



SOCH

..beyond the imagination

SOCH

...from the ink of hearts

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Chief Editor:

Ms. Mariam Rashid

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www.soch4u.com



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ink of hearts*

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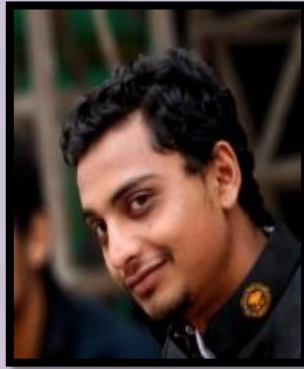
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23 October 2017

MESSAGE

1. It is heartening to know that Soch is publishing an e-magazine - 'Soch – from the Ink of Hearts'.
2. Social upliftment and assistance programmes form the backbone of any prosperous community. As responsible members of the community, it is our duty and obligation to partake in upliftment programmes devised to extend support to other members of the community, who require assistance. A community or a society, can only progress and develop, if there is a strong sense of service towards each other.
3. Soch is an exemplary example of selfless service towards the upliftment of the weaker sections of the society. The numerous upliftment programmes and initiatives that have been undertaken by the organization are an inspiration to all. Soch has actively participated, supported and promoted in the socio-economic development of the society, thereby encouraging and promoting aspirations of every segment, specially the weaker and underprivileged section of the society.
4. I wish to extend my good wishes to the Editorial Team and the contributors who have worked relentlessly to bring out this e-magazine and to the office bearers and members of Soch, for the excellent job which they are doing.

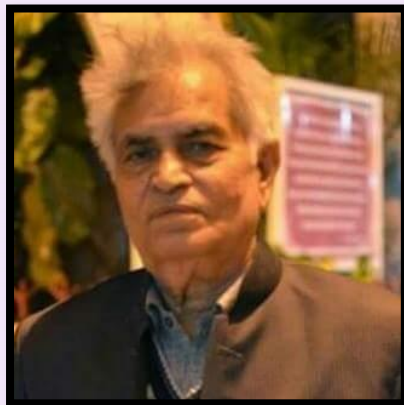
Tariq Mansoor
(Prof. Tariq Mansoor) 23/10/17
Vice-Chancellor



SOCH

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Words in Honour



I am glad to learn from Mariam, a budding afsana-nigar of Aligarh, that SOCH, a premier brain-child of Dr. Saleem Mohammad Khan and Dr. Danish Suhail, is bringing out a prestigious magazine as an express organ voice of its own.

SOCH is already on the map of Uttar Pradesh for its selfless services, especially for a truck-load of clothes its members collected and distributed among the needy at Muzaffarnagar (U.P.), and for the medical services they rendered, and the money they collected for the neighbouring Nepal in the hour of need. I think at times how very fortunate is the alma mater of illustrious 'Majaz' who gave us the immortal song: Yeh mera chaman hai mera chaman / Main apne chaman ka bulbul hoon! Inspired by the everlasting really great- and that at a time when most of us the country over, preoccupied as we are with the question of bread and butter, have no time to think of what is really excellent and worthwhile and gives sense and meaning to life.

In the circumstances, it does SOCH credit to take the initiative that this premier organisation proposes to do what I hope will prove to be very readable publication. Hence my congratulation to all concerned, especially Dr. Saleem Mohammad Khan and Dr. Danish Suhail, more especially to those countless many like Mariam, who are doing their best for the noble cause at their own level and in their own way, in letter and spirit.

With best wishes and kind regards,

(Dr. Kumar Panipati)

Organiser

AdabiMarkaz, Panipat

(A premier Literary Association of Hariyana)

Fouder Head (Retd.)

Department of Post-Graduate,
Studies and Research in English,
S.D. (P.G.) College,
Panipat.



SOCH

...beyond the imagination

Ref.

Date.....



Message

The aim of establishing **Soch ... beyond the imagination**, is that the students who come here to study should realise that they do not live for themselves, but also for necessitous parts of society who are ignored by the government and the administration.

Soch is a inspiration for those who want to make a change and it is a platform for youth who want to devote themselves to a good cause .

The attempt of *Soch ... From the Ink of Hearts* magazine, is to connect the literary world with social issues. We are launching this magazine with the intent that everybody who writes well should connect with this magazine and take forward the revolutionary movement with the power of their pen. As we know, the popular media is under the control of political powers and never discusses issues related to the impoverish parts of the world, so through this magazine we want to evoke the spirit of our youth to give a helping hand to those who are suffering from penury .

Lastly, I congratulate our editorial board, who gave their best and dedicated their time and effort to this remarkable work.



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Ref.

Date.....



Message

It is with humility and gratitude that I present these parting thoughts to the members, supporters and friends of the 'SOCH beyond the imagination'. You have been the backbone of this organisation and SOCH would not have succeeded without you being a part of this effort. For almost 5 years we have worked concurrently at SOCH and I relied heavily on your support and assistance in discharge of our duties.

Since its founding in 2012 the SOCH team has been devoting itself for supporting the society and the vision Sir Syed Ahmad Khan sb. I am honoured for being in this endeavour, from the inception of the organisation to the present day.

Thus, our success is not ours alone to celebrate; it is the success of a devoted and committed team.

"Abhi toh naapi hai mutthi bhar zamin humne..abhi toh sara aasman baaki hai."

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M. Faraz

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*Firdaus Rahman
Principal*

*Ahmadi School for the Visually Challenged
Aligarh Muslim University, Aligarh*

Message

'Soch' enjoys the unique distinction of having mostly, doctors and young intellectuals of AMU, as devoted and dedicated community workers. They deserve appreciation and recognition. I consider it a privilege to felicitate 'Soch' for its distinguished service to society.

I congratulate the editorial team for bringing out an E- Magazine. Magazines are a wonderful way of throwing a birds' eye view on the various activities and achievements of the organisation.

May the Almighty Allah bestow on you, all the blessings that would help you touch greater pinnacles of glory.

