



Salvation Stories

SALVATION IS A "BEFORE AND AFTER" EVENT!

Salvation Story: Shivinder

My name is Shivinder Kumar. My parents are from Ludhiana district in the state of Punjab, India. I am 51 years old (D.O.B: December 1, 1974). I was born in Delhi, the capital of India.

I wish to share my testimony—how I left behind my old life and accepted Jesus Christ as my Savior.

As a Family (A Brief Description of My Parents and Siblings): Our entire family background belongs to the Kapoor caste (sub-group) within the Kshatriya varna of the Hindu faith. Our family consisted of my parents, my 2 brothers, my three sisters and me. Currently, only my mother and two sisters remain.

The Death of One of My Brothers: I am the youngest member of my family. Both of my brothers passed away at different times and in separate incidents. One brother died suddenly at the age of five due to respiratory arrest (although I had not yet been born at that time; I heard of this event through accounts shared by my family).

Marital Discord and the Death of Another Brother: In 1984, while we were living in our home in Punjab, my two elder sisters were married and moved to their marital homes. I was ten years old when I first realized that my parents were experiencing discord and frequent arguments. Consequently—and in that very same year - my

mother took up a job as a private nurse and moved away from the rest of the family to live in Delhi (the capital of India).

That same year, my second brother- who was approximately 18 years old - suffered a tragic accident in our own home in Punjab. While he was cooking, his clothes suddenly caught fire; he sustained severe burns and injuries and was taken to the hospital, where he passed away within approximately one week.

My Father's death due to Cancer: Our family members experienced immense sorrow

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and struggle, for the very next year- that is, in 1985-my father also passed away. At the time, he was approximately 59 years old. In reality, the actual cause of his death was throat cancer, a condition he had been suffering from for several years. As far as I recall, our family members even used to claim that an enemy, acting out of malice, had secretly administered a poisonous substance in my father's food, which subsequently caused the cancer to take a severe and unrelenting hold of his throat. Consequently, he could speak only very low.

(I still vividly remember that during the final year of my father's life, I was the only one by his side; that is to say, I spent his entire last year in his sole company, with no other family member present with us. This was because my two brothers had already met with untimely deaths. Of my three sisters, two were already married; as for my mother—who shared a strained relationship with my father—she had taken one of my sisters away to live with her, following the death of my brother a year earlier).

(Now, in the present day, I realize that although we were devout Hindus - regularly engaging in worship and possessing a religious temperament—because we did not know the True God, our entire family remained under the bondage of numerous curses. The Gospel of the True God had not yet reached us.)

My Unmarried Sister's Marriage and Her Sudden Disappearance to an Unknown Location: Following my father's death, my mother returned from Delhi—bringing along my sister (who was one year my senior). After a few days, my mother took me away from Punjab to live with them in Delhi. By this time, I had begun studying in the eighth grade. Some time later, that sister of mine also got married and moved to her husband's home. However, after approximately one year, she divorced her husband, as he was an extremely short-tempered and physically abusive man. Yet, some time after that... Although she did marry another man, my mother disowned her and severed all ties with her because my sister chose to live her life according to her own will. Consequently, my sister left for an undisclosed location of her own accord. Despite extensive searching, no one was able to discover where she had gone. To this day-neither we, nor any of our relatives—have any idea of her whereabouts.

My Personal Life Takes a Downward Turn: Thus, it was just my mother and I living in our home. This story dates back to 1993, when I was fifteen years old and studying in the tenth grade at a school in Delhi. My mother was working as a nurse at a small nursing home. Additionally, we managed to make ends meet thanks to the rental income generated by our old, four-room house back in Punjab. However, a year prior to this, I had already begun falling in with bad company. For instance, I would often team up with my friends to skip school without any valid reason, simply to roam around aimlessly. I also lost all interest in my studies. As a result, having scored low marks in two subjects—English and Mathematics—during my initial attempt at the tenth-grade examinations, I was required to retake those two papers. However, obeying on my mother's advice, I decided to enroll in the tenth grade once again. This time, it was not a regular daily school program, but rather a correspondence course



that required me to appear only for the examinations. During the rest of my time, I began learning a trade—specifically, for a short period, some etc...during the remaining time, I began learning various trades—such as electrical work for a short period, as well as the repair of two-wheeled motor vehicles.

My faith in Jesus Christ was solidified by two events: my sister's husband recovering from an illness, and my own success in passing my examinations by prayer. It was during this very period that my brother-in-law (my sister's husband) - who was suffering from TB (tuberculosis) - was on the verge of death due to this severe illness. However, through the prayers of a pastor (named Sultan Masih), he was healed. Consequently, I, too, began to place my faith in Jesus Christ. Following this, I also received baptism.



My Personal Life Descends into Wickedness, and Eventually—Discovering Jesus Christ: Yet, due to a lack of biblical knowledge, I gradually fell into bad company. I completely stopped attending church. Driven by my own desires, I became entangled in various vices—such as substance abuse, gambling, adultery, and the like—and even attempted suicide on two occasions. The first time, I ingested a poisonous substance; however, it failed to take effect as automatically I vomited it out. The second time, having procured a strong poison, I went far away from home to attempt suicide. Yet, overcome by a sudden fear, I refrained from consuming it; instead, I threw it away on a distant hillside and returned home.

Attending Bible School and Entering Ministry—Despite My Reluctance to Receive Biblical Instruction: As time passed—and while I was living a life squandered amidst various vices—a pastor (named Prabhu Kumar) spoke to my mother in 1997. He urged her to send me to Bible school so that, by acquiring biblical knowledge, my life might be transformed. Although I had absolutely no desire to attend Bible school, I nevertheless accompanied the pastor from Punjab to Jammu to enroll. As I began to receive biblical instruction, my life gradually started to change; many of the vices that plagued my existence began to fade away.



In 1998, I entered into God's service in Kashmir as an evangelist.

Married Life and Being Blessed with Three Children by God: In 2004, I married a young Christian girl named Surjit. True to a prophecy made by a pastor regarding my wife and me, God blessed us with a son in 2005, whom we named Joshua.

Subsequently, in 2008... We were blessed with a daughter named Sakshi, and in 2010, another daughter named Ruth was born to us.

Currently, our son Joshua and daughter Sakshi are living at our home in Punjab with my wife, Surjit, due to their studies. My mother also resides with them in the same house.

Meanwhile, I am living in Kashmir—within the very region where our ministry is based—together with my daughter Ruth, who is currently pursuing her studies there.

Prayer Requests:

1. Please pray for my mother, that she may receive the Lord Jesus Christ as her personal Lord and Savior.
2. Please pray for our entire family, that we may all serve the Lord Jesus Christ together with our whole hearts, and that all obstacles may be removed.
3. Please pray for our children, their education and that their future may unfold according to God's will.
4. Pray that we may be able to win many souls for the Kingdom of God.

Thank you.