



Thalassemic children receiving treatment

Celebrity author, motivational speaker & philanthropist gives back to home town

Jillian Haslam helps sick children, provides medical check-ups & happiness to elders; inspires school kids, provides free training to the unemployed & youth and gets the people of Kolkata together to work towards various charity initiatives (all in a period of three days)

Kolkata, West Bengal, January 3, 2014 /[India PRwire](http://IndiaPRwire/)/ -- Jillian Haslam, the Kolkata girl whose proverbial rags to riches story is the stuff of legends, returned to the city of her birth yet again to plunge into a flurry of philanthropic activities aimed at alleviating the suffering of those that are the most in need and binging joy and hope to those who feel they have none at all. Jillian who herself grew up in the slums of Kolkata found the resolve and fortitude to not only emerge from poverty, but become a professional banker, entrepreneur and motivational speaker of international repute. Her memoir, Indian.English. which chronicles her rise from poverty to a life of privilege is an internationally acclaimed best-seller.

During her recent visit Jillian joined hands with Rotary Club, Salt Lake District to organize an X'Mas performance by children suffering from Thalassaemia at the Kolkata Medical College hospital who were later felicitated with food, drinks, toys & inspirational stories. She also organized a complete medical check-up for approximately 150 elderly people by a team of doctors and also had all the medicines supplied as well to them on the spot. This was followed by a high tea with celebrations, gifts and fun to all who attended. She also spent half a day at a unique coming together of students and teachers from five different schools in the Kidderpore area of the city, offering a unique platform for interaction and learning of each others' concerns.

They also heard Jillian tell them her own story of redemption inspiring the younger members of the audience to similarly strive for bigger things in life. She told the students that people all over the world went home for Christmas and said that she was home as well and wanted nothing more than to be there with them.

On her last day in the city Jillian devoted her day to a conduct self development training to people from different walks of life who thronged to St Thomas's church to undergo various modules of international standard motivational training that she conducts in Europe and other places. Jillian said that there was no better way to start the year than by realizing ones own potential and setting realistic goals for the New Year. She ended the third day on a high by getting various people together to work on six different philanthropic initiatives for the city and offering prize money to the winning team.

For Jillian this visit, the latest in what is a regular feature for her, reaffirms her faith both in the city of Kolkata and its people to overcome all odds and succeed. As Jillian says, "Growing up without a hope in the world in the unforgiving back lanes of the most impoverished parts of Kolkata, I had the chances of a snow-flake to emerge unscathed and highly successful. Yet I did it. To those who ask me how to emulate what I did, I can in all humility quote Gandhi, "My life is my message."

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