

## A SHOT OF HOPE BEACONS OF HOPE

# Nizam's kin sells art pieces to help Covid-hit

[SYED.AKBAR@TIMESGROUP.COM](mailto:SYED.AKBAR@TIMESGROUP.COM)

### Hyderabad:

Young Zehra Mirza, greatgreat-great granddaughter of Nizam VII, Mir Osman Ali Khan, has sold her art collection in her gallery to help the poor and Covid-19 patients.

Zehra—who is an artist—is the daughter of Himayat Ali Mirza, grandson of Moazzam Jah, the second son of the last ruler of princely Hyderabad state. Proceeds from the sale of her paintings have been distributed to various hospitals and charitable organisations that are working for the poor and Covid-19 patients. So far, around Rs 4 lakh have been donated.

She is the great-great granddaughter of Princess Niloufer, whose charity led to the formation of Telangana's biggest government hospital for children and pregnant women -- Niloufer Hospital in Hyderabad. Zehra is also an upcoming businesswoman and fashion designer. She has been working for the welfare of cancer patients and since the pandemic began, she is focussing on Covid-19 patients and people affected by the lockdown. She said she will now channelize her charity through the proposed Prince Moazzam Jah charity organization.

“As an artist I have always seen beauty in life and am deeply rooted in charity. But the pandemic has created awareness that help is always needed, now more than ever. There are people with not the same kind of resources, suffering from Covid-19 and other ailments. It is my duty to help them in any way or form I can, be it distributing food or donating funds,” Zehra told **TOI**.

Zehra is the founder of The Zehra Mirza gallery. She has put all her

artworks for sale and taken up charitable work from the sale proceeds of her artworks. While the Nizam's descendant is busy working for the welfare of Covid-19 patients, a look back into history reveals how her great-great grandfather, Moazzam Jah, as the head of the City Improvement Board, the predecessor of HMDA, had shaped modern Hyderabad after the 1911 plague epidemic and 1918 flu pandemic.

She graduated from Illinois, US and obtained a diploma in fashion design. Zehra travelled to Russia for her art and expansion of her real estate career, where she successfully achieved a diploma in business. She also interned at reputed establishments in law.



**The proceeds from the sale of Zehra Mirza's paintings have been distributed among hospitals and charitable organisations**

**[www.TOIBeaconsOfHope.com](http://www.TOIBeaconsOfHope.com)**