

"We want all  
children to have the  
same chances !"



Tapori is a worldwide network of friendship.

During a trip to India in 1965, **Joseph Wresinski**, founder of the Fourth World Movement, met a group of children who lived by themselves in the train stations of Bombay. They shared the left-overs they could find on the trains between them. They were called **"Tapoori"**. Remembering his trip to India, Joseph wrote to other children:

**"I often think about these children, who were so abandoned,  
but also very brave to get by and help each other.  
We can also be "Taporis," who can use our own two hands  
to build a world with more friendship,  
where poverty will disappear".**

The children, no matter which country or culture they each come from, become friends. They create projects to learn about children whose lives are different from their. They invent a way so that no one is alone.

Children around the world are connected through the **Tapori newsletter**. It exists in a few different languages.  
You can discover other children's true stories of courage on the website ( [www.tapori.org](http://www.tapori.org) ).

Today Tapori exists in Europe, Asia, Africa and the Americas.

1 € - 2 FS

"We want all  
children to have the  
same chances !"



Tapori is a worldwide network of friendship.

During a trip to India in 1965, **Joseph Wresinski**, founder of the Fourth World Movement, met a group of children who lived by themselves in the train stations of Bombay. They shared the left-overs they could find on the trains between them. They were called **"Tapoori"**. Remembering his trip to India, Joseph wrote to other children:

**"I often think about these children, who were so abandoned,  
but also very brave to get by and help each other.  
We can also be "Taporis," who can use our own two hands  
to build a world with more friendship,  
where poverty will disappear".**

The children, no matter which country or culture they each come from, become friends. They create projects to learn about children whose lives are different from their. They invent a way so that no one is alone.

Children around the world are connected through the **Tapori newsletter**. It exists in a few different languages.  
You can discover other children's true stories of courage on the website ( [www.tapori.org](http://www.tapori.org) ).

Today Tapori exists in Europe, Asia, Africa and the Americas.

1 € - 2 FS

# Bismilla

True story of a boy from Poland



**Children of courage**  
A TAPORI minibook

# Bismilla

True story of a boy from Poland



**Children of courage**  
A TAPORI minibook

# Bismilla

## A TAPORI minibook

This is the true story of Bismilla, a boy from Poland.

**TAPORI**  
Chemin Galiffe 5  
CH- 1201 Geneva - Switzerland  
tapori@tapori.org

© 2016 Tapori / Fourth World Movement  
www.tapori.org  
Illustrations : Alena Kharuzhyk

*Do you think you would be able to communicate  
with children who don't speak your language?  
Would you know how to do it?*

---

---

---

---

*What stood out most for you in Bismilla's story?*

---

---

---

---

---



The building was guarded and nobody was allowed out. Bismilla found it very strange. His little brother Rahman didn't handle it well. He really missed their home in Kabul, especially their shaded garden where he loved to play. Bismilla and his sister Mursal liked to spend their time in the activity room.

A few years ago, Bismilla and his mother, younger brother and sister came to Poland from Afghanistan. They were brought to the north of Poland where a lot of families from different countries lived. Nobody spoke Persian there, the language his family speaks.



Their carers and teachers were very nice. He started to learn Polish with them. Unfortunately, few children lived in the building and there was often nobody to play with. When the activity room was closed there was not much to do apart from watching TV or being bored in his room.



---

---

---

---

---

*Do you think it would be easy or hard to move to a new town or country and tell us why?* \_\_\_\_\_

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---



You just read the story of Bismilla. Now tell us what you think about it! Write to Tapor!

Last Name: .....
First Name: .....
Street address:.....
Zip code: ..... City: .....
Country: .....
Age: .....
e-mail address: .....

*What helped Bismilla to make friends? What made it difficult for Bismilla to make friends?*

---

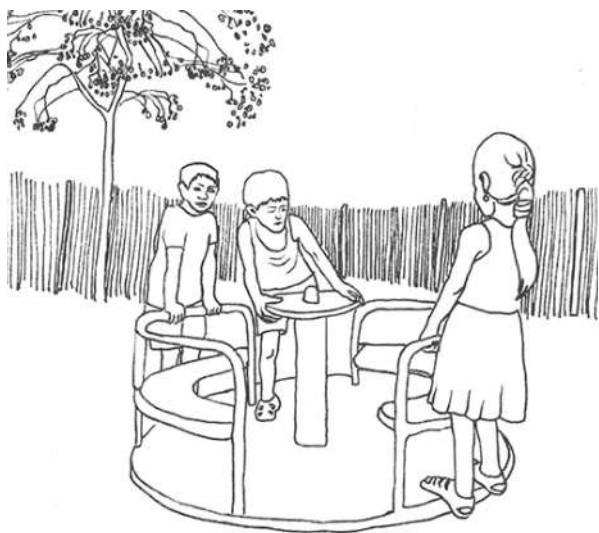
---

---

---

---





Bismilla is still in Warsaw in Poland. He no longer lives in the centre but in a flat with his mother, sister and brother. He helps his mother with the house and looks after his brother and sister. He has changed school and has many new friends. He likes playing football and painting. Sometimes he sees his friends from the centre. Bismilla is now nine years old, and although he comes from Afghanistan, he feels partly Polish.

