



miles 2 smile

Gateway to Happiness

SMILE REPORT

RELIEF & REHABILITATION WORK

Sendhwa | Madhya Pradesh



MILES2SMILE FOUNDATION

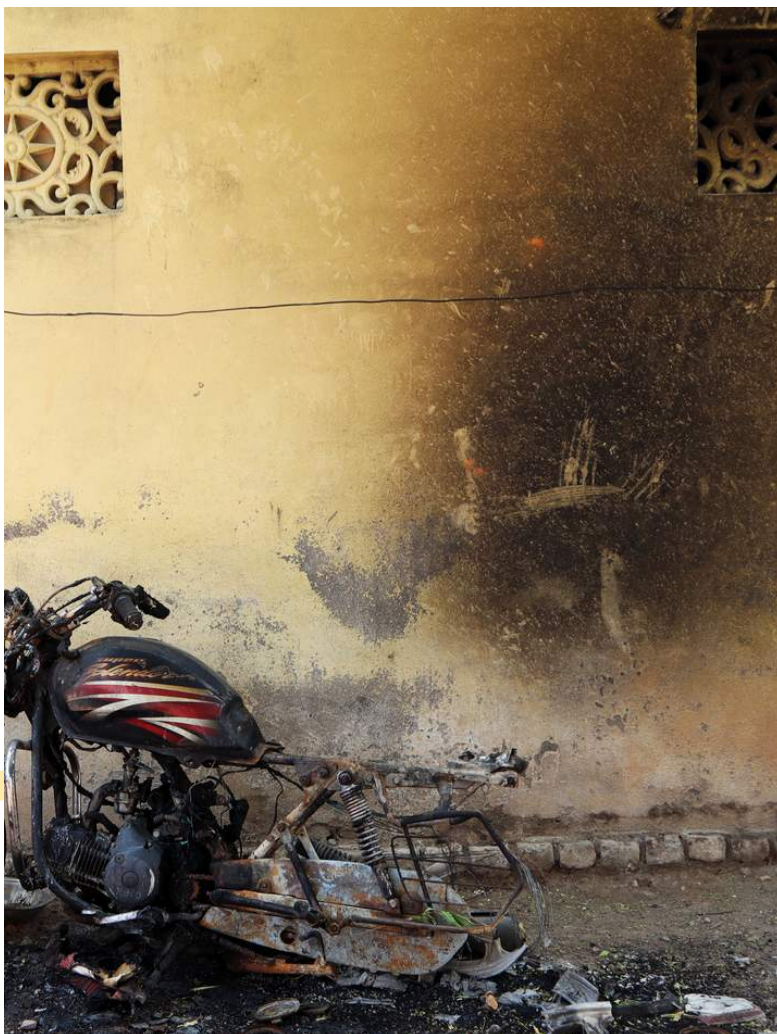
20
April
22

INCIDENCE OVERVIEW

An anti-Muslim violence was reported in Sendhwa town, in the district of Barwani in Madhya Pradesh. Violence erupted during the Ram Navami procession of April 10, 2022, when some Hindutva devotees marched through Bargaon to the Idgah-Jogiwara road area in order to join the main Ram Navami procession.

According to local eye-witnesses, the participants in the procession raised anti-Muslim slogans and played provocative music deliberately in Muslim neighborhoods. As per locals, processionists were also carrying sticks, knives, and swords with them.

Communal tensions gripped near Hussaini gate between the two communities after a stone-showering incident, and kept escalating till late hours in the evening. In the aftermath of this flare-up, many houses and businesses owned by Muslims were severely damaged, and their vehicles torched.



APRIL
2022





As the damage inflicted in violence was not enough, a day later, arrived the administration for adding salt into the injuries of already hurt people. On April 12, 2022, the district administration, in a one sided demolition drive, arbitrarily demolished Muslim houses on the pretext of instigating violence in the absence of proof, or procedure.

Amid cries and wails of residents, authorities razed eleven houses completely, while two were partially razed. Residents were hardly given a chance to collect their essentials, not even the holy Quran in the month of Ramadan. Under heavy police presence, bulldozers and JCBs mercilessly rumbled through the Sendhwa town, leaving Muslims with an ocean of emotions, broken hearts, and a searing cry.

