



KIRPAL SAGAR



ANNUAL REPORT 2019

BE GOOD , DO GOOD , BE ONE

Kirpal Sagar is not just a place in India, it stands for an attitude to life that is not just a place to live in, is not bound to a country. Here one gets inspiration and encouragement in our deepest conviction that a better world is possible: already today.

Be good - do good - be one



You can never solve problems with the same way of thinking through which they were created. (Albert Einstein)

All over the world there are more and more ecological, social, intercultural and interreligious projects, including those that promote tolerance and peaceful coexistence. If one does not search for them specifically, they often remain hidden from the public, even because bad news gets a lot more media attention. Kirpal Sagar is a place that unites numerous aspects of a positive way of life, continuously developing them and carries a deeper dimension within itself that is worth exploring.

More than 35 years ago the Indian physician Dr. Harbhajan Singh and his wife Surinder Kaur, supported by a team of some people from India and Europe, started with a special work. A place should be created that embodies the idea of the unity of all life and all people in a very practical, attentive and loving way.

In the beginning, there was only undergrowth on the whole area, beside it a small farm with a well and a few barren fields. Quietly, without government subsidies and big money, with the help of many hands, with courage and confidence, a great idea and a big heart it was transformed into a real and very lively place, which nowadays covers almost 80 hectares.

Very different people from many social classes live here today. More than 300 people can be employed and have a secure home. Quite a lot people are also involved here voluntarily and with great enthusiasm, several of them travel from distant villages, towns and even countries.



February 1981

A building in the middle of Kirpal Sagar catches the eye. It bears four models of Lord's houses on its roof, side by side, close together, church, mosque, temple, Gurdawara. It makes the idea of unity vividly visible and shows that here every person beyond his origin, nationality or religion is welcome and can find and experience his individual story as well as the universal embedding. The area today includes the hospital, schools, a library, a guest house, the old people's home, agricultural facilities. The farm supplies mainly wheat, rice, vegetables, sugar cane and vegetable oils. Fruit and plants are increasingly grown according to the principles of permaculture and biological circuits. The dairy farm provides butter, yoghurt and other dairy products in sufficient quantity so that Kirpal Sagar is self-sustaining in the supply of basic foodstuffs. The farm is also used to run the schools and the boarding school, where global and sustainable development is based on ethical values. Thinking and acting is taught and shown in a practical way. Openness to the world also includes appreciation and cultivation of one's own tradition, culture and history. Taking meals together with all the others in the community cuisine, this also implicates the important aspect of equality and brotherhood of all human beings.

Kirpal Sagar receives broad support in the charitable and non-profit sector through personal commitment, assistance and knowledge transfer, too. Those who were involved in the construction, have experienced Kirpal Sagar as a great workshop which is open to all people and will continue to be open. Unity of Man (regd.), a nonprofit association in India, is the bearer of Kirpal Sagar.

Let us now take you on a little journey through the seasons of the past 12 months.



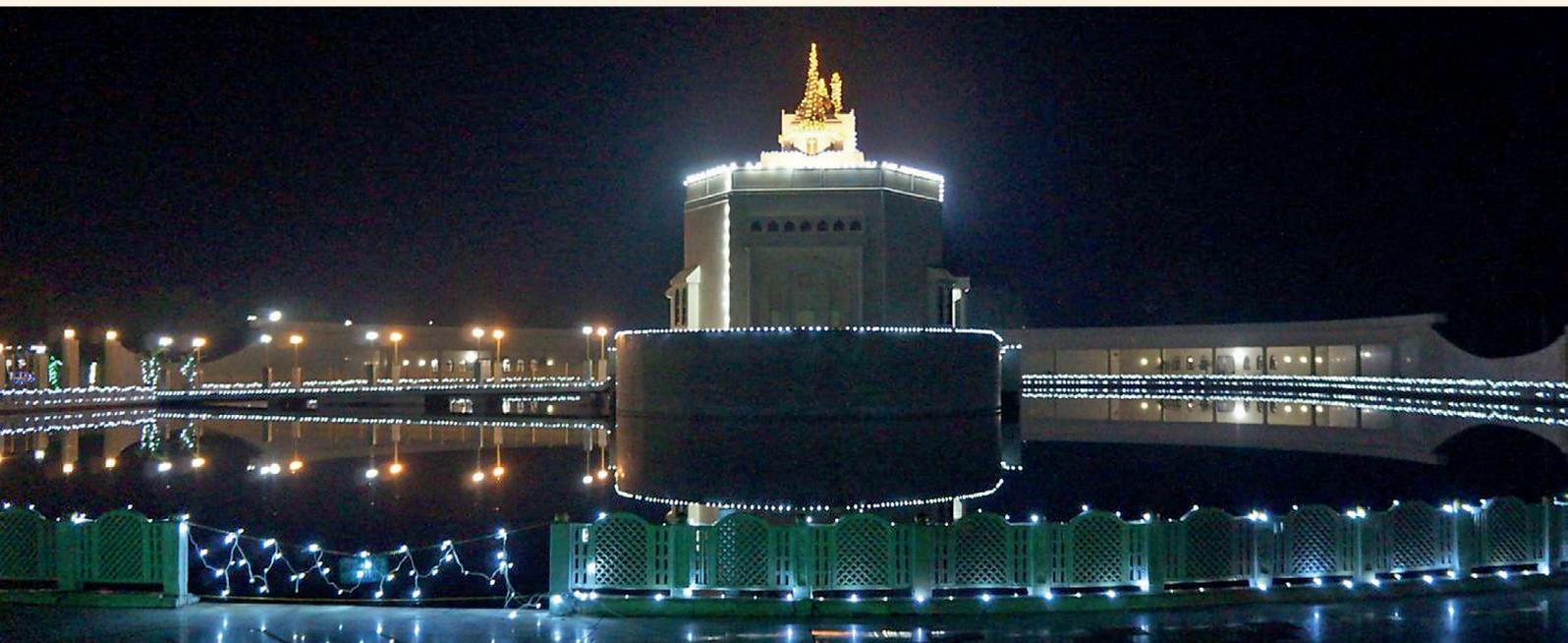
Celebrations and Programme on the 125th birthday of the founder Sant Kirpal Singh 3 to 6 February, 2019

