



How One Little Girl Changed a Village

Sara's father re-sold odds and ends as a street vendor before he suddenly died of a heart-attack. Her brothers all dropped out of school to become day-laborers, joining the one million other children in Egypt whose lives have been stolen by child labor. Without enough money for school fees or even for food, Sara's family thought that they might have to pull Sara from school to work like her brothers. Thankfully, Sara and her sister became a part of the *Not Alone* program of Coptic Orphans and began benefiting from the love and generosity of a sponsor overseas.

In *Not Alone*, Sara not only improved her reading skills, she started teaching her younger sister Teresa. Then, she started teaching two other children in her village who also participate in *Not Alone*. Soon the entire village was talking about the huge things this little girl was doing. Before she knew it, Sara was tutoring the other neighborhood children, too.

In a village where many families have pulled children out of school to work, attitudes are changing. People see that because one little girl stayed in school many children now dream about a bright future rather than dread a dull life of unskilled labor. One little girl, Sara, taught an entire village the value of learning.

Since the beginning of the year, we have been exploring different issues of injustice in many different areas of children's lives from abuse in schools to child marriage. In this issue, we wanted to show you just how far the support of one sponsor can go to help girls like Sara not only overcome their circumstances, but change their communities.

As 2007 draws to a close, we want to thank you for your tremendous support. We look forward to doing greater things together in 2008.

Merry Christmas from all of us.

Merry Christmas

from Coptic Orphans

Seeking Unique Christmas Gifts?

With the last issue we enclosed a gift catalogue: this has lots of great gift ideas for that hard-to-shop-for person. If you've misplaced it, find it at www.copticorphans.org/online-store.html

Your Christmas Gift Doubled This Year by Generous Donor

Remember your sponsored child this Christmas with a gift using the tear-off below. Your gift will purchase Christmas dinners, clothes, and special gifts during the coming season. A special reason to give this year: an anonymous donor has pledged to match Christmas gifts up to \$100,000.

"...This year I could observe something very special for the first time: demonstrations against FGM on African soil. Demonstrations which had an impact...I would like to thank you... I consider this evening to be a signal to all [faith-based] organizations to become active in the fight against FGM."

- European model and activist Waris Dirie, on the October 9th FGM/C forum organized by Coptic Orphans

Coptic Orphans

P.O. Box 2881, Merrifield VA 22116

703.641.8910 or 800.499.2989

info@copticorphans.org

www.copticorphans.org

All donations are tax exempt: 54-1637257

A financial statement is available from the Virginia State Division of Consumer Affairs in the Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services upon request. Information filed with the attorney general concerning this charitable solicitation may be obtained from the Attorney of the State of New Jersey by calling 973.504.6215. Registration with the attorney general

"So that in this and in all things Your great and holy name may be glorified ..."

12/07

All Christmas Gifts Will Be Matched Up to \$100,000

Please use the payment information that you have on file for a christmas gift so that the children in Egypt can have something special for Christmas:

\$50 \$100 \$200 \$500 Other \$ _____

I would like to sponsor a child with the following monthly gift:

\$50 \$100 \$200 \$500 Other \$ _____

Please debit my checking account on the 15th of every month (attach VOID check)

Please charge to my credit card on the 1st of every month

credit card number: _____ exp date ____/____/____

Enclosed is my check for a one time donation

Coptic Orphans

P.O. Box 2881

Merrifield, VA 22116