

# KARM MARG

## QUARTERLY NEWSLETTER

### JANUARY-MARCH 2021



## THE LEADING LIGHT - BHARAT

**Bharat** was 3 yrs old when Karm Marg family welcomed him with two other siblings in 2003. He started his formal schooling by the next year. But from the very instance, it was evident that his interest did not lie in the bracket of classrooms.

We counselled him through various sources to create his interest in academics but it didn't work. Slowly as he grew up, he started taking interest in cooking. Most of the times, we would find him in the kitchen area helping cook and then we decided to embrace this skill of him. Payal Dass, one of the alumni of KM and head of bakery unit at The JugmugThela Cafe was approached to teach basic bakery to KM children. She volunteered in a blink of eye. And then magic happened, we started understanding that Bharat's passion was in baking. Through our contacts, he got an opportunity to improvise his skills in baking at a renowned Delhi based bakery "Brown Bakery" in Pahadganj. He has been enhancing his abilities for 3 months and we have had the privilege of tasting some delicious coconut cookies sent by them. We are so jovial and proud to see him going out in the real world and fulfilling his dreams.





## KARM MARG TURNED 24

On 7th February 2021, Karm Marg completed 24 glorious and successful years, but due to Pandemic it was difficult to invite our loved ones to celebrate it with the children. So we decided to celebrate it virtually through a zoom meeting and it was so much fun.

It's been a year anyone visited and spent time with children, so seeing their well-wishers online, made them so happy and thrilled. They spoke with all of them for almost three hours. To celebrate this joyous day they performed a dance show and theatre which everyone connected through zoom enjoyed.



One of the best buddies of KM children and supporter, Tanushree Singh, organized a food stall with some delicious delicacies like Golgappa, Jalebi, Pavbhaji and Noodles for the children and it was the one of the best part of the celebration. All the children and team members cherished it thoroughly.

## GRATITUDE

**Tanushree Singh**, one of best buddies of the children, a story teller, writer and always a big supporter of KM arranged new sweaters, trousers, steels tea-mugs, bed sheets, towels and story books for all the children.



She used to organize a children carnival every year but due to pandemic, it was impossible this time, so she arranged a carnival at KM and gave these gifts to all the children. Tanu, we all love you so much. <<https://www.facebook.com/tanu1975>>





**Blue Mango trust** sent a surprise gift for all the children. Personalized soft toys with handmade cotton mask for each one of them. All the children loved the surprise and were very grateful to have received these beautiful toys.  
<<https://www.facebook.com/bluemangotrust>>

**Tehmina**, we are so thankful for your kind donation. New bed sheets, cushions and pillows with lots of cut pieces of fabric were received.



**The Brown Bread Bakery** sent us cakes and cookies on the occasion of New Year and they were so delicious that it left the children wanting more.<https://www.facebook.com/brownbreadbakery>



**Due to your support and love we have managed to benefit 58 beneficiaries**

Here are the beneficiaries of the quarter -

Children under permanent care:	34
Children under Short stay program:	07
Youth under after care program:	07
Children rehabilitated back to Family:	02
Children who are getting educational help:	04

**We are grateful to The Mukti Foundation Atul Bhatt, KajalNarsimha, Ravi Shankar Kaushik, Rajiv Bhatia, GirishNarang, Art Reach Trust, Kunel Gaur, Rajiv Lal, BrindaTejeshwar Singh, NeetuKumari, Sir SobhaSingh Public Charitable Trust and MahimaChutani for supporting the cause and helping KM to continue the work.**