For months the preparations for the celebrations in honour of Sant Kirpal Singh, who gave the guidelines for the construction of this place, were going on in Kirpal Sagar. The women of Kirpal Sagar had taken the initiative to give all the buildings a fresh coat of paint. The young people were involved in the billboardage. The mayors from the surrounding area were informed in advance in a meeting about the facilities of Kirpal Sagar, relief actions for the needy and about the planned programme for February 6th. They were asked to nominate needy people from their community who could then receive sewing machines, blankets, handicapped vehicles and medical care at the conference.



In order to be able to serve hot tea and pakoras (stuffed dumplings) to the people on their arrival, a canteen was organised, which was open for everyone around the clock. More than a hundred volunteers made themselves available and worked in shifts throughout the day.

February 2019



February 2019



Medical Camp

On 03 February a Medical Camp was held next to the hospital. Already weeks before, the population was made aware of it and invited by posters and loudspeaker announcements in the villages. Specialities were offered: Trauma Surgery/Orthopaedics, General Medicine, Ophthalmology, General Surgery, Gynaecology. Laboratory and ECG examinations were also available. Necessary X-ray examinations were carried out in the hospital. Approximately 700 people came, of which a good 50 people required surgical treatment.

Camps, at which examinations are carried out free of charge, have been offered in the region for more than 30 years. They reach the many wage earners and their families, who have their narrow livelihood in the rural environment. For more complex treatments they make their own moderate contribution, which can range from a symbolic rupee to the cost price. In this way one avoids the feeling of being dependent on alms from others.

February 2019

Opening of Dental Unit and Homeopathic Clinic at KS Hospital

On February 03, 2019 the new dental treatment unit was inaugurated in the hospital. Within a few months the old reception of the bed wing, which was no longer needed, was converted into a modern treatment room. A dentist from a nearby town is ready to hold consultation hours and treat patients once a week. By the way, by the end of 2019 the dentist will already come three times a week.

Especially for the poorer rural population, dental care was hardly available before, as it was simply unaffordable.



Medical help was the first aspect which was realized in Kirpal Sagar. This is not surprising, as it was built up by a medical doctor, Dr. Harbhajan Singh.

The origins of medical care in Kirpal Sagar go back to 1982, shortly after the land was levelled and the first bricks were laid. The non-profit hospital started at that time with an examination room. In the meantime it has 25 beds, a dialysis station, an operating room, the emergency room, as well as a pharmacy, the laboratory, an X-ray machine and a physiotherapy. It is open around the clock all year round.

February 2019

Conference

To Kirpal Sagar thousands of people from the surrounding area and from further away came, even on trucks and buses. On 06.02. a big conference with representatives of different faiths took place: Sikhs, Muslims, Hindus, Christians and other smaller communities. Their speeches were mainly about good living together and mutual respect. To stay in dialogue is the basis of peace, that is why such conferences in Kirpal Sagar are annually on the program.

When we remember the similarities, and not focus on the differences, we pay attention to each other, we have respect for life. We strive for equality and fairness for all, and we know that global peace begins when we find our own inner peace.



