



# The Chopan\* Trust

The occasional newsletter from Anser & Kashi Javed  
February 2025

5

## Chopan's Action against Poverty What next for 1,300 young people?

### December 16: A Day of Celebration for 1,000 young people

1000 children from brick kilns and Christian schools celebrated Christmas in Lahore's Renewal Centre. Crowds arrived in hired buses or on foot, making their way to the beautiful premises and spacious meeting hall. The day began with a Christmas-themed variety programme of dances, dramas and songs.

100 teachers, including their Principals, were given a small Christmas cash gift, and everyone received lunch and a thousand children received warm sweaters. Gideons Pakistan provided pocket-sized New Testament with Psalms and Proverbs for the children.

Arif Rasheed from Grace Community School, a brick kiln community school, appreciated: *"We have been praying for years to provide sweaters to children and thank God that Chopan Trust provided sweaters this year."*

Three days later the Chopan team visited two rural brick kilns, celebrated Christmas and gave all the children a free meal and 300 more warm sweaters as a gift. A welcome visit to some of the poorest of God's children.



See the next page  
for more pictures.  
Incidentally ...

**\*Chopan means  
"Shepherd" in Urdu**



# Chopan's Compassion Care

## A Happy Christmas for 1,300 young people



*"It was truly remarkable to see 1,000 kids gathered under one roof, and I appreciate the efforts to win children for Christ. The sweaters were a blessing for all the children who received them... Your kindness and generosity have made a significant impact. I am grateful for your dedication to spreading joy and the love of Christ..."* (Principal, Abundant Life School)

## A new home for Kamran

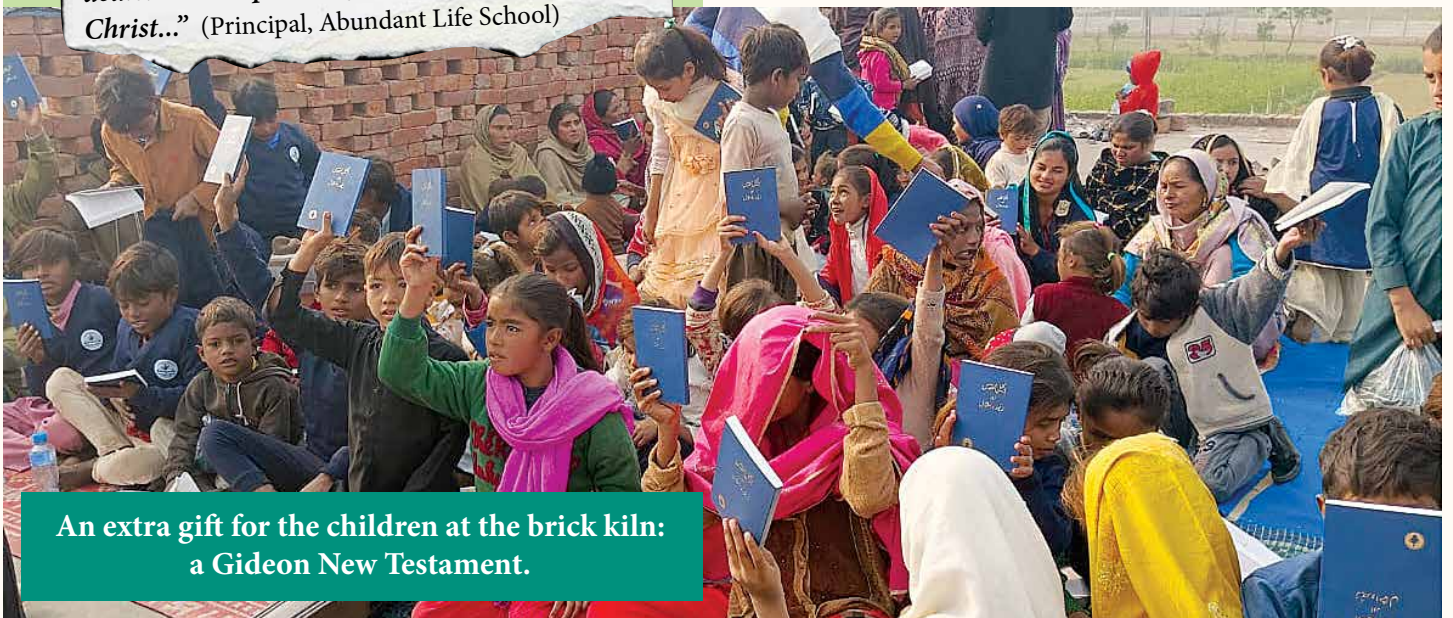
In the last Newsletter we highlighted the plight of Kamran and his family, who lived for 17 years sheltered behind some rags which they called "home". Happily, and thanks to a small gift from a donor, Kamran and Kiran, with their two small children, have constructed a small room.



There is more to be done and funds have been sent. Anser reports: "We have conveyed the message to Kamran to start construction of stairs and to plaster the walls. He has already bought a window and a door."

