truck-load of food for villagers who did not have basic food supplies. Once the food had been distributed, our team on the ground were able to assess the extent of the damage and found that it was worse than we had originally believed. While this was not the most affluent community, the locals there were kind, hardworking, and decent people, who were not prepared for such a disaster. We have decided that we would like to continue to help them, so we are planning to provide the means to help rebuild their homes.

We have maintained regular contact with Mr. Nazir and are receiving regular updates about the progress being made. Though, as a charity we are struggling with funding to support aid work of this nature, and so we would greatly appreciate any support given. If you would like to help you can donate on our JustGiving page.



Divine Onkar Mission OUR DUTY TO MANKIND

INDIA EVENTS

Eye Camp held at the Sampurn Maa Satbahini Temple

In January, we organised a free eye camp at the Sampurn Maa Satbahini Temple which sits on the border of Bihar and Jharkhand. With the participation of Dr. Iftekhar Alam, Parshotam Mohanta and Birsu Munda, who were able to examine

and identify a number of people who had treatable cataracts. Patients who required a cataract operation were given an appointment at Divine Onkar Mission Eye Hospital in Ramgarh, Jharkhand.



Donating to the Homeless

The Divine Onkar Mission team in India welcomed in the year 2022, by going out to help those most in need. The team consisted of: Mr. Jasbir Bedi and his team, Divine Onkar Mission staff and resident children. Mr. Bedi, who was mentioned in our previous newsletter and was a great source of support during Covid, generously donated blankets. They were distributed at Barkakana Railway Station, Ranchi Road Railway Station and Bus Stand to the homeless people taking shelter there.

This was a good experience for our young people, who will learn about seva and community care, both of which are principles prescribed by our charity.

Donation of a wheelchair for young girl

Mansi Topo, a young girl from Barkakhana, Ramgarh became seriously ill during the pandemic. She experienced migraines, high fevers, sickness, and began to lose sensation

in her legs, until she completely lost the ability to walk.

Divine Onkar Mission heard about her unfortunate circumstances and provided a wheelchair and clothing for her. She is now on a waiting list and will be seen by a neurological surgeon. We have funded all her medical bills and provided additional support to the family.



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INDIA EVENTS

Destitute Elders

We have two new residents at our Onkar Old Age home in Palu, Ranchi, who came to us under unfortunate circumstances.

The first is seventy-four-year-old Prem Shankar Prasad, a resident of Ranchi Namkum. He was thrown out of his home due to an estrangement in his family and had nowhere to go.

The other resident was a confused and disoriented woman who was brought to us at the beginning of the year.

She was wandering near the Ormanjhi police station for two days, until the police finally brought her to our Old Age Home. She still has not been able to provide us with any details about her life or even her name.

Both elders are now safe and secure with the Onkar Old Age home.



Student Success

The students of Divine Onkar Mission High School have performed brilliantly in the Jharkhand Board Academic Council's Tenth examination of the season 2021-22.

Out of a total of 153 children, 129 children secured first position. 21 children secured the second position.

Neha Kumari topped the school with 93.4% marks. In second position, Anuj Modi secured 90% marks, followed by Pooja Kumari in third with 88%. Vivekananda was in fourth place with 88%. Tanuja Kumari and Jitendra Kumar both took 5th position with 88%.

Neha was an all-rounder and achieved 100 marks in Mathematics. Anuj Modi stood second in science with 97 marks, while Tanuja got 88 marks in English.

Congratulations all round to students and staff for this outstanding achievement.

Mobile Devices Given to Students

In comparison to the UK, India has faced several lockdowns at various times during the pandemic. These disruptions impacted the education of children across the country.

Courtesy of Dainik Jagran newspaper, mobile phones were distributed among the children of Divine Onkar Mission, to ensure our children were able to continue online classes and have access to resources.

Many thanks to all those at Dainik Jagran Newspaper who contributed to this generous gift and the Ramgarh Superintendent of Police, Shri Prabhat Kumar who distributed the phones.



Divine Onkar Mission OUR DUTY TO MANKIND

STRUCTURAL & ORGANISATIONAL DEVELOPMENTS



Punjab Project

Last year we shared our plans to initiate a project in Punjab, India and we are now able to provide more details and updates about this project.

Mr. Surjit Singh Randhawa was kind enough to donate a piece of his land in memory of his wife, Mrs. Sukhwinder Kaur, who passed away due to cancer. We had been looking to start a project in Punjab and this heartfelt gift provided us with this opportunity.

A planning team has been created to build an old age home for elderly people who do not have the means to support themselves. Our regular supporters Mr. Kulwant Singh Gora and Mr. Ram Lubhaya Suglani will be part of the planning team.

We are currently seeking permission from the Central Government for this project. In the meantime, we have completed the sewage system along with the electricity supply.



A new project begins for disabled children

We have started a new project in Palu, Jharkhand for poor, disabled children. This new establishment will be at the same site as our old age home. Currently, we have seven children at this new project.

All these children have severe disabilities and come from poor, low-income homes. They have had very little education, and in some cases, none at all. This has caused them to fall behind and be forgotten. We have offered them a place, where they will be treated equally and have their individual needs met.



Front Row-left to right: Aarav Munda, Vishal Bediya, Ankush Munda, Khushbu Kumari

Back Row-left to right: Ranjeet Bediya, Sonu Kumar, Pinki Kumari



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UK EVENTS

Donating to Community Shelter Project

We were contacted by a local group called the Community Shelter Project in Wolverhampton. They are a local organisation who help support rough sleepers. They were looking for some warm coats, which we were more than happy to provide.