*The work of the conference will continue on a much larger scale:
each time we see God working through our neighbor,
through our brother, through all men.*

Kirpal Singh

The key to many problems lies at the human level, in the practical activity of service to the people, the land, the planet Earth, true to the motto: *an ounce of practice counts for more than tons of theories.*

After the conference, sewing machines were distributed to women, who can earn additional money for their living. Three-wheeled hand bikes were passed to people with physical contributions.

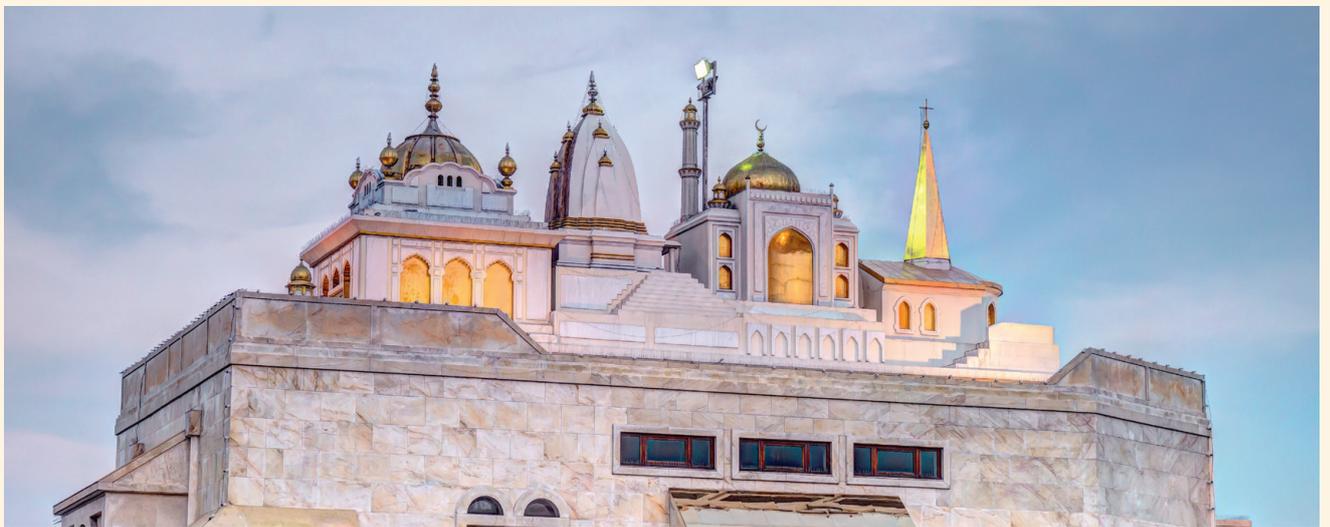
February 2019



The Symbols of Unity ...

... represent four major religions (Christianity, Islam, Hinduism and Sikhism) and have become the symbol of Kirpal Sagar. They are at the same time a symbol for peace among the religions and an invitation for everyone to come here and perform their prayers.

It is also a place of silence and tranquillity, suitable also for non-religious people. In the four „corners“ of the Sarovar there are small prayer rooms, separated from each other and simple but beautifully decorated, offering a worthy setting for the respective Holy Scriptures, according to the tradition of the respective religion.



March 2019

*What you tell me, I forget.
What you show me, I remember.
What you make me do, I understand.*

