

P O R T R A I T S O F
PROMISE

ISSUE 66



**at-risk
to thriving**

orphan'spromise

Restoring Hassan's Family and Future



These are the stories.

These are the souls.

These are the portraits of the lives we're changing.

Hassan* loves art and animals—especially his dog and his pet parrot. He has a big smile and a gentle spirit. He's 11 years old and lives in a slum in Jaipur, India, where life is quite difficult. See how your compassionate partnership is helping change the future for Hassan, his family, and their community.

**Name changed for privacy purposes.*

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LIFE IN JAIPUR

Hassan lives with his parents and two older siblings. Neither of his parents had access to education when they were young, but they were determined that their children would have an opportunity to go to school and study well. However, the circumstances at home made it difficult for Hassan to focus on his classes.

Although he didn't have access to an education or a degree, Hassan's dad learned how to drive an auto-rickshaw and make a living as a driver. But for years, he struggled with an alcohol addiction, which led to angry outbursts and violence at home. This was deeply painful for Hassan to witness, and he was constantly on edge. Unfortunately, this is very common in this area. Many of the men in the slums cope with alcohol and substance abuse. This often leads to domestic violence and neglect. The women in the community work hard to provide for the basic needs of their families, which usually means the children are left on their own. Kids learn to take care of themselves at a very young age, and many end up working or being married off.

UNICEF reports that, in India, the “lingering effects of the COVID-19 pandemic add to the strain on household income and livelihoods, increasing food insecurity and leading families to negative coping mechanisms like sending children to work instead of school, or arranging for early marriage.”¹

Fortunately, Hassan's parents prioritized education, but the unstable environment at home made it difficult for him to focus in school. Witnessing domestic violence has a serious negative impact on children and their development. It is psychologically damaging and puts the child at a greater risk of being a victim of abuse later. The harm can manifest in many ways, such as negatively affecting cognitive development, elevating stress, causing sleep deprivation, and increasing irritability and emotional distress.² Hassan was having a hard time keeping up in class and coping with the environment at home.



WHILE PROGRESS IS BEING MADE IN INDIA, UNICEF ALSO REPORTS THAT “CHILDREN FROM RURAL AREAS, URBAN POOR FAMILIES AND OTHER DISADVANTAGED POPULATIONS SUFFER FROM MULTIPLE DEPRIVATIONS INCLUDING POOR ACCESS TO SAFE WATER AND SANITATION, HEALTH CARE, EDUCATION AND PROTECTION FROM EXPLOITATION.”³

A SAFE PLACE FOR HASSAN

When Hassan's family heard about the School of Life (SOL) center and its after-school programs, they were excited. Your support makes it possible for at-risk kids in the community to be welcomed into a safe environment where they receive help with their studies, nutritious meals, spiritual guidance, and holistic developmental support.

The impact that the SOL is having is profound. When Hassan first came, he was struggling to read and write. He was also experiencing the emotional ramifications of his dad's addiction and abusive relationship with his mom.

Hassan's teachers gave him a safe place to process his emotions and trauma. They offered personalized support and counseling. They also made sure to let him go at his own pace. Gradually, Hassan's studies improved, and his gentle, nurturing personality flourished. He has a deep love for arts and crafts. He enjoys playing sports, especially cricket, cycling, and swimming. At school, he is making friends. He can also read and write now!

His mother noticed the difference in her son and is so grateful to see him thriving. “If the SOL center was not there to help, we would have never seen a change in our son's life. May God bless the center for the guidance and education they are providing,” she said.

A FAMILY TRANSFORMATION

Hassan was also introduced to the Bible through CBN Animation’s Superbook. Only about 0.4 percent of the population in India identifies as Christian,⁴ so these teachings were new to him. Hassan learned about God and began praying for his dad’s heart to be transformed. Through the support of the SOL community and Hassan’s persistent prayers, his dad stopped drinking. Now, instead of being afraid, Hassan is experiencing a safe, loving environment at home.

When we asked Hassan what he’d like to tell you, he said: “Thanks to your support, I am excelling in my education and turning into a better person. I have a loving father and caring mother, and we love to be together.”

Nirupam Jha, our Orphan’s Promise regional manager in South Asia, shared, “It is so exciting to see that, through the program, we can help a child excel in his or her education and learn to know the God who can change lives. I want to thank all our donors for their contribution to making families come together and fulfilling children’s dreams. Their continued support will help many families find joy in their lives.”



INCREASE YOUR *generosity*

The most effective way to give and maximize your gift is to give a recurring monthly gift. If you’d like to become a monthly partner with Orphan’s Promise, please check out the information below. We’ll count on you to ensure our commitment to these children is fulfilled!

IF YOU’D LIKE TO GIVE A SPECIAL GIFT TO ORPHAN’S PROMISE, THERE ARE FOUR EASY WAYS YOU CAN GIVE:



OrphansPromise.org/Promise



Text PROMISE to 71777



Call 1-800-818-4016



Mail a check made out to Orphan’s Promise to:
Orphan’s Promise
977 Centerville Turnpike
Virginia Beach, VA 23463

Thanks for your generosity.

We look forward to making a difference together.

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YOUR COMPASSION IN ACTION

With so many people and causes you could be supporting, we are incredibly grateful for your partnership with us!

Because of you, transformation like this is happening every single day in the lives of kids like Hassan. You are bringing hope and healing to the most vulnerable—one child, one family, one community at a time. It is a joy to partner with you in giving kids the keys to unlock their future, which include education, nutritious meals, hope, and faith in God. Thank you for seeing Hassan and other kids the way Jesus does: infinitely valuable, incredibly precious, and made in God's image.

PRAYER POINTS

Pray for Hassan's overall well-being and for him to continue to do well in his studies.

Pray for Hassan's family, especially for his dad to continue to have stable work to provide for them.

Pray for the SOL center and the teachers who serve there so they can reach more children and families in the community.

1. "UNICEF in India," UNICEF USA, accessed April 5, 2024, <https://www.unicefusa.org/what-unicef-does/where-unicef-works/asia/india#:~:text=India%20has%20experienced%20significant%20economic,declined%20by%20more%20than%20half>.
2. Olivia Harrison, "The Long-Term Effects of Domestic Violence on Children," *Children's Legal Rights Journal* 41, no. 1 (2021): 1, <https://lawcommons.luc.edu/cgi/viewcontent.cgi?article=1232&context=clrj#:~:text=Later%20in%20life%2C%20adults%20who,raised%20in%20homes%20without%20violence>.
3. "UNICEF in India," UNICEF USA, accessed April 5, 2024, <https://www.unicefusa.org/what-unicef-does/where-unicef-works/asia/india#:~:text=India%20has%20experienced%20significant%20economic,declined%20by%20more%20than%20half>.
4. Ariana Monique Salazar, "8 Key Findings About Christians in India," Pew Research Center, July 12, 2021, <https://www.pewresearch.org/short-reads/2021/07/12/8-key-findings-about-christians-in-india/>.



SCAN TO GIVE



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📞 1-800-818-4016

🌐 orphanspromise.org



Orphan's Promise, a children's ministry of The Christian Broadcasting Network, Inc., serves orphans and other vulnerable children around the world, taking them from at-risk to thriving through the transforming power of God's love. CBN is a non-profit 501(c)(3) charitable organization and your contributions to our ministry may be tax-deductible.

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