

Case-Study

Saira – The Little Game Changer:

“Where there is a will; there is a way”



In the under-privileged community of Jawan Khan Burirro, district Jacobabad (Sindh) female education was rarely focused. There was only one ghost school within the outskirts of the community and that too was in critical condition. Lack of teacher absenteeism, unavailability of teachers, improper infrastructure, no facility of sanitation or clean drinking water and low student enrollment ratio were few of the factors which tremendously affected the school's overall condition.

Upon OSDI's intervention within this targeted community the Government Primary School was adopted. OSDI appointed a qualified, well-trained and educated teacher in order to ensure the smooth running of this dysfunctional school. Gradually, due to the regular community mobilization and selfless efforts made by OSDI's team student enrollment started to increase. Other issues related to school also started to resolve timely once the system was developed.

Breaking away from the traditional norms of her community Saira, a little 10 year old girl joined school. She was the first girl to get admission in the Govt. Primary school at Jawan Khan Burirro. After getting admitted in school this little change agent began to mobilize her other friends from the village mainly girls to start attending the school with her. As a result of her efforts, she managed to get 22 more girls enrolled into the school.

Saira says, that from a very young age she had a keen interest in learning but at that time there was no teaching facility in her village. After the adoption of Jawan Khan Burirro's school by OSDI, Saira got admission into the school and managed to receive education with boys.

After mobilizing the other girls to acquire education, Saira regularly attended a group study session in the evening with all the other girl students of the village.

Yasmeen was a friend of Saira, who got married at an early age of 14. She was only able to attend school for one year in 2014, after which she left with her husband to another village. After one year when she returned back to her home town she met Saira and informed her about the issues involved in child marriage.



Being acquainted with Yasmeen's story; Saira started a female awareness campaign in her village to save more girls from being tied into wedlock in an early age. Education has opened new doors of awareness for Saira, we hope the waves of change atleast allow minor girls to acquire primary level education in future.