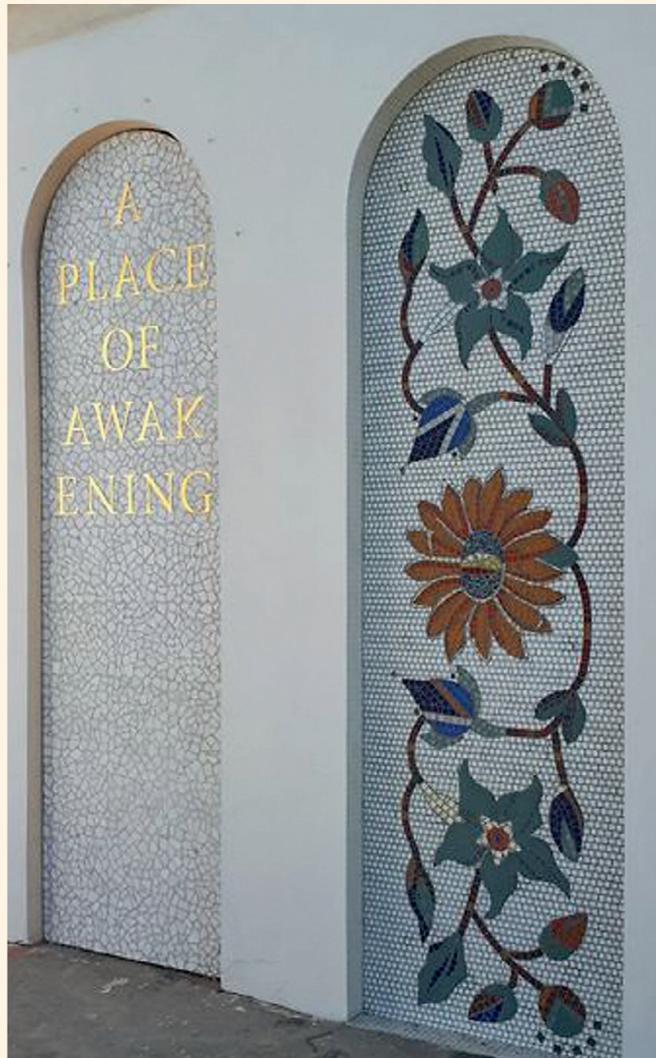
Konfuzius

Every person who comes to Kirpal Sagar can find something that particularly excites him and where he might want to use his skills or share his knowledge with others.

Many possibilities are open to you, including to simply be there without having to do anything.



Sarovar: renovation of the Temple



Newly designed mosaic „A place of awakening“

March 2019

Solar Pump

In April a new solar pump for agriculture arrived, which was also subsidized by the state. With it, approx. 15-20 litres of diesel can be saved daily. The system already pays for itself within 2 months.

The wheat harvest on their own fields begins, the crop damage is relatively small despite the heavy rainfalls of the past weeks. The majority of the harvest is for own use in Kirpal Sagar, unused surplus can be sold in the surrounding area.



April 2019

Opening of *Heritage Village*

Mrs. Sarabjit Mangat, a well-known actress and expert on Punjab culture, presented the plan to build a cultural heritage centre in February. Here, on the one hand, the old craft techniques are to be shown, but also the spiritual heritage of India as well as higher values and the art of living will be conveyed.

In April the time had come, and this cultural centre was ceremonially opened.

The famous singer Hans Raj Hans, now a member of the Indian Parliament, also took part at the opening. One of the young women who came with him said, impressed, „This is really a place where heaven and earth come together“.



April 2019

Cultural Heritage Programme

Now every weekend a „cultural heritage programme“ is carried out with the students of the boarding school of the Kirpal Sagar Academy. This program is arranged with great enthusiasm by the students. They get the opportunity to take over the role of the teachers and give short lectures. There are different focuses on the respective weekends. Among other things, the students learn how fabrics were made, how they sewed in the old days, cooking, farming methods and how the products were processed. Much more is treated, shown and tried out.

It is a holistic program that depicts the way of life in former times and saves the tried and tested from being forgotten. It is interwoven with current topics and training such as first aid in everyday life, personality development, self-confidence when speaking in front of an auditorium on specific topics, traditional dances and performances and much more...



August 2019



As part of the Cultural heritage program, the first cooking course for students was held in August, led by Mrs. Mangat and the principal of the Academy, Mrs. Augustine. Mrs. Augustine cooked typical South Indian cuisine with the students (she herself comes from South India), which was then of course tasted by the participants and visitors.

August 2019

Hospital - a new Digitizer arrived

The Kirpal Sagar Hospital is available 7 days a week, 24 hours a day for emergency treatment. For this purpose there is an emergency room, the laboratory, also an X-ray machine. If someone came in with a suspected fracture, an x-ray was taken. This is similar to conventional photography, with film, darkroom and chemicals, except that instead of light the film is blackened by the X-rays. Such a chemical system is prone to failures, not environmentally friendly and expensive to maintain. With the X-ray picture the patient was then sent to a bigger hospital in the farer surroundings, because in Kirpal Sagar there is usually no surgeon available.

A device for digitizing is similar to a digital camera. Instead of film, the image is taken on a digital film system and converted into a digital image by the electronics. This is done in the digitizer, into which the digital cassette containing the x-ray image is inserted. The digital image can now be burned onto a CD, viewed at the image viewer. It can also be sent electronically, for example to the surgeon who is in his practice, but also to the nearest hospital, which will then operate.

In summary - an inconspicuous device with an attached foil printer, which considerably simplifies the treatment procedures. In addition, the X-ray images are electronically archived and can be quickly opened again later if necessary, for comparison in the event of a lung infection or if the plate and screws are to be removed again after the fracture has healed.



Ceremonial commissioning of the digitizer -
donated by a charitable association from Switzerland

August 2019



Sewing and needlework courses provide additional sources of income to women.

Open School

In March 2018 the „National Institute of Open Schooling“ confirmed that Kirpal Sagar has received accreditation for some vocational training courses: Plumber, electrician, beautician/hairdresser, tailor, computer applications and programming. In 2019 already an examination for installers was held who have been trained abroad. In 2020 the first course will be held in Kirpal Sagar itself.

