



THE VEERNI PROJECT

Newsletter

October to December 2022



Dear Friends,

We wish a very happy Holiday Season and a peaceful and prosperous New Year 2023 to all our supporters, the board members of the Fondation Veerni - Switzerland, and the Global Foundation for Humanity - USA.

This report contains the latest news on the Veerni Project.

(Mahendra Sharma)
Director Chief Functionary
Veerni Sansthan

Date: 27.12.2022



ACTIVITIES OF THE VEERNI PROJECT

Educational Activity

Academic Activity:

The Veerni girls are enrolled in two private schools named Modern Senior Secondary School and The Saviour's Academy Secondary School.

The girls from classes 3, 5, and 6 to 8 are attending The Saviour's Academy Secondary School. In-house classes have been conducted at the Veerni

Institute, and teachers are being come from the Saviour's school to teach our girls.



The girls of the classes 9th to 12th have been going to Modern Senior Secondary School on a daily basis. The school provides round-trip transportation on two buses for the Veerni students.

The details of the girls attending schools are given below: -

S. No.	Name of school	Number of girls	Remark
01.	Modern Senior Secondary School	70	Classes conducted at the school
02.	The Saviour's Secondary School	42	Classes conducted at the Veerni Institute
	Total	112	

Extra Tuition Classes:

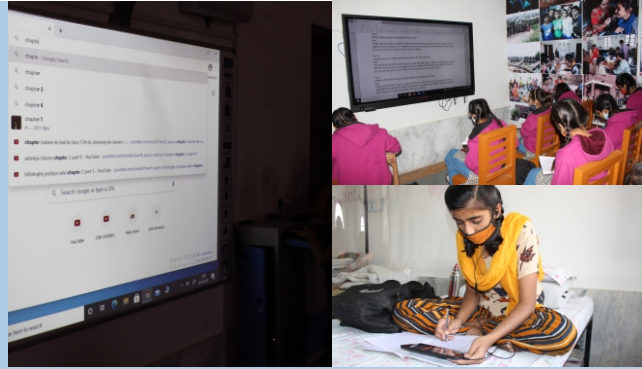
Veerni arranges extra tuition classes for all the girls at the institute. Ms. Meenaxi Rathore is a head teacher and is responsible to organize extra tuition classes. Ms. Saroj Kanwar, Ms. Geeta Devi, Ms. Sarita, and Mr. Jeevan Ram have also been assigned the job to conduct extra tuition classes; all are qualified teachers, and Veerni girls are benefiting from them. The girls receive additional help with their schoolwork during the extra tuition classes, Veerni teachers also solve girls' education-related problems during extra tuition classes.





Online tuition classes:

The Veerni Institute has a well-equipped smart classroom where our girls are receiving additional help with their studies through online lectures. Senior Veerni girls of classes 9 to 12 taking help through online education contents. Online tuition conducted regularly at the Veerni Institute.



Computer classes

Computer classes conduct for an hour every at the Veerni Institute and at Veerni Balika Centre. Veerni has appointed a qualified computer teacher for computer education.



Motivational Lectures

Veerni girls demanded to organize a motivational session with Ms. Amrita Dudhia. Last year, Veerni organized a lot of motivational sessions with Ms. Dudhia, girls felt those sessions were beneficial for them. Ms. Dudhia is a life coach and motivational speaker and she was invited on December 4th to motivate girls. A session was organized on "How to cope with exams anxiety", as Veerni girls prepared for their half-yearly examination. The girls enjoyed the session.



Second Unit Tests

All the Veerni girls appeared in the second unit tests. Both the schools conducted second unit tests from 11th October to 14 October. Veerni girls did well in the second unit tests.





Half-yearly examination

Both the schools have conducted the half-yearly examination in the month of December. Half-yearly exams started on December 9th and were completed on December 19th. All the girls of classes 6 to 12 have participated in the exams. Results of the half-yearly exams will be declared on January 11th.



S.no	Date	Classes	Name of School
1.	9 TH Dec To 19 th Dec 2022	9 th -12 th	K.K MODERN SENIOR SECONDARY SCHOOL
2.	10 th Dec To 19 th Dec 2022	3 rd – 8 th	THE SAVIOURS ACADEMY SECONDARY SCHOOL

New Uniform Distribution

Veerni distributed new uniforms to the girls on 19th October. Veerni girls wore the new dresses and celebrated Diwali festival, they were very happy to receive new uniform.



