



Introduction to Skill Training



Skill Training Session for Women

public space and any illegal activities etc.

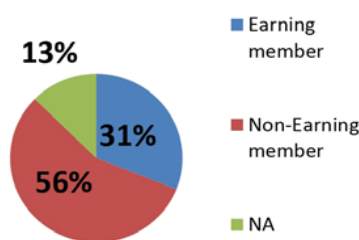
The effort for enhanced empowerment of local women has created an opportunity for local female residents - mostly the mothers of children enrolled in the programme - to come together in their own living-space, where they not only think about the positive development of their children but also the need to create a healthy and safe living environment. They have been trained to make hand-made paper bags and provide beauty treatment for others. The empowered women's group now champion the development of the area with a sense of ownership. They have organised a regular household campaign in favour of a clean and hygienic way of living and to keep the area clean.

Restoring a clean and healthy environment in and around Scottish Cemetery was not an easy task. Over the years the cemetery was left in an uncared condition. With time and effort, the project has succeeded to motivate local residents to involve themselves with service providers such as Kolkata Municipal Corporation and the local police authority to make the area clean, green, safe.

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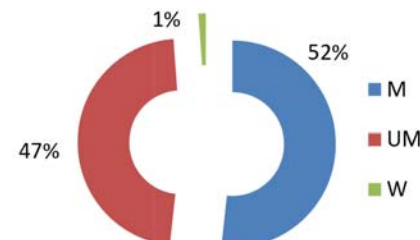
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Data of Earning Members



Bags made by Women



Marital Status of Women



Women being trained for becoming beauticians



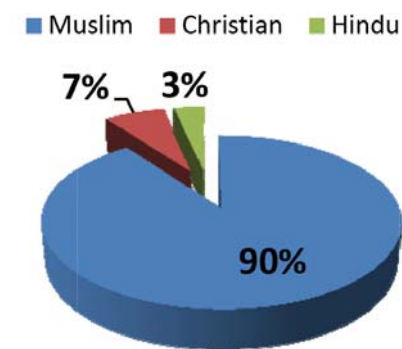
## THE KOLKATA SCOTTISH HERITAGE TRUST

The Scottish Cemetery in Kolkata lies at the eastern end of the famous Park Street. After the old burial ground - which is now the site of St. John's Church - was closed in 1767, several new burial grounds were proposed along the route of Park Street, earlier known as the Burial Ground Road or *Gorasthan ka Rastha*. The street housed the French Cemetery, Mission Cemetery, South Park Street Cemetery, North Park Street Cemetery, Lower Circular Road Cemetery, and the Scottish Cemetery, which was the last to be added in 1820.

After independence the Scottish Cemetery soon fell into disuse and the last recorded burial was in the 1970s. Coincidentally the urban district

## Community-led Urban Regeneration Program Scottish Cemetery, Kolkata, 2017-2018

surrounding the cemetery started attracting migrants from other states of U.P and Bihar, mostly belonging to the Muslim community. They had little option other than accept accommodation in substandard housing converted to multiple occupancy. Most found work in the informal sector as daily laborers. Soon the area became densely populated and consequently developed into an un-registered urban 'slum'.



Distribution of Population as per Religion

Social exclusion, economic stagnation, poverty, and insecure tenure of housing has ensured that this community is vulnerable to violence, social conflicts, and easy prey for exploitation. The outcome of this process is the degeneration of the area and the absence of remedial assistance from official bodies. Forced to endure unemployment and over-crowding, the residents are prone to epidemics and diseases, and are susceptible to child mal-nutrition, lack of education, drug addiction etc. Therefore, when the restoration work of the Scottish Cemetery



Baseline Survey



Meeting with Community Men



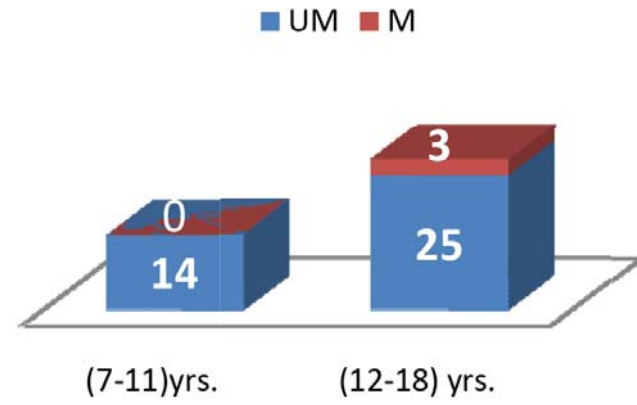
Door to door canvassing to keep locality clean