In Kirpal Sagar you can also learn handicrafts in various workshops. A „vocational training“ program is under construction, which can best be described as a school for extra-occupational learning, similar to the school blocks of vocational schools in Europe.



राष्ट्रीय मुक्त विद्यालयी शिक्षा संस्थान
NATIONAL INSTITUTE OF OPEN SCHOOLING
 अनुमोदित 9001 : 2008 प्रमाणित / ISO 9001 : 2008 Certified
 (स्कूल शिक्षा और साक्षरता विभाग, मा.सं.वि.पं., भारत सरकार के अंतर्गत एक स्वायत्त संस्था)
 (An Autonomous Institution Under Deptt. of School Education and Literacy, M.H.R.D., Govt. of India)

Dr. Manju Gupta
 Joint Director (SSS) website : www.nios.ac.in
 Email: manjugupta@nios.ac.in

F-25-2-9/2017/NIOS/SSS/Voc. Accr./AAC-111/AVI-660063/964-967 Date: 26 Feb, -2018

Madam,

As per the recommendation of 11th Accreditation Advisory Committee - (AAC) meeting held on 22-12-2017, I am to inform you that your Institution has been provisionally accredited as Accredited Vocational Institution (AVI) of National Institute of Open Schooling (NIOS) for the following Vocational Education Courses from the current academic session 2018. This is further to inform you that there are two admission sessions beginning from 1st January and 1st July of every year.

Name of the Courses & Code	Maximum intake in one Session	Course Duration
1. Plumbing - (611)	20x2	Six months
2. Beauty Culture & Hair Care - (612)	20x1	Six months
3. Electrical Technician - (701-702)	25x2	One Year
4. Cutting, Tailoring & Dress Making - (705-706)	25x2	One Year
5. Computer Applications - (711-712)	20x2	One Year

You have been allotted AVI No. - 660063. Please quote this number in all future correspondence with NIOS.

You are permitted to run/introduce above course(s) with minimum 8-10 learners. Your AVI falls under NIOS Regional Centre - Chandigarh. Please send your requirement for the syllabus, study material, prospectus, etc. to the Regional Centre of NIOS at - YMCA Complex, Sector 11 C Chandigarh - 160011 : Ph. 0172-2744919/3950979, Fax: 0172-2744952, Email : rchandigarh@nios.ac.in, endorsing a copy thereof to the Incharge, Material Distribution Unit, CVC Codown Campus, A/B, C.T. Karnal Road, Rana Pratap Bagh, Opp. State Bank Colony, Delhi- 110033, Ph. - 011-27416329, Fax. - 011-27240012, Email: mp46@nios.ac.in. For any other assistance regarding admission, examination etc. you may contact your respective Regional Centre.

The Institution should display a sign board of NIOS Study Centre of size 3'x2' (white back ground with blue letters) outside Institute's premises. An amount of Rs.700/- (Rupees Seven Hundred only) will be reimbursed to you by the concerned Regional Centre, NIOS only on production of receipt of proof of preparation & placement of the sign board.

Mrs. Madhu Aeri, Principal is appointed as Coordinator of your AVI. The Coordinator Mrs. Madhu Aeri, Principal, and Mr. Kamaljit Singh, working as Chairman, have been authorized to jointly open a bank account in the name of the Coordinator of the AVI No. 660063 for the Money received from and on behalf of National Institute of Open Schooling. One copy of signed MOU is returned herewith

With warm wishes,

Yours sincerely,

 Joint Director (SSS)

The Principal
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August 2019



A Visit in Fathers' Home

The famous festival Diwali was celebrated this year at the end of October. It is a high holiday in India, comparable to Christmas and New Year together. People give each other presents and spend time together. In Kirpal Sagar it has become a tradition to visit the residents of the old people's home and bring them festive food, sweets or small presents. The elders are most happy when they are given a little additional time, attention and human warmth.

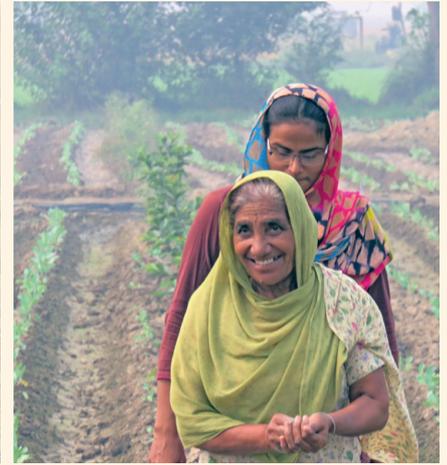
The Fathers' Home is home to elderly people who for some reason can no longer be cared for by their families. Here they feel safe and needed and can still participate in social life.