It was our fast-breaking time," said Saida Bi, a 55-year-old resident who witnessed the demolition of her home. In an area that was already communally tense, the government's hasty decision to bring in bulldozers with full zeal just a day after the violence, was nothing but an act of atrocity. One resident, Sakina, whose house was also demolished claimed that her son Shahbaz was already an accused in a case related to the violence and was in jail at the time of violence. Police officials too conceded that Shahbaz, the accused, was in fact in prison on April 10, but justified the demolition by claiming he was a "listed criminal of the area". Authorities neither allowed protests nor political demonstrations in the area on the pretext of communal tensions.





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The only thing they allowed was errant bulldozing, which required neither law nor process. There was no surprise that all the properties coming under the axe belonged to Muslims. The modus operandi followed in the hasty demolition drive created monstrous suffering for the displaced Muslims, as the errant destruction could not be satisfactorily hauled up in any court at any later stage, even if there were discrepancies. Almost all those who lost their homes lost their life savings too. In the blink of an eye, all of their worldly goods were tossed into a large empty plot.



**Click on the link to
watch the video**

[https://www.youtube.com/
watch?v=mkCly7lMqoc](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=mkCly7lMqoc)



RELIEF WORK

The moment, distressing visuals of the violence appeared on internet, our team waited no longer in reaching the spot. We heard from locals residents what exactly unfolded on the ground. The situation was dire. We could see the fear and hopelessness in their eyes. The unruly demolition caused distress to a lot of innocent individuals, to the extent that some, in fact, were left with no essentials, likes of clothing, food, and even water for several days in the month of Ramadan. Let alone the loss of homes and businesses.

We could not imagine what they must have gone through. We really did not know what losing a roof from your head in a snap of fingers felt like until we met these people who were made to bear the trauma of losing both their home (a sense of protection) and the source of livelihood altogether.

We started the relief work immediately. There was a palpable fear in the neighborhood. No one was coming forward to help the distressed families, as they feared retribution.



