



# Borderless World Foundation

Annual Report 2008-09



When we find the right direction,  
all we have to do is continue walking



This annual report presents the progress we have made in 2008-09. We share with you the real impact your support made in the lives of the children and their communities across Kashmir.

We hope it will reinforce your faith in the power of collective action.

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There is no limit to what one can achieve  
when sufficient mental effort is applied

## Where There Are No Men

Roshni who was seated beside me jumped up. Even as she turned to face the rear of the vehicle leaning over the backrest, she began to scream out at the top of her normally soft voice- “Tariqbhaiyya, Tariqbhaiyya!” Our little sister, Soha sat opposite me. She was now pointing in that direction and smiling away. I turned to see Tariq walking up the road, his hands stuffed into the pockets of his favourite brown Pheran. “TARIQ!” I called out. Adik Bhaiyya turned around from the front saying, “Halima, he can’t hear you”. He told the driver to stop and leaned over to open the window by the road. Roshni was now hanging out of that window yelling, “Tariqbhaiyya...**Tariqbhaiyyaaa!**” Tariq stopped to look, nodded in our direction, and walked away.

Our brother is fourteen, not a man yet. But what he just did back there was surely male.

We were on our way to our house in Rajwaad near Kupwara district with Saleema Didi and Adik Bhaiyya. Soha who is two and half was sitting on Didi’s lap while my other sister Roshni sat by the window, looking out pensively. Her lips quivered and quiet tears ran down her cheeks. I put my arms around her. She is ten but a very quiet girl. I too was pensive - which is not often the case.

Last week when I had visited our house in our village, I had to spend the first half hour trying to find out who had the keys to our house. When I finally got in I was shocked to find every item in the house gone- the kitchen utensils, the mattresses, the firewood that I had saved. Even the trees on our property had been chopped down. I noticed that the fencing around our neighbours yards had also crept up into ours. These were the neighbours with whom I would leave Roshni and Soha on nights that I had to go looking for our mother. The neighbour who had given me the keys told me Tariq had left them with her after he sold off everything in the house. Tariq works as a bus conductor. He stays with his employer who pays him six hundred rupees a month. But I guess that is not enough to feed his drug addiction. He has walked away from us. Walked too far to hear us now.

Our father, Abdul Sattar Mir worked as a labourer in Handwara, the town near our village. To make ends meet he would also toil on our patch of rice field and the small apple orchard we owned. He had two brothers. Both were militants. His relation to them was reason enough for the Army to come barging into our house at will, and harass him for information he did not have. They did not stop even after both our uncles were killed. They then insisted that his brothers had left behind arms with Abbu. What one of them *had* left behind was a daughter. Abbu wanted to bring her home to live with us, but her maternal uncle insisted on taking her in. So to secure the child’s future Abbu decided to apply for the money that the government pays out as compensation to the next of kin. He borrowed heavily to fight the case on his niece’s behalf. When the courts finally awarded a lakh and forty thousand as compensation, he put one lakh rupees in the bank for the child and paid off the creditors with the rest.

A few days later he received a legal notice. His niece’s uncle was accusing him of cheating her of her inheritance. The judge ruled that our Abbu was guilty. He was ordered to deposit the forty thousand. In a small village like Rajwaad there is no place to hide with your pain- you bear the cross everywhere you go. A month later, Abbu died a broken man.

Our mother was a silent witness to it all. Not that she did not have anything to say. She was born mute. One day, the emotions that haunted her started to grow into dark demons in her head. She went mad and started to roam the streets of our village. Often I would have to go in search of her in the middle of the night and bring her home. Tariq was never around even then. I would spend the day minding the house and tending to the fields. Roshni would often miss school- she just did not want to go. Soha was only a year old. After a while, our mother went off to live with her brother and his family. When they found it difficult to cope with her illness they got her married off.

Roshni, Soha and I were left to fend for ourselves. The village elders and our relatives decided to marry me off. In Kashmir when a girl gets married she becomes a wife, a daughter-in-law, a mother, a hostess but... mostly a prisoner. But the ones who were supposed to know better felt it was best for the three of us. I wished I had a choice so I could say no. It seemed like everyone had an opinion about our future but none had a home for us.



*On that visit to Rajwaad, Adik managed to persuade the elders to protect the property until the sisters are back. Halima does not want to marry yet. She now has about ten thousand rupees saved. She wants to run a tailoring business some day. Roshni attends school regularly and is doing well there, though she still misses her Tariqbhaiyya very much. Soha is two and half and on certain mornings, when she is in the mood, she decides which of the forty eight girls she will accompany to school. It depends on which class she thinks she will have the most fun in. When not in the mood, she stays home at Basera, with Saleema whom she calls Mimmi.*

*The three of them have found a home in Basera-e-Tabassum. Hopefully they will find a brighter future.*

*This is their story as narrated to Ajai Hegde.*

Dear BWF Supporter,

'What is BWF?', we ask ourselves sometimes. We are varyingly referred to as an organisation, a movement, a group... While each of these definitions would fit BWF, it does not capture the essence of what BWF is—a powerful thought.