FIRDAUS RAHMAN



SOCH

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Message



It gives me immense pleasure to learn that **Soch... Beyond the Imagination** is releasing their first magazine. I would love to take this opportunity to express my appreciation for the commendable works that this organization has done in the recent past.

It is the moral responsibility of civil society to respond in different ways to the challenges of underdevelopment, poverty, illiteracy, health, environmental degradation and under-resourcing. Throughout the world, individuals organize themselves into NGOs to emphasize humanitarian

issues and to act as an effective voice for the concerns of ordinary people. Some organizations take a long-term approach and others focus on immediate support in disaster situations. Interestingly SOCH has uniquely catered to both short and long term needs of the community.

No words can really completely capture the joyous feelings in my heart when I think of how SOCH has benefited so many thousands of people these past years. SOCH is indescribable – so pure, so patient, so empathic, so humble and so so wise... and it is really incredible the way everyone at SOCH is constantly supporting and helping the organization in their untiring quest to bring a positive impact in the lives of thousands of neglected, downtrodden and poverty ridden individuals. I believe that education is the most important tool to uplift any community. I am so humbled by SOCH's vast wisdom and patience and deeply inspired by so much efforts being put in literacy projects by its volunteers all working with the unwavering goal of making education accessible, teaching, sharing, inspiring, reaching out, giving a shoulder, and showing the way to attaining the peerless enlightenment and always benefiting others. It is just so blissful knowing I am a small part of SOCH's great team.

It was a lifetime experience for me while being a part of SOCH Team during various humanitarian projects like Muzaffarnagar Riots, Kashmir Floods, Nepal Earthquake, Chennai floods etc. I want you all to know how much I enjoyed working with you on all of these projects and how proud I am to have been a small part in being able to help those in need and bring about positive changes in their lives. It is amazing how individual members work with such determination and great sincerity in the service of mankind. It warms my heart to state that what we have done over the past will bring many blessings to all, *in sha Allah*.

I look forward to seeing what comes in the future and hope I'm around in this life long enough to connect with such amazing peoples.

Dr. Mohd Kashif Razi

From the pen of Chief

Editor

Soch is never meant to be NGO, it's always the platform for fiery hearts. Those hearts who felt the urge to change the world and the souls who dare to start a revolution. In keeping with this thought SOCH - From the ink of hearts... is an effort to bring in new writers to this platform. In the first edition of this e-magazine, you will be introduced to Soch...

Beyond the imagination, it's efforts and humanitarian contributions to society at large. I could not cover all the numerous services and the work done by the organisation over the years, but I have tried to compile the most notable efforts of the Soch Family. In the magazine, the writers have tried to pen down the perspective of common people, which is being lost in the midst of politically cooked up views. At last, I would like to thank the President of Soch, Dr. Saleem Mohammad Khan for giving me an opportunity to be a part of Soch. I appreciate and thank the efforts of the editorial team, all the interns of Secular Views (the website) and all those who have contributed in the making of this e-magazine.

-Mariam



From Editor's Desk

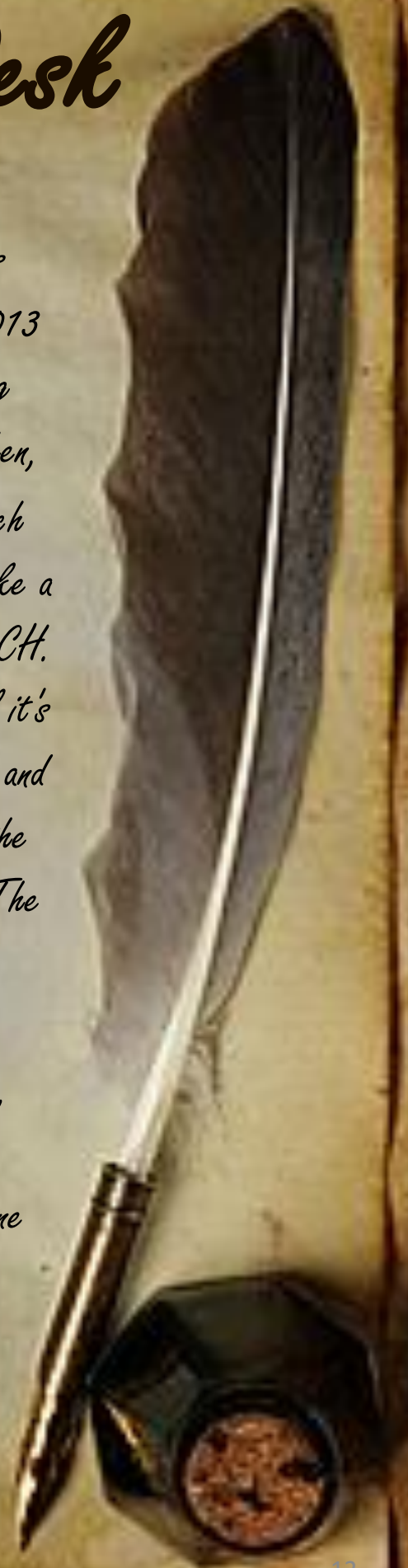


SOCH, the NGO has been working since 2013 with the aim of making lives better. Since then,

the team consistently strives to achieve as much as possible. This year, the team decided to take a step forward and launch the e-magazine of SOCH. As they say, "it always seems impossible until it's done." Initially, it required some brainstorming and thinking. However, thanks to the efforts of the Chief Editor, we soon had an outline in hand. The process of selecting and editing write ups was tedious but interesting and fun.

The e-magazine contains pieces about fun topics, current issues, as well as microtales, poetry, letters to SOCH, and much more. We welcome any constructive feedback. Happy Reading!