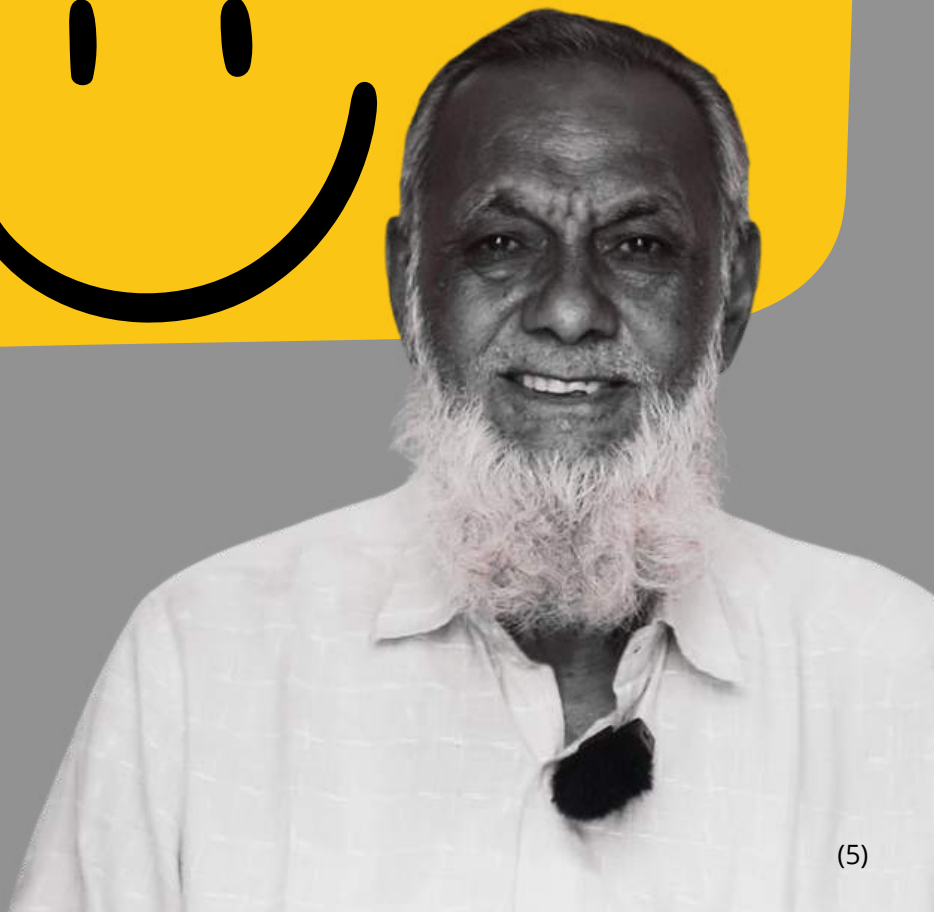


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"Miles2smile takes pleasure in announcing that we were the first responders to reach the distressed families with immediate financial relief. Through our fundraisers, however much we could collect from our compassionate donors, we rushed to disburse it to the victim families. Whatever little or big, we could arrange in our limited capacity to meet their immediate needs, our team did it initially. Later, we provided each of the victim families with a sum of 3 to 5 lakhs to help them replace their lost economic assets. We know it was really little in comparison to what they had lost. In fact, there was no compensation to the damage that had been inflicted upon them.

Miles2Smile assisted 12 families in Sendhwa with an amount of 37.5 lakhs.



SENDHWA MADHYA PRADESH





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SMILE STORIES

SHAISTA KHAN



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When bulldozers roared near 46-year-old Shaista's house in the late evening, she rushed to salvage her 17-year-old crippled son, who was unable to move on his own. Shaista was frying samosas in her nearby shop when some policemen emerged in a tow from a van with JCBs and bulldozers. They had lathis in their hands and they stopped by looking at her house. Then they hinted at bulldozers to start razing down the house. She could not understand why it was happening. She pleaded with them to at least give her some time to bring out her crippled son, who was sleeping inside. Turning the deaf years, they pushed her aside. However, some neighbors joined in the effort to save her son's life.

When Miles2Smile visited her, she was on the verge of profuse sobbing. She was blankly staring at the odds stacked against her. With her house lying in debris, her hopes too were in shreds. Without a roof to protect her family she was in the sea of sorrows. Miles2smile provided her 3 lakhs to shoot new flicks of hopes to her life. After receiving the aid, her face shone mirth girded in a will to move on.



SAKINA



Sakina, in her forties, lived in a joint family of nine before her house was demolished on the accusation of her son Shahbaz being allegedly involved in the violence. It was terrifying as she saw a bulldozer rumbling nearby her house.

She was served a notice only 15 minutes before the cops and the bulldozers arrived. Sakina could not understand the reason for this wanton destruction. Her son has been in jail for the last 35 days. How can someone already in jail be accused of another crime? Why would authorities even allow her son to come out of jail? Sakina choked on tears recalling the day her house was mercilessly pulled down without a reason.

With her son in incarceration and a part of her house demolished, dejected she was as the other members of her family. Besides, the prospect of further police action also disturbed her peace. When the arms of injustice are agile and deft, how can one wink even for a moment?

Release of her son and a small help to reconstruct her house was the only thing she requested us with a trembling pulse. She had the appealing temerity to fight back and bring hues to her otherwise appalling hopes. With 3 lakhs provided by the organization she is slowly reclaiming what she once thought lost.



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SHAHID KHAN

Shahid's father ran a furniture business. His family has been living on rent in the Jogiwarra area for over the last 30 years. They recently had purchased the same house, where they lived as tenants. It took the family years of handwork and every penny they had saved rupee by rupee to fulfill the dream of purchasing their own house.

Soon, the wedding ceremony of Shahid's younger brother was slated to take place at their house. And for that, their two-story house was in course of renovation, not realizing the state's vindictive intention for his property. On the same day, his house was completely leveled saying the building was unauthorized, and he was given no warning.



Shahid pegged his loss at around 60 lakhs. For him, it was not a capital punishment but the punishment of the soul. He questions why, if it was illegal, the authorities did not intervene for so many years? Are they now suddenly waking up from slumber?