**Kolkata Scottish Heritage Trust**  
 is a company limited by guarantee  
 Registered in Scotland No: **344642**  
 A registered Scottish Charity No: **SC 039917**  
 Registered Office:  
**Caledonian Exchange, 19A,**  
**Canning Street, Edinburgh,**  
**United Kingdom EH3 8HE**  
<https://www.facebook.com/kolscottheritage>

Site Owner  
 St. Andrew's Church, BBD Bag, Kolkata



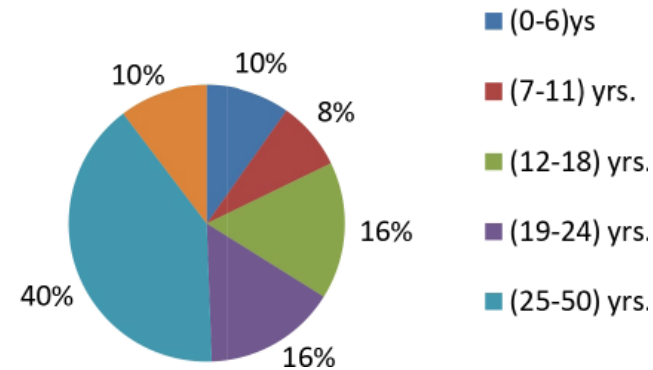
Value Based Education for Girls



Marital Status and Age Group



Hand Washing Day Celebration



Distribution of Population Age Wise



Celebration of Republic Day



Health Education for Women



Quality Time for Community Boys



Children's Library



Exhibition of Drawings done by Community Children



Stake Holders Meeting



Prize Distribution by Chairman, KSHT



Stake Holders meeting attended by community members

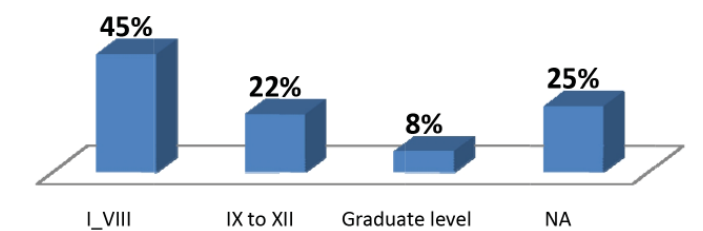
initiative started, the run-down nature of the locality proved to be a great impediment to the program.

The Scottish Cemetery grounds were used for all illegal activities and dumping garbage. The uncooperative nature of the community surrounding the cemetery did not make the job any easier. The cemetery was doomed to fade away and perhaps disappear like the North Park Street Cemetery, Mission Cemetery, or the French Cemetery. The funders of the conservation project, Kolkata Scottish Heritage Trust (KSHT), had two options; to accept the effects of social degeneracy or do something about saving their Scottish heritage in Kolkata. Luckily for the Scottish Cemetery, KSHT decided to incorporate a community led urban regeneration program as an integral part of their conservation program which aims to improve the lives of the people living around the cemetery.

Run by an NGO Banipur Sahayog, under the guidance of the project architects Neeta Shubhrajit Das Associates, and with the help of urban designers Untitled, the program was started with a baseline survey to assess the needs and aspirations of the community. Two major prospective issues have come forward in the survey report for future growth of the area: 1/Environment: local residents are currently occupying a highly polluted and congested place. 2/Care and development especially for children and women: there is evidence of early school dropout of children; child employment in unregulated places of work; and early marriage for girls. In addition there is an issue of *invisible women*: being confined to the home, the disassociation of women deprives the area of at least fifty percent of its "development momentum".

Considering the context of the problem and also the potential for the cemetery's restoration to provide a clean green safe place Banipur has started its developmental work with a unique three pronged approach – promotion of children's development; empowerment of women; and a *clean-green-safe* and healthy environment.

In its initial phase, the project has engaged the support and cooperation of the community by rolling-out an integrated development programme. This was achieved by organising "value education" sessions with children by arranging drawing classes, story-telling sessions, book club activities, and by observing important and significant days (such as Independence Day), World Hand Washing Day etc. Overall the project has given the children a positive direction which will help them to move forward and resist the perils associated with their environment like drug abuse, misuse of



Level of Education