-Bushra Ahmad





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Memories with SOCH



I feel so happy to share my wonderful experience of being a small part in SOCH's cause of making the world a better place. As a SOCH's country representative, every donation for each single happiness whether it was for Eid

clothes donation, donation for helping families in Kashmir disaster, donation for saving lives, donation for children's education support or Wall of Kindness made me feel so happy. It is of immense pleasure to be generous and responsible in adding a smile to the faces of poor kids and families. The NGO, SOCH-Beyond the Imagination helped me to grow in my efforts to support, establish and make SOCH available at people's service around the globe. I have recently established SOCH CANADA for people to come FORWARD AND JOIN HANDS IN helping poor people around them. It all happened because of the support of SOCH's family. Here the system and awesome members who are like a family to me are always very supportive. SOCH gave me the power to make my dream turn into reality. I am thankful to Allah (God) that I am a small part of SOCH, AND THROUGH THIS I CAN CONTRIBUTE IN lives of enormous amount of people, in need around the world. Thank You SOCH for giving my soch to be beyond the imagination.

-Nabila Hameed



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MISSION & VISION

As an independent non-government student based organization, we have already started working on education awareness about health and environment and upliftment of women. In addition to this we always join hands to help victims of national disaster and rights in the upcoming years. We intend to accomplish following goals:

- We want to enlighten the world with the light of knowledge for this we would like to start a public school for poor.
- We will continue to create awareness about electricity, water saving, road safety, and other issues.
- We will organise more health and hygiene camps in under privileged and slum areas. Our aim is to make people conscious about their health and hygiene.
- We will let the world know, that we can work together for humanity irrespective, of race, culture, religion or borders.
- We are thinking to start Community Clinic for slums.
- We will be organizing more internships and completion encourage young writers and artists. We want youth to contribute in the revolution of making the world a better place to live in, through their talents.



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Something About Us...



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ABOUT SOCH

The NGO, SOCH...Beyond the Imagination, is an initiative taken by some students of Aligarh Muslim University, to work for the betterment of humanity. It was established in 2013 under the 'Society Registration Act' and since then it has been working for social development, to enlighten the world with optimism. SOCH focuses on education, health issues, skill and awareness development programs. It also came forward to help the victims of:

1. Earthquakes in Nepal (2015)
2. Flood in Chennai (2015)
3. Riots in Muzaffarnagar (2014)
4. Natural Disaster in J & K, etc. (2014)
5. Flood in Uttarakhand (2013)

Nearly 655 Offline Members, 70 Online members and 11 founder members are currently working in SOCH.



SIR SYED LITERACY CENTRE



**Mr. Sartaj Alam
Manager**

Sir Syed Literacy Centre, was established in Oct 17, 2013 to enlighten the poor kids with light of knowledge. The Centre was the result of many surveys which were conducted in Aligarh, in order to trace out underprivileged areas lacking education. The conclusion of surveys were discussed and Shehenshabad was selected for the establishment of the centre. With the efforts of Soch Team, in 2013 the Centre was inaugurated by the well known scientist, Dr. Shahid Jameel. The responsibility of the education Centre was given to Mr. Sartaj Alam, whose diligence resulted in the miraculous way. In the past four years Literacy Centre became a morning school for more than 60kids. And still the team of Literacy Centre was hoping to educate more children.



SOCH HANDICRAFT CENTRE

Another exertion of Soch in order to uplift the society was Handicraft Centre. This centre enhances the talented women who were lost in the mist of patriarchal society. This Vocational Centre trains a batch of 30 young women and who were given a certificate of completion. This centre was started in 2014 and inaugurated by Mrs Shabana Siddiqui, a social worker. Mr. Sartaj Alam manages the affairs and exhibitions of the artisans made by student of Handicrafts. Around two batches were graduated from this centre and another was still in progress.

SOCH EDUCATIONAL CENTRE

NSS AMU



**Mr. Furqan Ahmad
Manager**

The fiery hearts could be recognised by the souls who appreciate revolution. The role of that soul was played by Lt. Zameer Uddin Shah, who permitted the space of NSS for Soch's Educational Centre. This centre was started in November 4, (year) on Lal Diggi Road, Aligarh . About 60 kids were enrolled in the past years, with the efforts of Soch's members and volunteers. Mr. Furqan Ahmad(a student of M.A, AMU) manages and reinforces the centre with all his dedication.





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AREAS OF WORK

Promotion of Education:

SOCH is working to educate slum children in Aligarh through informal classes. The 'Literacy Centre of Soch', in which 70 students are enrolled, and 'SOCH -NSS Education centre', near Lal Diggi, are two remarkable ongoing centres of education established by SOCH. SOCH has also started Mahatma Gandhi Literacy centre in Maulana Azad to educate the world. Additionally, Soch organised Pahel for Kashmiri students for counselling in 2015, and conducted meetings to guide UPSC qualifiers.



Health Care :

SOCH provides medical care and rehabilitation in areas which are lacking health facilities or which are facing natural disasters. It organises relief camps for victims of natural disaster and riots.

Blood donation camps organised in Aligarh since 2013 at District Hospital (Oct, 2013), Maulana Azad Library (Dec, 2013), JNMC (Feb, 2014 and August, 2015) and many more.

Oral hygiene camps were organised in Aligarh at Central Jail, (Dec, 2013), Brail Section, M.A Library, for Physically Challenged people (March, 2014), Quila Public School (May, 2014), Ahmadi School for the Blind (Dec 2015), Oxford Public School (Sept, 2015).

Blood Sampling Project camps were organised at Strachey Hall, Engineering College, Boy's Polytechnic and Women's College in 2016.



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Skill Development And Training Program

SOCH conducts skill development and training programs in its vocational training centre. It aims to uplift weak sections of society by polishing their skills. It is also working with the government for 'community development' through polytechnic scheme. In this scheme, they train girls above 14 years in essential survival skills, for 6 months. It has also established a Vocational Training Centre for marginalised people of Shehanshabad.



Awareness Drives

We conduct awareness drives to promote environmental protection and sustainable development. Our drives also extend support to humanity by donation of clothes, blankets, and other necessities.

