



Zahid's story

Meet Zahid. He is 12 years old and lives with his family in a village in Bangladesh.

Bangladesh is a country in Asia.

Morning

"In the mornings I wake up and go to work in a tea stall. I get there at 6am. I start by cleaning the cups and dishes.



I get very sad when I see other boys going off to school. I miss my school days, books and school uniform.

I used to go to Kashiabari Primary School but my father asked me to work in the tea stall. Although my father works in a shop he doesn't have enough money to support our family of five. From that day on, going to school turned into just a dream for me.

I don't like working in the tea stall. The owner tells me off for no reason.

I also miss playing football at school.

Everyone thought I was a good player.

Evening

I work until 10pm and get paid only 50 Taka a day (40p).

I wish I could go to school like my friends. When they finish school they will be doctors, engineers or pilots. But I will still be a tea stall waiter."



Why doesn't Zahid go to school?

Case study © ActionAid

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Tasui's story



Fifteen year old Tasui from Nigeria loves to study. He wants to go back to school and become a lawyer so he can help other young people with disabilities.

Tasui got polio when he was just two years old. Since then he has been doing all he can to get himself the education he deserves.

“I got polio when I was very young. All it did was stop me from walking like other children. I managed to start school when I was seven. I loved school. The teachers were nice to me and the other children helped me to get around. It was hard for me to get to school though. So I learnt to walk on my hands and knees and leave very early in the morning.”

When Tasui was ten his parents were worried he wasn't getting the support he needed and sent him to a special college.

“Because I was disabled my parents thought it was better for me to learn a skill rather than study. I stayed there for three years and learnt to polish and repair shoes.”

For the past three years Tasui has been helping at home. He also works and begs in the market so he can help his family and earn enough money to study again.

“I would love to learn to read and write again. I feel bad about not being able to see my friends and that they are getting an education and I can't. I want to go to school because I want to become a lawyer so I can help people.”

Homework 24.6.19 comprehension questions

1. Why was Zahid not able to continue going to school?
2. Why did Tasui have to stop going to school?
3. What are each of the boys doing now?
4. What do you think Zahid misses most about not going to school? Why do you think this ?
5. What continent do each of the boys live in ? (be careful – **continent** –not country)
6. What would Zahid and Tasui like to do in the future ?