12 years ago, the thought was powered by passion and little else. Since then, millions of people have contributed to our struggle to protect and nurture girl children in conflict areas like Jammu & Kashmir. However, our work has moved from 'providing relief' to 'ensuring the rights' of girl children.

The past year has been a bigger challenge due to the situation in the valley – the Amarnath agitation, state elections, and innumerable hartals/bandhs that made moving about in Kashmir impossible for over four months. Hence there were programs like our annual Winter Tour and other initiatives that could not be executed.

Despite the hurdles and challenges, we are happy to report that not only has the work been applauded by our various supporters, it has actually reflected in everything we've done during the year. Most of all, we've seen our children walk with a new purpose and a spring in their step.

In 2008-09, BWF has tried to strengthen its effort to attain the basic rights of childhood (the right to survival, protection, development and participation.) Rights that are constitutionally guaranteed to them but are seldom available in full measure without struggle.

In this report, you will read about some of the stories of triumph and Tribulations: of the Borderless World family. We believe that we are at a turning point today. More people like you are ready today, than ever before, to take a stand and support children.

We would like to thank you for sharing our collective dream and contributing your time, money and thoughts towards its realization. We need every last support, every last drop of sweat and most importantly every last voice and blessing that speaks up for girl rights.

*Adhik Kadam,*  
Chairperson

The right way to live is to move forward and greet every experience - pleasant or painful with a grateful heart

*The following are highlights of 2008-09 in which every member at BWF has worked in unison to enable a holistic child development movement:*

**Achievements:**

- Best Annual Report Award (2008): Borderless World Foundation was awarded the Best Annual Report award in the small NGOs category. The CSO Partners' Outstanding Annual Report awards 2009 for the Voluntary Sector is an annual event organised in partnership with FMSF, Credibility Alliance and MCC. The Award of Rs.300,000 (three lakhs) has been deposited into the corpus fund of Borderless World Foundation. The income generated from it will be used for the benefit of the projects in J&K.
- Sarvar Jaan, our child from the Kupwara Home stood first in an essay competition held in Mumbai. She participated in the competition via media.
- Four of our children – Nuzhat Ali, Rabia Hussain, Samira Akhtar & Afroza Akbar – won the top four awards at the national level photography contest organized by NCERT.
- Jameela Rather from Kupwara stood first in her school examinations (Alexandra Mission School, Kupwara).



It is not the mountain we conquer but ourselves

*Working with girl children in a conflict area calls for special sensitivities. The objective of our Child Development program is to bring about a positive change in the child with her active participation in the planning. We are consciously attempting to assess each child's aptitude and interest. The challenge is in conforming to local cultural, political and religious sensitivities. The aim is to equip the child with the necessary skills and knowledge that will help her rise above the situation and be strong and independent. We are networking with the local community and professionals from the rest of the country to achieve this.*

### Photography Workshop (Oct 2008):

Well-known photographer, Nitin Upadhye conducted a one week workshop on Photography at Kupwara. 6 girls went around Kashmir shooting hundreds of pictures on 6 Digital SLR cameras.

This workshop- cum-expedition's objective was to help children learn more about themselves, Kashmir and most importantly about photography with an interest.

This workshop, which will be an ongoing one, will prepare them for a new career opportunity. Four of the girls went on to win the top awards at the national level.



A unique notebook for a photography workshop



Countryside



Nuzhat Makhdom Saheb Srinagar



!shrat - as always!

In moment of crisis, only creativity is more important than knowledge

**Other Child Development activities:**

- Psychological profiling and counseling sessions by doctors and counselors of Medicins Sans Frontiers, Kupwara.
- Visit by Sadaf Mir who helped raise funds locally in Kashmir for Home improvements.
- Private tuitions arranged for the children at the Budgam and Kupwara Homes.
- Ensured regular attendance of every child from Basera-e-Tabassum at the local darzghas for islamic studies towards their overall development.
- A visit by a team of doctors to Kupwara, Budgam, and Anantnag. They made professional assessments and started ayurvedic treatments for our children. They also held sessions on reproductive health and personal hygiene.
- Educational material (books, CDs etc.) donated by Om Prakash Foundation and Mr. & Mrs. Kapadia at the Kupwara and Anantnag Homes.
- Visits by Tillotama Shome (an Indian actress from New York), Shubhada Moitra & Prof.Sarvari (professors from TISS, Mumbai), Superintendent of police, Kupwara, Mr. Mushtaq Ahmed Wani with 50 students (principal, govt. degree college, Kupwara), District Collector of Kupwara.