## HIGHLIGHTS OF THIS QUARTER

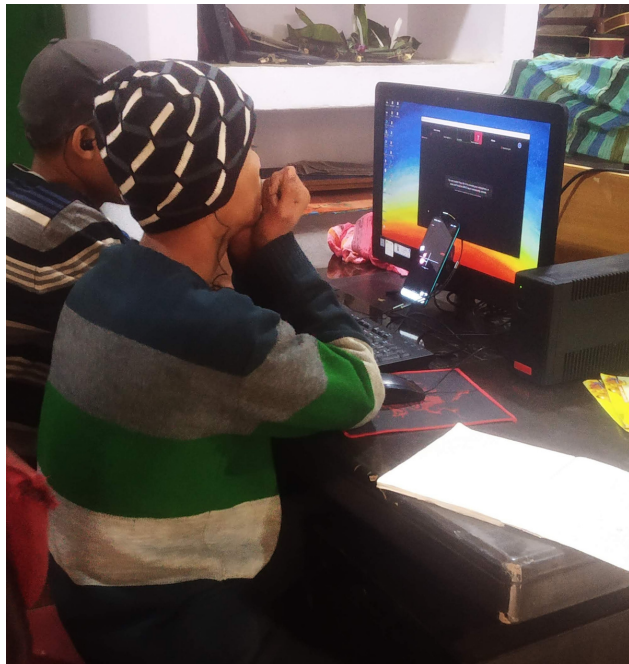
It was fun-filled despite the grim outlook of the pandemic. The children still had to attend school from home, and even though they are trying their best, it is becoming gradually difficult for them to maintain attention and interest.

In times like these, is when our Karm Marg team members step up and spare no efforts to keep the spirits high. We decided to engage the children in multiple programs and workshops. Each of those has been very engaging and challenging for our students in different ways while being fun-filled. We celebrated a few festivals such as Holi and Republic Day with joy and excitement. We also had a little excursion for the children while taking care of all safety measures and maintaining all precautions.

## MAJOR CONDUCTS

- An escape to nature at pandemic time -Tanu Shree organized a 5 days excursion in the mountains for 22 children & staff. She runs a beautiful home stay by the name of "The Forest Edge" in Trithan valley, Himachal Pradesh. The trip was full of adventure, exploring and learning so many new things about nature. Biggest highlight for the children was to see the snow for first time in their life!! They had blast there. Apart from this, children participated in "Clean the Valley Drive" where they picked the plastic waste in surrounding areas and converted them into useful products. They organized a community library as well.

<https://www.facebook.com/theforestedgetirthan>



- **Pi-Cycle Online Camp** - Aavishkaarorganization organized an online winter camp called Pi-Cycle. It was a 5 days long workshop which commenced on 04th January 2021. Sidharth and Abhishek from KM participated in this workshop and got the opportunity to interact with children from other NGOs. The aim was to make Maths, more accessible and understandable. They learned and focused on understanding the fraction numbers, visualization of numbers, learnt about different patterns and tried to engage them mathematically. They also made the students solve a lot of math's based puzzles. Their basic concepts have become stronger and this is helping them in solving complex problems more easily.

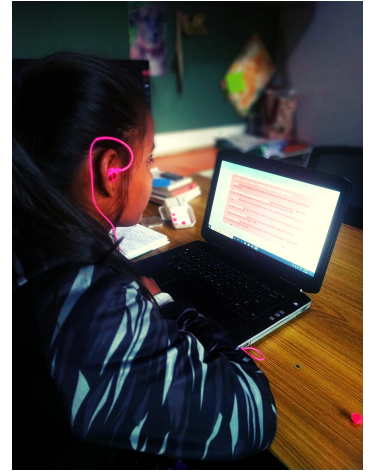
<<https://www.facebook.com/AavishkaarPalampur>>

- **EMpowerLeader Lab** - Rani participated in 3-months long virtual training program organized by EMpower India called EMpower Leader Lab Introductory. She was among the 25 other female participants from different NGO. This training program was specifically designed for girls to gain first-hand experience of participatory action research. It was a blended learning program, mixing online master classes with on-the ground research. The training offers experience-based and collaborative learning where they will also reach out to adolescent girls in their communities to identify:

- What are the barriers that adolescent girls are currently facing as a consequence of COVID19?
- What actionable recommendations do they have to address these barriers?
- What advice do they have for policy makers / practitioners who are working to build inclusive cities?



