

Visit to SADRAG Ugta Suraj in January 2018

On that Tuesday afternoon, Rohini and I went to Noida in order to visit Mala in her new office. Noida is a southeastern suburb of Delhi, but is located in another state. In the Ugta Suraj programme, noon.ch supports the two learning centres Nagla and Hoshiarpur. I was able to visit both of them during my stay in Noida. Ugta Suraj rents the learning centres, which in most cases guarantees a good fundamental infrastructure. Thus, most of the centres have clean drinking water, electricity, toilets and enough space to play.



The **Nagla Centre** is in good condition. There is electricity for light, a ventilator and a fridge. The centre even has a toilet. Two classes are taught here. Some of the girls had rehearsed a small dance performance in honour of our visit and could hardly wait to get started. Other pupils had memorized poems which they recited during our visit. Our visit was a real little event in Nagla!

The **Hoshiarpur Centre** is less well equipped and has a power problem. Due to a fatal accident (a child was hit by a power line), the government has turned off the power. This may work for the moment, but what will happen when the brooding summer heat gets into the small room? SADRAG is trying to take the problem into its own hands now by hiring an electrician at its own expense.

One of my personal highlights was the meeting with Khurram, the new project coordinator of SADRAG. Khurram completed his Master's degree in social work a year ago and now looks after the children and teachers of the centres with much care, attention and an impressive knowledge. Khurram told me about the recent health check. During the demonetization, many children became ill due to malnutrition. Some families even had trouble getting food at all. Here, too, SADRAG supports the education, prevention and support of entire families.



Rohini, Nicole and Khurram with the kids

Nicole Steiner, February 2018