## New Hope for Life

Shaizia and her husband run a boutique business. They felt the Lord guiding them to start a shelter home for children from poor or broken families and those who have drug addicted fathers. It is a constant challenge for them to provide for these children. Now they have 25 children in the New Hope for Life Shelter Home in Lahore. We gave them sweaters at Christmas and a friend from Singapore provided us funds to cover their fees for four months. They now need books, school bags, and transportation to the school.



An extra gift for the children at the brick kiln: a Gideon New Testament.



# What next for the 1,300 young people?

The December extravaganza — 1,300 children with warm sweaters for the winter cold — was wonderful. But it was just a stepping stone for those young people.

What next is planned for their progress?

## 1 Text Books

We aim to provide textbooks and notebooks to 3000 children. Thousands of Christian children cannot afford the books they need for study.



This will cost £8 or USD \$10 for each child.

## 2 Hope in the Darkness

This is a 2-year Pilot Literacy Programme in two schools. It aims to focus on mothers and sisters of students in each school, to teach basic reading and writing skills in Urdu and English and mathematics. Chopan Trust will provide a tutor's salary, free books and school supplies.



Mothers enrolling for the literacy programme

## 3 Spiritual need and growth

We remain convinced that education for our community must maintain a balanced focus on both academic and spiritual values. Our Spiritual Life Coordinator aims to engage with 90 schools in 2025, providing them with Bible Curriculum books and training in their use.

We also wish to distribute the *Urdu Children's Bible* to 2,000 students.

A Children's Bible costs £6 / \$ 8  
Bless 100 young people  
with a gift of £600 or \$800

Ambitious goals for 2025? Yes...  
but possible in partnership with your generosity.

## Compassion Food Programme A Meal-a-day for 500 school children

Pastor Khaliq preaches near Manga Mandi, a village surrounded by a cluster of 4 or 5 brick kilns where we distributed sweaters at Christmas. Pastor Khaliq shared the heart-breaking plight of Sara Shahzad, a widow with three daughters. Due to extreme poverty, she couldn't afford medical care for her ailing husband, leading to his untimely death last November.



Desperate times forced the family to survive on meagre rations, scavenging for wheat grains in fields to sustain themselves. The church provided some relief with a Christmas food ration, but Sara's situation is tragically common. Hundreds of families endure harsh conditions as bonded labourers in these kilns.



Pastor Khaliq recounted another harrowing incident: a young woman, recently married, is being held captive by the kiln owner. Her family, burdened by a substantial loan of more than 800,000 rupees (£2,350), is unable to repay. The owner demands a £600 ransom to release the daughter to her husband. These stories are deeply distressing, highlighting the urgent need for immediate and long-term support for these vulnerable communities.

A crucial first step is to provide regular monthly ration packs to ensure basic food security for these families and their children.

Ration packs for Brick Kilns & Widows  
Targeting 100 families monthly:  
£20 / US\$25 each family

# Chopan's Child Development Plan

## 3Es Report & Plan for 2025

The 3Es teacher development initiative was launched in July 2024 with a three-day training programme led by Kashi for teachers from five partner schools. She introduced teaching strategies, classroom management, and the 4H-Model (Head, Hand, Heart, and Health).

Kashi and her assistant Ruby have been following up with school visits to check progress and see where further support was needed, now focused on four schools.



This was a recent one-day workshop on Assessment for Learning held in the Chopan training hall, attended by teachers from the four schools. We plan to upgrade with chairs, tables, cupboards and an interactive white board.



**Bushra Bisharat,**  
Principal of  
Good Shepherd School

“Our teachers have shown remarkable growth in their teaching methods and classroom management skills. Moreover, the children are more engaged and enthusiastic about learning. It is truly inspiring to witness the positive changes in our school.”



**Farzana Mughal**  
Mission School

“Our school is in Kasur and far from Lahore and difficult to get training for our teachers. Ma'am Kashi is loving and caring to look after our needs and my teachers are transforming their teaching practices in their classes.”

<https://chopantrust.com/>

You may support the Chopan Trust in the UK and the USA through registered charities:



Support all other areas of Chopan ministry (books, furniture and equipment, magazine, admin, events, Bible Curriculum training, etc. through the AMEN Trust. Go to:

<https://stewardship.org.uk/partners/20028744>

Fill in the form (as a Stewardship Guest or if you have a Stewardship Giving Account)

**NB: under "Message of Support": For Chopan Trust. You may also send a cheque (made out to AMEN Trust) to: Janet White, 79 North Road, Dartford, Kent DA1 3ND (janet@amentrust.co.uk)**

**All payments must be clearly stated as being for Chopan Trust.**



In the USA support for Chopan projects, including teacher training, Compassion for the poor and Bible teaching materials, can be given through Compassion United. Go to:

<https://www.compassionunited.com/search>



In the UK you may support the 3Es discipleship teaching programme of Chopan Trust through Starfish Asia. Go to: <https://donorbox.org/chopan-trust>

If you prefer to send your gift directly, payable to Starfish Asia or the AMEN Trust, please contact:

**Mike Wakely, 32 Beck Lane, Beckenham, Kent BR3 4RE, UK**  
**michael.wakely@gmail.com or 020 84020914 / 07599 776962**

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