She was asked to show a visual representation of how she interviewed them and she chose to do so by drawing. She made a beautiful sketch and showed it to them. She was also a part of data analysis lab participated in activities where they analyzed the forms of each and every girl one by one.



It is so important for our members to keep involving themselves in activities which broaden their horizons and help them teach the students and their peers same.  
<<https://www.facebook.com/empowerweb>.>

**Art Reach Fellowship** - Art Reach India program Teaching fellowship which starts in Nov 20 is in full swing. 12 Children are part of this workshop. Lokesh Khodke a teaching fellow making them understands how to sketch and write short story.



They are exploring how to convert an empty matchbox in to story book. Most of their story based on surrounding KM and children interaction with nature, their pets and other bird animal live in KM. Children are enjoying this creative outlet that has been given to them and are making complete and thorough use of it. Apart from this other medium also used for story telling like leaves and water color.

These classes have become a release for our students and are quite therapeutic for them. They said that the programme has helped them with their creative writing skills and creative thinking skills.  
<<https://www.facebook.com/artreachindia>>



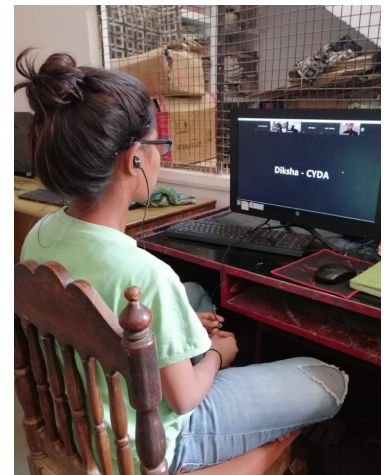
• **INVOLVE Program** - A learning solutions foundation that believes that by giving some ownership of learning to students themselves, by building voice, choice and skills in them, it can solve the lack of student preparedness for the future and the excessive dependence of the learning system on teachers. The Involve programme is based on peer to peer learning and focuses on students teaching students. Our student leaders, Sidharth, Abhishek and Nargish received 5 days of training which started on 18th February.



In this learning they learnt how to teach and interact with the learners and how to better handle situations that could go on in a classroom. They were also taught some tips and tricks on how to make the class interesting and really get all the benefits of being a student leader. After they had completed their own training they taught four juniors each. In this way, they were more prepared with the topics, more confident and better prepared with the subjects.<<https://involveedu.com/>>

• **Gender–Stem Fellowship** - Pooja, Rani and Jyoti participated in this fellowship programme. This program is funded by Empower and lead by FAT(Feminist Approach to Technology).

This workshop focused on developing high level cognitive and non-cognitive/ transferable skill such as scientific thinking, problem solving and critical thinking which can be used across a range of occupational fields. Training and exposure was given towards non-traditional jobs for young women and adolescent girls. It started in March 21 and will continue for a year.



Girls found this workshop very interesting and engaging as they got chance to tell their stories and talk about their dilemmas which made them more confident. They are looking forward to the next workshop.

<https://www.facebook.com/fatindia/?ti=as>



## HEALTH AND HYGIENE

keeping children safe at pandemic time – to keep children safe from Covid-19, we are taking all the precaution and following all the measurement. In March COVID case start rising again in India.

A Covid test camp was done at KM campus and it's organized by primary health center. All the children and staff members went through the Covid tests. We have been working hard to keep everyone safe and everything sanitized. Our work had paid off as once again all the reports came negative and everyone was completely safe.



Though health and wellness has always been priority at KM but now more than ever we are making sure that each and every child and all the team member is at their best health.