We have supported different organisations here and overseas. This is a good way for us to network and build connections with other charities and organisations in the local area, as we are all working towards a common cause.



Neil & Pauline are back on the road!

Long-time supporters, Neil Hudson and Pauline Sayhi have returned to the festival circuit to help raise funds for the charity. They take the extra stock of loose fabrics we have in the warehouse and sell it at various festivals, with the proceeds going to the charity.

After taking a long break due to Covid lockdowns and the loss of loved ones, it has been quite a journey for them to reach this stage. We thank them for their dedication, continued support and hard work. We could not function as a charity without all our hard-working volunteers, those who are kind enough to donate their time and energy.



Donation to the Parent and Carer Support Group

In September, we donated to a local group called the Parent and Carer Support Group Walsall, Wolverhampton and Surrounding Areas. They are a non-profit constituted voluntary organisation. We were met by their Vice Chair, Mrs. Julieth Abrahams, who was kind enough to do a short video for us on facebook. Some of the items we donated were: toiletries, nappies and food. These items will be distributed to the parents, guardians and carers who look after children with additional needs.



What we did for the Ukraine Relief Effort

We collaborated with Kidderminster College to gather and provide essentials items. We then identified places in the local area, which would take the donations we had collected; The Association of Ukrainians in Great Britain is situated in Wolverhampton, and they were



thank the students and staff at Kidderminster College for their donations and Print Dot Printers in Wolverhampton for the signage for the relief effort.

more than happy to take our donations.

We would like to



Divine Onkar Mission OUR DUTY TO MANKIND

UK EVENTS

Our chairman turned 90!

To celebrate the 90th birthday of the Chairman Mr. Tersam Lal, Divine Onkar Mission organised a surprise party for him!

In attendance were friends, family, Divine Onkar Mission members, patrons, trustees, and honoured guests like: MP Pat McFadden and

Rajinder Mann OBE DL. Food was organised by staff along with two birthday cakes! One was made by Trustee, Mrs. Kumlaish Kumari, and the other brought by Mr. Peter Mann. Staff, trustees and members shared how Mr. Lal has touched their lives in such a profound way.

In honour of the day, a special donation was made by Mr. Surjit Singh Randhawa, which is another acre of his land towards the Punjab project. While Mr. Suglani announced he is aspiring to raise £100,000 for the next dinner and dance fundraiser!

Thank you to all who attended, you all made the event very special.



Fundraiser produces our biggest amount

In 2020 we were unable to host our annual fundraiser due to Covid, however last year we returned with a bang; we raised an amazing £78,286! This would not have been possible without your help and generosity. Thank you to all those who donated and attended this exceptional event. We would also like to give special thanks to the Prestige Suite for your continued partnership and for creating a wonderful evening.



Founder's Message

I would like to thank everyone for sending donations to the charity and to Mr. Surjit Randhawa for donating more land to the Punjab project. Seeing how well our elders are doing at the old age home in Palu, I have no doubt that this new old age home will be just as vital and will create a haven for many in their sunset years.

I would like to take this opportunity to thank everyone who made my birthday celebration possible. I was very shocked and had not been expecting such a wonderful surprise. It was lovely to see so many dear friends; it meant a great deal to me. It humbles me and I recognise how lucky I am to have such wonderful people in my life, many of whom have been by my side through this journey called life.

I don't know why God chose me for this purpose but it has been the most difficult and gratifying experiences of my life and I would not change it. I am a conduit of God's grace; I am only his humble servant. I hope you are all able to help and serve those less fortunate in your own way.

God bless you all,

Mr Tersam Lal

Founder & Chairman



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HOW YOU CAN HELP ?

To help the charity save money on postage can donors and patrons please provide your email address

If you would like to help with any of our projects please complete the form below and send it to:
Divine Onkar Mission, Drayton Street, Off Dudley Road, Wolverhampton, WV2 4EA. Telephone: 01902 453 453 Freephone: 0800 316 9453, Fax: 01902 459 911 Warehouse Telephone: 01902 456 444

☐ Yes, I would like to support the Divine Onkar Mission. I have enclosed a cheque/cash

- | | |
|------------------------------------|--|
| Education Sponsorship | ☐ £.....Monthly |
| Implant Cataract | ☐ £50 |
| Operation Medical Camp | ☐ £1000 |
| Daily Langar | ☐ £175 |
| Water Well | ☐ £650 |
| Build Homes for the Homeless | ☐ £2000 |
| Classroom Construction | ☐ £2500 |
| Leprosy Treatment for one | ☐ £150 |
| Treatment & Education for disabled | ☐ £.....Monthly |



☐ Yes, I would like to make a regular gift to Divine Onkar Mission, Please check the standing order details below:

Name
Address
..... Postcode
Email Telephone

To Manager Bank/Building Society
Address
..... Postcode

Name(s) of account holder
Account No Sort Code
Beginning dateevery month thereafter until further notice
For the credit of Divine Onkar Mission, Barclays Bank PLC, Wolverhampton,

Sort Code: 20-97-78 Account Number: 10097985

Signature.....Date.....

For bank use only. Please quote this reference number.....

☐ Please tick if you are a tax payer

I wish for DOM to regard my donation as a gift aid donation and be able to reclaim

CONTACT US

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