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SHRAM KO NAMAN

A PHOTO ESSAY SERIES



PHOTOGRAPHS & CAPTIONS BY
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PHOTO ESSAY

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Bhalswa landfill is one of Delhi's primary dumping grounds for dealing with the city's massive waste output.

Following heavy overnight rains on August 13, 2020, a portion of the landfill collapsed, injuring three people and destroying *jhuggis* (shanty settlements) in the neighbouring region.

Looking at landfills as a part of our 21st century modern cities gives a harsh perspective on the gaping inequality and disparity. These landfills are a reminder of our fragmented society; the 'have's and 'have not's; the mountains between the privileged that live a few miles away from these towers of waste,

Deadly WASTELANDS

and the destitute workers who live in these polluted areas and make a living off waste segregation. Landfills are perceived with repugnance and distaste by city dwellers, but they fail to recognise and accept the grim reality of our lives which suffocate the planet and the poor everyday.

As the mountains of waste gain higher peaks, the struggles of life for the people living in the shadow of society and those mountains rise at a higher rate.



Delhi, India- Washir Ahmed (47), a waste picker looks at damaged shanties as section of the Bhalswa landfill collapsed in North Delhi after heavy overnight rain (clicked on September 10, 2020.)



Segregated solid waste material is washed away as section of the Bhalswa landfill collapsed in North Delhi after heavy overnight rain (clicked on September 10, 2020).



Segregated plastic bottles lie in front of a damaged shanty at Bhalswa landfill in North Delhi after heavy overnight rain (clicked on September 10, 2020).



Washir Ahmed (47), a waste picker walks next to damaged shanties as section of the Bhalswa landfill collapsed in North Delhi after heavy overnight rain (clicked on September 10, 2020).



Delhi, India - A resident standing near a bamboo barricade next to sewage water filled with solid waste at Swaroop Nagar near Bhalswa landfill in North Delhi (clicked on September 10, 2020).



Delhi, India- A waste picker walks near the collapsed section of Bhalswa landfill



Delhi, India- Segregated toothbrushes at Bhalswa landfill in North Delhi (clicked on September 10, 2020).



An E-Rickshaw is stuck around solid waste at Swaroop Nagar near Bhalswa landfill in North Delhi.



A pig rests in an open plot filled with sewage water at Swaroop Nagar near Bhalswa landfill in North Delhi.



A child with a bag walks next to solid waste bags at the Bhalswa landfill



A waste-picker carries drinking water jar at Bhalswagaon near Bhalswa landfill in North Delhi.



Children play in allies of Swaroop Nagar near Bhalswa landfill in North Delhi.



Grocery shops in allies of Swaroop Nagar near Bhalswa landfill



A waste-picker covers a segregated waste bag with a flex at Swaroop Nagar near Bhalswa landfill in North Delhi (clicked on September 10, 2020)..



A waste-picker packs plastic waste in a bag at Bhalswagaon near Bhalswa landfill



Waste-pickers community at Bhalswagaon near Bhalswa landfill in North Delhi.



Delhi, India- Waste-pickers segregate solid waste in cartons at Bhalswagaon



Delhi, India- A women waste-picker segregates solid waste at Bhalswagaon



Rahima, a waste-picker, segregates solid waste at the Bhalswa landfill



Delhi, India- A women stands next to under-construction houses surrounded by sewage waste at Swaroop Nagar near Bhalswa landfill in North Delhi (clicked on September 10, 2020).



Delhi, India- Sewage Waste gathers next to residential structures at Swaroop Nagar near Bhalswa landfill in North Delhi (clicked on September 10, 2020).



Delhi, India- A young boy crosses damaged shanties surrounded by solid waste material as section of the Bhalswa landfill collapsed in North Delhi after heavy overnight rain (clicked on September 10, 2020).



Delhi, India- A dog rests in water around solid waste material as section of the Bhalswa landfill collapsed



PAIGAM (People's Association In Grassroots Action and Movement) is an aggregator of activists, researchers, practitioners and organisations that aims to bring together social efforts at the local, national and global levels through media advocacy and action research.

They wish to bring a seamless bridge between academia, activism, policy and public through our media, advocacy, research, grassroots fellowship and mobilization channels.

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TEXT BY:

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