

RESPONSE

Issue **FOUR** 2025

A woman with a red bindi on her forehead, wearing a green and yellow patterned sari, is holding a young child in a yellow dress with pink floral patterns. The child is smiling and looking towards the camera. The woman is looking down at the child with a gentle expression. They are sitting outdoors against a blurred background of a stone wall.

THANK YOU
FOR HELPING
MY MUM
FIND WORK

Page 2 Proud to be a tailor!

Page 7 How helping parents changes their child's journey

Page 6 12 Days. 12 Ways to Spread Joy.

 **GIVEHOPE**TODAY
AsianAID

A photograph of a woman, Jhunu, sitting at a sewing machine in a workshop. She is wearing a yellow shirt and a red and white patterned shawl. The background shows a blue corrugated metal wall and some tools. A large white cloud graphic is in the top left corner.

"They used to call my mum just a housemaid.
But now I get to say with pride: my mum is a tailor."

Jhunu's sons

ARE HAPPY

“Mama makes dresses for aunties, and they give her money. With the money, we buy rice and biscuits.”

Jhunu is 35 years old and lives in the same village in Bangladesh where she was born. Her husband is a boatman. Together, they work hard to raise their two sons, who study in schools outside the village. Money has always been tight, and with only her husband's income, it was often impossible to meet the family's needs.

Everyone knew Jhunu as the cheerful woman who lent a hand with small jobs for others and who loved music.

But in her heart, she longed to do more for her family. Recently, thanks to your support, that dream began to take shape - with tailoring training and a sewing machine.

With her new skills, Jhunu is building a small tailoring business. Today, villagers come to her with their sewing needs, and she proudly introduces herself as a tailor.

"I am very happy and want to thank those who have supported us," she says. "They have provided support to my family, and we are striving to improve our lives."

Now, Jhunu's income helps support her children's education and the family's daily expenses. She continues to attend community meetings and educational awareness programs, eager to learn more herself while encouraging others in her small riverside village to do the same.

This Asian Aid project has been equipping families like Jhunu's with education, school supplies, meals, and skills for a brighter future since 2018. Jhunu's story is just one reminder of how opportunity can transform lives.



Art by Anshika,
13, India

“Our new fruit tree is growing big.”



Stitching a Brighter FUTURE

Danish, a social worker from India, teaches women in rural community handicraft skills through her work with Asian Aid.

Many families here depend on low daily wages. We want to give women an opportunity to earn a little extra and support their children. For this project, four mothers worked with us, and together, we set out to produce block-printed cotton bags.

THE DESIGN:

We used a colour palette inspired by India's tribal homes - orange, brown, and maroon. The women painted patterns of animals and designs from their

surroundings. We named the bag *Abhar*, which means grateful.

THE MATERIALS:

To source fabrics and wooden printing blocks, I travelled overnight by train with my colleague, Jagdish. It was my first time in the huge city market, and the experience was unforgettable - especially when Jagdish lost his shoes on the train and had to walk barefoot carrying heavy bundles!

THE TIMEFRAME:

We worked every afternoon for three weeks, finishing 280 bags.

THE OUTCOME:

The women were proud of their work, and it was inspiring to see their confidence grow with each step.

This project reminded me that even with limited resources, a committed team can create something meaningful. Hard work, laughter, and creativity truly go hand in hand. **Thank you for the funds that made this possible.**

- Danish



Don't miss watching her share about their latest project.

“I love watering our seeds. Daddy says they will help our family live better.”



Opening New Doors

Life wasn't easy for Yogeswari from India.

She grew up in a difficult family environment and, struggling with emotional stress, dropped out of school. Her parents even considered marrying her off to ease the pressure at home.

During this time, she was a volunteer at an Anti-Human Trafficking club and partner staff noticed her struggles. With their help, she received counselling and enrolled in a tailoring course. She excelled in the program, graduating top of the class. The training gave her skills and confidence.

Now, Yogeswari earns money by taking on small orders and supporting her family. She has now

returned to school to finish her education. She also remains active in her community, raising awareness about human trafficking and supporting other young girls.