Organizational development:

- Focus on strengthening strategic alliances with grassroots organizations and children's movements. A more intensive outreach program was undertaken to create a network of organizations and people working at various levels to address issues affecting the lives of children. BWF's involvement evolved into a continuous dialogue with these organizations towards the creation of a more symbiotic relationship with them.
- Our manageresses at Kupwara and Budgam went through a computer training course.
- Shifting of our offices at Pune to new, larger premises, and improvements to infrastructure for administration.



## Community Development:

*Presenting a few humble attempts at joining hands and building bridges in the local community that we work in. Our friends and supporters who visit Kashmir add to this endeavour everytime they meet and connect with our local friends. Our engagement with the community helps us build trust and harmony. Hopefully this reinforces the belief in human goodness.*

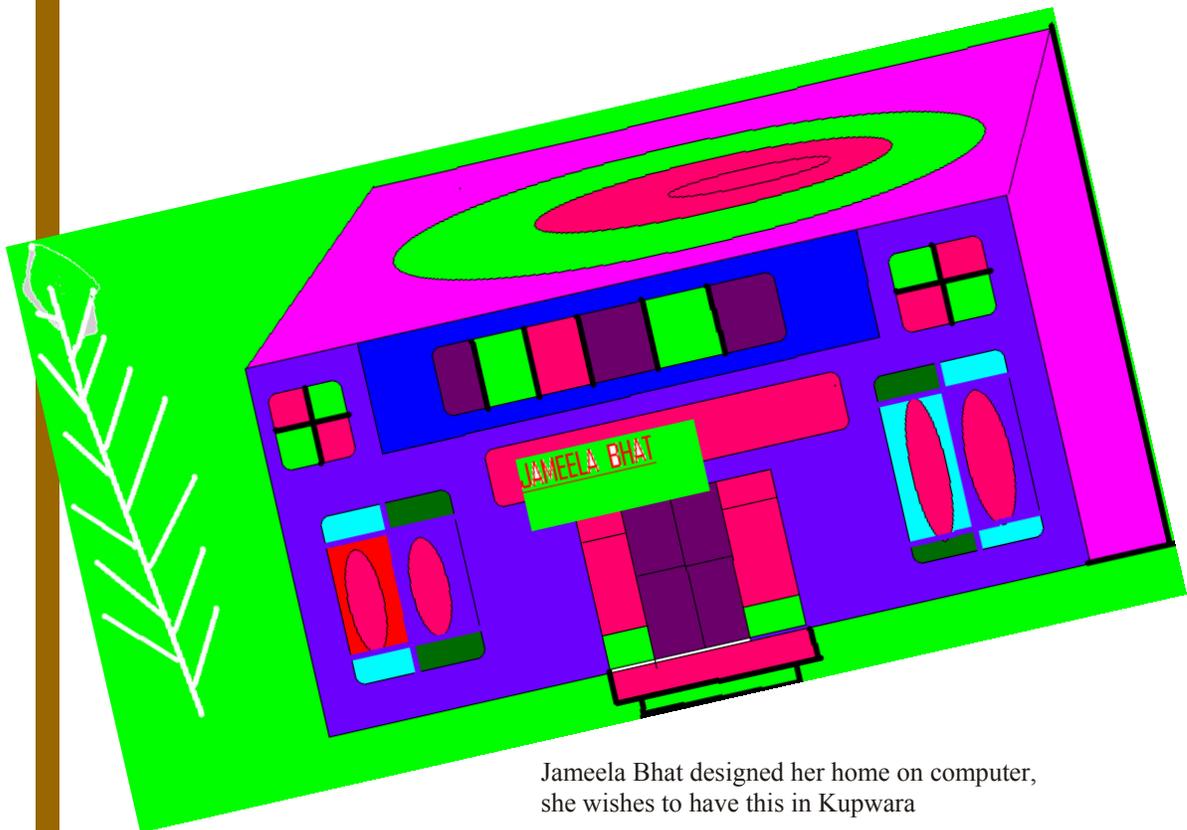
Through our collaboration with the Tata Institute of Social Sciences, Bombay, two students from the institute stayed at Basera-e-Tabassum, Kupwara for a month in May-June, 2008. In their block field-work, as part of their masters studies in social work, they visited the locals, understand the needs of the community, and had classroom interactions with the students of the Government Degree College, Kupwara. Their report has provided *bwf* with background data for future course of action.

