



“Every child has a right to an education, general and vocational, that is available, free, and accessible.....”

UN Convention on the Rights of the Child, 1990

Yatra Foundation (Est. 2007)

www.yatrafoundation.org

Twenty years have passed since this resolution was issued by the UN and endorsed by 191 countries worldwide, yet it appears that, today, we are no closer to achieving this goal. **Over one hundred million children do not attend school, with a staggering 94% of them living in developing countries. Fifty million of these children, aged less than 14 years, are engaged in child labour, depriving them of an education as well as their childhood.** These statistics are damning and disheartening, particularly grotesque when viewed in the light that never before have we been so globally affluent.

These facts, combined with a belief that quality education is the single most powerful tool to combat poverty, led to the formation of Yatra (meaning journey) Foundation in 2007 by four friends, all equally committed to making a difference. India was chosen for personal and practical reasons. India has the largest poverty market in the world with 900 million people (45 times Australia's population) living on less than \$AUD2 per day. It is also

the country we were most intimately involved with, by parentage or marriage. Our aims were simple, to provide the poorest and most disadvantaged children in India with the opportunity to access education with no regard for gender, caste or religion, and to monitor our outcomes. We had already been supporting a handful of children's educational costs and this had shown us what a large difference a relatively small amount of money could make (i.e. \$300/year for one child).

With the crucial help of relatives living in India, we established a “slum school” in Kota, Rajasthan, employing local teachers. Sixty children now attend this school and we have conducted two medical camps and a dental camp for the children to improve their health. Next, we undertook a joint venture with an Indian-based organization (Uday) to fund the formation of a second school on the edge of a famous tiger reserve in another part of Rajasthan. This school now has 120 enrolled students benefiting from an excellent, research-driven

yatra
foundation



A U S T R A L I A

Opportunity Through Education





curriculum with teacher student ratios of 1:20. We plan to increase enrollment to 150 in the next year. In addition to the setting up of these two schools we have also provided part or full educational scholarships to 15 students throughout India. Recently, we opened a computer resource centre in a small village, aimed at providing children, especially girls, the opportunity to learn IT skills, opening up new worlds of opportunity to them. We are also helping the wider communities in these villages, evidenced by the vocational training (in embroidery) of women living in our "slum school" village. We have gained tax deductible status in India and are in the final stages of achieving this status in Australia.

Yatra Foundation has come a long way in a short time, but we still have a long way to go. We plan on establishing several more slum schools as well as opening more schools in Southern India. We believe that these schools will not only provide an excellent education to their students, but also impetus for change on a much larger scale. We thank you for your shared passion and donations to help us achieve these goals.

Donating to Yatra Foundation

\$30
A MONTH

Funds the education of a child in a Yatra school

\$100
A MONTH

Funds the expenses of a slum school for 25 children

\$200
A MONTH

Funds the salary of a teacher in a Yatra Rural school



The Yatra Foundation welcomes all contributions to help it provide disadvantaged children in India with the opportunity to access education.

As a guide, we've supplied an idea of how specific amounts can help Yatra Foundation deliver these services but donations of any amount are greatly appreciated.

Contributions to the Yatra Foundation can be made by:

Electronic fund transfer (EFT)

Account Name: Yatra Foundation

BSB: 083-088

Account number: 81 287 6964

Cheque

Payable to 'Yatra Foundation' and mailed to:

Yatra Foundation

c/- 265 Pigdon Street

Carlton North, Victoria, Australia 3054

PayPal

please visit the 'donations' page at

www.yatrafoundation.org