What began as a skill-gaining opportunity has become a turning point in Yogeswari's life. Tailoring opened doors to financial independence and increased confidence for her. With your support, other young women like Yogeswari can open doors to a brighter future too.

To gift them a
New Beginning,
visit our Gift
Catalogue



“Mummy told me that her group is like a family. When someone needs money, everyone helps.”



Art by Angel, 9. India

“I gave food to the ducks daddy is growing, and they ate fast. I think they were hungry. When we sell the ducks' eggs, we will get money.”



For unto us a child is born ... And His name shall be called
Wonderful, Counsellor, Mighty God, Everlasting Father, Prince
of Peace.

Thank You
for filling 2025 with hope and joy
for children and families

Merry Christmas
FROM ALL OF US

NEW SKILLS NEW HOPE

IN BANGLADESH

“I came to know how we can use our fallow* land correctly and bring in an income-generating resource.”

- Achia, Bangladesh

*Fallow land: farmland left unplanted to let the soil recover.

“This is very new to me to cultivate vegetables in sacks in a small place and I will apply the method I have learnt.”

- Khaleda, Bangladesh

“It is as if I was blind before I came to this training because I am involved in hen and duck rearing but did not know anything about it – I just did it randomly. This training opened my blind eyes and motivated me to follow the process I learnt from here. I will also increase my poultry more and more and start serving the community for free if anybody needs to vaccinate hens and ducks.”

- Shamim, Bangladesh

A SPECIAL LETTER TO YOU
FROM A SCHOOL PRINCIPAL
IN BANGLADESH

To
The Director Asian Aid Organization (AAO.)

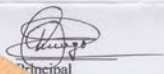
Subject: Thank Letter for Donation of 20 piece of Sewing Machine and one Overlock Machine for [redacted]

Dear Sir,

A Christian greeting to you from [redacted] This is a great privilege and blessings for [redacted] to receive 20 Swing Machine and one overlock machine project which was really needed for the school to teach and train our students as a vocational learning. Beside their bookies knowledge, students will get a chance and opportunity to learn dress making and cutting through this project. Specially the students who are very week in study books, they can get the opportunity to learn vocational training like dress making and cutting and in future they can survive in their life time.

On behalf of [redacted] I have nothing to explain but like to give many many thanks to Asian Aid Organization for this very worth full Donation to us [redacted] during this right time. The [redacted] family is so much happy and also students are very much happy and excited to receive such a wonderful facility and project. We pray for your long lasting charity work and help like this kind of welfare work. May God continue his blessing to you abundantly. Thank you.

Sincerely yours,


Principal

“Daddy says his work is small, but I think it is big because it helps us.”

KIDS' CORNER

12 DAYS. 12 WAYS
TO SPREAD JOY

This Christmas, share a little joy each day with 12 simple, fun ways to brighten someone's day - each inspired by life-changing gifts like ducks, seeds, tailoring, and more!

DAY 1: Draw a duck and gift it to make someone smile

DAY 2: Share a silly goat sound with friends

DAY 3: Water a tree near your home

DAY 4: Save seeds from fruit and plant them

DAY 5: Make a paper fish to gift a friend

DAY 6: Create a handmade card for someone special

DAY 7: Fold clothes or stitch a button with a parent

DAY 8: Comb a sibling's hair with care

DAY 9: Make bead or paper jewelry to brighten a day

DAY 10: Team up with friends to tidy a small space

DAY 11: Help wash vegetables and fruits before a meal

DAY 12: Learn a new skill from an elder.

TRY ONE EACH DAY AND LET THE JOY
RIPPLE OUTWARDS THIS CHRISTMAS!



Meet Albert

Through the Self-Help Group, he started a garment shop that now provides a steady income for his family. With a loan from the group, Albert researched, developed a business plan, raised funds, registered and launched his business - turning his hard work into real opportunity.