- From a total strength of 72 children at the three Homes, through new admissions, we now have 96 girl children who live in the Basera-e-Tabassum Homes.
- Medical check-ups for the community in the three districts (Kupwara, Anantnag, Budgam) by the doctors visiting Basera-e-Tabassum.
- Support to four children from the community in college admissions at Srinagar.
- Extended help to local farmers in networking with businesses in Mumbai and Pune to sell their produce.
- Supported local artisans in connecting with buyers in the rest of the country.
- Helped a local from Kupwara in visiting his family in Pakistan administered Kashmir.
- Helped a displaced Kashmiri girl's family in raising funds for her marriage in Jammu.



The service we render to the less fortunate ones is the rent we pay for inhabiting the body

- Home Improvements (March- April 2008): 2 new toilets built at Anantnag & 3 at Kupwara. The construction at Kupwara was funded by individual donors. The toilets at Anantnag were built with Borderless World Foundation funds.
- Home for the children of the displaced: A home for the girl children of the displaced Kashmiri Pandit community living in the migrant camps at Jammu.
- Basera-e-Tabassum, Budgam, was shifted to new, better premises. The new premises provides more space.
- Basera-e-Tabassum, Anantnag was shifted to larger premises.
- Appointment of Project Development Executive for the three Homes in Kashmir.
- New mattresses and carpets for all three Homes in Kashmir.
- Heaters for winter at the three Homes.
- DVD player for Kupwara and Anantnag Homes.
- Improvements to the electrical at the Budgam Home.
- Trunks and almirahs bought for the three Homes.



Jameela Bhat designed her home on computer, she wishes to have this in Kupwara

Something can be learnt well only by practicing it

Future Plans:

*As always, the challenges have been many, but the satisfaction of seeing the outcome continues to outpace the many hurdles Thank you for being with BWF over the years. We value your partnership and your contribution, be it in money, resources, time, skills and moral support, for the rights of ALL our angels.*

- As per assessed needs, projections and plans for the coming year, we aim to raise approx. 35 lakh rupees in funds.
- Own Hostel: The Basera-e-Tabassum Homes are now run in rented premises. BWF is looking into the possibility of acquiring land in Kupwara, and building a structure that can accommodate all the children at one location. Article 370, and other local laws present a challenge, but with donor support, good legal advice and the support of our local committee, we are confident of completing this project
- Vehicle: Talks with donors on for a vehicle at each centre – for emergencies and coordination.
- Computer at each centre for the children’s education and for more efficient administration.
- Education: Plans to launch an extensive program for improvements in the education of the Basera-e-Tabassum children, and the larger community.
- Health: Plans to launch programs for improvements in the fields of Health (physical, mental, emotional), and hygiene – for the children of Basera-e-Tabassum, and the female population of the community.
- The *bwf* Education & Exposure Tour: The planned education Tour in 2008 could not be conducted due to the situation arising from the Amarnath Yatra agitation. An “Education-Culture Exchange Tour” to Pune, Mumbai, Nashik and the West Coast has been planned. This is to make available to the children training in various educational streams and introduce new cultures to them e.g., a “Fishing Village” on the west coast. Many of them have never seen a sea. This exposure-interaction, we believe broadens their minds as future citizens of the world and in that sense this actually is a step towards helping them become global citizens.



Man is what he desires in his heart

Borderless World Foundation  
Address: C1/1, S No 14/15, Yashwantrao Chavan Nagar, Dhankawadi, Pune 411043  
Registration No: Mah/308/2002/Pune  
BPT Act No.: F-18338 ( Pune )  
Balance Sheet as on 31st March 2009

Funds & Liabilities	Amount	Amount	Property & Assets	Amount	Amount
	Rs. 31.03.2009	Rs. 31.03.2008		Rs. 31.03.2009	Rs. 31.03.2008
Trust Funds or Corpus Balance As Per Last Balance Sheet ( As Per Schedule C )	1,178,909.00	228,909.00	Immovable Properties (At Cost) ( As Per Schedule A )	119,644.85	103,167.85
Other Earmarked funds ( Created under the provisions of the Trust Deed or Scheme or of the Income )	-	-	Assets Against Earmarked Funds Computer	13,800.00	13,800.00
Computer Fund	13,800.00	13,800.00	Investments Fixed Deposit with State Bank of India Fixed Deposit with Bank of India	2,290,945.42 738,453.72	1,191,993.00 -
Loans (Secured Or Unsecured)	-	-	Advances For Office Premises For Telephone Deposit Tax Deducted at Source	35,000.00 - 27,200.00	- 2,300.00 4,108.00
Current Liabilities	-	-	Cash & Bank Balances In Current Account or Fixed Deposit Account ( As Per Schedule B )	874,299.01	751,916.25
Income & Expenditure Account ( As Per Schedule D )	2,906,634.00	1,824,576.10			
<b>Total Rs</b>	<b>4,099,343.00</b>	<b>2,067,285.10</b>	<b>Total Rs</b>	<b>4,099,343.00</b>	<b>2,067,285.10</b>

As per our report of even date.

