

# Dawn Foundation China

*Supporting Poor, Orphan Children and Elderly in China*

## Executive Summary

The main Objectives of Dawn Foundation China are to advance education and relieve poverty in China in particular but not exclusively for children and the elderly.

Initially our work has commenced in the Province of Xinjiang, China and our plan for the near future is to expand into Gansu, Yunan and Sichuan.



Xinjiang is the largest province in China. It covers approximately 1.6 km<sup>2</sup> and is situated in the western area of China. It borders Russia, Mongolia, Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, Tajikistan, Afghanistan, Pakistan and India.

Although it is rich in oil reserves and minerals and is China's largest natural gas producing region, most its indigenous people suffer from extreme poverty. The population is a mixture of Muslim (45% Uyghur, 7% Kazak and 5% Hui) and Han Chinese (41%).

The Capital, Urumqi, is located in the northern part of Xinjiang. The population of Urumqi is now 75% Han and 13% Uyghur.

The Uyghur people of Xinjiang are the descendents of ancient Turkic tribes and Caucasian inhabitants of Tarim Basin and followed the most celebrated prince, Sultan Satuq Bughra Khan, to conversion to Islam in the late 10<sup>th</sup> Century and adopting Arabic text.

Dawn Foundation China is a registered as a charity in England (Charity number 1130581).

The goals of the charity are:

- To provide supplementary education and Vocational education to poor and orphan children
- To provide care and welfare assistance to orphan children.
- To provide care and welfare assistance to elderly and widows.

Our aim is to work with Local and National Chinese Governmental Education and Welfare Departments to deliver a programme to enable children and elderly to create a better future for themselves and their families. To achieve our elderly care and welfare and vocational education goals (vocational training facilities and a day care centre for the elderly), Dawn Foundation China need to raise approximately £70,000 by 2<sup>nd</sup> quarter of 2011.

## **Dawn Foundation China**

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## 1. History of Dawn Foundation China

Dawn Foundation China was founded in October 2005 during the visit of its founder Naeem Chuhan. The main objective was to address the poverty and education of Children, especially Orphans and Elderly.



Dawn Foundation China has supported elderly like Ibrahim who was seventy eight years old and had no family. He was an “Orphan” and lived in a small simple “house”. Because he was an orphan, he depended on the help of neighbours and either begging during the day or helping some men in the city centre and earning about 50 pence a day. Sometimes he would go hungry if the day was bad. He did not receive any government help because he was from another city. The law in China states that if a person moves to another city, he cannot receive any government assistance in the new city. So, unfortunately, Ibrahim was in such a situation.

An Orphan girl named Adila who lived with her grandmother. Adila’s parents had passed away when she was five years old. Now aged eight, she lived with her elderly grandmother in a small rented room which they called home. Like, Ibrahim, this family was from another city called Kashghar (located just north of Pakistan and linked by Karakorum highway from Gilgit). Although grandmother has lived in Urumqi for more than twenty five years, she did not receive any government help. Adila did not go to school because her grandmother could afford to pay £7 per month fees to the school. There was no coal to cook food or heat the room and most of the time they survived by eating dry Nan bread with water. In addition, grandmother was very ill.



## 2. Dawn Foundation China Education and Welfare Project



In December 2005, Dawn Foundation China began the first phase of its education programme for ninety poor and orphan children (40 Poor and 50 Orphans). It began with hiring two classrooms from a private language school to teach the children English, Mandarin Chinese, Maths and Physics.

A welfare programme was launched. We established the poverty levels, number of people in household, income, housing condition and whether or not the children had to pay fees to attend school. The poorest children (Like Munira – Photo with here grandmother) were found to be orphans looked after grandparents and widows.



In 2007, Dawn Foundation China opened its first school at cost of approximately £20,000.

The school curriculum includes English, Mandarin Chinese, Russian, Computing (I.T.) and Maths. Chinese is taught because for many Uyghur is the mother tongue and fluency in Chinese is one of the main criteria to improve the children’s prospects in either higher education or employment. Russian is taught to some children who are interested in gaining employment in either the growing Russian tourist trade or Russian businesses establishing in Urumqi.

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Operating costs are approximately £1,100 and we now have seven teachers, including a full time general manager of all activities in Urumqi. The teachers are paid a monthly salary of approximately £70 per month. Dawn Foundation China equipped one classroom with twenty five computers at cost of £2,000 which enabled the children to have access to a computer for the first time in their lives. The school was also painted and decorated and safety equipment was installed all at cost of approximately £1,500.



In addition to supplementing children education, Dawn Foundation China also supports some twenty five orphan children and 10 poor children with its welfare programme. The total cost of this support is approximately £4,200 per year.

### **3. Dawn Foundation China Elderly Welfare Project**

The Dawn Foundation China Elderly Care and Welfare Project are currently not as well established as the Education and Welfare Project for the Children. This is due to the lack of funds available. However, we have supported several elderly such as Yusuf and Aziz. They are both “Orphans” and look after themselves.



