



Anser and Kashi

The occasional newsletter of the Chopan Trust
April 2024

Education: the Bridge to a Brighter Future

After nine years as leaders of Starfish Pakistan's work with Christian young people, it was an adventure of discovery to know God's direction for our future. As you probably know, we opened a chicken farm, and worked towards local sustainable support. It was a viable business, and we will continue to work to see our vision fulfilled. However, in our hearts we sensed that we must also return to serving our own Christian community through education.

Kashi obtained her Degree of Master of Philosophy in the Department of Education with a thesis on *The Educational Problems, their Causes, and Remedial Measures*, based on Christian schools in Youhannabad, Lahore. The stage was set for our return to service with this proposal:

The 3Es Discipleship: Empowering Early Educators

This is a training programme, developed by Kashi, through which we will be training early educators who lack proper qualifications. The ultimate aim of this initiative is to establish a Discipleship Centre for Educators to fill the gap in the education and training of those teachers and admins who are unable to attend teacher training institutions or get diplomas.

Kashi is back in her element, in the classroom and among teachers eager for her help.

GOOD NEWS
You may now support
Anser and Kashi's
project through
**STARFISH
ASIA**



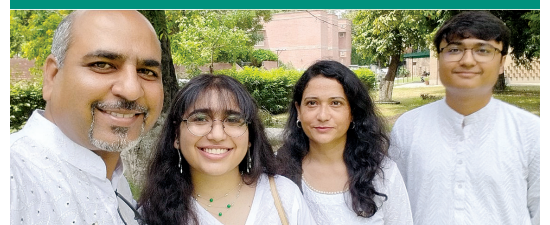
Anser, Kashi and the The Chopan Trust

Anser and Kashi were born and raised in Karachi. Anser boasts that his mother was a sweeper, cleaning Karachi's streets. He joined her sweeping the road when he was 17. He came to Christ through the witness of the Christian bookshop where he worked and the church he attended. He met Kashi over the phone as she was trying to sell him bottled water.

For 10 years they worked as administrator and principal of the Holy Shepherd School in north Karachi, until in 2011 they moved to Lahore and took over the leadership of Starfish Pakistan. There followed nine years of inspiring service to poor Christian families across the country, engaging in school support, teacher training and community development. They retired from Starfish Pakistan in 2021.

For the next two years, Anser focused on raising chickens. He purchased land and worked hard to demonstrate self-support and sustainability. Meanwhile Kashi gained her Master's degree in education. Anm completed his High School with distinction and Dua enrolled as a student at Forman Christian College.

In 2023 together they realised they had to return to their old vision and dream to work of the future of their Christian community through education. This gave rise to The 3Es Discipleship Programme — training for teachers in low-income schools, and possibly providing scholarships and opportunities to capable and ambitious young Christians.



Anser — Dua — Kashi — Amn

The 3Es Discipleship: Empowering Early Educators

What is it?

The 3Es course, designed by Kashi is initially a three-year programme for training and monitoring teachers in up to 20 low-cost Christian schools. Monthly classroom visits provide mentorship. Experienced educators work closely with teachers to pinpoint strengths, weaknesses, areas for improvement and challenges in implementing new knowledge and skills.

*Our plan is for more than classroom instruction for teaching.
It is hands-on, with regular monitoring for improvement.*

How does it work?

We have identified and connected with 10 schools in urgent need of training in basic classroom practice. We have begun in one school, the **Mercy School of Generations** in Lahore. Most of the teachers in these schools have never had any training. We aim to work alongside them — and to make the training inspiring and enjoyable.



“We were invited by St George School to have a training session with their teachers. They also invited 3 more schools... 21 teachers present in one day training.

“Some said they had been teaching for 17 years. But none had attended any training programme and didn’t know how to be prepared to go to the classroom for teaching. Two said they attended two days training.”

“The school needs development right from the basics. Our action plan is 1. To take a one day session with the whole staff. 2. Form a focus group of pre-primary teachers to decide goals and objectives for the coming year.

“I am really excited about this journey, but I am sad to know that half of the children have no books even at the end of the year. Another burden to pray for the provision of the books.”

The Mercy School of Generations

“We are starting to see change at the Mercy School, where we are working as a pilot project. Today, during our weekly visit the principal told us that he had been planning to fire a teacher. After the training session that we held on 1st March this teacher has already been putting in more effort.

“This was encouraging, but it also made us realise that the leaders also need training to help their teachers perform their best. They too lack training how to work alongside their teachers to ensure that their classrooms are operating at their best.”

“The entire staff of Mercy School of Generations is very grateful to you Sir. Thanks for empowering and precious investments through training and delicious lunch. Thank you so much Sir Anser and Ma’am Kashi.”

A Primary class teacher said: “I never knew that the teacher’s attitude could bring the class to life and be really interesting! I am so happy that my children were enjoying and laughing after you talked to them.”

A Nursery Class teacher was surprised to see that Kashi taught a small prayer to children, as the teacher thought that this is only an activity for the Morning Assembly in the school.

<https://chopantrust.com/>

Welcome to Anser and Kashi

We are delighted once again to be able to support Anser and Kashi in their service to Pakistan’s Christian children. They both have initiative and passion to raise the hopes and standards of deprived Christian families. We know and trust them well and believe their contribution at many levels — in training, monitoring, and in supporting higher ambition — will be welcomed by many of Pakistan’s Christians who know and respect them. Kashi is a brilliant trainer and Anser is well qualified and gifted, a true visionary. *(Mike Wakely)*

Chopan Trust needs the funds to continue

This is the budget for the first three years for training

Total	1st yr Cost	2nd yr Cost	3rd yr Cost
US \$	\$ 40000	\$ 34000	\$ 36000
Sterling £	£32,500	£27,500	£29,000

We thank God that some funds are being provided by friends in Singapore and in Italy, Up to 1/3 of the yearly costs can now be given through STARFISH ASIA.

GOOD NEWS
You may now support
Anser and Kashi’s
project through
**STARFISH
ASIA**

You can send a cheque, payable to Starfish Asia, stating “for Chopan Trust” to Starfish Asia, 32 Beck Lane, Beckenham BR3 4RE

You can give directly for the Chopan Trust project through Starfish Asia at:
<https://donorbox.org/chopan-trust>

If in doubt or you wish to give directly to the Starfish Asia bank account, contact mike@starfishasia.com

Chopan Trust is a registered Trust in Pakistan accountable to trustees, also registered with the Punjab Charity Commission, with a bank account and annual audit. It will also operate with permission from the Pakistan Government Economic Affairs Division.

Starfish Asia will only use your personal data in accordance with the General Data Protection Regulations (2018).

Our Privacy Policy is available on our website: <https://starfishasia.com/privacy-and-cookies/>