October 2019

All who work in Kirpal Sagar - gardeners, craftsmen, construction workers, kitchen staff, cleaners, teachers, medical staff, agricultural workers, they all receive small gifts as recognition and appreciation. Depending on what they need best, they get warm blankets, sweaters, nice scarves, etc. We from the West are often given the honour to visit the farm workers with their families, who also live next to the fields. It is not common everywhere in India to take care of the workers in this way. Here they find not only their livelihood, but also security and humanity. Additionally they are offered to visit the Public School integrated in Kirpal Sagar and to get a secondary school certificate.



October 2019



Hand made Lemon Marmelade.

Biological mixed Culture in the Fields of Kirpal Sagar

A model project in alternative agriculture was started on an area of four hectares in the fields of Kirpal Sagar.

Guavas, jambola plums, chokeberries and vegetables were planted in a special arrangement in order to achieve higher yields on a smaller area. The plants were placed in a specially mixed nutrient-rich soil and supplied with drip irrigation and organic fertiliser. Organic fertilizers, which are produced according to old recipes, are supposed to activate soil life and make exhausted soil more fertile again. As a side effect of the compact plant covering, the soil is better protected from drying out, being washed away or being blown away.

After harvesting, the fruit and vegetables are used for own consumption, sold or processed into juice, jams or fruit pulp.

November 2019



On the one hand this should contribute to the food supply. On the other hand it should be a practical example for the farmers in Punjab how to ensure self-sufficiency for themselves and their families with little land. And at the same time show them by practical example how to increase the yield without poisoning themselves and the environment.

The purchase prices for agricultural products in India fell dramatically a few years ago and have not recovered significantly since then. Many smallholders are economically ruined, can no longer secure their livelihood and therefore take their own lives out of desperation. Practical examples have literally become essential for survival. Kirpal Sagar contributes its part to this. In the future, the overall concept will be passed on to the farmers in the area in the form of seminars and training courses and this way of farming will be introduced. They can receive additional support through cheap seeds and seedlings which are grown in the course of this project.

According to current planning, this will enable the small farmers to feed their families from only one hectare of land. This project should serve as a practical example to show the farmers new perspectives for the future and to give them back the chance for a self-determined and humane life. In addition, further training courses and seminars on organic farming are planned for interested parties and farmers.

November 2019



Freshly harvested vegetables: cauliflower, aubergine (also white). Leaf salad is now constantly ripening. Teak trees (bottom right) not only provide shade but are also sought-after wood that can be sold well in 10 years.

November 2019



The new combined milling and seeding machine is now already in full operation. It solves a major problem, that of the otherwise unmanageable high stubble after the grain harvest which is due to the uneven ground. The new machine also makes a significant contribution to the protection of the environment, to the reduction of air pollution, since it is no longer necessary to burn down the fields. It is a good example for the farmers from the surrounding area, who used to burn down their fields frequently. Kirpal Sagar also enables them to use this machine. The new planting is thus also much faster and cheaper in only one step, the biomass is also preserved to the soil.

Young trees were planted in the fields behind the guest house. These then had to be supported. Help from the west was gladly accepted.

November 2019



CERTIFICATE OF APPRECIATION

This Certificate is Proudly Presented To

Kirpal Sagar Academy, Rahon

For Making The Commitment To
Protect Our World By

“GOING GREEN”

Amit chaudhary

Founder Member

EduFeed

FOUNDATION

Dhawan Kumar

Founder Member

A certificate for the efforts of the Academy
to increase environmental awareness and sustainability

November 2019



School Program for the 30th Anniversary of the Kirpal Sagar Academy – on 15.11.2019

In addition to typical traditional dances from Punjab, the students of the Academy performed a number of time-critical plays that addressed the topics of environmental awareness (plastic waste and air pollution), poverty in families and reduced educational opportunities for girls. There was also a gospel song by the music teacher Inga E. from London, who later gave lessons at the Academy again.

The best students were awarded. Former students of the Academy also reported on their school days with gratitude and appreciation.