12

Bismilla is very sad and misses his friend a lot. A few days later, the volunteers from the street libraries; Gevorg, Losha and Simon, leave for the long trip to visit Madi's family.

Before they leave, Bismilla gives them a message, "Please tell Madi that I miss him very much and that I am waiting for him."

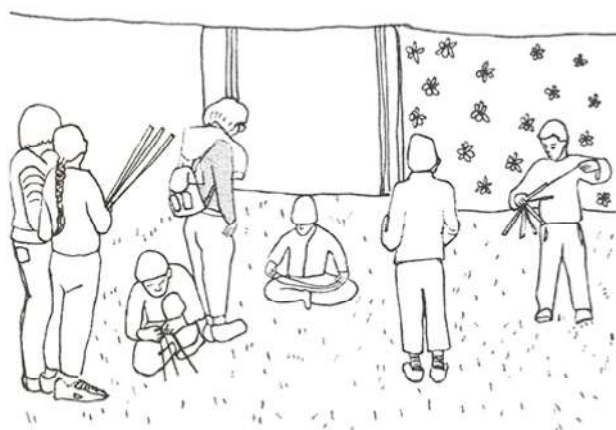
He gives them a toy car and adds, "This is for my friend."

Once there, they find that Madi is sad and quiet and hardly ever smiles. Nevertheless, he is happy to see them. He smiles when they give him the toy car and the greetings from the children in Warsaw.

10

\*\*\*

After a few months, the family is transferred to a centre in Warsaw. Here, everything is completely different; there are many children and they are allowed to play outside. The children come from different countries: Chechnya, Georgia, Uzbekistan, Kyrgyzstan, Kazakhstan, Egypt and Ukraine. They speak many different languages which Bismilla doesn't understand.



5

There are almost fifty families living in the centre: children with their mothers, grandmas or aunts. Some families leave the centre after a few months and new families move in. The hardest thing for Bismilla is to lose his friends. He often asks his mother:

"Mum, why do they have to leave, why don't they stay here longer?"

"Because some of them go abroad to join their families and others go back home." his mother says.

He often asks, "And why do we have to live here? Couldn't we live in a hotel? It would be more comfortable for us there!"

"When you grow up, Bismilla," his mother replies, "and have a lot of money, then you will be able to live wherever you wish, but for now we have to live here."

7





Sometimes, to make friends or to invite each other somewhere, the children communicate using their hands. After all, you don't always need to speak the same language to have great fun or to play football! Sometimes, to make sure they understand each other, the children talk to one another using several languages at the same time. Bismilla likes studying and he starts school. He makes new friends quickly.

6

One day Bismilla meets Madi from Kazakhstan and they become the best of friends. He is a very cheerful boy who can't sit still for long. They have great fun together. They are always inventing new games. Sometimes they argue but they make up quickly. Bismilla learns Polish quickly, but for Madi it seems to take a long time. He finds it very difficult to read Polish so Bismilla helps him.



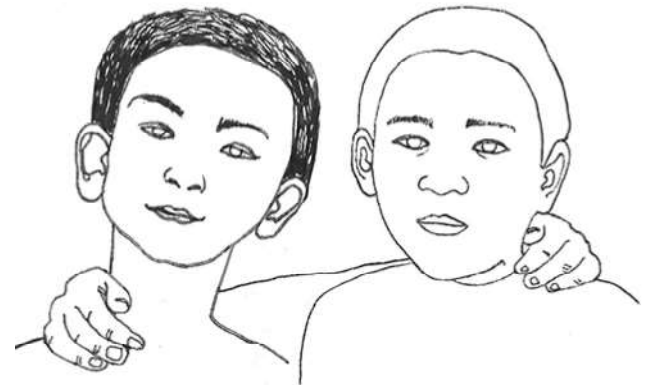
8

\*\*\*

Bismilla manage to see Madi again before he was sent back to Kazakhstan; the Middle Eastern country that his family had fled from.



11



Very early one morning, when everyone is still asleep, the police arrive at the centre and take Madi's family away. Everyone is woken by all the noise. Nobody can understand what is going on. They ask, "Why are they taking the family away? They didn't do anything wrong!"

Madi and his family are moved to the east of Poland to a guarded centre. In this new place they are not allowed to go outside and have to spend most of the time in their room.

9