Growing Hope

WITH ACHIF

Achif, 48, is a farmer and daily labourer in Bangladesh. Putting food on the table has always been a struggle. But for the past few years, he has participated in an Asian Aid project that is helping families find new ways to improve their lives.

Through training in crop and vegetable gardens and with access to seeds, fruit trees, and other support, Achif has gained practical tools - and new hope. Recently he joined 82 other farmers, women, and teachers at the local Adventist School - learning farming methods that give better yields.

"This project is helping our community in many ways," Achif says. "The corn seeds I received will help our family income. Corn cultivation is profitable, and I hope it will meet the needs of my family."

Parents are eager to give their children a good education, believing improved farming methods will bring lasting change. By learning new skills and working together, Achif and his neighbours are finding ways to overcome poverty and build a better future.

"We pick tomatoes, and I put them in a basket. Then we cook them at home."

Art by Aliya,
14, India



A CHILD'S JOURNEY

Thanks to YOU

SCHOOL BEGINS

AGE 5

- You gift all school supplies.
 - Tara* begins school.
- "See, I can write my name."*

HEALTHY & STRONG

AGE 7

- Health camps bring doctors to school.
 - Tara is healthier with clean water and meals at school.
- "My first doctor's visit wasn't scary."*

FOOD AT HOME

AGE 8

- Father receives seeds & training.
 - He starts a vegetable garden.
- "I like tomatoes the best."*

MUM'S EXAMPLE

AGE 10

- Mum joins a Self-Help Group.
 - She learns to sew and buys a machine with a loan.
- "Mum bought me new school shoes!"*

BECOMING A LEADER

AGE 13

- Tara joins a child club at school.
 - She learns about child rights, teamwork and leadership.
- "I can speak up at school now."*

DREAMS WITHIN REACH

AGE 15

- Tara uses a computer for the first time.
 - She types, creates and stays safe online.
- "Being good with computers will help me at uni or work."*

Tara's future is brighter, her family more secure, her community stronger. Thank you!

*Tara represents the experience of most children in our programs irrespective of location, gender or circumstance. The photo shows a student from one of our schools in Bangladesh.

HELP A PARENT

CHANGE A CHILD'S FUTURE.

Many parents in India, Nepal, Bangladesh and Cambodia work hard, but daily wages can't cover their family's needs. Our livelihood programs give them skills to earn with dignity – so children can be fed, stay in school, and dream big.



THIS CHRISTMAS I WOULD LIKE TO GIFT

- ☐ Fruit trees, seeds & training for a family to grow food at home (\$25)
- ☐ A goat, chicken, or duck to help a family start a small business (\$50)
- ☐ Sewing machine, materials & training for a parent to earn from home (\$135)
- ☐ Any amount will help parents care for their children _____

This is a ☐ one-off donation ☐ monthly donation

I WILL GIVE MY DONATION BY:

CHEQUE Make payable to Asian Aid Organisation and post with this form.

FUNDS TRANSFER Call us on (+61) 02 6586 4250 for banking details

CREDIT CARD

Name on Card _____

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Expiry ____/____/____ CSV _____ Amount _____

Signature _____ Date ____/____/____

☐ PLEASE SEND ME KIDS' GIFTS OF HOPE CATALOGUES TO SHARE WITH LOVED ONES.

- ☐ If you do not wish to receive updates or promotional materials from Asian Aid, please tick this box. This excludes our quarterly newsletters. Donations of \$2 and over are tax-deductible in Australia. Personal information is collected to process donations, issue tax receipts and send updates about your support.

Find more life-changing gifts in our Kids' Gifts of Hope catalogue. Scan or click this QR code or visit asianaid.org.au/gifts to choose yours today!



MY DETAILS

Full Name _____

DOB ____/____/____

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Email _____

Phone _____

ID _____

(if already a supporter)

WAYS TO DONATE TO ASIAN AID

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MAIL your completed form to:
PO Box 333 Wauchope
NSW 2446 Australia

CALL (+61) 02 6586 4250

For more information, visit www.asianaid.org.au
call **(+61) 02 6586 4250** or email contact@asianaid.org.au

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