



## Azeem Munir

Azeem Munir is the founder and director of Hope Alive Ministries of Pakistan. Hope Alive Ministries focuses on assisting the persecuted Church, rescuing orphans, helping widows, and distributing Bibles in remote areas of Pakistan. He and his wife Clara have a passion to reach the people of Pakistan with the love of Jesus Christ.

Azeem Munir was born and raised in the Christian minority of the Punjab region of Pakistan. At the young age of 5, his mother passed away. After his mother's death, he worked with his father in a can manufacturing factory in Karachi. His hands would sometimes get cut making the cans for oil. At the age of 10, his life was devastated when his father suffered a fatal heart attack.

Azeem and his three siblings were left as orphans. No one wanted to take the responsibility for their support. They just passed from one house to another. At one point, Azeem's aunt threw him out on the street with no shoes and only the clothes he was wearing. He had no place to sleep or food to eat. When he was with relatives, they would call him a dog and let him eat their leftovers. His uncle would send him to the city to sell oranges on the street. Muslims tried to convert him to Islam. They told him if he would give up his faith in Christ his troubles would be over. He knew that Jesus was more valuable than all the riches in this life.

After some time, he went to live with his mother's family. His grandfather was a pastor. Azeem spent his childhood after this, struggling to get an education. He studied from before sunup to dark. He knew his life could become better if he got an education and then could one day get a good job.

Azeem experienced so much suffering as a child. He said through his suffering; he truly came to know God as his Heavenly Father. He made up his mind at this early stage in his life, that as God enabled him, he would help other children left as orphans and needy people.

Azeem surrendered his life to Jesus Christ at the age of 16 and was baptized the same year. He began working with Operation Mobilization in Pakistan. They went from city to city evangelizing and distributing Bibles. This was very dangerous, but he saw God's protection many times. He was beaten at one time while distributing Bibles and evangelistic tracts on the street. He finished his high school studies and went to one year of Bible College.

Azeem can speak four languages fluently. He has traveled to the remotest areas of Pakistan bringing hope to the broken hearted. He has brought relief to flood and

earthquake areas and Christian villages that were destroyed by radical Islamists. Azeem knows firsthand what it means to suffer for your faith. His own mother's home village was burned to the ground by angry mobs because it is one of the few Christian villages in Pakistan.

In 2012, he met Clara when she traveled to Pakistan from the US. They were married that same year and began working together as missionaries. They have three children whom they homeschool in order that they can travel together in the ministry.

In 2019, the Lord opened the door to start Hope Alive Ministries' children home in Lahore, Pakistan. In Pakistan, there are 1.5 million street children. These children are subjected to abuse, human trafficking, and all manner of atrocities. Our family moved to Lahore and we began taking needy children into our home. By God's grace, we have continued this ministry and pray that through His provision we can give many more children a home where they belong. We pray that they will come to a living faith in Jesus Christ.

Another area of the ministry that the Lord has allowed us to be part of is distributing Urdu language Bibles. Over the past 13 years, tens of thousands of Bibles have went into the hands of believers who had no access to the Word of God. One old grandfather that we gave a Bible to, had been a Christian his entire life and had never seen a Bible. He was overjoyed to receive his own copy of God's Word.

Having lived in one of the most extreme and dangerous countries in the world for Christians, Azeem has a wonderful testimony to share with your Church or small group. He is available for in person and online meetings.