Malala is heroic – **(main information in bold)**

**A teenage girl shot in the head by the Pakistani Taliban after campaigning for female education** has spoken publicly about **her ordeal** for the first time saying she would sacrifice her life for the cause .

Malala Yousafza**i**who is now 15 is being **treated in Birmingham** following the attack near her home in the Swat valley in October . Doctors at the **Queen Elizabeth Hospital** say she is expected to make a full recovery. Our correspondent Alan Neatle reports:

**The bullet** that struck Malala in the head shattered a large segment of her skull but **did not penetrate her brain.**

In an interview recorded before surgery on Saturday **she spoke fluently and eloquently about her determination to continue her education .**

Today I can speak and I’m getting better day by day . it’s just because of the prayer of **people, because all the people men, women , children, all of them have prayed for me.**

**Malala’s doctors said she has suffered no long-term brain injury or cognitive impairment**. They fitted a titanium plate to replace the section of her skull that the bullet destroyed. They also place a cochlear implant in her left ear to try to restore her lost hearing. Even from her hospital bed expressed her determination to turn her experience to positive advantage.

**Launching the Malala fund to campaign for education for girls**. God has given me this new life . And this is a second life. This is a new life. And I want to serve, to serve the people. And **I want every girl, every child to be educated**. And for that reason we have organized Malala fund .

The consultant neurosurgeon who operated her on Saturday , **Ann Winwhite described Malalaas a bright and enthusiastic girl who had faced her ordeal without shedding a tear**. Her quiet courage and resolution have turned this softly-spoken -15 -year old into **a powerful global symbol of the right of girls to be educated**