

CROSSOVER  GLOBAL  
**COMMUNIQUÉ**

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The Communiqué is Crossover Global's quarterly publication sharing life-transforming stories among unreached people groups.



**Our Affiliations**



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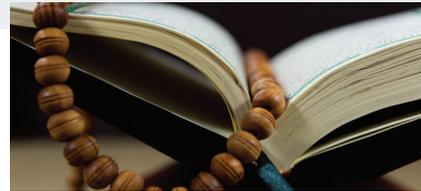
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# A Family Changed by the Gospel

**B**ah and Shah have been part of a church plant in Central Asia. As they attended the church, Bah and Shah began to share the Good News with Bah's family. Bah's mother, Aru, eventually became a follower of Christ. But God was just beginning to transform this family.

Bah's younger brother, Dalh, had a terrible drinking problem. When he was intoxicated, he would quarrel with those around him. As a result, his family was in constant turmoil. Aru was constantly worrying about Dalh, his wife, and their children. When Dalh began following Jesus, he quit drinking immediately. When Dalh saw the changes in his life, he told the local Mullah, a Muslim trained in religious law and doctrine, about Jesus. The Mullah could see the changes in Dalh's life but could not say anything. He told all the people they should not believe in Jesus Christ even though he saw how Jesus had changed Dalh's life. However, Dalh was not deterred from following Jesus and continues to live out his faith.

For example, Dalh and his family lived in a house in an open field. One time there was a strong wind that blew all day. It was so strong they were

afraid the wind would blow off their roof. Instead of letting the growing fear take root, Dalh turned to prayer and began to read his Bible. He read: "So don't fear, for I am with you, don't be dismayed, for I am your God. I will strengthen you and help you. I will uphold you with my righteous right hand." These words brought peace to his heart, and the wind suddenly went away.

It was also Dalh who sought a way to help their elder brother, Alie. Alie became a follower of Christ through his brother Bah's example, but his faith had weakened. The family confronted him with a difficult situation regarding his character. Dalh wondered what to do next. He opened his Bible and started reading. He was encouraged by John 21:15-17, where Jesus tells Peter to "...feed my lambs. ...tend my sheep. ...feed my sheep." Dalh began to pray more for his family and Alie. He realized that they needed to spend more time learning and understanding the Bible. Dalh started to study the Bible together with all of his family members.

During these times of studying the Bible, their sister would attend. She suffered from blindness for a long time, so they would read the Bible out loud. She wanted to read the Scriptures for herself, but she could not see it. One day when she opened the Bible to read it herself, her dim eyes saw the writings in the Bible clear and predominate. She was amazed at this, and when she told her family, they were overjoyed to hear this miracle! She can only read the Bible clearly. Everything else is still too dim for her to read. But they rejoice in the Lord, allowing her to have the vision to read His Word for herself.

Bah's family is seeing God change their lives through fellowship, prayer, Bible study, and the power of the Holy Spirit. They can no longer imagine their lives without God because they have found the true meaning of life in God. Because of Bah and Shah's faithfulness, a total of 15 members of their family and neighbors have begun following Christ.

*This story was provided by a church planter, Shir, in the Central Asian region.*



# Diest to *Christ Follower*

I was a deist. I believed that a god existed, but I did not believe in religion. I always researched Christianity because it was interesting to me. Since I grew up in Islam, I was aware of who Jesus was but only knew him as an ordinary prophet and that he was a central figure in the Christian religion.

One day I told some people that I would watch a movie about Jesus. In the film, Jesus acted in a very different way than I expected. I was amazed to hear that there was someone who was very compassionate and full of love, such human characteristics. After all, who is so full of love and can say words like Jesus did in the film? I was very impressed by the film. I found myself being comforted by Jesus' words.

Sometime later, I was getting ready for my university entrance exam in the summer. The night before the exam, I was getting worried and scared. I got frustrated because the exam was the next morning and I couldn't concentrate because of nerves. I decided to pray to Jesus. I knelt near the corner of my bed and put my hands together. To be honest, I never expected to pray, but I felt the need to pray for the first time in my life. It gave me hope. After praying, I was able to lay down and go to sleep.

While I slept, I had a dream. There was a wall in front of me, and there were people next to me. The people had an ax, a pitchfork, and a flaming torch in their hands. They were looking for Jesus. They wanted to kill Him.



