



News

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About us

ici & ailleurs (here & elsewhere) is an association which was established in Mont-sur-Lausanne in May 2011.

The purpose of the association is to raise funds to support aid projects in Pakistan.

The association has set itself the objective of promoting projects supporting the education, teaching and guidance of children. For humanitarian reasons it considers necessary, it may seek funding for any useful aid project in Pakistan.

The association ici & ailleurs does not adhere to any religious or political groups. It is committed to operating voluntarily and all activities and funds raised are entirely for the projects it supports.

If you wish to receive our statutes, please contact us at:

icietailleurs.1052@gmail.com

The committee of the association:

President

Vice President

Secretary

Our activities

Our main activity is to support the expansion of an already existing school in Karachi to provide education for a further 80 students!

The reasons that motivated this project are:

- ✚ Access to care and free schooling for children from disadvantaged families
- ✚ Access to care and free education for street children and illiterate adults
- ✚ A strong representation of girls and young women among students



- ✚ A philosophy that conveys civic and democratic values through which children of different religions and ethnicities coexist

Education and care for all members of a family help combat neglect and exploitation of the weakest, offering beneficiaries the opportunity to build a future. We believe that the efforts of "The Garage School" promote equality of opportunity in a population severely affected by poverty, natural disasters and ethnic conflicts.

Through your donations, "ici & ailleurs" has been able to finance the following activities:

- ✚ 2013

Payment of rent of the second floor and the salaries of two teachers for the period January to June 2013 – CHF 4,206.

- ✚ 2012

Payment of rent of the second floor for the entire year – CHF 4,662.

Payment of the salary of one teacher – CHF 150 per month until the end of 2012

Purchase of 74 jumpers for students - CHF 295.

- ✚ 2011

Delivery of two computers for students

Payment of rent of the second floor of TGS for the period September to December 2011 - CHF 420 per month.

- ✚ In 2011 and 2012, 100% of donations were allocated to our activities.

Thank you for your support !



Support us

Your donations allow ici & ailleurs to support 80 students of "The Garage School" in Karachi.

Our commitment is motivated by:

- ✚ Providing care and free education to the poor children of the neighbourhood.
- ✚ Educating street children and illiterate adults.
- ✚ Ensuring a strong female representation among students.
- ✚ Transmitting civic and democratic values to children of different ethnic groups and religions.

If you wish, you can help us!

Make your payments to:

By bank transfer:

By postal payment slip:

If you wish to offer a donation and to make your payment easier, just send us an email with your details to icietaillleurs.1052@gmail.com and we will send you a payment slip.



Message from the President

Le Mont, January 2013

I wish you a good new year and hope you will enjoy the winter season.

In December 2012, I had the chance to make a private trip to Pakistan. During my stay, I visited *The Garage School* several times and I would like to share my impressions.

My visits allowed me to speak at length with Shabina Mustafa, director of the school, Sarah Adnan, her deputy, as well as some teachers. I received a very warm welcome and I was given the opportunity to walk about freely in the building. So I visited the classes, took part in lessons and got to know the students. Through conversations with them, I came to realize their fluency in English. During a visit to one class, I was allowed to read a geography test with a student just before he took it, and I was pleasantly surprised at the high level required and the knowledge of the student. On another occasion, I spoke with three students preparing for exams corresponding to the Secondary School Certificate. I leafed through their books on physics and mathematics with them, and once again was struck by the level required. Overall, therefore, I was very satisfied with the academic requirements of *The Garage School*.

The nursery and primary classes were preparing *The Garage School* Christmas Party and the classes were full of handicraft works and Christmas carols. I was very pleased to see that for some Christian school children, *The Garage School* celebrated Christmas. Similarly, I learned that the major Hindu feasts are also celebrated with all the children. Respect for minorities and inter-community dialogue is a core value of *The Garage School*.

One day, when school had finished, I was asked to accompany some students to their homes, which I did with great pleasure. Arriving in front of their houses, I was warmly invited to enter and drink tea. Because I was associated with *The Garage School*, the students' families told me how grateful they were. Through these visits, I came to realise on the one hand the precarious living conditions of the children we support (families of 5 to 7 in apartments of less than 25 m²), and on the other the prominent role that *The Garage School* plays in the lives of these families. Indeed, in some cases *The Garage School* finances the renovation or conversion of homes so that children have a better environment for studying.

With these few words, I wanted to tell you that my visits really helped me to appreciate the quality of this school and I can testify that the 2nd floor of *The Garage School* is a good investment for the school's mission. In conclusion, we have confirmation of the solid foundation of our choice to support *The Garage School*.

Through my words, the management, teachers and students of *The Garage School* thank you for your generous support. And for my part, on behalf of ici & ailleurs, I share our deep appreciation for your solidarity.

Regards,



Le Mont, June 2011

During our last trip to Karachi in October 2010, while I was in the commercial district of Neelum Colony, I noticed many children lying around in the street, begging or scavenging. I started looking for schools in the area. To my surprise, I found several and I decided to meet the management of three of them. *The Garage School* in particular caught my attention and I have since stayed in touch with its founding director.

Shabina Mustafa founded the Garage School in 1999. She opened the school in her house in Clifton – actually in her garage! She took in thirty children from poor families free of charge. Given the success of her initiative, she decided to rent an apartment in Neelum Colony, not far from Clifton, to accommodate more children. Since then, she has dedicated herself entirely to this activity, with courage, professionalism and strong determination.

The school operates solely through donations. It now has about 200 students and twenty teachers (the Garage + apartment). Morning classes (7.30-14.00) are intended primarily for children aged 5 to 16. Three languages are taught – Urdu (the national language), English and Sindhi (the local language) – as well as mathematics, computer science and the arts. The goal is to help as many of these young people as possible to obtain their “Metric” certificate (equivalent to the Secondary School Certificate in Switzerland). The vast majority of the students’ parents are illiterate and none of their families would be able to finance the education of a child.

Afternoon courses (14.30-20.00) are designed for people who want to learn to read and write. These courses are taken by students aged between 7 and 45. In these courses, women predominate among the adults, while children often come from the street and little is known about their parental environment.

Apart from academic education, *The Garage School* also organizes workshops on sewing and cooking. Another important aspect of the philosophy of the school is to take into account certain social values. The school strives to accept students from different ethnic groups. This has even more value given that ethnic violence is part of the daily lives of the people of Karachi. Children of Hindu and Christian faith are equally welcome. The school also teaches civic values and educates these young people to become responsible citizens.

At the same time, *The Garage School* is committed to caring for the health and general well-being of its students. The school provides them with meals, medication if needed and new clothes for the Eid holidays.

Shabina Mustafa contacted me to inform me of an opportunity for expansion. An extra floor in the building where the school is located had become available. This new challenge represents an important financial commitment (rent, teachers’ salaries, equipment, etc.); nevertheless, to cope with the emergency, Shabina Mustafa signed the lease.

To support the development of *The Garage School* in Karachi, the *ici & ailleurs* association has undertaken to finance the 2nd floor.

Ali Kazmi