

Shereen Bibi-----Shining Star

Shereen Bibi, victim of exchange marriage is being inspiration of change in the traditional mindset.

Shereen Bibi, mother of five children is living in difficult condition. As Her family, marry her in the childhood as an exchange of her brother's marriage. However, he bad luck because; of her childhood marriage his husband did not approve her as a wife and told the family he will remarry again. Shereen Bibi on the other hand like him and started living with him wit out any complaints. Strangely, husband did not approve her as a wife but had five children but never appreciate the wife and kept abusing her.

She never utters a single word in front of her family, but her sister in laws especially her sister in law kept abusing her also. Finally, they have thrown her out of home due to his husband's second marriage. Shereen such a hostile situation desired if her husband rear the children. However, unfortunately he was not bothered. In a result, children did not get opportunity of education without fatherhood around. Now it was an exchange marriage, so her sister in law also went back to her parents place. Both girls were divorced and strictly prohibited parents to meet their children. Exchange marriage curse is now the bad luck of children.

When South Asia Partnership, Pakistan initiated ""Peace & Livelihood for Rural Poor (PLRP)" with the help of SERVE who after the base line selected this village for intervention. Ina result they have organized "Baghban Welfare Society, and with their assistance establish a Peace Committee (PC)". World-weariness of Shereen Bibi found this as an opportunity and brought her case to PC.

PC negotiated with both families to allow parents to meet the children. Initially there were resistance but in the end, they were convinced. Shereen Bibi was very happy as her brother can meet his children and his husband to his children.

Shereen Bib, joined VO and PC, has initiated motivational campaign among villages against Exchange marriages. She is also with the help of PC trying to build a mindset which can accept women as human being who can live a life in a dignify manner.