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Angels on the Earth: Great Heroes from Pakistan who Helped Needy People

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Angels on the Earth: Great Heroes from Pakistan who Helped Needy People

In my home country Pakistan in 2018, one of my childhood friends, Bilal, asked me to join his non-profit organization called of Al-Kousar Charity Welfare Foundation, and its slogan is “Humanity above all.” So, I joined his organization as a team member. My friend was inspired by one of the great heroes of Pakistan, Abdul Sattar Edhi, who is the inspiration for all who started their welfare trust. In our organization, we have been doing multiple types of volunteerism such as free food, distribution of clothes, *rozgar* scheme (job providing program), *ration* scheme (monthly grocery) for the deserving families, taking care of school and tuition fees for those who cannot afford it,, taking care of medical expenses for those who cannot afford operations and medications. Our organization Al-Kousar Charity Welfare Foundation is not alone; in fact, in Pakistan, we have a lot of great heroes who have been doing social work and serving all the needy people in our nation through non-profit organizations. Abdul Sattar Edhi, Dr.Muhammad Ramzan Chhipa and Sarim Burney are Pakistani working class heroes who have greatly changed Pakistan for the better.

Firstly, Abdul Sattar Edhi comes from an humble background because he didnt grown up wealthy and this what motivates him to take initiative to help others . He is a hero for the entire

nation due to all his generous works and sacrifices he did for the sake of the people of our country. He grew up in Gujarat state in India and was educated only up to the end of primary school. He and his family migrated from India to Pakistan at the partition in 1947, when Edhi was 19 years old (Ahmed 1). His late mother was a source of strength and inspiration: "When I was a child, my mother would give me *two paise* and ask me to spend one myself and the other on poor children in the school. If I spent it all [on] myself, she would become angry and call me an exploiter" (1). Edhi started his trust in 1957 with some volunteers, a result of the influenza epidemic in Karachi that year. "We set up a free medical camp ... and appealed for donations. Surprisingly, we had a surplus of 27 000 rupees, which was a lot of money then. So, I decided to buy a six-foot square shop for a dispensary, and an old van that could be converted into an ambulance. Meanwhile, I started learning to drive," Edhi recalls (1). This is how he started helping needy people and increasing the number of ambulances. In a country where all too often government ambulances are used by hospital administrators and their families as private transport, Edhi's fleet of 750 ambulances in more than 100 cities is often the only means of transport for sick, wounded, or dead people. Even in all-natural disasters such as earthquakes, tsunamis, floods, windstorms, extreme temperatures which occurred in Pakistan in different years especially in 2005, Edhi Foundation serves all those suffering people with maximum ambulances. In several years, Edhi ambulance service, with at least 1,500 vehicles, has become grimly familiar in Pakistan (1). Other private donors, primarily individuals contributing to international NGOs (Non-Governmental Organizations), are most likely to target their contributions to disaster relief and humanitarian aid. The outpouring of support for the victims of the 2005 tsunami, as well as the steady annual growth in contributions to NGO's with humanitarian objectives, attest to the primacy of this motivation (Brainard and Chollet 219).

Additionally, he realized he should work to build an orphanage. While working on his current social initiatives, he found a lot of homeless children in various places. Many newborns of unwed mothers were abandoned on trash heaps shortly after birth. In front of some of his foundation's offices, Edhi erected shaded cradles with signs saying, "Don't Kill." By the turn of the 21st century, Edhi Foundation staffers used electronic media to search for the parents of abandoned infants and, when practical, reunite the parents and children. A 2017 estimate by the *International Business Times* put the number of abandoned babies saved by Edhi at 20,000. (Jullie Mellors 83). He also observes that medical assistance could be a helpful tool for needy people. His organization maintained stations spaced 50 kilometers apart, along major highways that provide first aid to those injured in accidents, ambulance services and burial arrangements for the dead (Mellors 83). The Edhi Foundation also provides services to the mentally handicapped, offering treatment aimed at enabling them to live independently (Mellors 83). Abdul Sattar Edhi was the first Pakistani social worker who introduced ambulance services, orphanages, and medical centers to help all needy and deserving people in our country and made a massive impact on other's lives.