Then I saw a staircase leading down to the corner of the wall.  
I saw Jesus coming up the stairs. As He walked up the stairs, He was preaching the Sermon on the Mount:

*“Blessed are the merciful,  
for they will be shown mercy.  
Blessed are the pure in heart,  
for they will see God.  
Blessed are the peacemakers,  
for they will be called children of God.”*

At that moment, the people around me suddenly disappeared, and Jesus approached me. He bent down, picked up the cross from under my feet, and began to walk toward the wall. He crucified Himself on the wall.

I woke up the next morning and realized that some things had happened in my dream. I went, and I took the exam, and it went well. When I left the exam, I went to speak with my mother. She told me that something divine had happened to me. I knew she was right. After that day, I believed in Jesus and began to follow Him. I was able to find a church to attend and have fellowship with other believers.

*This story is from Adnan, a brother who attends one of the churches in the Caucasus region.*



# Serving Hindu Gods to the *One True God*

I was born into a Hindu family where I practiced the Hindu faith. As a family, we would worship the goddess Durga, seeking to please her because we viewed her as our protector and provider. Being a good Hindu, I married into a Hindu family where my husband and his family worshiped several gods and goddesses. They sacrificed goats, pigs, and wine to please them.

After a few years of marriage, my husband got a government job that provided our family great stability. We were delighted. We called the Brahmin Gurus, or teachers, and organized a big celebration to celebrate. We spared no expense as we performed rituals to honor the gods and goddesses for granting us the good fortune of my husband's new position.

A few days after the celebration, my husband began having intense pain. We went to the hospital where the doctor prescribed medications, but nothing helped. Eventually, my husband had to have surgery to help with his pain. At first, the surgery helped, but he developed complications and needed additional surgery as time passed.

Months after his surgeries, my husband became sick with tuberculosis. It seemed that sickness overtook my husband's body no matter what happened. We were tired and struggling financially. We didn't have enough money to see a doctor or buy the medication to help my husband. Our friends and family began suggesting that we visit a shaman who lives in a nearby village because he has all kinds of remedies for illnesses. Out of desperation, we met with the shaman. He told us god was mad with us

and that we needed to perform rituals and sacrifice goats and wine to appease him. My husband and I told the shaman that we did not have the money to do all of these things, but he said that if we did not please god, my husband would surely die. We were scared that what the shaman was saying was true, so we did what we could to get the necessary money to pay for the rituals and give them to the shaman. We kept thinking that everything would work out because the gods would be pleased with us, and things would get better. But things did not get better, in fact, things got worse, and we had no peace.

One day as I was just sitting in my house I heard some people singing and playing musical instruments in my village. At the time, I did not like music or dancing, so I tried to ignore the music I heard. The singing grew louder and louder in my ears as if someone was calling me. I tried to ignore it with all I had, but I could not stop myself from getting up and finding out where the song was coming from. Finally, I got to where Pastor Kumar was singing and playing instruments. I sat there, and after a while, a sense of calm and peace came over me, as if someone was comforting me.

After the time of singing was over, Pastor Kumar came and spoke with me. I shared with him everything that had happened in my life until then. He shared the Gospel and told me that God is the beginning and the end, who created everything. He shared that God knows and loves me. Pastor Kumar explained how if we repent of our sins and believe in Jesus, He will purify us from our sins, cure our diseases, give us peace and eternal life. This is exactly what I needed. Without wasting any time, I knelt down, repented for everything I did in my past, put my faith and trust in Him, and surrendered my life to Him. That day, I decided to give up my Hindu ways and follow Jesus Christ as my Savior. I told my family what Pastor Kumar had told me about Jesus, and they also accepted Him. We were baptized, and gradually, I began to see my family's circumstances begin to change in a positive way. My husband started to feel better and was eventually healed from his illnesses. We are very happy in Christ. We were blind, but Jesus opened our eyes so that we could clearly see. He is the only God we serve! It is our desire to glorify Him alone.

*This is story is from a church member from one of our churches in the Kaimur, Bihar district in India.*



A woman in a green and white patterned sari is walking through a market, carrying a large white plastic bag filled with white plastic waste. In the background, there are other people, a bicycle, and a white van. The scene is set outdoors with trees and a bright sky.

# Making Christ's LAST COMMAND *Our First Priority*

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