



GURPREM

Accomplishments since 1990

Artificial Limbs – 3298	Cataract Operations – 1273	Repairing of limbs – 596	Orphan marriages – 38
Hearing aids – 144	Tricycles – 127	Wheel Chairs – 95	Orthopaedic shoes – 77
Polio calipers – 411	Crutches – 1200	Sewing Machines – 163	Railway Concession Certificates – 102

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June 2010

FROM THE PRESIDENT'S DESK

In the beginning of year 2010, we identified more than 110 poor victims near Indo-Pak border line in remote villages of Kashmir mountains and had organized a camp in Poonch to provide these people artificial legs. During this camp, we also came across several children and women, who had lost their arms due to earthquakes, mine blasts and militancy. We wanted to make sure that every body should go back to their home fully satisfied with an excellent quality and performance of artificial limb provided to them. This is a highly skilled job and tedious process to provide artificial tailor made arm, through which beneficiary can do some functioning as well like shaking hand, drinking water, lifting light weights...etc.

In order to bring a smile on the faces of these victims, we organized another camp in Delhi during last months. We took these people from Poonch to Jammu by road. Many of these people had never been out of their mountains and had a great desire to see train. So we took all these people by train from Jammu to Delhi, where-in we organized boarding and lodging for these people and provided them artificial arms.

In this newsletter, I am taking you through some highlights of this camp in Delhi.

Thank you, Prof. Jagbir Singh Sudan

Traditional artificial limbs, used earlier in Poonch



Abdul Saleem was one of several physically challenged people for whom we took measurements and provided them working limb as well as enough practice. Our women's wing also provided them several clothes for family as well as financial support to re-establish themselves.



During last twenty years, Pritam Spiritual Trust has helped more than three thousand two hundred physically challenged people. During this continuous journey of more than 20 years, Jagbir ji's efforts have been appreciated by several senior dignitaries and our Trust has been honoured several times. Few major awards have been as listed here:

- Recipient of Chief Of Army Staff Commendation 1997
- Recipient of REAL HEROS award from CNN-IBN 2009
- Recipient of J&K Govt. State award 1999
- Recipient of Director Rehabilitation, Govt. Of India Commendation 2000
- Recipient of Bhagwan Mahavir Viklang Sahayata Samiti (Jaipur Foot), Silver Salver 2000

Trust's activities have also been appreciated by

- Former Prime Minister, Shri Atal Bihari Vajpayee
- Union Minister of Social Justice and Empowerment, Dr.Satya Narain Jatiya
- Former Chief Minister of Punjab, Captain Arminder Singh

Krishna kant was another physically challenged person. He had lost his arm during last earthquake in Kashmir and he told us that he had lost all hopes. He had almost reconciled with fact that now he can never look like a normal human being with two arms. This unfortunate incident had given him such a sever shock that he had lost trust in fellow human beings. When he saw our Trust people going out of their way to understand his concerns and doctor taking precise measurements, he had tears in his eyes. Next day when we showed him the mould for his amputated arm and he could realize that sincere efforts were being put in for perfect fit, he started smiling and said this camp is not only providing him an arm but most importantly he got feelings of belongingness. In his own words, even in his family no one has ever spared so much time and efforts to understand his concerns, work towards a solution and help him to live a normal life.



During evenings we used to organize small get-together with them. These people used to sing several songs in their own Kashmiri language and share their experiences. Our elderly Abdul Saleem played a very important role to bind all together as a family. He used to act like a father with every other physically challenged person. Many times he listened to their concerns and from his personal experiences, he used to share with them what all mistakes he made in his life and learnt different lessons. So it was just not a preaching session but always a mentoring and coaching session without any professional qualifications behind. These physically challenged people made me also learn many simple things in life through their life time experiences.



Our women wing was also very active during this camp. On their arrival in Delhi, every physically challenged person was provided with warm welcome and a bog full of items for their day-to-day use like towels, toiletries...etc. During their stay, all meals were organized with some snacks and small get-to-gether in the evening. On concluding day members of the women wing handed over clothes, blankets, few gifts and some financial support to every physically challenged person. We took these people to several tourist places in Delhi including places of worship of each religion. At the time of their final departure from Delhi, they were coming and hugging us again and again. One old lady was so much empowered with her emotions that he called me, hugged and said may God shower as many blessing on you as are number of hair in my head.

Excerpt From STATE TIMES of Jammu and Kashmir, INDIA : A fifty year old lady of Pakistan Occupied Kashmir (POK) who was on a visit to Poonch and who had lost both her legs in two different blasts in 2001 and 2005 was provided with two artificial limbs by Pritam Spiritual Foundation Poonch. The lucky lady Begum Jan wife of Mohammad Fareed of District Bagh POK who otherwise would have to pass a miserable life in POK was given a new lease of life by Pritam Spiritual Foundation which is doing a yeoman's service in rehabilitating IED/Blast victims. A new pair of legs and orthopaedic shoes provided to her has changed the life of the lady. Begum Jan had all praise for the hospitality and human touch shown by the people of India and said that she will contribute to the building of trust and peace between the two countries.

This newsletter is a forum for all of us to come together and keep in touch. GURPREM will bring us closer. Contact us:

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