Medical Activities

Dr. Deora visits weekly (every Thursday) to treat girls' health issues. A full time Nurse – Vimlesh Sharma visits everyday along with a volunteer nurse Syiona who also provides her services on daily basis.

Ms. Mamta a former Veerni girl now became a nurse; she got a government job and has been working at MDM hospital (government hospital). She requested the Veerni staff to stay in the Veerni Institute since she belongs to a village and has no place in Jodhpur to stay. Veerni arranged her stay at the Veerni Institute, in-return Veerni asked her to provide her nursing services in the night, she is not only providing health services but also teaches Veerni girls.

General Medical Health Camps: From October 14th to October 20th, health camps were conducted at the Veerni Institute. All the girls were vaccinated against Tetanus and Typhoid during these health camps. Dr. A.S. Deora, Ms. Vimlesh, and Mamta provided their services during the camps.



S.no	Date	Classes	Vaccination
1.	14-10-22	XI,XII	T.T. & TYPHOID
2.	15-10-22	X	T.T. & TYPHOID
3.	16-10-22	VI	T.T. & TYPHOID
4.	19-10-22	IX	T.T. & TYPHOID
5.	20-10-22	III,VII,VIII	T.T. & TYPHOID

Importance of Hygiene:

The importance of hygiene was explained to the Veerni girls by Mrs. Vimlesh on 8th October. Inappropriate hygiene can be caused many diseases. Our hygiene reflects in several ways; for example clean uniforms, clean rooms, and clean bodies using clean sanitary pads while periods. She also explained to the girls to remain healthy it is necessary to follow cleanliness.



Distribution of Hygiene Kits:

The Veerni Project has been continually providing a Hygiene kit to the Veerni girls. This kit contains a hand sanitizer (1 bottle), a sanitary napkin (2 packets), washable masks (4), bathing soap (4 soaps), and laundry soap (4 soaps), toothpaste & brush (1), shampoo (1 packet), and body lotion (1 bottle). Hygiene kits distributed to all the 112 Veerni girls.



Sport Activity

Veerni girls are encouraged to take an active part in sports. Frequent matches are held between them and girls are divided into four groups named Alfa, Bravo, Delta, and Charlie. Girls wear tracksuits and take great interest in all the events. A new PT teacher Mr. Maan Singh organizes new games for the girls, girls have been enjoying sports activities thoroughly. Sports activities are conducted on daily basis. Sports such as Kabaddi, handball, badminton, tug of war, P.T. drill movements, and skipping rope are organized regularly for the girls.



Parents Meeting

Parents meeting were held regularly at the Veerni Institute and at the Veerni Balika. The following meetings were held:-



S.No	Form Classes	Month/Date
01.	Classes 3rd and 8 th	October 02 nd , 2022
02.	Classes 9 th and 12 th	October 03 rd , 2022
03.	Classes 3rd and 8 th	November 06 th , 2022
04.	Classes 9 th and 12 th	November 13 th , 2022
05.	Classes 3rd and 8 th	December 04 th , 2022
06.	Classes 9 th and 12 th	December 11 th , 2022





Events and Celebrations

Fundraiser during the Annual Venice Marathon



On Sunday the 23rd of October, board members Sita Schutt and Sophie Fauchier, organised a fundraiser during the annual Venice Marathon in aid of the Veerni Project. Sita and her team at Prospero World, who adopted Veerni in the UK, worked enthusiastically to facilitate the digital fundraiser and Sophie managed the seamless organisation of the event in Venice. Josephine Fauchier also generously designed the gorgeous banner and logo.

50 participants signed up for the 10K which is a non-competitive foot race where runners join the final course for 10 km of the Venice Marathon.

We organised 5 teams of roughly 10 participants each, ranging from 9 years old to 83!

Each team had their own fundraising platform with a special name and a team leader who were each related to Veerni:

The Paratha Panthers – Team leader Jacqueline de Chollet & daughter Alexandra Fairbairn:
<https://www.totalgiving.co.uk/appeal/ParathaPanthers>

The Chilli Samosas – Team leader Sita Schutt: this team was made up of teenage girls and their mothers....and one boy!!!

<https://www.totalgiving.co.uk/appeal/ChilliSamosas>

The Poppadom Chicks – Team leader Sophie Fauchier:
<https://www.totalgiving.co.uk/appeal/PoppadomChicks>

The Naan Boys – Team leader Patrick Fauchier:
<https://www.totalgiving.co.uk/appeal/naanboys>

The Dosa Kids – Team Leader Josephine Fauchier:
<https://www.totalgiving.co.uk/appeal/DosaKids>



Our youngest participants, Evie (9) presented the Veerni project to her classmates at Fox Primary School in London.