November 2019



Kirpal Sagar Charitable Hospital

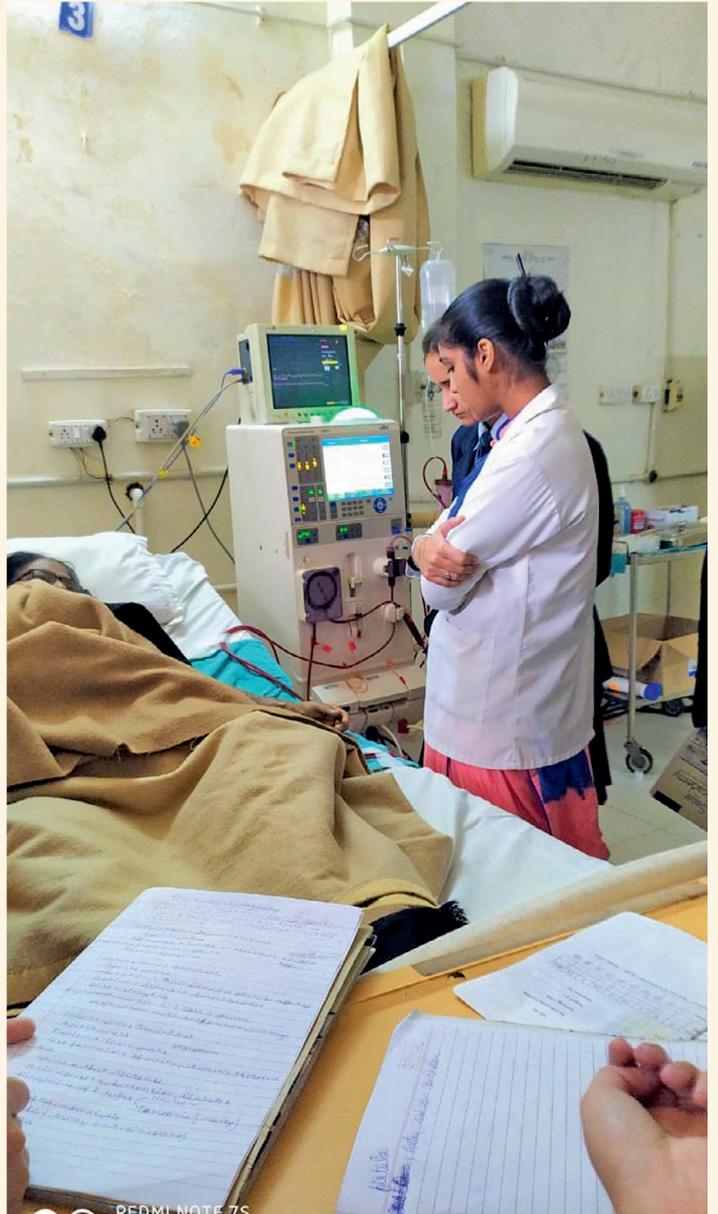
By the end of 2019, the dentist will be coming three times a week; at the beginning, it was assumed that once every two weeks. This shows how great the need for basic dental care is in the surrounding area. The effort involved had been manageable. One room was newly furnished and a dentist's chair provided was installed.

Consultations of the trauma surgery/orthopaedics and abdominal surgery departments are just as well accepted as check-ups of the eyes, where patients in need of surgery and affected by cataracts are identified. The problem of scarce ophthalmologists could be solved by restructuring. In 2020, the last gaps in equipment will be closed with the help of a Swiss foundation. From then on a larger number of artificial lens implantations are expected.

In the fields of data processing and organization, input masks of a hospital software developed for specific needs were presented on site in 2019. The joint project of the hospital and KS-plus specialists has been in progress since 2014. Simple operation, flexible adaptation and maintenance by local technicians are the main focus.



December 2019



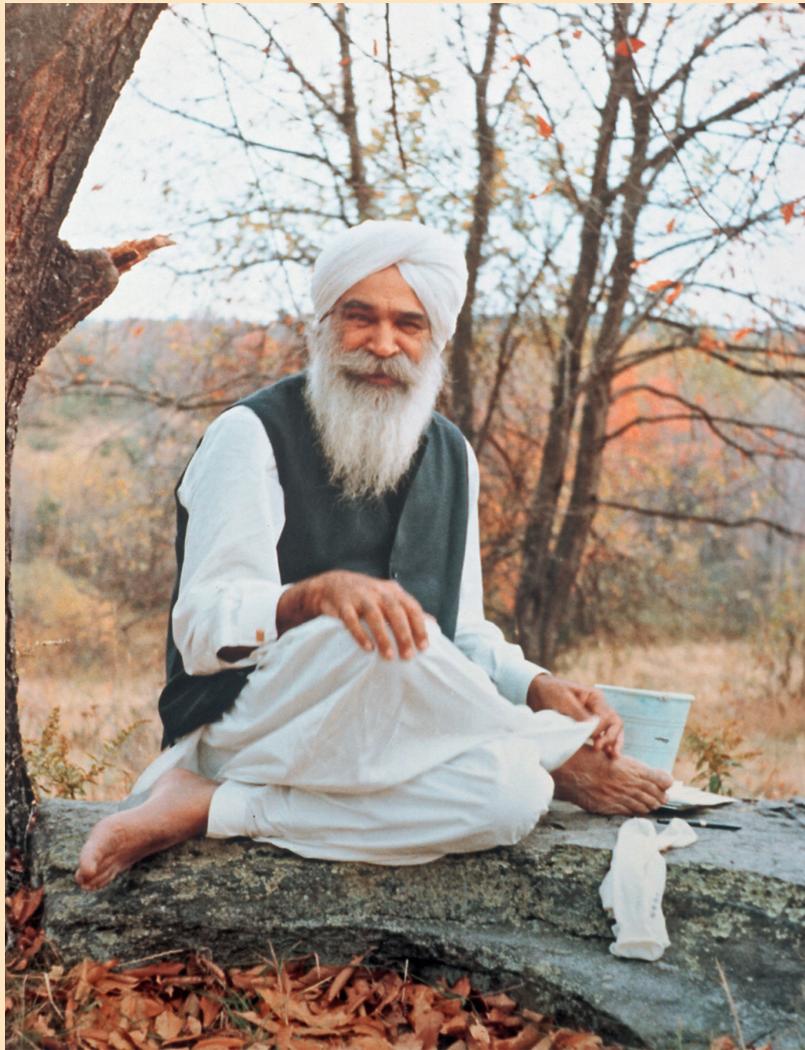
The Kirpal Sagar Academy is very interested in practical education. The proximity to the hospital is just right. What you have learned about the human body in the subjects biology, physics and chemistry in classes 11 and 12 can be shown in small groups by nurses and doctors there.

