

# The Aga Khan Academy Hyderabad

## Fun Festival Supports Girls' Education

The Aga Khan Academy Hyderabad hosted a fun festival celebrating Sankranthi on 14-15 January 2017, aiming to support the tourism profile and a social cause—girls' education. KITE 2017 took place at the breathtaking 100 acre campus of the Aga Khan Academy with a footfall of 20,000 visitors.

The Telangana state government and Incredible India (Tourism Authority) have joined hands with the Aga Khan Academy to profile and celebrate the longstanding regional tradition of kite flying and the unique culture, crafts and cuisine of Telangana through an exciting festival program for children, schools and families. International kite flyers from more than 25 countries were part of Kite 2017, along with local and national clubs. An inclusive pre-festival schools' program was scheduled on 13 January that brought students from government and private schools together for workshops on kite making, paper craft, origami and presentation on history of kites.

Radha Konda, 15 years old, studies in Grade 10 at Aga Khan Academy in Hyderabad. Her scholarship is funded from proceeds of ticket sales from KITE 2016. KITE is a festival that makes a difference, whose purpose is to raise awareness of the importance of education and empowerment of girls and generate opportunities for them by providing access to a world-class education. From an underprivileged background, Radha is participating in sport, IT, music and art for the first time in her life. She represents the immense talent, intelligence and determination that rest within girls all over the country.



"I am really honoured to be the face of KITE 2017 because in India we are not treated as equals: boys are allowed to go to university while girls are married off. Being at the Academy has broadened my mind and I suddenly found myself in a great big world with so many opportunities. When I grow up, I want to be an engineer and a collector, because I want to change things in my country and show everyone that girls are capable of great things. I would like to stand on behalf of all girls who really want to study and improve their lives, their self-esteem, and gain equality through education." – Radha Konda, Hyderabad

The Aga Khan Academy Hyderabad is a secular, co-educational, day and boarding school for students in grades 1-12. It is part of the Aga Khan Academies network of schools being established in 14 countries in Africa, Asia and the Middle East. The Academies are part of the Aga Khan Development Network. The aim of the Aga Khan Academies is to influence progress in the developing world by educating students to become homegrown leaders who can affect positive change in their societies. The Aga Khan Academy Hyderabad works towards this vision by providing world-class education for exceptional students irrespective of their social or economic background or ability to pay.





The Aga Khan Academy Hyderabad is a triple programme IB World School, offering the Primary Years, Middle Years and Diploma Programmes. The Academy's programme additionally emphasises five cross-curricular areas of study: Ethics, Pluralism, Cultures, Governance and Civil Society, and Economics for Development. These themes provide a framework for developing students as global citizens and ethical, pluralistic leaders.



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