

A project for a community, A project by women.

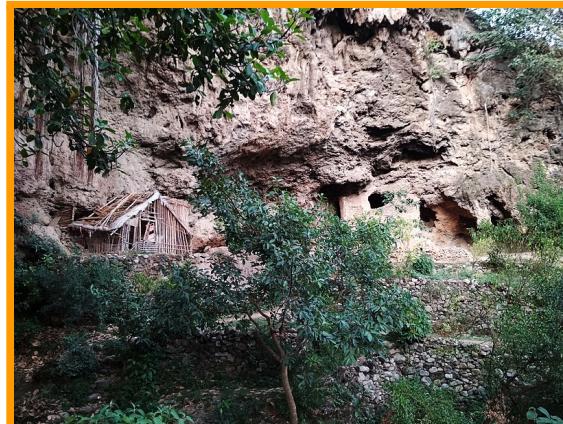
Donate now to support those in need!
Every cent donated will be used to help.

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Jeanne Ursina Cordy
(This bank account exists solely for the project)

Villages of Islamabad, -Pakistan

Shah Allah Ditta (شاہ اللہ دتھ) is a deprived Pakistani village near Islamabad. It is famous for the 2000 years old beautiful Buddhist caves nearby.

The villagers have not yet had the chance to benefit from this exceptional heritage and live in indescribable poverty.



Burma Town- Other villages in the region, such as Burma Town, are in equally difficult situations and are unable to break the circle of poverty on their own. Until recently, the children had no access to school and the public service is totally non-existent.

But together we can change this!

My story



My story is that of a young Swiss woman who is aware of how lucky she is to have been born by chance in one of the few places on Earth where life is so easy. Accepting this privilege without abusing it is one thing, sharing it is another, much more difficult. How can we allow as many people as possible to lead a life as beautiful and easy as ours without imposing our values and respecting their differences? Next autumn, it is with this objective in mind that I will start a Master's degree in International Development at the IHEID in Geneva. In the

meantime, I will take advantage of the university summer holidays to start helping those who need me.

Why Shah Allah Ditta?

While on an academic exchange in Beijing, China, in 2019, I developed a strong friendship with Dan, a student in London of Pakistani origin. His family is committed to improving the lives of Pakistanis. When I asked him last March if he knew of any project that could use my

support, it took him no more than an hour to put me in touch with several local NGOs. So many of them need support! Unfortunately we cannot do everything. After a long reflection, I decided to get involved in the projects in Shah Allah Ditta and Burma Town in collaboration with the NGOs Akho and Sunbeams.



Partnership with Sunbeams and AKHO

The misery of Shah Allah Ditta and Burma Town has not left the charities Sunbeams and AKHO indifferent. Both were founded by selfless Pakistani women and focus on different aspects of poverty. With me as an intermediary they are joining forces for efficient projects.

SUNBEAMS



Since 2014 Sunbeams and its founder Aine Nasir have opened several schools in Pakistan to provide affordable quality education to local children. As a result of this commitment, more than 3000 children have seen their future prospects broaden. In the future they will be able to break the cycle of poverty in which the community is currently trapped. Sunbeams also offers vocational training for adults. It has multiple workshops where women can learn skills to make a living or evening classes for adult literacy.

<https://sunbeams.pk/>

AKHO



AKHO, founded by Huma Beg, focuses on feeding the vulnerable through the distribution of food for the poorest and the empowerment of women. In addition, it offers informal schooling to children who missed out on school. AKHO is also expanding to offer vocational training where participants will learn dress and soap making, etc. The women, thus equipped with manual skills, will be integrated into the workforce and participate in raising the standard of living of their families and community.

<http://akho.org.pk>

My commitment

My involvement in Shah Allah Ditta and Burma Town will be mainly focused on the coordination between Sunbeams and Akho and the development of new joint projects. By supporting me, you will be improving the lives of dozens of families, empowering hundreds of women and protecting the cultural heritage of an entire region.

Coordination



Improving coordination between local actors will increase the efficiency of their work while reducing costs. They will be able to allocate more of their limited resources to projects and less to administration. The villagers will benefit even more from our efforts!

Apart from my coordination work, I will also assist both associations with their projects.

Eco-tourism

Developing a model of sustainable ecological tourism beneficial for the locals will be the challenge that will occupy most of my time. Shah Allah Ditta does not currently have access to the most basic infrastructure such as waste collection. How do you attract tourists to an area where the ground is covered in garbage? Another challenge is to ensure that the villagers are the main beneficiaries of our work. How do we include them in every aspect of the future of their area? Finding community-based solutions to these and other problems is crucial to improving the economic situation of the people and preserving their wonderful environment.



Women and children empowerment through work and education

One aspect that needs to be addressed urgently is the inclusion of all in the common effort for the region. In Pakistan, men have always had the role of bringing the means of



livelihood home. They are therefore the dominant economic actors of the community. Due to lack of education women are left out from the work force and are therefore financially dependent on their husbands. Not only is half of the working age population struggling to work, at the expense of the economy, but at the individual level the women of the region need to build their skill level.

Sunbeams's sewing workshop in Shah Allah Ditta has already proven to be effective in helping many women to empower themselves and improve their families' income. Many more women in the region are wishing to participate and receive education. Unfortunately their demand has not been met yet because of limited resources.

Thankfully AKHO is moving its informal school to Burma Town and making it better. They will help give children who never went to school another chance. The school will host 30-40 young students daily and run adult education classes in the evening. AKHO center in

Burma town wants to be a place

where people can go for help.

Locals are being trained to manage the issues of the local women who have nowhere to go.

Helping Akho replicate this successful model in Burma Town so that more women have access to it will be my third task.



How YOU can make a difference

Donate to support me in this project !

Every cent donated will be invested in the best possible way for the well-being of the most underprivileged people in Shah Allah Ditta and Burma Town. I will take care of all my personal expenses (transport, accommodation, food,...). Your contribution could, for example, finance the creation of a waste collection system in the village, the adaptation of houses to accommodate tourists, sewing machines, teaching material, etc. Once I am there I will be able to see the needs of the community more clearly and invest our resources where people REALLY need them.

As an indication, a sewing machine costs about CHF 60.-, an instructor's salary CHF 90.-. To simply furnish a guest room, it costs at least CHF 250.-.

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Cordy Jeanne Ursina

(bank account dedicated to this project)

Thank you for your help !

Follow me and spread the word !

Follow me on Instagram and LinkedIn and spread the word! I'll keep you updated on progress and ongoing work. You will also learn about the individuals you support and the beauty of the village of Shah Allah Ditta that you are helping to protect.



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