



We have just committed ourselves to another school. We now support more than

2,000

children who live with new hope in their lives

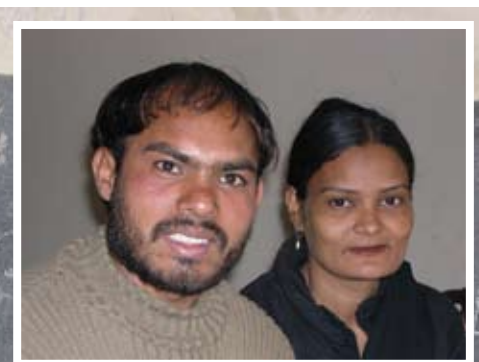
If this were your school...

By any standards the Gospel School is simple—no furniture but a blackboard and a chair for the teacher. We will have to invest to get them something better.



A very big vision...

The Gospel School System is a very big name for a very simple school. The dream of two committed Christians who wanted to do something for their community.



Shamshad and Rubina

Shamshad and Rubina served for several years with Operation Mobilisation. Shamshad became a pastor, and Rubina worked with the Fellowship of Christ—the ministry led by Ashley Arshad and supported by the Starfish Asia Fund—until they married.

Together they then began to work with a poor community. With a few local volunteers and no other financial help, they opened a small Primary School for the poor Christians of Dubai Colony on the outskirts of Lahore. The Starfish Asia Fund began to provide support in August.



Promised land

This is the plot in the Noori Gate slum in Sargodha that now belongs to Tariq Iqbal's *Sadaye Aman School*. And these are the initial plans for a 3-storey school building and community centre. The plot is now reality. The building is still an item for prayer. The school will use the present rooms (in the picture) until they can afford to build.



Saved from the earthquake

When the earthquake struck the northern areas of Pakistan in October 2005, thousands lost their homes. Whole communities were displaced. Among them was a group of Hindus.

As part of the relief effort, Robinson Asghar—brother of Ashley Arshad—helped this community to relocate to Hasanabdal, a town close to Islamabad. With help from relief funds, Robinson started a charity school for 60 Hindu children and opened the doors also for children from the small local Christian community.

The earthquake funding was limited and ran out in May. Should the school then close down? Robinson appealed to the Starfish Asia Fund to keep the school open. Since August we have been paying the running costs, much to the relief of a needy and grateful community.



How can we not be moved?



Wishal Aslam (age 3) comes from the brick kiln community where *Miracle Ministries* run a school for kiln workers' children. Wishal developed osteomyelitis in his leg.

Angela wrote:

"His parents didn't take his illness seriously. The doctor said his leg would have to be amputated if he was not treated quickly... On 9 August he underwent a 3-hour operation, because the poison was increasing badly, also he was in great pain and couldn't stop crying. We were there all day with his parents, as they don't know anything in the city and everything was new for them. Now he has plaster on his leg and last night also he had great pain but doctors said everything is fine now. After a few months he should be able to walk properly."

Osteomyelitis is a bone infection. Symptoms include pain and tenderness over the affected area, and feeling unwell. It is a serious infection needing prompt treatment with antibiotics. Surgery is usually needed if the infection becomes severe or persistent.



Monica Isaac is 9 years old. Her father died with TB when she was a baby and her mother took no interest in her and soon re-married. Monica moved to her elder brother's care, but when he got married, his wife wanted to throw her out of the home.

Ashraf and Wilma found her neglected and miserable and took pity on her. She has now come to join the 14 girls being cared for at their 'Orphan Care' Home in Youhannabad, Lahore.



Korangi 2½

We have at long last taken steps to rent a building to serve as a small Primary School in the Karachi suburb of Korangi 2½.

Pastor **George Thomas** and his wife **Fehmida** will prepare to open the school in January 2008, under the guidance of **Anser Javed** from the Holy Shepherd School.

2,000 with new hope

Here is a list of the 12 schools with which we are involved. We take full financial responsibility for seven of the schools, and give sizeable or partial subsidy to the other five, that enables them to continue to serve the community. Two schools are dedicated to disabled or blind children (Ananias and Sharaqpur).

The Lahore Christian High School	500
Holy Shepherd School, Karachi	340
Brick-kiln community school	150
Gospel School System, Lahore	130
Sadaye Aman School, Sargodha	70
The Miracle School	250
Sambhal Education Centre	100
Ghuri Wisdom School, Lahore	150
CAP Primary school, Lahore	280
PIPS, Hasanabdal	70
Special Children school, Sharaqpur	30
Ananias Home for Blind Girls	20



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Starfish Asia Fund
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