

LIVING STREAMS

Committed giving to persecuted Christians

Sustain a family with food



"The Lord does not let the righteous go hungry"
(Proverbs 10:3)

"God answered our prayers," said **Azeem Daniel**, after his family was accepted on a Barnabas feeding programme. "This will help our next generation to get out of the dark pits of poverty."

Azeem, from northern Pakistan, looks for work every morning as a daily labourer, and is always unsure what his income will be, if any. "There are days when I do not find any work and in situations like these it's very difficult," he said. Not knowing week to week whether they could afford to feed their family, Azeem and his wife used to pray constantly for God to change their lives.



Azeem says the monthly food parcels will help his children "out of the dark pits of poverty"

The couple were thrilled to gain help from a Barnabas Fund feeding programme, which distributes parcels of basic food items through local churches to poor Christians every month. It means families can focus on other needs, such as household bills, essential repairs, or paying for children's schooling. Azeem and his wife plan to prioritise their children's education, so they can escape the cycle of illiteracy and poverty.

Sonia Yousaf, who lost her husband to cancer in 2017, was struggling to earn enough as a maid to feed her three children and buy medicine for her diabetic son, Jason. Monthly food parcels have transformed the family's situation. Sonia can now afford the vital medication and feels motivated and supported as a single working mum. "I don't have to worry about food, I can just focus on [Jason] and my energy can go somewhere else," she said.

As a persecuted minority, Pakistani Christians are often forced to take the lowliest of jobs,



"This food programme gives me motivation and incentive throughout the month," says widowed Sonia

working as street cleaners, sewer workers, domestic maids, or rubbish collectors. Many are daily labourers and have no guarantee of finding work.

Monthly parcels contain staple food items like rice, flour, sugar, lentils, chilli, salt, cooking oil and tea and cover around 50% of a family's food needs. It means families have some money left over from their earnings to send children to school, pay for medical treatment, or essential home improvements like installing a front door or a water pump.

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hope and aid for the persecuted church

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