For C.V.Deshpande & Co.  
Chartered Accountants

*C.V. Deshpande*  
C.V. Deshpande  
(Partner)  
Place : Pune



30 JUL 2009

For Borderless World Foundation

*Rajawade*  
President

*Rajawade*  
Secretary



#### RE: BORDERLESS WORLD FOUNDATION

Notes to and forming party to accounts for the year ended on 31<sup>st</sup> March 2009.

##### 1) Method of Accounting :

- a) The method of accounting :  
The Trust maintains its accounts on cash basis.
- b) Accounting Policies not specifically mentioned are consistent with generally accepted accounting practices.
- c) Depreciation has been provided for on the movable property belonging to the trust as per the previous and consistent practice followed by the trust. The Trust has followed WDV method for as per the previous & consistent practice followed by the Trust. The rates of depreciation are as per the Income Tax Rules 1962.
- d) Fixed Assets are shown at cost less depreciation.
- c) Current Assets Loans & Advances are stated at their realisable value.



For Borderless World Foundation

*Rajawade*  
President

*Rajawade*  
Secretary



**Borderless World Foundation**  
**Address: C1/1, S No 14/15, Yashwantrao Chavan Nagar, Dhankawadi, Pune 411043**  
**Registration No: Mah/308/2002/Pune**  
**BPT Act No.: F-18338 ( Pune )**  
**Income & Expenditure Account for the year ending 31st March 2009.**

Expenditure	Amount		Income	Amount	
	Rs. 31.03.2009	Rs. 31.03.2008		Rs. 31.03.2009	Rs. 31.03.2008
To Expenditure in respect of Properties	-	-	By Interest On Investments	235,400.14	36,101.00
To Establishment Expenses	-	-	On Bank Accounts	3,828.00	23,352.53
To Remuneration To Trustees	73,000.00	56,000.00	By Donations	2,701,872.22	2,091,304.36
To Audit Fees	11,236.00	11,236.00			
To Depreciation ( Sch : A )	28,403.00	17,676.00			
To Expenses on the Object of the Trust (Sch: E)	1,746,403.46	1,333,493.00			
To Surplus for the year carried to Balance Sheet	1,082,057.90	732,352.89			
<b>Total</b>	<b>2,941,100.36</b>	<b>2,150,757.89</b>	<b>Total</b>	<b>2,941,100.36</b>	<b>2,150,757.89</b>

As per our report of even date.

For C.V.Deshpande & Co.  
Chartered Accountants

*C.V. Deshpande*  
C.V.Deshpande  
(Partner)  
Place:



For Borderless World Foundation

*Prakash*  
President

*Ratnawale*  
Secretary



**ANNEXURE TO AUDIT REPORT FOR YEAR ENDED 31<sup>ST</sup> MARCH 2009  
UNDER THE BOMBAY PUBLIC TRUST ACT, 1950.**

1. We were not in a position to make physical verification of cash as on 31.3.2009 and have relied upon the information given by the trustees.
2. Where ever Third party supporting for expenditure incurred was not available we have relied upon the self made vouchers prepared by the assessee.



SCHEDULES FORMING PART OF BALANCE SHEET AS ON 31.3.2009  
SCHEDULE :A MOVABLE PROPERTIES

Particulars	WDV as on 1.4.2008	Addition Before 30.09	Addition After 30.09	Deduction	Total	Rate	Depre- ciation	WDV as on 31.3.2009
Furniture & Fixtures	38,461.79	-	-	-	38,461.79	10%	3,846.00	34,615.79
Gas Heater	8,189.40	-	-	-	8,189.40	15%	1,228.00	6,961.40
Kitchen Utensils	24,659.89	-	-	-	24,659.89	15%	3,699.00	20,960.89
Mattress	531.10	-	-	-	531.10	10%	53.00	478.10
Mobile	1,757.00	-	1,500.00	-	3,257.00	15%	376.00	2,881.00
Transformer	6,741.67	-	-	-	6,741.67	15%	1,011.00	5,730.67
Camera	12,020.43	-	-	-	12,020.43	10%	1,202.00	10,818.43
Computer	4,428.70	6,600.00	29,580.00	-	40,608.70	60%	15,491.00	25,117.70
Television set	5,847.75	-	7,200.00	-	13,047.75	15%	1,417.00	11,630.75
Telephone Instrument	530.12	-	-	-	530.12	15%	80.00	450.12
<b>Total</b>	<b>103,167.85</b>	<b>6,600.00</b>	<b>38,280.00</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>148,047.85</b>		<b>28,403.00</b>	<b>119,644.85</b>

\* The Rates of Depreciation are as per the Income Tax Rules.



