

### **NISHKAM TIMES**

Empowering Minds - Enabling Underprivileged - Elevating Futures NEWSLETTER Nov. 2024 - Jan. 2025



#### Nishkam Alumni Achieves Academic Excellence

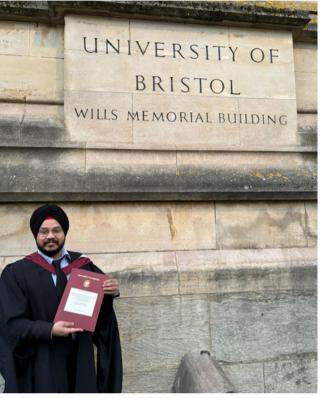
Gagandeep Singh, a proud Nishkam alumni from Tilak Vihar, secured a PG degree in MSc Finance & Investment from the prestigious University of Bristol, United Kingdom (UK), He expressed his heartfelt gratitude to the Nishkam Sikh Welfare Council for their unwavering support throughout his academic journey, from his initial stages to the postgraduation, which was also supported by a special scholarship.

A resident of Tilak Vihar, where most of the 1984 Sikh victims' families are living, he lost his father when he was just 4 years old in 2005. Hailing from an underprivileged background, from the beginning Gagan knew about the struggle and the value of education and incrementally pursued his dreams to attain academic excellence in his chosen field.

Gagan is quite a humble & down-to-earth person and has been volunteering in almost every Nishkam activity in Delhi. An aspiring go-getter with focused attention on his future goals, Gagan has a bright future ahead

Gagan's commendable achievement earned him a PG scholarship under the minorities quota from the Government of India worth GBP 47300/- (around Rs.50 lacs) while NIshkam contributed an additional amount of Rs 4 lakh.

Nishkam wishes him new horizons to explore, new dimensions to, discover and new heights to scale in pursuit of his career





Year 2020- Gagandeep while receiving his college scholarship at Nishkam Bhawan



Year 2021- While volunteering opportunity at Sukho Khalsa School- Delhi















# Achiever



## Inspiring story of Nishkam's alumni CA Geetanshu Pal





Geetanshu with Nishkam members. S. Hardeep Singh (L) and S. Ranjeet Singh (R)



Year 2016- Geetanshu while receiving her school scholarship at Bhai Joga Singh School

We are thrilled to share the inspiring success story of Ms Geetanshu Pal, who has recently achieved the remarkable milestone of becoming a Chartered Accountant (CA).

The journey of her life underscores the transformative power of Nishkam by investing in education and mentorship coming from a modest background—her father an embroidery worker—Geetanshu's achievements are a beacon of hope and inspiration. A moment of immense pride was her speech in English at a scholarship award ceremony, where her father, though unfamiliar with the language, radiated with joy witnessing his daughter shine on stage.

She announced her plans to volunteer at Nishkam to help and inspire others and also made a promise to give back as much as possible to the organization, which supported her academic career.

Geetanshu's association with Nishkam began nearly 9 years ago during a talent search program conducted by the Nishkam team at Bhai Joga Singh Khalsa Girls' Senior Secondary School, New Delhi. Recognizing her potential, she was encouraged by the team to pursue the Commerce stream, where she excelled, scoring an impressive 90% in her 12th-grade exams to earn 9 back-to-back scholarships from Nishkam at school and college level.

Geetanshu is a shining example of how Nisham continues to nurture and transform raw talent into empowered and accomplished individuals. Nishkam celebrates her outstanding accomplishments and takes pride in her commitment to giving back to society with the hope that Geetanshu's example would create a ripple effect to encourage aspiring volunteers and enthuse prospective donors.

#### Nishkam Career Builder Scholarship Exam

Nishkam conducted its Annual Scholarship exam for students pursuing professional courses in various fields, including pharmacy, engineering, IT, CA, MBA, agriculture, and more. The exam was aimed at identifying deserving and promising students to provide them with substantial financial support, mentorship, and skill development opportunities to pursue their chosen courses. A total of 92 students appeared for the exam, with 36 students taking the exam at the Nishkam premises in New Delhi and 56 students at the Guru Nanak Dev Engineering College in Ludhiana (Punjab).

Students pursuing a professional course belonging to families with an annual income of up to ₹5 lakhs were eligible to take this exam and benefit from mentorship and assistance in developing requisite skills. This initiative is part of Nishkam's continuing efforts to support meritorious students from economically weaker backgrounds.





### **SUCCESS SPEAKS**

## IMPAGT

Vocational Education
Success Stories

## Nishkam brightens the future of a budding Graphic Designer

Chetna, a final-year BA student studying graphic design at the Nishkam Centre has effectively applied the 2D animation and advanced graphic design skills acquired at Nishkam. She is currently helping her father in managing a small business by designing logos and artwork for shoes at their family-owned business in Delhi. She remains a regular student at Nishkam to further her understanding of advanced graphic design courses.



