

AFP Director wins major Philanthropy Award

Director of AFP Bala Thakrar won the coveted Social and Humanitarian Award at the ninth Asian Women of Achievement Awards. Bala won for her work in supporting disadvantaged Asian people in the UK and Worldwide.

The competition was tough, with the shortlist of 44 candidates deemed ‘the best yet’ by the Awards’ sponsors Lloyds TSB.



Bala Thakrar has championed the needs of vulnerable people for 20 years. She founded Apna Ghar (the UK’s first Housing Association for Asian People with Disabilities) and has held posts at the Confederation of Indian Organisations, Voluntary Service Overseas (VSO) and the Charities Aid Foundation. Three years ago, she founded the Asian Foundation for Philanthropy, which aims to connect the Asian Diaspora in the UK to innovative social change initiatives, particularly in India.

Collecting her award, Bala said: “I’m really overwhelmed by it. You do all this work and to have it recognised is wonderful. I’m inspired and motivated by the amazing women who are doing such excellent work in India. Women such as Ilaben Pathak who has been crusading for social justice for women who are victims of Domestic Violence and Dowry, Dr Uma Tuli, who has been advocating for the rights of Disabled People, particularly Disabled children and inclusive education and Mrs Jyoti Singh who has introduced quality education in villages of Uttar Pradesh.” Bala was

awarded her trophy by Her Royal Highness Princess Badiya of Jordan. The event was sponsored by Lloyds TSB and took place at the London Hilton, Park Lane on Tuesday 20th May 2008.

We would like to thank all our supporters for their well wishes and continued support to realise AFP's mission of *inspiring social change*.



*Bala Thakrar of AFP and
Kamal Hothi of Lloyds TSB with the AWA Award*