

ICON OF RESILIENCE

SISTER ZEPH'S ONE ROOM SCHOOL IN GUJRANWALA MAKES HEADLINES

PAKISTANI TEACHER SISTER ZEPH, WHO FOUNDED HER OWN SCHOOL FOR UNDERPRIVILEGED CHILDREN IN THE COURTYARD OF HER HOME AT JUST 13, HAS BEEN NAMED THE WINNER OF THE VARKEY FOUNDATION GLOBAL TEACHER PRIZE 2023, ORGANISED IN COLLABORATION WITH UNESCO.



ZEPHANIAH WOMEN'S EDUCATION AND EMPOWERMENT FOUNDATION

THE FOUNDATION OFFERS A DECADE OF FREE EDUCATION TO THE MOST UNDERPRIVILEGED CHILDREN IN RURAL PAKISTAN. BEYOND EDUCATION AND SKILLS TRAINING, THE FOUNDATION ALSO SERVE AS A STRONG DEFENSE AGAINST CHILD LABOR AND CHILD MARRIAGES



BRINGING CHANGE

SHE ALSO RUNS A VOCATIONAL CENTRE THAT HAS HELPED MORE THAN 6,000 WOMEN GAIN SKILLS IN ICT, TEXTILES, AND ENGLISH LANGUAGE. SHE HAS BEEN RECOGNIZED AS TRUE CHANGE-MAKER AND ADVOCATE FOR WOMEN'S RIGHTS AND CHILDREN'S EDUCATION AROUND THE WORLD.



ENLIGHTENING FUTURE

WITH THE GLOBAL TEACHER PRIZE FUNDS, SISTER ZEPH PLANS TO BUILD A SCHOOL ON 10 ACRES WHERE CHILDREN FROM THE POOREST FAMILIES IN THE COUNTRY CAN BE EDUCATED WITHOUT DISCRIMINATION. SHE ALSO PLANS TO CREATE A SHELTER FOR ORPHANS, WHERE FOOD WOULD BE GROWN ON THE PROPERTY AND TEACHERS FROM ALL PARTS OF THE WORLD WOULD BE INVITED TO INSTRUCT THEM IN A RANGE OF SUBJECTS.

