महां शाह राह
Participatory story telling is the process of telling a story of an individual, a group, an institution, a place or more. The story can be told using images, illustrations, posters, words and/or photographs. It is an empowering process, and often a cathartic one, where the participant/s talk about their situation and experience and sometimes share aspirations while narrating the story. It can also be digitised using audio-visual technology.

To view the digitised version of the story, scan the QR code below or visit the following link:
http://youtu.be/aJuuy4DR8rI
Where There’s A Will, There’s a Way

A participatory story made by children living in a shelter for street children in Delhi documenting their life story.
Once there was a girl named Mariam.
She lived in Delhi.
There were fifty houses in the area where she lived.
There was a park, roads, a hospital and a school.
Mariam really wanted to study, but she could not do so as her parents were poor.
The condition around her house was really bad. The roads were covered in potholes. There were no zebra crossings.
There was a park but it was very dirty. The nearby hospital had no doctors or medicines.
The school did not have any toilets.
The drains were clogged so the dirty water would seep on to the road.
Mariam lived in a single room house with a broken roof and there was no electricity or window.
Mariam used to feel very suffocated.
Nine others lived in this single room house of hers.
Mariam and her family had to go out into the open to urinate and defecate.
One day, Mariam cried out aloud and said: “I cannot tolerate living like this any longer. I want to study, play and go ahead in life.”
She went to the police station and told them: “Please put me in an NGO..."
...so that I can have access to a good school, eat good food, wear good clothes and there is cleanliness all around."
Mariam dreams of becoming a collector so that she can move her family to a better and cleaner neighbourhood.
This story was conceived and illustrated during a participatory story telling process by Ayesha, Eram, Jyoti, Mansi, Muskan, Pooja, Priya, Sapna and Tanisha of Jamghat in January 2014.

This process was supported by Praxis Institute for Participatory Practices, Bernard van Leer Foundation and Jamghat.

Praxis Institute for Participatory Practices
BB-5, 2nd Floor, Greater Kailash Enclave 2, New Delhi 110048
info@praxisindia.org www.praxisindia.org