SOCH has spread awareness through:

1. Earth hour Observation on 28th March, 2014 in AMU.
2. World environment Day on 5th June, 2013.
3. Water Conversation Campaign on 5th June, 2015



We all are born with a divine fire in us. Our efforts should be to give wings to this fire and fill the world with the glow of its goodness.

-A.P.J. Abdul Kalam



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Highlight Of Events & Camps 2016-17

(Reported By: Amreen Emmamdee)





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REPORTS

HANDICRAFT EXHIBITION

March 11, 2017

SOCH in collaboration with Centre for Women's Studies (Aligarh Muslim University) organised "Handicrafts Exhibition" at Centre for Women's studies, AMU.



FELICITATION CEREMONY

April 1, 2017

SOCH held Certificate Distribution Ceremony for the winners and participants of various events organised by SOCH in Women's College. Prof Zeba Shireen (Dept. of Economics) and Shabana Siddiqui (Social Activist) distributed the certificates to the winners.

Free Dental Camp for children

April 10, 2017

SOCH organised free dental hygiene camp for the children studying in Mahatma Gandhi Literacy Centre in Maulana Azad Nagar. The event was inaugurated by AMU Alumni Dr. Mohd Abbas Khan from MPH John Hopkins USA DMD-Boston University. The camp provided the children free check ups and advised them on maintaining dental hygiene.





Cultural Programs

April 29, 2017

Another phase of the membership drive by SOCH held in Ajmal Khan Tibbiya College was successful. Besides this, SOCH has organised many cultural events like Solo Singing, Poster making, Decorative articles out of waste materials, Card making, Stand up comedy, Food without fire, and literary events like Self Composed Poetry Writing.

Clothes distributed by Soch

June, 2017 (Ramadan)

“Gareebon ki ye Basti hai kahan se Shokhiyan laun, Yahan bachay toh rehtay hain magar Bachpan nhi rehta”.

A feeling of a member of Soch on giving happiness to those who lost it .In another phase of Soch...beyond the imagination, the Happiness distribution drive on this Eid went to a slum where Soch distributed food and clothes to needy children.



Blanket Distribution Drive

Dec 18th, 2107

A well known scientist, Mr. Shahid Jameel has been conducting blanket drives for few years, in the memory of his belated mother, Mrs. Jameela Majid Siddiqui on her death anniversary, Dec 18th. She was the founder of 'Ismat Literacy Centre' and a lady of golden heart was also involved in many other social activities. She used to conduct blanket drives every year in collaboration with Soch . This noble work of her was later on continued by her son. One of those drive was also observed in [2017](#) , when Dr. Shahid Jameel and many well known people came together to distribute blankets with team of SOCH.

Orientation Cum Workshop (Professional social work & role of NGOs in community department)



April 29, 2017

Dr. Sadaf Jafr, active member of SOCH and guest speaker of the event, introduced our NGO, SOCH, and talked briefly on general working strategies. Mr. Saad Hameed, TPO General, AMU, said that we need to differentiate ‘charity’ from NGO on technical grounds. He also suggested some technicalities for adding professionalism in NGO culture. Mr. Omar Saleem Peerzada welcomed all the guests and extended help on behalf of all the working NGOs, especially SOCH, for all kinds of necessary help from his department. He said, “Together we can draft a big change in the society we want.” He added that education without service to humanity is waste. Dr Sapan Kay Cee said that we need a bunch of skilful people with great vision and mission that can bring revolutionary changes in the society. Dr. Naseem Ahmad Khan, Chairman, Dept. of Social Work, said that to run NGOs we need people of different professions who are expert in their field. He added we should move ahead with a positive approach and appreciated the efforts made by Soch.





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SOCH in WHO meeting

October 23, 2016

Geneva, Switzerland.

Dr. Danish Suhail, secretary of Soch...beyond the imagination attended the World Health Organisation (WHO) meeting at its Head Quarters in Geneva, Switzerland.



Global Project Smile

August 13, 2017

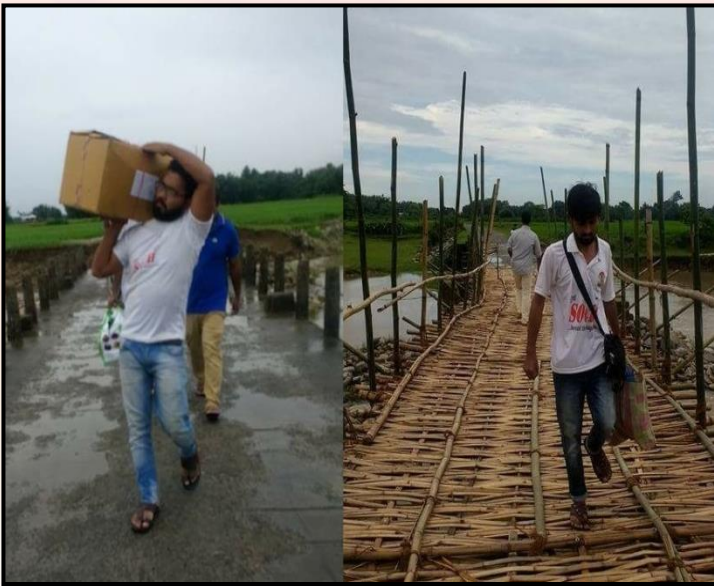
The NGO, 'Time to Help' (Netherlands) in collaboration with 'Soch... beyond the imagination', organised Oral Hygiene Camp in Mirzapur, Aligarh, U.P. This camp was set up on August 13, 2017, under the 'Global Project Smile'. Nearly 250 children and 70 adults were examined and given advice. All the patients were also gifted toothpastes and tooth brushes, along with small stationary boxes.

INDEPENDENCE DAY CELEBRATION

August 15, 2017

The NGO, Soch... beyond the imagination was observed to celebrate Independence Day with the kids of 'Sir Syed Literacy Centre'. The NGO seemed to promote the famous verses of Iqbal, "Religion does not teach us to keep mutual grudge We are of Indian stock and we belong to Indian earth".