The spectrum of practical activities ranges from blood pressure measurement and ECG writing (physics) to dressing techniques for first aid (biology). A look into the laboratory shows how the laws of chemistry can be applied practically for the benefit of patients.

Glimpses of the Past

1974

The World Conference on Unity of Man chaired by Sant Kirpal Singh was very well received. Many prominent people, politicians and religious representatives promised to work for and commit to unity, peace, tolerance and universal love.



Glimpses of the Past

1976 - 1983

Dr. Harbhajan Singh and Surinder Kaur: their enthusiasm and their own practical example in daily life were contagious, in India as well as in Europe.



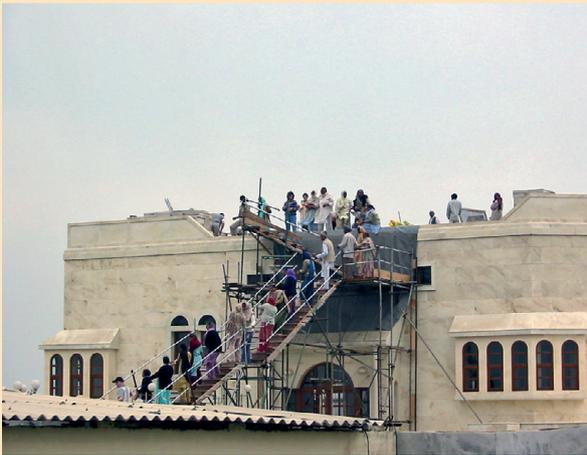
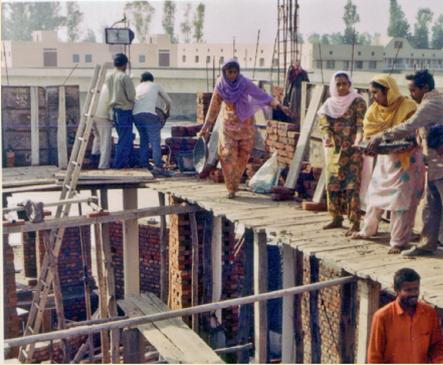
Glimpses of the Past

1984 - 1994



Glimpses of the Past

1995 - 2007



It is not possible to put everything into an annual report what happened in Kirpal Sagar last year, nor to give a complete picture of all facilities. Many things cannot be shown on pictures either, because they happen between or within people. Therefore we focussed to practical activities of service for people and for Mother Earth. The enthusiasm that drives many people is well described in a quote from Antoine de Saint-Exupéry:

„If I share my people’s love of seafaring, and if each one of them feels the urge to do so because a weight in their heart draws them to the sea, you will soon see how they seek out different activities that correspond to their thousand special characteristics. One will weave sails, another will cut down the tree in the forest with the lightning of his axe. Another will forge nails, and somewhere there will be men who watch the stars to learn how to steer. And yet they will all form a unit. For to create a ship is not to hoist the sails, to forge the nails, to read the stars, but to bring joy to the sea. (...) I do not need to know every nail on the ship. But I do need to give people the urge to go to the sea.“

From the book „The City in the Desert“

Edited by:

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In cooperation with:

Unity of Man (regd.) India, Unity of Man Austria

**For further informations
about Kirpal Sagar:**

www.kirpal-sagar.org and www.kirpal-sagar.co.in

**For further informations
about charitable institutions and activities:**

main focus on hospital: and education

see also www.ks-plus.org

**For informations
about agriculture
and support of poor people:**

www.help4life.org

**For further informations
about the spiritual aspect:**

www.unity-of-man.org

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