

# CURRICULAM VITAE

**JATINDER ARORA**  
**Executive Director: PRAYAS**

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## **PERSONAL DETAILS**

**Name** : Miss Jatinder Arora  
**Father's Name** : Late Shri Harjeet Singh  
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**Residence Address** : 209, First Floor, Bhag Siugh Ka Chok, Adarsh Nagar, Jaipur302004

**Educational Qualifications** : M.Phil. in English Literature

**Experience:**

- **Worked in Rajasthan Patrika as Journalist 1985 -88.**
- **Journalist in Times of India 1989-94.**
- **Worked as a volunteer in special school 1994-March 96.**

## **Organization Details:**

**Name** : PRAYAS, Jaipur (Raj.)  
**Date of Registration** : 15 July 1996

- **Opened Prayas Centre for Special Education and Vocational Training, July 1996.**
- **Opened Prayas Integrated School, Raja Park Jaipur, November. 1998.**
- **Opened 2<sup>nd</sup> Prayas Integrated School, Amagarh(Kacchi Basti), December. 2003.**
- **Opened 3<sup>rd</sup> Prayas Integrated School, Subhash Colony , Sanganer, August 2006.**
- **We are covering 32 slums of Jaipur.**
- **Recipient of Acharya Vinobha Bhave National Volunteers Awards 2002 from National Foundation of India.**

## **OBJECTIVES:**

1. Provide special education and vocational training.
- 2.. . Integrated education
3. Provide income generating project, this can enable these children to be economically self-reliant.
4. Develop strategies for marketing the products made by the 'children, so that income can be ensured and build the confidence of the parents.
5. Train them to develop their own entrepreneurship by involving the parents and family members.
6. To help them lead a dignified life.
7. Providing jobs and rehabilitation to the passing out children of *the* schools.
8. Provide for community based rehabilitation for the special children.
9. Surveys in slums.
10. Advocacy and networking with governmental and non-governmental institutes
11. Door Step Services.
13. Community Based Programs and Women Empowerment.
14. Health and Awareness Campaigns.

**TARGET GROUP:**

• **Challenged Children, Physically Disabled and Socially Disadvantaged Children.**

**ACTIVITIES:**

**1. PRAYAS CENTRE FOR SPECIAL EDUCATION AND VOCATIONAL TRAINING :** An Endeavour to help the mentally challenged children lead a meaningful and dignified life came into existence in July 1996 with only 5 children and one teacher in a two room rented house. It is the first vocation training institute for mentally challenged in Rajasthan. Education is imparted in accordance with the individual educational needs and capacities of children and at their natural pace of learning. Various mediums - music, dance, drama, craft, and story telling are used for creatively engaging children and helping them learn to read, write and compute basic arithmetic.

*PRA YAS* endeavors to make all activities in the special school not only interesting for children to pursue but also lucrative in terms of money, to make them economically independent and live life with dignity. Numbers of skills related to productive and economically viable activities are imparted to children. Products made by these children are gradually marketed and the proceeds are deposited in the individual bank accounts of children.

**2. PRAYAS INTEGRATED SCHOOL:** With a mission to reach to the unreached, serve the poorest of the poor, we conducted door to door surveys of slums in Jaipur. The minority dominated thickly populated Ghat Gate was the most neglected. Intervention in all aspects awareness, health advocacy livelihood was very much needed. Condition of special children was pathetic.

Almost every fourth house had a disabled child. Living conditions were bad--- lack of space, cleanliness, personal hygiene, unawareness, illiteracy. The girl child's life was confined to the four walls of the house. Education was a farce. For them, "Sipaarah" Holy Quran was enough, the only gateway to eternity. Thinking was rigid and family planning a taboo. Livelihood problems were grave.

Women and children were generally the bread winners of the large family. More the children, better the income. Even the soft tiny hands of seven year olds were engaged in gems cutting and polishing. Mental retardation was unheard of. Such children were considered to be mad --a stigma, a liability a curse. People were unaware of their rights, counseling, advocacy and rehabilitation were very much needed.

It was difficult for them to believe that condition of a mentally challenged child could be improved. We started sending our special educators for home base programs. We started our school here with few children. The rigid community would not allow a male to enter their house. Therapy and training were given outside the house. The parents were reluctant to send their able bodied children to study with the special children. Constant counseling and persuasion helped us get few children to school. Personal involvement with the children and their family created confidence and trust in Prayas. These children and the parents became our messengers in community now we are serving 150 children in this school and have long queue of children waiting for admission but because of lack of space cannot do so.

**3. PRAYAS INTEGRATED SCHOOL AMAGARH:** *PRAYAS* team realized that Amagarh, a thickly populated & minority dominated area needed a school located within the Basti on account of the backwardness of the community and prevailing *parda* (veil) system. Culturally outsiders especially men were not allowed to enter the homes in the absence of male folk in the family to interact with female members of the family even for the purposes of counseling and advising them for improving their situation. *PRAYAS* started its 3' school t Amagarh Kacchi basti where challenged and disadvantaged children come to study in the morning, in the post noon hours special classes are held for adolescents girls & young women to learn reading, writing and skills in stitching, embroidery and *mehandi* art, so that women and girls of that Basti are able to earn while remaining at home. By doing this the team of *PRAYAS* have earned immense respect & full co-operation from the community. *PRAYAS* is also organizing health camps and other activities to create harmonious and better living conditions in the area. Prayas opened its third Integrated school at Sanganer in August 07, here we have 60 children...

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