Bihar Flood Campaign

August 18-21, 2017

Soch came forward and organized many meetings and camps to collect donation for Bihar Relief Camps. This NGO was observed to be one of the most active student organisations to help victims of natural disasters.

Total funds : 1.5 lacs

Funds Collected by :

Sartaj Alam, Dr. Saleem Mohammad Khan,
Adil Naseer and Rayyan Azmi.

Members of relief team who went to Bihar
for 10 days :

Mohd Shariq, Salman Khan, Intesar Alam
and Syed Qamrul Islam.





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Members of Soch... beyond the imagination taking part in Swachh Bharat Abhiyan.



Swachh Bharat Abhiyan

"I come from a poor family, I have seen poverty. The poor need respect, and it begins with cleanliness."

-Narendra Modi

With this quote, the honorable Prime Minister launched the Swachh Bharat Abhiyan. This flagship programme of the Union government aims to realise the dream of a Clean India by October 02, 2019, the 150th birth anniversary of Mahatma Gandhi. So far, Sikkim, Himachal Pradesh and Kerala are three states that have been declared Open Defecation Free (ODF) this year. As per government data, as of December 16, 2016, over 58% of Indian households have become open defecation free. Though people have started to pitch in to help spread the message of 'Cleanliness is next to Godliness', we still have miles to go. The government needs to work on the entire sanitation value chain including water supply, safe disposal and treatment of waste, and maintenance of infrastructure. Not only this, there is a need to engage the community also to address the age-old practices in the rural areas. At this juncture, every countryman should take a pledge that he/she will contribute towards making India clean in the true sense of the term.

-Fariha Mushahid



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ARTICLES

From the best pens of internships
and competitions organised by

SOCH



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Her Pious Heart And Her Warrior Soul

You've got a steel hand
 Under the velvet glove
You know if they push you around
 And when they shove
You will not bow
 And you will not budge
You've got fire, burning and ready
 Ignited by Him, fueled and ready
So let them incite
 And let them provoke
Like the Satan himself
 Let them hope
And when they march up
 To your doors
And when their evil eyes
 Fall upon your rose
Open up the cage
 Around your heart
Let your heart roar
 And let it soar
Let it roar as He commands
 Until you've fought them all
And then, one day, true justice will be done
 Peace will perch that throne again
And evil will cower
 Before His Grace
You've got steel hands
 Under the velvet gloves
Be prepared to use it
 When the time demands

Micro Tale

Beaten, broken,
bruised,
bewildered, but
breathing.

-Zarish Nazir

-Fatima Zehra Nizami



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POST TRUTH

In India

Is the Indian political scene the next big prey to the menace of Post-Truth?

"A lie goes halfway around the world before the truth has the chance to get its pants on." -Winston Churchill

Post-truth indicates something which goes beyond truth or fact, or which is more than the truth. The term defines a situation in which emotions and personal beliefs of people gain supersession and hold sway over reason and factual correctness. The Oxford Dictionary declared the word "post-truth" as the word of the year in 2016 owing to its role as a game-changer in Brexit referendum and US presidential elections.

Two billion people in the world today have access to social media, which is the breeding ground for post-truth. As it is, social media provides an effective and wider outreach to those wanting to spread propaganda. This is coupled by the fact that human beings tend to accept sensational news at face value. Add to this the increasing reliance of broadcast media on social media for their news reporting.

All these factors taken into account contribute to the proliferation of false truths which are mostly political in nature, used as a weapon of abuse by those with vested interests to attain some ulterior motives.

In case of Brexit, public support was gained by the UK Independence Party and other right-leaning groups who pitched for Brexit by spreading such false facts. These "facts" pertained to migrants stealing the jobs of the British, thereby harming their economy, and exploiting the position of Britain in the European union for uncontrolled immigration (even though Britain is not a party to the Schengen Agreement).



Similar discourse was used by the Republicans in the US elections with Donald Trump blaming the slump in American employment on Chinese and Indians. Critics have now established that these job losses are in fact due to increased Automation in industries.

The American elections were heavily influenced by Trump quoting numerous alternative facts and misleading statements. The widespread circulation of fake news on Facebook perhaps cost Hillary Clinton the prospect of becoming President of the United States. The role of fake news in Trump's victory was even acknowledged by the co-founder of Twitter, Evan Williams, who recently apologised for the role Twitter played in Donald Trump's rise to the White House. When it comes to India, where technical literacy is low, and the age of smartphones dawned so abruptly that people are still in the process of catching up; people have unfortunately embraced fake news with open arms.

Given the dialectical political atmosphere, alt-facts and fake news form the choicest weapons for political parties to garner support from public for their ideology and train guns on their opponents.



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The data from Alexa.com (Alexa.com offers tools to rank websites on the basis of their traffic on a national and global level) presents the grim reality about the growing reliance on fake news in India. Mainstream online news portals like FirstPost, The Wire, Quint continue to be pushed down the rankings by websites dedicated to spreading alt-facts, fake news, and click-bait or sleazy content. Incidentally, many, if not all of these websites patronise the right-wing in India. Their growing popularity, as per Alexa rankings, shows an alarming trend among the Indian public willing to throw facts and truth out of the window in lieu of manufactured lies which carry political undertones and are aimed at assuaging the anxieties of the target audience for political gains.

In India, there have been numerous instances where alt-facts have been used to successfully mislead the masses regarding certain key issues. The recent data for GDP puts the growth rate at 6.1% for Q4 which is the lowest in 2 years, leading to IT companies indulging in mass layoffs. Most experts agree that this is attributable to demonetisation. This belies the claims made in newsroom and social media debates on the supposed 'benefits' of demonetisation.

The recent tirade against Arundhati Roy is another example of the same. The lynchings in Jharkhand based on a Whatsapp rumour, the nanochip and the UNESCO 'best currency award' add another feather in the cap of our gullible masses.

