



"To break the cycle of poverty, we must embrace the will to navigate"

Jack Ma - What The Future Looks Like



The cycle of poverty begins when a child is born into a poor family. These families often have limited or no resources to create opportunities to advance themselves, which leaves them stuck in the poverty trap.

On paper, the cycle of poverty has been defined as a phenomenon where poor families become impoverished for at least three generations.

How does the poverty cycle affect children?

Children are most affected by the cycle of poverty. Children are dependent on their guardians and therefore can't pull themselves out of poverty because of their young age and lack of resources.

Children living in poverty are more likely to experience:

- Lack of access to education
- Malnutrition
- Inadequate health care

What can break the cycle of poverty? - Education

One of the biggest contributors to ending poverty is ensuring children have an education. For any child, education can open doors to the future that would otherwise be locked tight. Children who are not in school are at greater risk of exploitation and early marriage. They're on track for a much lower income once they grow up. This limits the future for their own children, thus repeating the cycle of poverty generation after generation.

However, even the most basic education – reading, writing and arithmetic – can open doors to futures that would otherwise be shut.

Adults with even a basic education are better equipped to run a business – for example, to keep accurate records and to secure loans to expand their ventures.

Girls who stay in school are less likely to marry early, contributing to their overall health and well-being. They can more effectively teach their children, helping lift an entire generation.

Economic Empowerment

People whose businesses are blossoming hire others to help them, breaking the cycle of poverty for other families. In time, the entire community is lifted.

This empowers people in four main ways:

- Microfinance
- Savings groups
- Training small business owners

Using these approaches, people are empowered to start their own businesses, learn savings habits and improve their farming. This in turn helps them provide for their families.

What can you do to break the cycle of poverty?

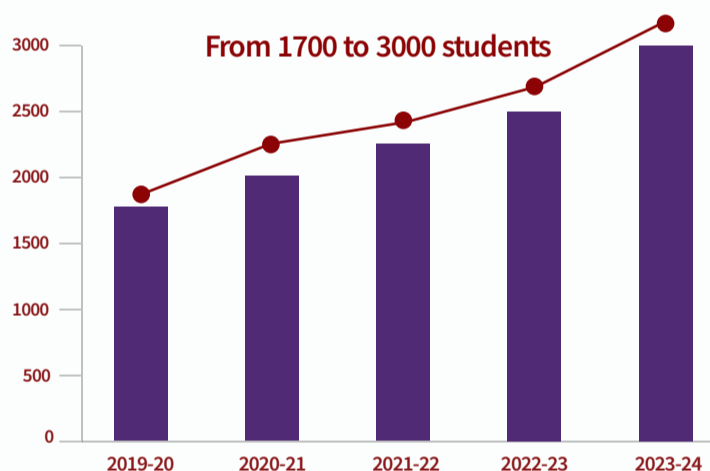
Short-term solutions don't end poverty and goal is to eradicate it completely. This means empowering people to lift themselves out of poverty. The most powerful way to do this is by working together.

When you sponsor a child, you help provide them and their community with access to life-transforming necessities like education, economic empowerment and better nutrition. This is how we end the cycle of poverty: together.

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Faisal Wants To Change His Village



Faisal Akhter
Sindh Agriculture University,
Tandojam

Faisal belonged to a small village where his father worked as a farmer for a landlord. His job sapped all his energy and yet left him with no money. In addition to the meagre pay, the landlord was harsh towards his farmers. Since there was so little income, Faisal went to a small madrassa in his early years where he acquired basic writing and reading skills.

One day, on a visit to a relative's house with his father in Khairpur, fate finally got a hold of him. His relative told Faisal's father how important it is to enroll him in a good school and persuaded him to leave Faisal with him.

Faisal was elated and worked hard in school and got excellent grades. Unfortunately, the distant relative met a very tragic accident and lost his life, and Faisal had to return to the lands with shattered dreams of pursuing higher studies.

It so happened, that a few research students from the Agriculture University were visiting the lands for their research project when they met Faisal. They suggested Faisal join their university and informed him about PEF's scholarship. Faisal grabbed the opportunity and today he is pursuing agriculture in Tandojam. His future plans are to apply his knowledge and skills with his father's experience to revolutionise agriculture in his village.

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