



# Takshila Academy

A CBSE-certified English-medium school offering quality K-12 education in Ambedkar Nagar, Uttar Pradesh



**Takshila Academy was founded in 2011** with the aim of empowering students to be their best selves through academics, arts, sports, and moral values. At present, 1226 students study at Takshila Academy, many of whom are fully sponsored by the school. In the future, the school aims to increase the number of students it can sponsor.



**Awadh Mutineers Sports Club** is a philanthropic initiative to scout talented players from marginalised backgrounds and provide them with full support in developing their talents. Each student is enrolled on a 100% scholarship at Takshila Academy, given sports training from the best practitioners in the field, and provided with nutrition training and education.

Sateyam and Subham were scouted by the Awadh Mutineers three years ago for their in-born talent on the football field. They are now 11 years old and have been studying at the Takshila Academy on a 100% scholarship for the last three years.



Subam (left) and Sateyam (right) standing in Takshila's junior library after football practice with the Awadh Mutineers Sports Club

## VOICES OF CHILDREN HELPED BY DONORS LIKE YOU:

*What do you want to be when you grow up?*

**Subham:** I want to be a football player because I love football and I want to show other children in my village that they should also play football.

**Sateyam:** I want to be a doctor so that I can help people in my village.

*What is your favourite class in school and why?*

**Subham:** Football!!! I also enjoy Maths a lot. People find it difficult, but I like it a lot.

**Sateyam:** My favourite class is Science because it teaches me about how everything works in the world.

*What are your hobbies?*

**Subham:** Football, playing cricket and chor-police with my brothers and sisters, and sleeping.

**Sateyam:** I like playing football and watching Salman Khan movies with my father.

*What message do you have for our donors who are willing to sponsor other children to study at Takshila?*

**Subham:** Please donate so that more children from my village can come and play football at this school because it has very good teachers and facilities.

**Sateyam:** I like my classes a lot and I am proud whenever I do well in my classes. I think more children should have the chance to study at a school like this.

## A TEACHER'S PERSPECTIVE

*Sateyam and Subham in their first days at Takshila and Awadh Mutineers:*

**Mukesh Singh, Assistant Football Coach:** When Sateyam and Subham first came to Takshila 3 years ago, they had never really left their villages. Although their raw football talent was strong, their communication skills were weak. They couldn't speak any language except Awadhi\* – just a little Hindi and no English at all.



From L to R: Kazmi Fatima (Sateyam's Class Teacher), Deepa Gond (Resource Centre In-Charge), Kusum Rani (Library Assistant), Suman Masih (Subham's Class Teacher), Mukesh Singh (Assistant Coach, Awadh Mutineers)

\* a dialect of Hindi widely spoken in eastern UP

*What are the differences that you notice now from those initial days?*

**Ms Fatima, Sateyam's Class Teacher:** I am new to this school, and when I first began teaching Sateyam's class, I had no idea that Sateyam was a student from a disadvantaged background – I couldn't tell the difference. He is one of my most sincere students – in every subject – because he puts in a lot of effort not only in studying but also in correcting the mistakes he makes in his homework and assessments.

**Ms Suman, Subham's Class Teacher:** Subham makes a lot of effort to ask for help when he needs it. In class, we encourage students to speak to each other in English, and Subham makes a lot of effort to improve his English language skills. When I first became his class teacher this year, just like Fatima, I couldn't tell that he was from a below poverty line background.

*What is your message to our donors who are willing to sponsor children from below poverty line families?*

**Mukesh Singh, Assistant Football Coach:** Students who come from disadvantaged backgrounds understand, better than students from privileged backgrounds, that they have been given a once in a lifetime opportunity. In my long career at Takshila, I have seen these students work harder than everyone else to make a good impression. Just because their families are poor and illiterate, they are disadvantaged – but when they are given the kind of support and facilities that we have at Takshila Academy and Awadh Mutineers Football Club, they are able to change their destiny.



Ritesh Pandey, Founder, Takshila Academy and Awadh Mutineers;  
Member of Parliament, Ambedkar Nagar

## **WORDS FROM OUR FOUNDER, RITESH PANDEY:**

*What was your inspiration behind founding Takshila Academy and Awadh Mutineers?*

I come from Ambedkar Nagar, but I was sent away to boarding school at age 4 because there weren't any good educational institutions in the area. My education and experiences gave me a broader, more cosmopolitan view of the world. By founding Takshila Academy and the Awadh Mutineers, I wanted to provide education in the grassroots, in order to change the mentality of the local community, where differences in caste, religion, and gender play out at every level. The only way to create a lasting impact in Ambedkar Nagar is to open up these narrow mindsets through education, and this in turn would help our district become a better district, our state a more tolerant state, and fulfil the dreams of what India stands for - secularism, equality, and development.

*What is your dream for the future?*

My vision for the future is focused on changing the social and economic landscape of Ambedkar Nagar. I have been able to witness the positive influence that the students we educate have on their families and villages. But, in order to create lasting change, we need to have scale. Every year, I want to ensure that 500 girls and boys from below poverty level backgrounds are graduating from Class 12. Because of their good education and open minds, these children would eventually be looked up to as leaders – the kind of leaders that our nation needs to face the complex challenges of our times.





# SPONSORSHIP PLANS

## **25 Lakhs (helps upto 44 students)**

- Fully funds scholarships for 44 students at Takshila Academy
- Fully funds joint-scholarships for 21 students at Awadh Mutineers and Takshila
- Covers associated administrative costs

## **20 Lakhs (helps upto 34 students)**

- Fully funds scholarships for 34 students at Takshila Academy
- Fully funds joint-scholarships for 16 students at the Awadh Mutineers and Takshila
- Covers associated administrative costs

## **15 Lakhs (helps upto 26 students)**

- Fully funds scholarships for 26 students at Takshila Academy
- Fully funds joint-scholarships for 14 students at the Awadh Mutineers and Takshila
- Covers associated administrative costs

## **10 Lakhs (helps upto 18 students)**

- Fully funds scholarships for 18 students at Takshila Academy
- Fully funds joint-scholarships for 8 students at the Awadh Mutineers and Takshila
- Covers associated administrative costs

## **5 Lakhs (helps upto 9 students)**

- Fully funds scholarships for 9 students at Takshila Academy
- Fully funds joint-scholarships for 4 students at the Awadh Mutineers and Takshila
- Covers associated administrative costs

## **2.2 Lakhs (helps upto 4 students)**

- Fully funds scholarships for 4 students at Takshila Academy
- Fully funds joint-scholarships for 2 students at the Awadh Mutineers and Takshila



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