"The media is the most powerful entity on the Earth ... Because they control the minds of the masses." -Malcolm X

In an atmosphere where the government seems complicit in the circulation of such alt-facts, and all political parties have seemingly turned to fake news driven vendetta politics, any attempt

to sensitise the masses against the same will have to come from non-political entities. In this regard, altnews.in founded by Prateek Sinha and the Fact-Check tool by Google are doing laudable work to debunk fake news and separate facts from lies. However, the real change will come when the masses themselves realise that not everything that reaches them is to be believed, and recognise the role of media in spreading propaganda.

-Bushra Ahmad

I am...?

I'm not myself,
I'm the glimpse of mine.

I'm not the fallen tear,
I'm not the hidden anger,
I'm the depth of my soul,
Away from my own role.

I'm not myself,
I'm the glimpse of mine.

I'm not the rhythm of my voice,
I'm not the high pitch of my tune,
I'm the meaning of my word,
Far away from stupid absurd.

I'm not myself
I'm the glimpse of mine.

I'm not my fake smile,
I'm not uncontrollable laughter,
I'm the curl of peace,
Curving my lips with ease.

I'm not myself,
I'm the glimpse of mine....

- Mariam



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Will I die miss? Will I die?

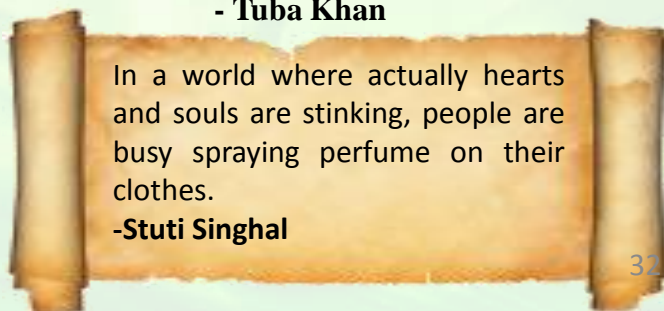


Pale face, puffy eyes, stained cheeks,
 All screamed of his suffering.
 Sore throat allowed nothing but coughs to pass through,
 Somehow a little voice made its way out to say,
 "Will I Die Miss? Will I die?"

Wrapped in a blanket, blue
 Weeping, because that is all he could do,
 On he went narrating the Event,
 Out he was, watching the War Planes fly,
 Because those were what haunted his city's sky,
 When something dropped from above,
 Yellow smoke wrapped him like a viper,
 Making tears escape from his eyes.
 Safety was provided from the venomous mist,
 But his mind couldn't escape the shackles of fear,
 On he went narrating the Event,
 His mind lingering on one thought,
 "Will I Die, Miss? Will I Die?"

Assured the nurse, "No! No, dear.."
 What other words could have left her mouth?
 The evil truth, no little soul could bear,
 That demons tread their place in man's skin,
 That there are humans around but they lack a soul...
 Soon his haven was no longer safe,
 The poisonous gas invaded the quiet air around.
 He could listen to every sound,
 Cries they were,
 Of the elders, and the little ones...
 Soon, the reassurance of the nurse faded away,
 Doubt and fear enveloping everything in yellow and grey.
 And there he stood,
 With his puffy eyes and sore throat.
 His mind lingering on to one thought...
 "Will I die miss? Will I die?"

- Tuba Khan



In a world where actually hearts and souls are stinking, people are busy spraying perfume on their clothes.

-Stuti Singhal



...beyond the imagination

“

Giving is not just about
making a donation. It is
about making a difference.”

”

Donation

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MAFI (Aligarh)

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For Donation Queries:

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+91-9411803348

Give the ones you
love wings to fly,
Roots to come back,
and reasons to stay.

-Dalai Lama

The messenger of Allah (P.B.U.H)
set, "One who strives to help a
widow or the poor is like one who
struggles in the Cause of Allah."

-Sahih Muslim

And now abideth faith, hope, charity these three; but the greatest of
these is charity

-1 Corinthians 13:13



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Yashah; fame, should be according to Lord Chaitanya, who said that a
man is famous when he is known as a great devotee. That is real fame.

-Bhagavad Geeta 10.4-5, purport`

"Deeds of giving are the very
foundation of the word"

-(Jewish saying derived from
the Mishna)

Pirkei avot 1:2

Before becoming a Sikh, a Muslim, a
Hindu, or a Christian, let's become a
Human first.

-Shri Guru Nanak



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Gandhi's Philosophy in Today's Scenario

Mahatma Gandhi, the father of nation, always led his life guided by two cardinal principles: truth (satya) and non-violence (ahimsa).

By 'satya', Gandhiji does not mean what the exact English translation of this word stands for. For him, Satya is an umbrella term which covers all the moral concepts like truthfulness, religion, vegetarianism, nature-therapy, sexual self-restraint etc.

The second principle - 'ahimsa' was basically used to refer to the opposite of himsa or violence. The basic idea was of mere peacefulness or love. To oppose overt violence and to attain and spread peace and love. To him, violence is an act of cowardice and non-violence of chivalry. And it is only by non-violence that a person can achieve eternal peace and ultimate truth.

Gandhiji believed that had himsa been superior to ahimsa, human kind would long ago have succeeded in destroying itself, so ahimsa emerges as the most powerful force in existence and non-violence or love is regarded as the highest law of mankind.

Gandhiji's philosophies need to be implemented strongly in today's world, as we see violence, hatred and destruction rising rapidly everywhere. It is high time that we adopted his policies of Satya and Ahimsa in our lives because love and peace is the need of the hour. Be it at the level of country or individual, every person is struggling with himself and the world around him.

Mankind has progressed a lot technically, but mostly these technical advancements are used to carry out the selfish motives of capitalists which are both destructive and harmful. The developments have made man advanced but it uprooted the



RELEVANCE OF GANDHIAN
PRINCIPLE
IN
TODAY'S WORLD.

virtues of love, peace and mutual harmony from him. And what is the use of all the developments and success at the cost of moral and spiritual values?