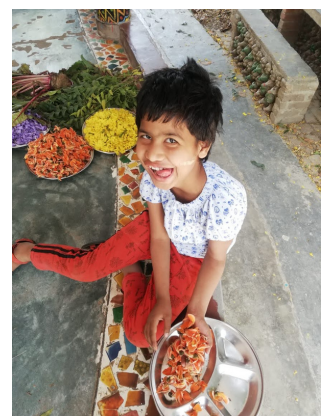
## ACCOMPLISHMENTS

- Kajal, who has been trained under the Art Reach Programme for a year now, was happy and proud of herself when her paintings were sold in an exhibit. She has been an inspiration for other children and young adults to follow their passions and try their best to excel at them.
- School results were announced on 27th March for class 1st to 3rd for ShriShirdiSai Baba School. All the 9 students from KM received good scores and Lali, one of them, stood first in her class. We are very happy with the progress our students have been making and it makes us happier to see how glad they are with themselves. The examination was held online, being the schools closed.

## THE FESTIVITIES

Republic Day was celebrated in KM on 26th January. Flag hosting was done while singing the national anthem after that a discussion was held on what does republic day means and why it's important for our country.

**Holi**, festival of colors, has always been celebrated with a lot of excitement and enthusiasm. This one always remains on top of our charts and we eagerly look forward to it. As our tradition follows, we made our own natural and eco-friendly colors which are safe for the skin. They were made out of flowers, beetroot, neem leaves, multanimitti and turmeric.



The children absolutely loved it. For us, no real celebration is complete without dancing, so the children danced their hearts out to their favorite tunes while throwing color on each other. After that the snacks delicacies came out on the plates such as gujiyas, sweets and pakoras.

We missed our other family, who always comes to celebrate Holi with us, but due to pandemic, we couldn't invite them for the safety of the children.



## ABOUT JUGAAD -OUR INCOME GENERATION PROGRAMME

- Our sales at Jugaad were on an all-time low during first three quarters and for a while after that. But with the start of January sales have been picked up and we have received a few orders.
- We participated at KalaGhoda Arts Festival 2021 virtually which was held in February. Jugaad showcased their products and made a few sales.
- We also received orders from e-commerce websites such as Amazon, Itokriand Gocoop
- Our Jugaad shop located in Saket, New Delhi did moderate business

Due to current pandemic, **Jugaad** has very less work, so the Jugaad team decided to use this time forengaging children in creative skills as they are not going to school and have plenty of time to explore new learning and skills. We at KM are blessed with a huge campus but still the children are worn down because of the lock down. They feel stuck in their routine and are longing for a change. These workshop engaged children a lot and they did not feel so bored to be at home full time.

- Pradeep conducted a carpentry workshop under Jugaad. 21 young adults participated in it. They were taught how to make cloth hangers and chopping boards. The students were quick to learn and loved participating in such a hands on experience.



- An embroidery session was held by Tara and Aarti for the children. Tara is a KM alumni and now has become a warden and Aarti is a young adult of KM. Adolescent children participated in this workshop. They were taught how to make easy embroidery patterns on handkerchiefs. They enjoyed the workshop fully. Especially the boys who had so much fun and showed interest in this workshop.



- Rakesh once again set out to teach 20 children of Karmmarg another fun and useful skill. This time they choose to make beautiful jewellery by kitepapers and paper quilling. The children were completely engrossed with learning such a beautiful skill and were very proud of what they had made.



- Rakesh has been teaching the children a lot of different things. He taught them all about how solar panels work and the importance of it in today's era. He also taught them how to make beautiful home décor with coke bottle covers. The children love these types of different activities and are very keen to learn new things.





## PROBLEMS COME WITH A SOLUTION

Mosquitoes have always been a problem in KM, so to get rid of them we started making Cow-dung cake (Cakes of cow dung molded by bare hands with a curvature to be able to keep stuck to the walls.) with neem leaves and lemongrass to burn it in the evening time in outdoors, to keep mosquitoes away.

It was so much fun when children started making mosquitoes repellents out of cow dung. Some of them easily tried their hands in making it, while some felt it gross because of the cow-dung.



Rihana, one of KM team members took this initiative and came up with this idea which has proven to be very effective, easy, and natural and environment friendly.

Thank you each and every one for supporting KM in this difficult time.

