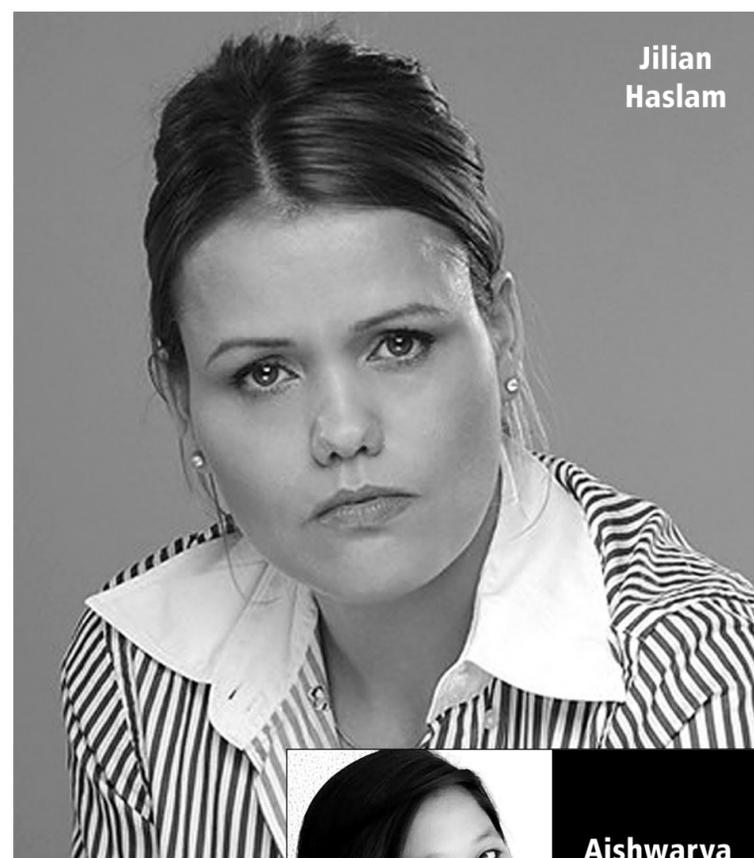




# ACTION TO HELP THOSE IN NEED



Jilian Haslam

## ARITRA SINGHA

"I am Young, I am a student, I form part of tomorrow's generation and I am not proud of the misery I see around me. I want to live in a better world, a happier world and I believe that every human being deserves the same" Tanusree Debnath!!

Motivational Speaker and Philanthropist, Jilian Haslam says I couldn't agree more that it is this feeling "of being alive and yet at some level being dead to the world" that allows a person to try and exist but not to live. I recall a time when we had moved from being totally homeless to a small room in a slum and when I was (for the very first time) faced with being told that my little sister wasn't going to make it. Why? Because of poverty, malnutrition and the fact that (a) the world had given up on us (b) the country had given up on us (c) the Doctor had given up on her and (d) my mother due to being too ill and too weak and having lost four children previously for the same reasons, had given up on her too. She brought the baby home and said, Here she is, she's got approximately three days to live and that's it.

It's when that shock hit home that Jilian decided that she would not accept this and that she was going to fight. Jilian had no idea that another world existed from hers, she had no idea that people even had better houses or food to eat or good clothes to wear; she had no idea that children had toys or played games at home. They didn't have a television and once Jilian was older, Jilian was put into boarding school. Jilian had only one aim & one ambition and that was in finding a way to get out of these circumstances, help her family and to come back to help the people she loved dearly and the ones she had to leave behind. Jilian didn't think of money, wealth, being famous or of doing anything out of the ordinary. She just wanted to rise above their current circumstances and somewhere deep down; she knew that she had the potential to do so.

Jilian shares, My journey has been far from easy. It's been a fight, a struggle and hardship that is sometimes impossible to even talk about but with the ability to persist, with the support of a few good people and with the prayers from (men, women & children), I have managed to get to a point where I can help make a difference. I joined Remedia Trust as a Trustee (it was set-up by my in-law who are both professors in linguistics and who have worked all their lives to help educate the people of our country (focusing on children and the youth). At Remedia Trust today, we are involved in the care of disadvantaged groups, including people with disabilities, children, the youth, women, the aged and people suffering with various forms of serious illnesses. We provide food, medical services, education, trainings, and above all, hope.

Working with these people is humbling to say the least, but it is serious business too. We have been fortunate enough to be self-sustaining through the last 14 odd years, and even more so taking into account the assistance of big-hearted (young) people who,

when they discovered the work that we do to uplift the lives of these disadvantaged people offered to lend a helping hand even without our asking. You can review all of their profiles, photographs and the work they do at [www.remediatrust.org](http://www.remediatrust.org). Surely, no words can express our heartfelt gratitude.