So, Gandhiji's philosophies and principles are desperately needed in today's cosmopolitan world. When humanity seems devoid of truth, love and peace, submission to Gandhiji's principles seems to be the only remedy.

-Hafsa Rafi

The irony is a bleeding woman is considered impure. But the same woman is expected to bleed on the bedsheet to prove her purity.

-Stuti Singhal

I still wonder whether our walks had no aim or those streets had no end.

-Stuti Singhal



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'Cheerful Ragamuffins'

They have no food, no roof over their heads,
All they have is half-eaten garbage and tin
sheds;

They run around on muck, in rags all day,
Finding ways to be happy and gay;

Providing for themselves at an infantile age,
Never once suspecting they are forever in a
cage;

They carry their burdens on their backs all
day,
"Poor kids! They have nothing to make them
happy," you'd say;

But nay! You are wrong, O ignorant passerby,
The hard earth is their feather bed, their roof
is the sky;

They have free will and no one is to ask them
why,
Their aim is to take all they can and never be
shy;

These are children; they'll always make the
most of what they get,
You can't make them feel the pain of life,
their goal is set;

Roaming around and playing hide & seek
when the day is done,
They are free spirits, and *in their hearts, the
battle is already won.*

Amenah Ashraf



Life is Worth Living

On the planet of 7 billion,
Some died in Unrest-Stifling.

He escaped from the kiss of death,
For life is worth living.

Alone, lost in vast horizon,
No friend, no love, no recognition.

Afraid was he, encircled by foes,
His voice lost somewhere in echoes.

He hid in the shadow of the sun,
His internal mutiny had already begun.

Downtrodden and shunned away,
To serve a purpose - he has to stay.

Humanity divine, inhumane evil,
Dying hope, conduct uncivil.

Still, for them, he's striving,
For life is worth living.

Prakhar Varshney



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DEMONETIZATION

Impact On Nation & Economy



As we all know that from midnight of 8th November 2015 a ban was imposed on the currencies of Rs.500 and 1000 by our Prime Minister Narendra Modi. This step was taken in order to have control over black money, black marketing, illegal trade across

the borders and many more such problems, as per the ruling government. However, it never proved to be real till now. Moreover new problems aroused during that phase, the struggle of common man in long queue of banks and ATM's in order to return their money which was termed invalid all of a sudden, the money which was credited at that time was quite less to sustain the living and a limit was set to withdraw the cash which made the problem worse. The new currency of 2000 rupee was introduced by ironically ATM's were not calibrated for those type of notes. And it took an entire period of three months to bring back life to normal. This step led to a huge setback on Indian economy, the trade sectors of different backgrounds have not been able to cope up yet, decline in GDP, inflation, and all the export and import business was highly affected and is suffering till now. A large number of employees from private companies were ousted, salaries were reduced and the poor sections of society were the biggest sufferers, no work was left with them and they and their families were forced to starve. A good number of



people lost their lives in long queues of banks. When it comes to black money, nothing has changed -----the step of demonetization taken to stop all this is a total failure as the most of the black money holders have their money in form of gold, properties or else is deposited in Swiss accounts.

-Shirjeel Ahmad Siddiqui



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Micro Tale:

I still wonder whether our walks had no aim or those streets had no end.

-Stuti Singhal

Solitude's Symphony

Breathless nights
 Memories thrive
 Tedious days
 Disputed prayers
 Nostalgic Memoirs
 Blistering fires
 Impelling heart
 Craves a restart
 Obsessed eyes
 Immense tries
 Necessitous me
 Forbidden plea
 Forlorn love
 Faint alcove
 Situation betrays
 Restlessness stays
 Lonesome echoes
 Countless sorrows
 Meetings postponed
 Pitiful response
 Fondness grows
 Longing continues
 Life's conclusion
 Hope's a delusion
 Solitude cries
 Sombre lies
 Shrieking thoughts
 Lifeless quotes
 Hollowness remains
 Driving me insane
 Imperishable agony
 Solitude's symphony

Then And Now



How cheerful was the day!
 How sorrowful is today!

Your smile was my happiness
 Those lovely moments turned to sadness

You held my dream with love and affection
 Now you have crushed my heart with tension

Why you crossed the line was unfair
 Each day, I die 'cause I've no more dare

You were my need like water and air
 Now I've realised you were a devil, not my dear

I dreamed the day would change into reality
 Shame! you discouraged me with your infidelity

You held my hand then in the park
 You've saddened my life NOW and made it dark

For all the above, to the Lord I'll complain

-M.A.Hussain

-Shadab Akhter



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June, 2017

Amu Ramadan Meal Controversy

The AMU faced a controversy pertaining to not giving breakfast and lunch to Non-Muslim students in Ramadan. A mob of Non-Muslim students conducted a sudden press conference and told the media that the University mess is not providing them food because of Ramadan, a religious month of Muslims. They express their concerns to the media and told them about the inconvenience they were facing. In the hurly burly of crossfire of fiery statements, student leaders of AMUSU have taken a step forward and tried to solve the problem. Nabeel Usmani, Hony. Secretary, AMU Students' Union has said, "Aligarh Muslim University is the most liberal campus of India. Now a days, it is trending on social media that Non-Muslim students don't get their breakfast and lunch because of Ramadan and administration is biased on their part. I have got calls from various media persons regarding this issue. People have added a religious angle to it. Let me make it clear...the residential students of AMU get three meals a day for 1000 rupees a month and majority of the students residing in hostels are Muslims. So it will not be in the budget of the dining officials just to prepare food for 10-20 people. Regarding canteens, that only the canteens of halls are closed because they don't get sale in day...no one asks them to do so. And the non muslim students of AMU are so co-operative that they do care of the sentiments of fellow 'Rozedars' and avoid eating food in front of them."