Reeling under financial duress, the bounteous assistance, he received from the organization gave him occasional happiness amidst the gloom and despair.

KASHMIRA

Kashmira, a middle-aged woman, once lived peacefully with her beautiful family of four in the small town of Sendhwa, Madhya Pradesh.

She got her house built under the 'Pradhan Mantri Awas Yojana' but no roof could protect her family from the saffronised bulldozer that shattered her only residence. Despite having every 'Kaagaz (documents)' proving that her house was built under the central government housing schemes, and that she was the owner of the property, the obdurate authorities disregarded every argument she had thrown at them to shield her land. Seeing her house dripping like a candle, Kashmira couldn't muster the courage to take any further action. Worse yet, in the aftermath of demolition, her 20-year-old son Danish lost his livelihood. He worked at a mechanic's shop but was sacked from his job after the owner got to know about his house' demolition.



Loss of home & livelihood and the trauma of victimization hovered her thoughts. When Miles2Smile foundation helped her. It was an announcement of solidarity too. It was a brotherhood in distress. The entire family was beaming with brimming happiness to rebuild their lives again. Miles2smile helped the 20-year-old in getting a new job and provided the family with financial relief of two lakhs. After receiving the aid given by the organisation, Kashmira was able to tackle the dilemmas and live a 'normal' life once again. Her entire family was beaming with brimming happiness, after receiving the aid.



SENDHWA MADHYA PRADESH





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ISLAM KHAN & SAIDA BI

Lifelessly looking at her husband's destroyed watermelon cart, Saida Bi profusely sobbed, as her husband had set up this cart as the only source of sustenance for the month of Ramadan. Islam Khan is an elderly man who ran small seasonal businesses to support his family.



Islam and Saida pleaded with the authorities to not destroy their only source of income because they had no other means of living during Ramadan. Regrettably, the authorities didn't listen to their cries. They mowed down his cart despicably.

After learning about his family's desperate situation, the organization acted swiftly to forward ample help to Islam's family. They were all in gratitude for the efforts of Miles2Smile foundation to knit their lives yet again. Receiving a generous amount of 3 lakhs helped them start over afresh.



RASHIDA



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Rashida is an elderly woman who lived in a joint family with her husband and two married sons. One amongst her teenage grandsons had been allegedly implicated for his role in the violence. The guilt was yet to be proved, his entire family including his grand parents were subjected to a severe punishment.

The district administration demolished Rashida's house, giving all of them a collective penalty.



When we met Rashida, she was not fed. She had no extra pair of clothes except the one she had been wearing for many days now. All of her essentials, mattresses, and clothes were beneath the debris that she showed us profusely crying. They did not let her salvage any of the belongings. She was adrift in a sea of grief and winced at the unfairness of the situation when miles2smile offered her an assistance of 5 lakhs which was like an initial investment for the happiness and well-being of her family.





**Watch the full story by
clicking the link**

[https://www.youtube.com/
watch?v=1SS59vvrGtU](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=1SS59vvrGtU)



SABA'S MOTHER



Saba was seemingly enraged as she picked up two stones & flung them in the air with all her might, one by one against a group of men who were trying to enter her house. They were calling slurs, and relentlessly banging on the door. It was in her defense that she threw two stones from her rooftop fearing that the group of men would enter her house.

She is a 16-year-old, who was alone at her home, when the violence broke out. The government put charges on the 16-year-old for her alleged involvement in the violence. We were in awe of Saba seeing her sturdiness and courage which she displayed all while facing the violent mob, along with unreasonable charges which were later followed by demolition of her house in connection to the violence..

Her family was aggrieved after the demolition and at the cases that were foisted against her. Miles2Smile extended her family financial assistance of 3 lakhs to attenuate their grief.

NIYAZI KAUSAR

Kausar ran a small provision store that was adjacent to his house in the Jogiwara area, where the violence broke out. In his absence, his shop was vandalized by a violent mob. He reported the damage to his shop at about 2 lakh rupees as they ravaged it all down and took everything away. Goods worth thousands have been destroyed, along with his wooden counter, furniture, and a motorbike. His shop was the only source of livelihood for his family, to keep the hunger at bay.