The day before the big race, all participants gathered at Sophie's home for tea and homemade cakes and collected their bibs and instructions. Jacqueline, Sita and Sophie then introduced the work of the Veerni Project emphasising the importance and value of educating girls.

Following the 10K, everyone came back to Sophie's lovely terrace to celebrate their achievements (10km mostly under 2h) with Bellini and risotto.

It was a great family adventure and the participants were united in their goal to support the girls at Veerni ensuring their future through secondary school education.

The participants were so pleased that they requested that it be an annual event!

Sophie has agreed to organise it again as long as the participants continue to fundraise. A special thanks to Sita Schutt and her formidable team at Prospero World who made it happen.



Last meeting before the big day



Veerni flag is up on the Venice Grand Canal.



Bibs are ready for collection.



7am at departure.



Proudly showing off their medals!



Excursions:

Educational Tour to Chittor Garh

An educational tour of Haldighati and Chittorgarh was organized for the Veerni girls from 17th October to 18 October 2022. The excursion was incredible and was such an amazing experience for the Veerni girls. On 17th October, we went to Haldighati where Maharana Pratap fought the battle with the Mughal emperor Akbar's forces. On the 18th, we reached Chittorgarh where girls visited the fort and enjoyed the trip.



Temple Visit

Veerni girls enjoy visiting a nearby temple. Veerni organizes regularly temple visits for girls.



Dusserha Celebration

The festival symbolizes the victory of good over evil. At the Veerni Institute Dusserha was celebrated on 5th October 2022.





Diwali Festival Celebration

On 20th October 22, Diwali festival was celebrated by the Veerni girls. The entire building of the Veerni Institute was decorated with earthen lamps and beautiful rangolis.



Motivational Movies shown

Veerni is also motivating its students by showing some motivational movies. Every Sunday motivational movies are being shown so girls feel relaxed and refreshed.



Sports Competition

A sports completion was held on 27 November 2022; all the girls participated in various games and prizes were distributed to the winners. Ms. Jacqueline and Mr. Sharma were invited by the girls to see the sports competition, and both along with the Veerni staff enjoyed the sports competition.





Cultural Program and Other Activities of the Veerni Project

Veerni girls have been pressurized during exams, they have performance pressure too of gaining good marks. In such conditions, there is a need for some extra fun activities. Veerni cannot force a girl to just read books and become intelligent. Extra fun activities are also important for overall development of the Veerni girls. Below are description of the various activities conducted in the Veerni institute and Balika centre:-

S. No.	Name of Activity	Date
01.	Drawing Competition	October 10 th , 2022
02.	Writing and Extempore Competition	October 16 th , 2022
03.	Mehndi (Heena) Competition	October 20 th , 2022
04.	Teacher's Day	November 05 th , 2022
05.	Children's Day	November 14 th , 2022
06.	Group Dance Competition	November 20 th 2022

Drawing Competition



Writing and Extempore Competition



Mahandi Competition





Teacher's Day Celebration



Children's Day Celebration



Group Dance Competition





Visitors

The following visitors visited the Veerni Project during the quarter

S. No.	Name	Dates	
		Arrival	Departure
01.	Ms. Sophie Fauchier	06.11.2022	23.11.2022
02.	Ms. Jasmine Schmid	07.11.2022	15.11.2022
03.	Ms. Marina and Tish	14.11.2022	14.11.2022
04.	Ms. Jacqueline de Chollet	11.11.2022	01.12.2022
05.	Mrs. Suba Parmar, Mrs. Ramesh Parmar and Ms. Anu	12.12.2022	12.12.2022

Visit of Ms. Sophie Fauchier and Ms. Jacqueline de Chollet

Ms. Sophie Fauchier one of the board members of the Fondation Veerni -Switzerland, and the Founder of the Veerni Project Ms. Jacqueline de Chollet visited the Veerni Project in the month of October 2022. They both visited the project after a gap of two years. Veerni girls performed the grand welcome for both of the visitors.

During their visit, they saw all the activities of the Veerni Project. They had many formal and informal meets with the Veerni girls at the Veerni Institute and Veerni Balika. Both of them attended the parents' meeting and met the parents of the Veerni girls. They participated in cultural programs performed by girls and also saw the sports activities of the Veerni Institute.

