



**GIRLS EDUCATION**  
INTERNATIONAL



Zolfishan, 6th grade  
Student in our Pakistan program

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*My name is Zolfishan*

and I am studying in 6th grade. I had studied up to grade 5 in our village, and the nearest secondary school is 14 kilometers away from our home. We could not afford to pay the huge amount of fare charged by the only local available van.

It was such a sad time in my life. I had to stay at home and help my mother with household chores, or go to the jungle to collect wood for selling in the local market.

Time was passing and I was losing hope of joining my school again. I would borrow my elder brother's books and study them.

One day a volunteer came to our village and talked to the village elders for identifying girls who wanted to study up to the secondary level. When I heard that, I asked my brother to get my name registered for the scholarship. I was very excited and prayed all the time for getting selected.

And finally the good news came. Ohh, I was flying high... maybe on cloud nine, or what do they say. I am really happy to be in school again. I love my school. I meet so many other girls, I have so many good teachers who guide us and above all, I can play cricket with the other girls. I really love my life.

Our partner in Pakistan, Bedari is an NGO dedicated to the protection and promotion of women's and girls' human rights through community-driven empowerment programs. Through our partnership, Girls Education International and Bedari are able to support 30 girls as they beat the odds to attend school and get the education they desire.