With utmost priority, Miles2smile assisted Kausar with a sum of 1.5 lakh rupees. It was all by the great help from our donors that we could engage in efforts to restore Kausar's shop within a week.

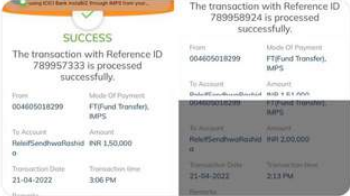
NIYAZI KAUSAR'S SHOP



T W I T T E R W A L L

Aasif Mujtaba @MujtabaA... · 21/04/22 ···

When I told Rashida bi that we have transferred 5 lakhs to her account, she couldn't control her tears. While sobbing she said " अल्लाह इसका अन्न आखिरत में देगा " Thank you donors for raising her cause in less than a day.
#SendhwaRiots



Aasif Mujtaba @Mujta... · 21/04/22

0:42 "हम तो सब कर लेंगे , अल्लाह सब नहीं करेगा " रशिदा के सामने उसके घर को bulldozer से ढाह दिया । रशिदा Khargone से 6...

Aasif Mujtaba 8 May · ···

Niyaji Kausar is a resident of Sendhwa in Madhya Pradesh. During the recent violence, his shop was looted & vandalised. He has no means to sustain his livelihood. With your generous donations & assistance from [Miles 2 Smile](#) he started his shop again. ❤️



Aasif Mujtaba @MujtabaA... · 24/04/22 ···

देखने वालों के लिए भले ही ये ईंट का ढेर हो, मगर इनके लिए ये इनकी खून पसीने की कमाई और ज़िंदगी भर की जमा पूँजी थी जो अब ये मुद्दियों में समेटने की कोशिश कर रहे।
Islam Khan & his wife Shabnam are looking for anything useful out of the demolished waste in Sendhwa.(1/2)
[@miles2smile](#)



Aasif Mujtaba @MujtabaA... · 20/04/22 ···

I visited Sendhwa, some 70 kms from Khargone. A hindutva procession under protection of the State pelted stones at Hussain Gate. When Muslims retaliated, another set of violence was unleashed. Later, 13 houses were bulldozed to ground by the administration.(3/3)



Aasif Mujtaba @MujtabaA... · 08/05/22 ···

Niyaji Kausar is a resident of Sendhwa in Madhya Pradesh. During the recent violence, his shop was looted & vandalised. He has no means to sustain his livelihood. With your generous donations & assistance from [@miles2smile](#) he started his shop again. ❤️



Aasif Mujtaba @MujtabaA... · 24/04/22 ···

The hopelessness in their eyes tell exactly how tough it is to be a Muslim under hateful regime. He also had a small watermelon shop outside his house for his livelihood that was bulldozed too. [@miles2smile](#) would rebuild a part of their hope from [#Ketto](#) donation. (2/2)
[@zoo_bear](#)



Aasif Mujtaba 15 May · ···

When I met Rashida Bi & her husband in Sendhwa last time, they were totally devastated. The house was bulldozed & there was no financial support. She couldn't fast as there was nothing to eat for sahari & Iftaar. This time when I met them, their smiling face was enough to make my day. They got a rented house & other house essentials. Rashida Bi even invited me for her granddaughter's marriage which they are planning soon. She kept on making Dua for us and for everyone who helped. We assisted her with Rs 5 lakh and would soon get her house reconstructed too ❤️
#alhamdulillah
[Miles 2 Smile](#)
[#miles2smile](#)

Aasif Mujtaba @MujtabaA... · 15/05/22 ···

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THE SMILE COUNTER



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1

Smile Project

3680

(S) miles Covered

192

Smile Hours

96

Smiles Restored





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ABOUT THE ORGANIZATION

Miles2Smiles was established in 2020 as a not-for-profit organization, based in Delhi. The organization works primarily in relief activities and brings smiles to the faces of victims looming over penury and distress. Livelihood creation and educational empowerment are also some core areas of work by the organization. In the past two years, the organization has made commendable service in delivering solace to the people languishing in the heap of despair. The organization is on an assiduous mission to revive happiness to the people ripped after communal tensions.



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MILES2SMILE FOUNDATION

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