Jilian adds, As you will see, the work we carry out reaches thousands of people and the numbers are growing by the day. This is where we need your help. A single grain of sand can tip the scale. Even just one kind soul can indeed make a difference. Be the grain that tips the scale towards the alleviation of poverty in poor communities. We are introducing this project to try and alleviate poverty bit-by-bit and with your help, we are going to be able to do things much faster and more importantly bring about some reprieve for those who are suffering beyond belief. We would like to ask you to join us and to be part of this program (which is initiated by students who are extremely passionate and a blessing to our society) to bring together 100 individuals, families or organizations on an idea in action campaign to help alleviate those in desperate need.

### Objectives:

You will have six+ months in order to do this (the team of students. To explain, you will have upto the end of November 2017 to arrange any event of your choice, to donate or to do anything that you so wish to in order to help us reach people who are in far greater need than ourselves. All you have to do is to discuss your idea with the team and ensure that it does not clash with any other (we ask only because we want to be able to make 100 different efforts, to get the maximum amount to assistance we can and to reach as many as we can as well.

During this six-month period, we would like to interview you on a radio show, on a television show, have your initiative mentioned in the media and ofcourse on social media too. Our team will brief you more on this at the time of joining.

The project group of students, who will work on this campaign, will explain what needs to be done and the process to be followed. They will work with you in order to help you along the way and to ensure that the initiative you take is firstly well recognized by the community and secondly the benefit reaches those in desperate need.

All of these benefits will be distributed to people during this 6/7 month period.

Please note that no two projects can be alike and the decision of the team will be final.

At the end of the year, we will announce first, second and third winners and will be proud to share their initiatives with the entire world on a global media campaign.

The team will be led by Tanusree Debnath an extra ordinary young lady from the city of Kolkata. Her team will comprise of another 5 unique young people who are Sweata Dutta, Soumita Paul, Ayushi Dutt Sharma, Aishwarya Chhetri & Writabrita Ray.

These young women are Ex-students from Auxillium Convent School and St. Xaviers College in Kolkata.

### About the motivational speaker

If you want to do your job better ... if you want to be happier in your life ... if you want to become more focused on what you need to do to achieve greater success ... you need to hear what Jilian has to say.

She is a dynamic keynote speaker who is no stranger to challenges. Her childhood was filled with extreme poverty, malnutrition and disease. It was a time in which she saw four siblings die and she, herself, experienced appalling instances of racist abuse.

Yet from those terrible beginnings, Jilian has achieved amazing success, rising first through the ranks in banking to becoming a highly sought-after speaker and author. Her book, 'Indian. English.' has sold copies well into six figures and the rights to film her book have been bought by a Hollywood production company.

Today, as one of the UK's top motivational speakers, Jilian specializes in using positive thinking to help others overcome the struggles they face - whether large or small, at work or at home - so that they can achieve higher levels of professional success and personal satisfaction.

A childhood of extreme poverty in India has spurred author Jilian Haslam to reach out to underprivileged children in the country.

There are two kinds of people in the world, those who break under adversity and those who take it as a challenge and rise above it. Jilian Haslam belongs to the second category.

She is an Anglo Indian who lives in England and has worked with various corporate houses. Her childhood and youth in India along with her ailing parents and siblings before she moved to the United Kingdom on a scholarship from her free missionary school in Kolkata was fraught with unbelievable hardship.

A 40-year-old Jill, as she is lovingly called, has penned a heart warming yet a hard hitting autobiography on her experiences called "Indian.English" published by Mehta Publication House, slated to be released in New Delhi this week.

It is important to know what Jilian went through in India before she moved in 2000 to U.K. to forge a successful career of two decades in the banking industry. She then devoted her energies to helping people, especially poorest of the poor, to improve their lives. She is now the Founding Director of Help Yourself Associates, a corporate and self development training company. In London she visit schools, trainings, women's work-groups, alcoholic centres etc., working, speaking, inspiring and doing all she can to make a difference.

Jill belongs to one of those British families of post-colonial India who could not go back to Britain after India's Independence due to extreme financial and health issues. Jilian's parents stayed back in Calcutta (as it was then called) in extreme conditions. Though her father, Roland Terrence Haslam served in the British Army and had been rewarded of exemplary services, he could not help his family due to failing health and abject poverty, because of which he also lost four of his nine children.



Aishwarya Chhetri



Ayushi Dutt Sharma



Soumita Paul



Sweata Dutta



Tanusree Debnath



Writabrita Ray