Ms. Jacqueline and Ms. Sophie also visited the Veerni's old villages and met the former Veerni promoters and get to know their struggle during the time of Covid-19.

Ms. Sophie took a lot of pictures of the activities of the Veerni project. Ms. Sophie took a class about Venice, the city where I is living in. Jacqueline has brought a magnificent book, and she explained the Veerni girls about how the city was built, how things worked, and her daily life there.

Also, both of them went to see the possible lands for the Veerni Project, nearly 9 to 12 pieces of properties have been seen during their visit. They were very impressed with the Veerni work.





Visit of Ms. Jasmine Schmid

Ms. Jasmine Schmid a volunteer visited on November 7th, 2022 at the Veerni Project. She came to the Veerni Project as a volunteer and stayed for 8 days. Ms. Jasmine captured a lot of pictures and videos of the various events at the Veerni Institute. She also set up Veerni's social media account on Instagram. Ms. Jasmin visited Veerni's adopted villages.



Visit of Ms. Marina and Tish



Visit of Mr. Ramesh and his wife Mrs. Suba Parmar

Mr Ramesh and his wife Mrs Suba Parmar from New Jersey, USA visited the Veerni Project on December 12th, 2019. Mrs Suba Parmar is one of the Board Members of our Global Foundation for Humanity. Ms Annu also visits with them. Girls from the Veerni institute welcomed them before they saw all the activities of the institute and Veerni's new digital classrooms which were established during the time of Covid-19. All the other facilities of the Veerni Institute have been shown to them. They ordered sweets for all the Veerni girls and distributed them to all the girls. The Veerni Balika Centre – the second centre of the Veerni Project has also been shown to them. The girls of the Veerni Balika centre also welcomed them; girls were busy with their half-yearly examination; they also interacted with the girls and asked about their studies. They were impressed with the activities of the Veerni project. After visiting both the centres they went to see



the possible lands, Veerni is planning to buy for the institute. 3 pieces of properties have been shown to them, they were impressed with the location on which lands are situated. Mr Sharma told them then we are still at a very initial stage, the papers of one of the land have been sent to the lawyer in Delhi for verification and we are still awaiting their reply.



Ms. Sophie Fauchier Report :
Written by Sophie

Veerni is not only a Project it is Family

Finally back

My long-awaited return to the Veerni Institute finally took place this November where I spent 2 weeks.

It was very emotional but also very instructive regarding these dramatic 2 years pandemic they have faced. You could hardly see any trace of the pandemic other than dismantled partitions in the refectory and dormitories, and redistribution of rooms to lodge properly matrons and housemaids and held the 4-8 classes.



I found the project going very well, with old faces but also new little faces.

Education

One of the biggest changes was that classes 4-8 are now held at the Institute.

The teachers appointed from Saviour Academy Secondary School come daily to teach along with the digital school program the curriculum in English medium. These girls are not only in security but also away from the stress of large classes and a big school. Something to consider after the 2 stressful years.

The Veerni team decides to also take 6 younger girls specially affected by the pandemic. They have allocated a mother teacher called Monika who does wonder with these very young girls and assure their enrolment to secondary education at Veerni.

Balika centre

I visited the Balika Centre which is in impeccable condition and where the girls are thriving in this small structure thanks to our sponsor Fotis.

I discussed with the 19 girls (now in class 9-12) about their future. Each of them has a clear idea about what they want to do: 5 wants to be army officers, 3 doctors, 3 teachers, 2 would like to join the Air Force, 1 police officer, 1 army doctor, 1 navy officer and 1 engineer.

A healthy and balanced life

It was already an enormous challenge to ensure access to education during Covid 19 but going back to a routine must have been somehow complicated.

Most girls had lost weight and appetite. So, the team elaborated a plan: they hired a PT who trains the girls 6 days a week. Their appetite grew (to the amazement of our chef Stephen who had to adapt the quantity), and they are now back in shape.

I was amazed by the sport program Mr Maan Singh has established, training, running, pumps, games, volleyball, even badminton... But his secret goal is to take some of the girls to the inter school sports competition in Jaipur next year!



Veerni graduates giving back

I was very pleased to see ex Veerni graduates Sarita who works now at the Institute and Neelam who is a matron at Balika.

I was also very pleased to see Mamta a Veerni graduate that I met in 2015 at nursing college. She is now a full-time nurse at the State Hospital MDMH, working in intensive care and neo-natal and pursue her training for advance nursing in the AIMS the big central government hospital.