SCHEDULES FORMING PART OF BALANCE SHEET AS ON 31.3.2009  
SCHEDULE : (B) CASH AND BANK BALANCES

Particulars	Amount (Rs.)
<b>Cash In Hand</b>	23,146.35
<b>Bank Balances:</b>	
Bank of India : A/c 050810210000001, Pune Branch	687,322.44
State Bank of India : A/c 9068, Kupwara Branch	13,031.56
State Bank of India : A/c 5302, Foreign Currency Account	68,733.63
State Bank of India : A/c 10363973619	81,384.03
Beerwah J & K Bank:	681.00
<b>Total</b>	<b>874,299.01</b>

SCHEDULE : (C) TRUST FUND

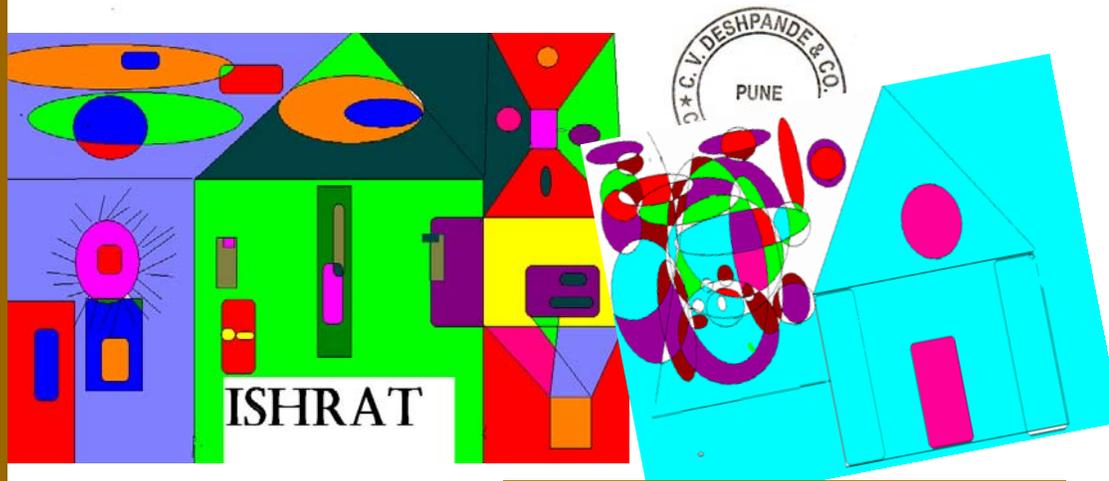
Particulars	Amount
	<b>Rs</b>
Opening Balance as per Balance Sheet as on 31 March 2008	228,909.00
Add : Donation Received For Corpus	950,000.00
<b>Balance As On 31 March 2009</b>	<b>1,178,909.00</b>

SCHEDULE : (D) INCOME & EXPENDITURE ACCOUNT

Particulars	Amount
	<b>Rs</b>
Opening Balance as per Balance Sheet as on 31 March 2008	1,824,576.10
Less: Appropriation for last year	-
<b>Additions During The Year</b>	<b>1,824,576.10</b>
<b>Balance As On 31 March 2009</b>	<b>1,082,057.90</b>
	<b>2,906,634.00</b>

