

## "God Never Gave Up On Me" - An Evangelist's Testimony



My name is Shaik Miravali and I was born into a Muslim family. I used to go to the mosque every day for my daily namaaz (prayers). As a young man, I danced in clubs/bars for money and drank all of my income away. In my drunkenness, I would go home after working in the bars and beat my parents for more money. My parents thought that arranging my marriage would change me for the better. So I got married to a girl that I believed was

a Muslim as well. She had hidden her conversion to Christianity through her burqa (black covering worn by Muslim women).

On the 4th day of my marriage, I took my wife to the movies. I was thinking about my life dancing in clubs while she was sitting beside me praying to Jesus Christ. I beat her every time she prayed or mentioned Jesus name. I burned and ripped up her Bible three times. I believed strongly in my Muslim roots and that Jesus was just a prophet.

My friends used to harass me for going to the mosque while my wife went to church. So I began to beat her for that reason too. I forbid her to go church under any condition. I used to throw stones at her and the other churchgoers as they came out of church. I couldn't take the ridicule from my friends anymore so one day I decided to end my life. I laid on railroad tracks waiting for the next train to take my life. An old man saw me lying there and saved me. I tried to end my life

another time but then I heard a voice saying, "my son - I am the God that created the Heavens and earth." I was sure it was Allah. So I went home.

On Good Friday 1992, my wife went to church and again I beat her for disobeying me. She never stopped praying. 15 days later, I became very sick with jaundice. I spent 20 days in the hospital; my friends and relatives came to give me their final goodbye as they all thought I was dying. I said to my wife, "if your God is real - tell Him to save me." She brought her Bible to my side and read Psalm 20:1, "May the Lord answer you when you are in distress may the name of the God of Jacob protect you." God showed me a vision of Christ on the cross -I saw how much blood He had shed for me. I cried tears for His saving grace. The Lord held my hand and I got up. After 20 days, with no medication and belief that I was going to die -I got up and was able to eat. God gave me good health. I went to the church where I persecuted so many (including my own wife) and gave my testimony. On December 1, 1993 - I was baptized. My family and friends ostracized me for my conversion to Christianity and threw me out of our home and village.

The Lord led me to full time ministry when I attended a believer's retreat at IREF in 2001. I have been working with IREF ever since and currently lead two congregations. My burden is to take the Gospel of Jesus Christ to the Muslims in my community and surrounding areas. So many Muslims persecute us on a daily basis. Please pray for my wife, two sons and our churches as we serve the Lord and follow His command to spread the Gospel.

Thank you for your prayers and support of IREF.

## **Prayer & Praise**

- Please pray for the continual blessings on IREF and those impacted by the ministry.
- Praise God for the many people who accepted Christ through the Gospel Meetings in Challapalli and the success of pastors seminars in Khammam and Chirala last month.
- Pray for the people who are watching IREF (Subhavaartha)
  TV each week. Continue to pray for those who struggle to publically take a stand for Christ.



Praise God for the thousands who heard the Gospel in Challapalli.



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