She is happily married and has an 18-month lovely boy who lives with the husband and in-laws. She is hosted at the Institute when she is on duty and goes back home for 1-week at the end of each month.

It is a real pleasure to see Mamta who thrives between her career and family life and pursue her dream. She is a wonderful example for our girls.

Parents meeting: a grateful father

I was happy to be there at the first parents meeting after the Diwali break. Parents meetings have always been one of my favourite events. I could see the parents' involvement growing bigger in their daughter's education.

But this time, I was struck by one father whose daughter is in class 11. He asked for a private meeting to explain his situation and thanked Veerni for the only opportunity for his all family to survive.

He is a labourer, and his salary is given in wheat. He leaves with his handicap wife and their 2 sons in a tin shed. He owns 1 cow. Their daughter is the only literate member of the family and when she will have a job, will become the breadwinner of the family. He told us that he believes "food and education for girls are essential as they carry the family".



Greetings, Celebrations and casual Sundays

I remembered being hosted and greeted warmly each time I was visiting the project.

After these long two years, nothing had changed in their wonderful hospitality, warmth, and love. The excitement (including me!) preparing Jacqueline's arrival, working with the girls, painting, decorating the entire institute, Mahendra Singh (our local photographer) preparing his amazing giant banners that were resuming Jacqueline's work over the years.

I was also so lucky to be there for the celebration of Children Day (created by P.J. Nehru) to raise awareness about the rights, education, and welfare of children. There was lots of fun, lots of dancing and delicious cakes!



There was the dance competition where the girls performed amazingly like mini professionals, the costume they had made, their talents emerging.

There was prize giving for the girls who attended the summer class.



I had my hands painted beautifully with mehndi designs and my make-up done by the girls who followed the beauty and self-grooming summer class!

Visiting Veerni graduates in their villages

As soon as Jacqueline arrived, we went to visit some of the former graduates.

We saw Varsha, 2022 graduate, teaching for the moment English and maths in a village private English medium school. She is waiting the legal age (17) to apply to the entrance exam of training centre states. She wants to be a pilot in Air Force.



I saw Guddi (34) that I have previously met at the institute in 2018. We went to visit her in her village. Originally a child bride, she could postpone her marriage to study at Veerni. She married at 20 and has 2 daughters and 1 baby boy. She's literate unlike her husband (44) who is farming.

She is an angan wadi worker (she focuses on the provision of food supplement to young children, adolescent girls, and lactating women). She owns a scooter and goes to work in the villages. She is an empowered young lady and happy with her married life.



Venice

On my last day, I spoke to one class about Venice, the city I was living in. Jacqueline has brought a magnificent book, and I was explaining how the city was built, how things worked, my daily life there.

Their questions were sweet and funny.

I could see how engaged and interested they were as they have a good knowledge of Indian geography and history. Thanks to the cultural and science excursions they do along the year, they could appreciate the Venetian beautiful buildings but also asked many questions about the water issue we have (high tides and drought among them) compared to their water scarcity and monsoon season. They were also amused by the videos I took with my phone of the water buses, gondolas, ambulance and even the firefighters.

On my next visit, I will organise a proper program and even cook them a pasta dish!!

Despite the tragic 2 years turmoil that we have followed from afar, the Veerni Project is still up and running smoothly. The resilience of both parts, girls and Veerni team, their dedication, tenacity prove that Veerni is not only a Project, but it is Family!

I feel very grateful to be part of it.



Ms. Jasmine Schmid Report :
Written by Jasmine

One of the best experiences I have ever had!

It has been an honour for me to have the chance of volunteering at the Veerni Institute. Thank you so much to everyone for making me feel so welcome, including all the girls. Unfortunately, I could only stay for one week. However, I had a magical and memorable experience. The kids inspire me immensely, and I felt blessed to share some of my knowledge with them and capture joyful moments on camera. Being able to visit the villages where the students are from showed me how much of an impact the lovely people at Veerni make. Seeing these girls thrive and become confident and independent young women, gives me so much hope for our future.

Thank you, Veerni! See you again soon! Tiny warning: you will miss this place and all the beautiful souls!



Published by:
Veerni Sansthan, Jodhpur

E-mail:
veerni.veerni@gmail.com
info@veerni.org

Visit us at:
www.veerni.org

REGISTERED ADDRESS
5C - 26, Kudi Bhgtasni
Housing Board,
Jodhpur - 342001 (Rajsthan)
- India
Veerni Sansthan



ADDRESS
Ramraj Nagar, Chokhan,
Jodhpur (Rajsthan) - India