



TURQUOISE MOUNTAIN

## Pictures and Text about current activities



Figure 1 Skilled worker leveling plot for construction.



Figure 2 Constructor transporting cleared ground from the plot leveling process through the tunnels of Murad Khani.



Figure 3 Engineer and Architect during a training session for the builders at work.



Figure 4 Construction workers posing for a picture during the restoration process of Nabi Jan's House.

Turquoise Mountain has been working in Murad Khani for over 10 years, restoring this historic neighbourhood and its traditional buildings to their former design and structure. In the process of restoration, many practitioners receive training to preserve the art of traditional building and design. Just this year over 200 skilled labourers from 21 provinces were trained in earth and mud houses construction.

This year three houses are being fully restored and handed back to the families that own them. The buildings are usually found in very bad condition, but traces of beautiful architecture can still be noticed, and is properly restored after construction work is done.

Construction work in Murad Khani is not only limited to conserving historic buildings, but also preserving the cultural significance and traditions of Afghanistan. Traditional methods and materials of construction are maintained and used throughout the process. Both tangible and intangible craft skills are preserved and promoted. Cultural outreach programs are carried out, such as conducting tours for university students, and informing them about the cultural preservation programs documentation.

Turquoise Mountain has also built a Family Health Care Clinic for the community and is being extended this year to serve more patients. In the coming months, Turquoise Mountain will open dermatology, psychiatry, minor surgery, dental, and x-ray units, in addition to current facilities, to meet high demands in these areas. Over the years, it has treated more than 110,000 patients, 70 percent of whom are women.



Figure 5 Ramazan's House during construction work.



Figure 6 A picture of an examination room from the clinic, and a view of the construction work taking place for its extension.



Figure 7 Traditional wild flower "Lokh" being added to the mixture and used in the final steps of construction to smoothen walls.



Figure 8 Skilled construction worker mixing traditional materials "Lokh" with clay and water to smoothen walls.

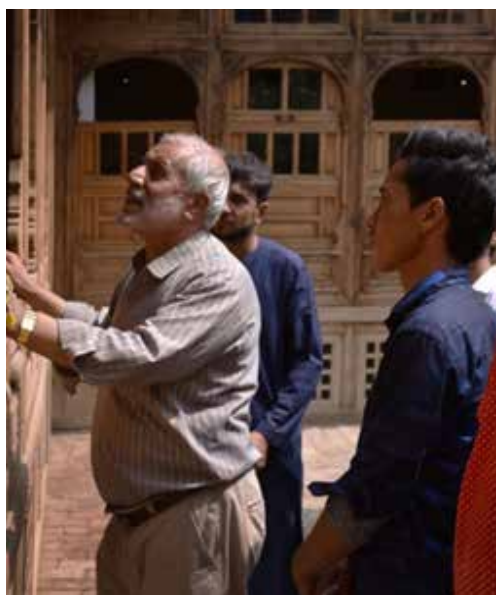


Figure 9 Head Engineer Hedayatullah giving a tour to Polytechnic University students and explaining the architecture and materials behind the construction.