# Nishkam's Digital Literacy Champions!

Nishkam's digital literacy program has empowered 3 brilliant students from marginalized families in Punjab to secure their dream IT jobs. Their determination and skill set acquired with the support from Nishkam, gave them a pride of place in their families. Ms. Sanju's father is running a small tea shop while Ms. Sapna's father is a fruit seller and Sarbjeet Singh's father manages a small grocery shop. Team Nishkam wishes them a bright career ahead.

# **Event:** Workshop on Artificial Intelligence (AI)

organized a workshop on Artificial Intelligence (AI) on 9 November for students of the Computer Centre, Tuition Centre, and Library. Our distinguished guest speaker, Mr. Gursimran Singh (B.Tech from NSIT Delhi, Masters in Data Science and Al from the University of Waterloo, Canada), led an engaging and interactive session. Ms. Harleen Kaur, a student of Artificial Intelligence at the Guru Tegh Bahadur Institute of Technology in Delhi, expertly introduced students to the basics of AI, sparking and excitement. With around enthusiastic students in attendance, the response was overwhelmingly positive.





SPEAKER HARLEEN

### Empowering Sikligar Children through Education (Field Visits)

As part of Nishkam's ongoing Education Project for Sikligar Children, our members and supervisors visited various schools across Uttar Pradesh and Haryana. The Sikligar Project, which began in Karnataka in 2000, has expanded to several states, including Uttar Pradesh, Rajasthan, Haryana, Delhi, and Maharashtra.

During the period Nov'24 - Jan'25, Nishkam teams engaged with schools, parents, and students. They met with school authorities and faculties where Nishkam supports the children. They assessed children's performance, identified areas of improvement, and met with parents to discuss their progress. These visits also helped us to identify the talented children who can be mentored in the future, as well as active parents who can serve as points of contact for future interactions.











Our Sikligar students are on a winning streak while participating in various school-level competitions across UP and Haryana. Jaspreet Singh of class 9, Arun Singh of class 6, Khushi Kaur and Preeti Kaur (both in class 5), students of Sant Hari Dass High School in Jatheri, Sonepat, Haryana, participate in the science exhibition /competition at regional school level where the team earned praises with the models they made on different topics. They all are the beneficiaries of Nishkam and are getting help from Nursery onwards.

#### **Winning Champions**

The school playground was overflowing with the zeal, passion, and excitement of our Sikligar beneficiary students while outshining many other fellow athletes in Shanti Devi Public, Raghunathpur, UP. Malkeet Kaur earned 1st position in the Balloon Race while Avneet Kaur earned 3rd position in the Lemon Race. Jasmeet Singh earned 1st position in the 100-meter race, and Hardeep Singh won 2nd position in the 100-meter race. They won hearts with their energetic performances. It is a matter of pride that Nishkam's efforts are showing promising results in uplifting the morale and dignity of the Sikligar community through educational projects.









### Students from Jaspal Kaur Public School visit Nishkam Centre



A group of teachers, parents, and students from Jaspal Kaur Public School in Delhi visited Niskam Bhawan as part of their community outreach initiative. They inspected Nishkam's medical centre, library, typing, and computer centre and interacted with the teachers and staff as well. The delegation shared their perspectives on ongoing projects and gifted stationery items to tuition centre children. They also discussed their experiences with social service and issues of human support needed for welfare.

#### 555th Prakash Purab of Guru Nanak Patshah and the 40th anniversary of Nishkam's journey

Nishkam organized a solemn celebration to mark the 555th Prakash Purab of Guru Nanak Patshah and the 40th anniversary of Nishkam's journey of selfless service on 17 November at its premises in New Delhi. With a vision to prepare our children and youth for event featured future leadership roles, the performances by Nishkam students and youth teachers in anchoring, kirtan seva, poetry, and skits. Nishkam Music Center's students captivated the audience with their spiritual kirtan. Other cultural performances included poetry recitation, narration, skits, and a slideshow of Nishkam's 40-year-old journey. S. Harbhajan Singh, President Nishkam along with other senior members attended the celebrations and delivered inspiring remarks.









#### Tribute & Rememberance



### Thank you for standing with us!

#### Late Dr. Manmohan Singh Ji

Former Prime Minister and Finance Minister of India 26 Sep. 1932 - 26 Dec. 2024

Nishkam proudly recalls a fruitful meeting of its office bearers with the late PM of India, Dr. Manmohan Singh. In his usual humble style, Dr. Singh impressed everyone with his remarkable, insightful remarks and offered suggestions further improving Nishkam's outreach philanthropic appeal. It was an incredible experience for Team Nishkam. Dr. Singh shared that he too was doing the same work being done by Nishkam through his "Dr. Manmohan Singh Scholarships, which supports Indian students in pursuing doctoral studies at St. John College, University of Cambridge. His advice to Nishkam was to adopt a holistic approach of 'Giving Back to Society' that could help transform the society we live in. Team Nishkam salutes the unparalleled achievements of Dr. Manmohan Singh. During a memorial service, DSGMC passed a resolution to start a scholarship in economics in his name in all the colleges run by the committee in Delhi and resolved to put up Dr. Manmohan Singh's photographs in all its institutions across the national capital.

### **365 Opportunities**

#### Donate Generously

www.nishkam.org/donate/

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