Yusuf was 98 years old and can be seen in the photo repairing his coal stove getting ready for winter. The story of Yusuf is as sad as that of Ibrahim. Ironically, the very stove Yusuf was repairing was the cause of his passing away. During winter, the stove pipe cracked and carbon monoxide gas leaked into his room whilst he slept.

Aziz is partially blind as a result of working in mines for most of his life. He has no living relative. He looks after himself by either begging or from the help of some good neighbours. His “house” is the size of a small closet.



Many elderly, especially elderly women live alone and often work all day collecting paper and card board or beg to earn less than 50p a day to provide themselves with a hot meal and coal to cook and heat. Unfortunately many elderly pass away due to neglect, starvation, hypothermia or ill health related to their condition.

### **4. Dawn Foundation China Vocational Education Project**

Vocational Training is the most important goal set by Dawn Foundation China for children leaving fulltime education. This is not available in Xinjiang. One of the main reasons are that the children do not receive and are not supported by state schools in establishing the area of vocation the child wants to enter. The other is that competition is very high and often it is found many jobs go to better qualified Han Chinese immigrants due to the fact that many Uyghur are not fluent in Mandarin Chinese. The resultant factor has tremendous impact on society. In case of girls (especially orphan girls), they either get married or may find work in nightclubs and other social areas where most find they can never return to their homes. In case of boys, they may find themselves entering life of drugs and crime. Unfortunately, Xinjiang has a growing problem with drug abuse and AIDS amongst the young has increased dramatically.

All children want hope that once they complete their education they will have something which will enable them to be model citizens and be able to provide for themselves and their families. This is the main concern and main aim for Dawn Foundation China.

The first Dawn Foundation China Vocational Education commenced soon after the opening of their current school. Our first child graduated from gaining training on Photoshop and gained a full time job soon after. The student is an Orphan girl of 17 who also has a younger brother. Both are looked after their elderly grandparents who themselves are supported by Dawn Foundation China.

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Due to very limited funds, Dawn Foundation China currently cannot offer many children Vocational Training. We do, however, plan to commence in the third quarter of 2011.

**5. Dawn Foundation China Project Delivery Plan**

To continue our expansion plan and work on its goal, Dawn Foundation China will make an application for an Education and Training Certificate in the first quarter of 2011. This is a window of opportunity provided by Urumqi Education Department for submitting all applications. The certificate will enable the delivery of all types of supplementary education and for the setting up of Vocational Training Centre. In addition it will enable the opening of a day care centre for the elderly.

Once the Education and Training Certificate is secured, it will also be possible for Dawn Foundation China to lease land from the Government to erect a purpose built building establishing our first school and day care centre and leading to the first free medical centre to treat non-life threatening illnesses.

Dawn Foundation China plan to employ all children currently supported to deliver the goals set. Many children are already on a list to become teachers, nurses and doctors. In addition, many children who have become qualified in their vocation will locate in other cities within Xinjiang (city by city plan) and in future other provinces to establish carbon copy projects set up in Urumqi.

The main aim of Project is to enable an increase in levels of education and self sufficiency of many poor and orphan children. This will result in improving their lives by having the means to support themselves and their families. In addition it is to establish long term ongoing projects for which the children belonging to Dawn Foundation China will support.

The table below shows actual costs to date and forecast costs for Project to include delivery of Vocational Training and Care Centre for the Elderly with an approved Education and Training Certificate.

**Dawn Foundation Project Delivery High Level Actual and Forecast Costs**

Description	Funds Input per year			Time Line						
	Naeem Chuhan	Sponsorship	External Donors	2005	2006	2007	2008/2009	2009/2010	2011	2012
Commence Education/Welfare Project	£4,000	Nil	Nil	↔	↔					
Commence Elderly Welfare Project	£500	Nil	Nil	↔	↔					
First School Opened	£20,000	£1,200	Nil			↔				
Move to 2nd School (Dec 2008/Dec 2009)	£20,280	£1,500	Nil				↔			
2nd School Costs (Dec 2009/ Dec 2010)	£19,780	£1,500	Nil					↔		
<b>Forecast For 2011 Expansion</b>	<b>Budget Forecast</b>									
	Naeem Chuhan	Sponsorship	External Donors							
Education and Training Certificate (deposit)			£25,000						↔	
Building Rent	£10,000								↔	
School Equipment	£5,000		£5,000						↔	
Elderly Care Centre			£5,000						↔	
Equipment and Human Resource for Care Centre			£10,000						↔	
Vocational Training	£2,000		£8,000						↔	
Estimated Running Costs for School	£10,000		£20,000							↔
Estimated Running Costs for Care Centre	£3,000		£7,000							↔
Orphan Sponsorship Year 1		£2,000							↔	
Orphan Sponsorship Year 2		£4,000								↔