-Moin Uddin

Raj Kumar Rawal

I was in AMU during 1972 - 1983. There was never such problem as scarcity of food or other eatables in hostel mess/college canteen.



Sachin Tyagi ▶ Aligarh Muslim University

37 mins • Ghaziabad, India • 🌐

I spent good nine years in AMU and I can say firmly that there is no restriction of food serving during Ramadan period for any student irrespective of any region or religion.. there is no discrimination while serving food.. news circulating in social media about restriction of food during ramadan for hindu students is not only baseless infact it is shameless as well....
Rgds.... Sachin

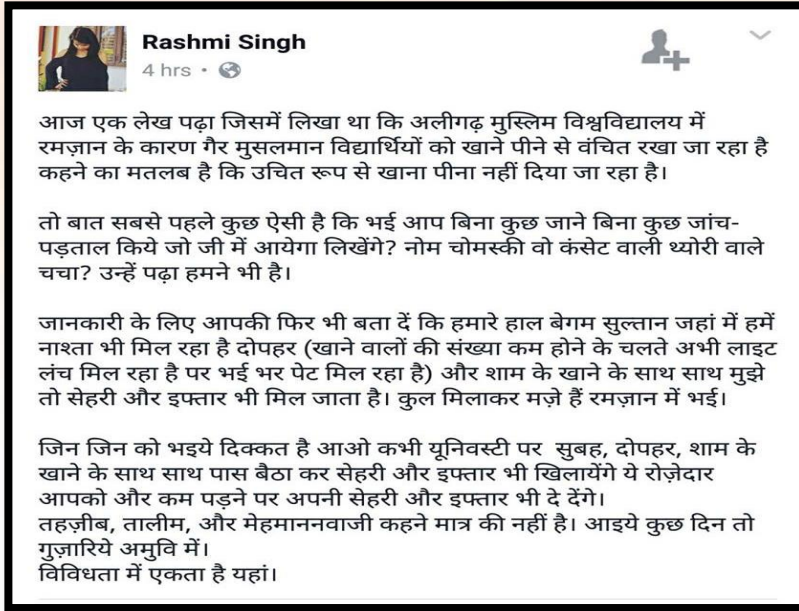


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AMU Forced Starvation

-clearly a misunderstanding



Aligarh Muslim University was in the limelight once again a couple of months ago. In May, when most students were busy with exams, a rumour spread with the speed of light across all major media. The University was accused of forcing the non-Muslim students to starve by not providing them breakfast and lunch during the month of Ramadan.

It all started with a tweet; Prashant Umrao, a Delhi High Court advocate tweeted "In AMU hostels, lunch, breakfast is not being served to Hindu students due to #Ramadan." This was followed by a number of other tweets expressing their disgust due to the indifferent attitude shown towards Non-Muslim students.

The issue was blown out of proportion by the media by referring to it as FORCED STARVATION. However, the students and staff came out to defend these accusations. They used social media to clear the name of the university. Videos were shared by students on Twitter showing the food that was being served in their respective halls. India Today reported that these students requested the media to spread positive news about AMU instead, such as the number of students who have cleared GATE, etc.

Bhavesh Panth, a student of MA regarded all allegations baseless. Another student Rashmi Singh (BA-LLB) stated that she faced no discrimination on the campus. She also showed her gratitude towards the staff that prepared food even while fasting. Faizul Hasan, president of AMUSU told India Times that for the past 10 years that he has been here, food never was seen as a religious or political issue.

To clear the misunderstanding , students explained that the mess works on the "minimum students principle". This could have been a reason why no food was found in mess during lunch time. The canteens on Campus and nearby were open all day and the students made their own arrangements. However, girls' hostels did provide 3 times meal on demand to the residents.

This episode once again showed the world that students of AMU can come together to stand for the institution forgetting all differences.

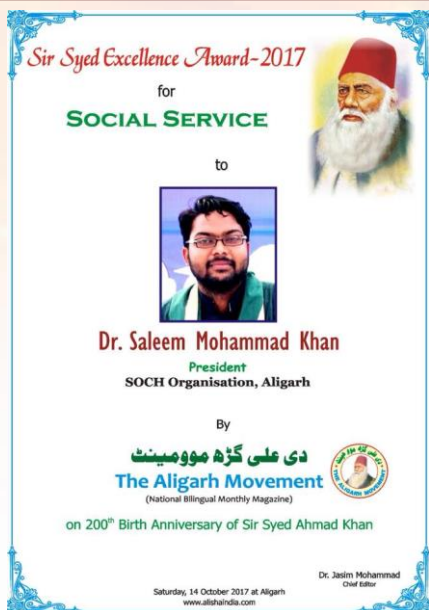


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ACHIEVEMENTS AND AWARDS

It's an honour of SOCH to be recognised for its efforts and hardwork by:



Sir Syed Excellence Award
for Social Services-2017
(to Dr. Saleem Mohammad Khan, President)



Nagar Nigam
for Swatch Bharat Abhiyan
2015 and 2016

SOCH has successfully established three informal education centres:

Mahatma Gandhi Literary Centre

Soch Literacy Centre (2015)

Soch- NSS Education Centre



SOCH was presented one thousand dollars by SSSA Boston USA
for slum education initiative.



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Join Us...

SOCH always welcomes new and dynamic energy in its family. Any person of any religion, cast, colour or nationality will be warmly welcomed by SOCH.



Be a part of SOCH family



Registration fee:

Rs. 10/-

Membership fee:

Rs. 100/- per Month.

Contact for Joining:

+91-9411803348



1962-2017

"I will do what I can and I will say what I should. These intolerant voices find strength in our silence. Let them learn to argue using words instead of threat."

- Gauri Lankesh

*...from the
ink of hearts*

SOCH4U



+91-8899446611



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4/1095 – A, Opp. Sameer
Apartment, Near Nadeem Tarin
Hall, Sir Syed Nagar, Civil Lines,
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