**SCHEDULES FORMING PART OF BALANCE SHEET AS ON 31.3.2009**  
**SCHEDULE (E):- EXPENDITURE TO THE OBJECTS OF THE TRUST**

Particulars	Amount (Rs.)	Amount (Rs.)
<u>Hostel Expenses</u>		
- Clothes	157,860.00	
- Gas Refilling	43,467.00	
- Grocery	333,886.00	
- Medical Expenses	40,259.00	
- Milk, Vegetables & Fruits	113,523.00	
- Miscellaneous	13,581.00	
- Rent	150,925.00	
- Maintenance Expenses	4,570.00	
- Electricity	1,435.00	
- Trunks & Desks	9,700.00	
- Construction Work	53,933.00	
- Entertainment Expenses	6,109.00	
- Utensils	24,732.00	
- Refreshment	6,370.00	960,350.00
Salary		318,850.00
<u>School Expenses</u>		
- Fees	29,465.00	
- School Bags, Books & Shoes	45,634.00	
- Uniforms	14,055.00	
- Stationery Expenses	31,026.00	120,180.00
Conveyance		11,791.00
Office Expenses		9,890.00
Postage & Courier		5,353.00
Printing & Stationery		29,346.90
Refreshment Expenses		9,452.00
Repairs & Maintenance		8,955.00
Telephone Expenses		73,844.56
Travelling Expenses		184,689.00
Website Charges		2,754.00
Bank Charges		6,288.00
Transport		3,370.00
Miscellaneous		1,290.00
<b>Total Rs</b>		<b>1,746,403.46</b>



**BELIEVE**

# At age 22, I have 50 kids

She didn't speak their language, she didn't have much of an education and she was a teenager, yet Salima took on the role of warden and mama to more than 50 children orphaned by militancy in Kashmir. Purabi Shridhar finds out what it takes from the gutsy 22-year-old

**BELIEVE**

**Not just for her girls, Salima has plans for her and higher education too**

**Girls who have lost their families come here and find another, bigger family. Some are victims of the earthquake and others have lost their parents and homes to militancy**

**WE'RE ALWAYS LOOKING FOR A BIGGER HOUSE**

**Mission beautiful Kashmir**

**Preeti Srivastav Posted online: Monday, Oct 13, 2008 at 0324 hrs**

**Borderless World Foundation's photography workshop has not just brought orphaned by violence in Kashmir, but also taught them to view their land through**

**Pune would soon witness the beauty of Kashmir through children's eye, who plaques Kashmir since independence**

**CSO Partners' Outstanding Annual Report Awards 2009**

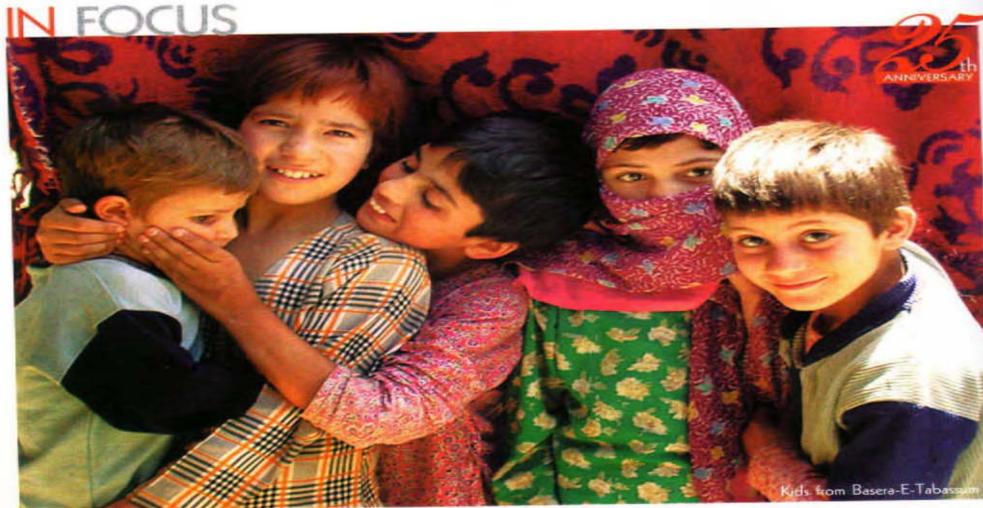
for the Voluntary Sector

Awarded by *Nijahat Habibullah*  
Chief Info officer Govt. of India

**And the Winners of the CSO Partners' Outstanding Annual Report Awards 2009 are.....**

**CATEGORY-I SMALL ORGANIZATIONS**

- 1. Borderless World Foundation (Winner)**  
Borderless World Foundation (BWF) is a Public Charitable Trust established in year 2002 having its registered office in Pune. BWF primarily works for the children orphaned by militancy in Kashmir. The organization works for their rehabilitation, education, health & nutrition and making them self-reliant. The organization has also set up "Basera-e-Tabassum", a rehabilitation centre for orphaned girls where they are provided with food, shelter, clothing and education. The organization conducts health camps, educational tours, workshops and other curricular activities to ensure the holistic development of these children.
- 2. Dream a Dream (Runner up)**  
Dream a Dream is a Public Charitable Trust established in year 1999 having its registered office in Bangalore. The organization defines its work as "Dream a Dream empowers children from vulnerable backgrounds by developing life skills skills at the same time providing them



# guns & roses

Kashmir's terror hit kids want peace and are working towards a terror free life. Sumita Chakraborty reports.