Secondly, Dr. Muhammad Ramzan Chhipa has a mission and motto called "love humans, respect humanity." He provides comfort and mental solace to poor, worried, and wretched people. His big initiative includes free food services, *rations* (groceries) and *palna* (cradles) made really good and positive impact on the entire nation and made him country's hero. His organization provides two times daily free foods to thirty thousand poor, laborers and low-income groups of worried and starving people through Chhipa *Dastarkhawan* (sitting arrangements) spread over at all Chhipa Centers with respect, proper attention, and due care regularly, so that from the savings they can spend money on their children's education, health,

and utility bills can heave a sigh of relief in these days of great hardship(Knowledge Bylanes 1). His association took this responsibility for providing free cooked and raw food to indigent citizens of Pakistan. For this noble cause, this organization established the state-of-the-art Chhipa Kitchen with a fully automatic bread-baking plant, which works around the clock. His trust ensures the supply of cooked food to Chhipa *Dastarkhawan* at hundreds of its centers (1). Besides this, Chhipa *rations* (groceries) provides a monthly *ration* (grocery) in the beginning of every month to white collar deserving families (2). Chhipa Welfare is the custodian of those families that seriously lack necessary funds to meet their day-to-day needs for the essentials of life: nutritious food, clothing, and educational needs. It is their top priority to first ensure food provisioning to such deserving families monthly. Respect for their self-esteem is mandatory and cannot be compromised under any circumstances and at any cost (2). Among this, his organization also puts the hands of affection and compassion on the newly born unwanted babies. There are many reasons that compel people to disown their legitimate children and even those reproduced from courtship, social taboos, poverty, lack of knowledge about family planning especially when there were many children in an indigent family (2). Chhipa Welfare Association has placed Chhipa *palna* (cradles) at all Chhipa Emergency Ambulance Centers with an appeal to people to calmly place the un-wanted newly born children in Chhipa *palna* (cradles) for adoption by interested childless married couples registered with Chhipa Head Office who gladly want to adopt and bring up the deserted newly born minor children to make worthy citizens of the country, which is a most admirable step of social worker Muhammad Ramzan Chhipa (2). His main motive is to provide basic needs such as free food on daily basis to deserving people, monthly rations and also the chhipa *palna* (cradles) to save the lives of unwanted newly born children.

Thirdly, Sarim Burney worked for women's and children's rights, and assistance for disabled persons. He started helping others as their hero by fighting for human rights in 1990 at the age of 20. Being involved in social work, he saw and experienced the unease, concerns, and sufferings of the people, which inspired him to establish a trust to address the anxieties of the downtrodden and oppressed segment of society (Chhipa 1). Mr. Burney always raises his voice against injustice and the present legal system where the people are deprived of their fundamental rights. His Trust has made tremendous success in different areas (1). This trust fights against all forms of injustice, cruelty, inhumanity, and abuse of children and women. The trust works to raise awareness and has been in front of the achievement of civil liberty and social justice for all segments of society. A group of lawyers under the leadership of Sarim Burney has been constituted, sensing the need and difficulties of the poor and needy people and to provide them with both moral boost and legal remedies, and to render their expertise to the beneficiaries (1). Sarim Burney Welfare Trust International has fought against human trafficking in the Middle East, especially against forced camel jockeys who are mostly minors and were used just for the sake of entertainment (2). His foundation is also planning to construct a multi-story building for various noble causes and aims like the establishment of vocational schools for women where proper training would be arranged for ladies staying in shelters to make them a respectable segment of society and not fix their eyes on others for their financial assistance. The foundation is also providing an formal educational institution for missing and orphaned children. His trust is currently giving private education within its limited sources but after the availability of building proper and quality formal education to be given to the children in order to prepare them against the odds and to make them cultured and refined citizens of the country to meet the future challenges (2). He also helped disabled and orphaned patients be cured free of cost in

hospitals with the assistance of the Sarim Burney Welfare Trust (2). They also persuade disabled people to live a normal life by providing financial support so that their disability cannot become a hurdle in their social and ethical way of life. Currently, the Trust has provided special mobility devices for disabled people and provided mobile public call offices. Now they are living a peaceful and happy life and trying to keep themselves in a routine life. Sarim Burney took the initiative to fought for the human rights and give awareness to the nation about their rights, provide treatment for disabled people and help the needy people for their future and motivate the nation to come forward and take the step to become responsible citizens.

In conclusion we can see that all three great heroes, Abdul Sattar Edhi, Dr. Muhammad Ramzan Chhipa and Sarim Burney, introduced various kinds of social volunteerism. They changed many people's lives by providing them with all types of basic needs. Donating and charity are some of the best acts by which we can change the lives of others and make an impact to change the world also. We can donate anything which is for the basic needs for others like food, medical centers, clothes, and ambulance services. By donating all these things, we can also feel great because it is a kind of blessing from God that people are helping other human beings, and in return, they are giving their a lot of best and good wishes.

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