Zahid's story

Zahid is 12 years old and lives with his family in a village in Bangladesh. Zahid was enrolled in primary school, but he had to drop out to help support his family. He is one of 60 million children who are out of school globally.

A typical day in Zahid's life

"In the mornings I wake up and go to work at the tea stall. I get there at 6am. I start by cleaning the cups and dishes. I work until 10pm and get paid only 50 Taka a day (40p).

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

When I was a student at Kashiabari Primary School my father asked me to stop my studies and start working in the tea stall. Although my father works in a shop he doesn't have enough income 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 at 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.

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, as I am now, because it is impossible for me to finish my primary education, let alone higher education. And nobody can be a doctor or engineer without education."

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