**S**now-capped mountains, emerald green valleys, rosy red apple orchards, kaleidoscopic meadows of wild flowers... and the azure blue waters of the famed Dal lake, where many a honeymooning couple on *shikaras* sail by... Picturesque, isn't it? Quite like the Biblical 'Garden Of Eden' ... Unfortunately, the serpent of hate, violence and extremism has sullied its pristine beauty, rendering it wounded and hapless. Bomb blasts, grenade attacks and the rat-a-tat-a-tat of deadly AK56s have become part 'n' parcel of life in Kashmir. In fact, thanks to over three decades of terrorism in the state, more than 1,20,000 human lives have been snuffed out by bullet bombs and more than 80,000 widowed. But the worst

violence are the children of Kashmir. More than 1,50,000 children have been orphaned, including the kids of policemen and terrorists.

**TRAUMA, UNPLUGGED!**  
According to Adhik Kadam, chairman, Borderless World Foundation, an NGO which rehabilitates terror struck children at borders, "Kashmir, like most of our borders, is a hot-bed for terrorism. But more than anybody else, kids have been hit badly. We ourselves have seen this first-hand as we've been working in Kashmir for the past 13 years."  
He adds, "Our project 'Basera-E-Tabassum' is a shelter for girls who have been traumatized by terrorism and violence. All these kids have been raised beyond humane levels and most of

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**IN FOCUS**

years ago, this rosy cheeked chubbish girl had seen her father being killed right before her eyes. Her father Ghulam Ah Shah was a years ago, surrendered to the police as working at a hotel with his brother. A sting of terrorism reared its ugly head again dead by militants from his own ilk at his. Rubrena Bano's mother, Wah, traumatized by her husband's death, tending for her four kids without having

**REAL EYES**  
Photographer for every 'National Geographic' projects of doing away with violence and terrorism."

**DEBATE VOICE**  
"There is no real Kashmir issue."

**HELP LINE**  
Another terror hit kid, eight-year-old Rakaya Hashim, a cheery kid, she is an absolute joy to talk to. Spreading smiles to the dozens, little Rakaya loves to tell stories and sing. She also makes up her own stories and songs. In fact, looking at her, nobody would imagine that this child had been hit by terror since an early age. Rakaya's mother had been hit by terror since an early age. Rakaya's mother turned informer for the army, along with his one-year-old son, was killed by a landmine placed in his house by the militants. Hanifa Begum survived the attack. Hanifa, who now works in the Social Welfare Department in charge of the Widows Project, put Rakaya into Basera-E-Tabassum at the age of two as she was too poor to look after her.

**"I think it's time people understand that violence is not the solution for anything. In fact, all it does is cause more pain and trauma."** - Jameela

**child is ever hurt again!**  
Basera-E-Tabassum's manager, caretaker and I joined this organization at the age of 16, honestly, I was just looking for a job. But today, working for these kids, especially ones who have faced such hell. When these kids had first come, they were so traumatized. When these kids had first come, they were so traumatized. Some had seen their parents shot dead in front of them, others were

**25**

Today, Jameela is in the seventh standard at the Alexandra Mission School and she wants to be a computer engineer when she grows up. A very intelligent girl, she measures each word as she speaks. "I think it's time people understand that violence is not the solution for anything. In fact, all it does is cause more pain and trauma. There are many children like me who are innocent victims of terrorism. Kashmir is like *jamrat*, so why are we not doing anything to destroy it? Don't people know that by doing so, we are actually killing the very place that

of the Kashmiri situation with families. Today, we are finally seeing the light. We have a beautiful, but we cannot see it clearly. They live their lives in their hearts."

nurtures us? I think we should spread awareness. We should talk things out. Political grievances should be debated across the table and not through bullets and bombs."  
So what does she plan to do to make Kashmir's future look into the past and see what happened. I don't want to time to be better. I want to go forward and make Kashmir a better place to live in. I want to stand on

Rubrena Bano

To believe in the things you can see and touch is no belief at all. But to believe in the unseen is both a triumph and a blessing.

We are thankful to all our Donors friends and well-wishers who constantly help our foundation for its social work in Kashmir. We are grateful for such strong support from following organizations and persons:-

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If unknowingly we forgot to add name of our friends & BWF's wellwishers & supporters, we apologize for the same. Truly speaking all the success of BWF today is only because of their help, unconditional support & love. We are very thankful to Great Almighty for sending so many friends & wellwishers who always stood behind us not only as a support but more so a part of us always guiding us through this Godly path.

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*Thank you for Everything*



“Everything is possible .....  
the impossible just takes a little longer.”

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Unselfish and noble actions are the most radiant pages in the biography of souls