

Transformed



Summer 2022

A newsletter of TMS Global



A textile business in South Asia provides meaningful employment in a safe, loving environment for people caught in the devastating cycle of extreme poverty.

“How do I make your God my own God?”

Textile business in South Asia helps draw people to Christ.

In South Asia, along a bustling street in a busy city, you'll find a spot of light and peace. Inside the offices of a textile business, women talk and laugh as they embroider, cut fabric, and sew. The company was started by four TMS Global cross-cultural witnesses as a way to provide meaningful employment in a safe, loving environment for people caught in the devastating cycle of extreme poverty.

Artisans from primarily Muslim and Hindu backgrounds create beautifully embroidered

quilts, pillows, towels, potholders, and more. But the business isn't just a place for people to work. There's a healthy lunch each day, free childcare, and occasional educational seminars. There are birthday celebrations and regular opportunities for fun and joy.

Employees also have the option to study the Bible together. Through this, and their relationships with the owners of the business, the Wilsons* and

Read more of this story continued inside, pg. 2

INSIDE: • “How do I make your God my own God?” • God's kingdom come

continued from cover

Carters,* the workers learn about Jesus and His love for them.

Emir

Meher* is the company's office administrator. She comes from a Hindu background but has been following Jesus more and more for some time. She has



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been asking for prayer for her whole family to come to faith in Jesus.

Recently, Meher invited the Wilsons and Carters to her house because her family was celebrating a Hindu festival.

“We’d been there for about five minutes,” Sarah Wilson says, “and were literally talking about the weather when Meher’s husband, Emir,* interrupted, saying, ‘How do I make your God my own God? I’m ready.’”

Sarah says she and the others sat stunned for a few seconds and asked him what he meant by his comment.

“He told us that he’d thought a lot about it and that, although he is Brahmin (the highest caste in Hinduism), he doesn’t really believe that he is higher or different than any other human. He said he’d seen the love and unity that we, as followers of Jesus, share with one another. And he wants that kind of unity,” Sarah says.

Allison Carter says, “He just kept on going, testifying to his growing faith and the ways that knowing Jesus so far has changed his family.”

For people in this community, following Jesus isn’t usually a quick decision. There are a number of barriers that may make someone pause before giving their life fully to Christ. For example, people here are deeply concerned with what others might think or say.

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“For our artisans, the number one reason that people do not move forward with their faith in Jesus is the fear of what their family and community members will say,” Sarah says.

Emir is aware that there might be pushback from others.

He says, “I know it will be hard for us, and people won’t understand. But I am thinking about my children and the next generation. If we take this step, yes, it will be difficult for us. But then our children will live freely as followers of Jesus.”

Arjun

A few months later, Meher and Emir’s oldest son, Arjun* made the decision to follow Christ as well. He had been participating in a discussion group for people in their late teens and early 20s. Occasionally



The textile business has become a place for employees to study the Bible and learn about Jesus and His love for them.

he met with the group's leader, Chirag,* to ask questions. Eventually Arjun told Chirag he was ready to truly walk with Jesus.

Sarah says, "As he shared his heart with Chirag, Arjun kept talking about the way his mother's prayers had blessed his life. It is incredible to see how God is using Meher's faithful witness and love to set her family members free!"

When he came home from meeting with Chirag, Arjun told his mother he had never felt so unburdened.

Meher says, "He told me his soul felt as light as cotton!"

Following Christ is a lifelong journey, and sometimes the road is easier than others. Since professing his faith in Jesus, Arjun has struggled. He takes giant leaps forward, then giant leaps backward. Please pray that Arjun would find his footing in Christ alone and that He who began a good work in Arjun would carry it on to completion (Philippians 1:6).

Thank you for your partnership with TMS Global. **Through your prayers and financial gifts, you are helping train, mobilize, and serve cross-cultural witnesses like the Wilsons and Carters. They are reaching out to their neighbors with the message of the love of Jesus.**

Please continue to pray for Meher, Emir, Arjun, and the whole family as they grow in their relationship with the Lord. Pray that they are strengthened and encouraged in their new faith. Ask for more South Asian believers to disciple Meher's family and invite them into community and fellowship. Continue to pray that the rest of Meher's family would experience the fullness of life in Christ.

**Pseudonyms are used for security reasons.*

By Jenifer Jones

God's kingdom come

We are so happy to bring this story to you. I hope you will share it with your friends. During these days when war and confusion stay in the headlines, this story reminds us that Jesus is at work.

At TMS Global, our passion is to participate in Jesus' work—to help advance God's kingdom. Our cross-cultural witnesses (CCWs) do this in a wide variety of ways. For example, as you read in this story, two couples launched a textile business in a community where Jesus is little known, and people are being drawn to Him.

In 30 countries, our CCWs and international partners are sharing the love and message of Jesus. And in every culture, the message of Jesus is good news. Emir's question, "How do I make your God my God?" gives testimony to that.

TMS Global's vision statement is "The kingdom of God advancing among all peoples bringing about redemption and reconciliation through Jesus Christ." We are watching this vision come true! What a privilege to serve with you—helping to advance God's kingdom.



Max Wilkins
President & CEO

TRAIN, MOBILIZE, and SERVE cross-cultural workers around the world!



It is your support that enables our cross-cultural workers to live and serve in communities around the world, sharing the love and message of Jesus with their neighbors.

Please send a gift today to help us TRAIN, MOBILIZE, and SERVE more cross-cultural workers to share the gospel and equip local churches to reach out in mission locally, regionally, and internationally.

Thank you for your support! Because of your generosity, people have been introduced to the good news of Jesus and their lives have been transformed by His love.



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