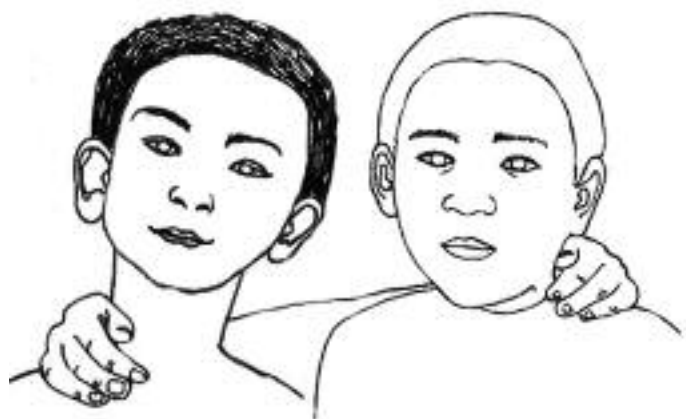


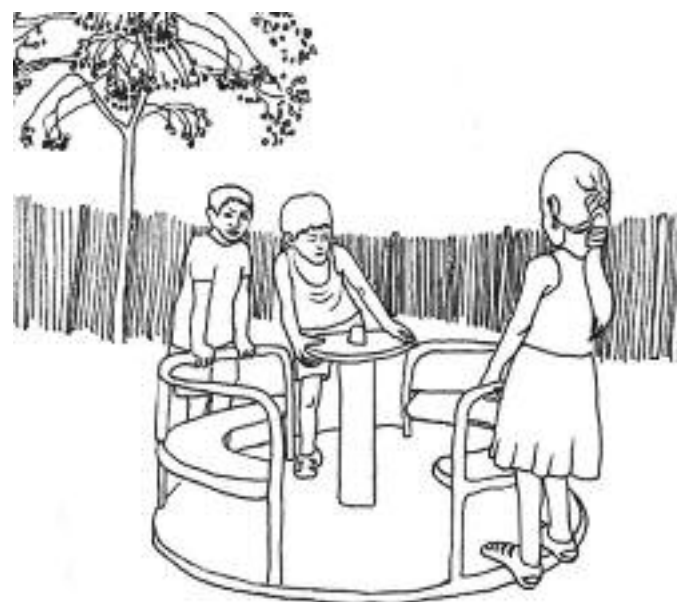
Madi, his brothers and his mother are taken to another center in the East of Poland. Later on they learn that Madi will be sent back to Kazakhstan, the country his family had fled from.

The facilitators of the street library decide to go and visit Madi's family while they are still at the other center in Eastern Poland. Before the facilitators leave, Bismilla gives them a toy car and says: "It's for my friend. Tell him that I miss him a lot and I am waiting for him."



The facilitators find Madi sad; he doesn't say much but he is happy to see them and smiles when they give him the gift from Bismilla and they tell him that all the children say hello.

Bismilla and his family are still in Warsaw but they left the center and live in an apartment. His father came and joined them. Bismilla helps his mom to take care of his younger brother and sister. He changed school and is making a lot of friends. At times he goes back to the center to see his friends who are still there. Often, he thinks of Madi.



Now he is 11 years old. He still misses his house in Kabul*, the capital of Afghanistan, but he is starting to feel more comfortable in Poland.

* Kabul is the capital of Afghanistan.

Illustrations : Alena Kharuzhyk



en.tapori.org

E-mail: tapori@tapori.org

Tapori
ATD Fourth World
Chemin Galiffe, 5
1201 Geneva
Switzerland

November - December 2017 - N°415

A true story of Children of Courage

Bismilla

A child from Afghanistan who lives in Poland

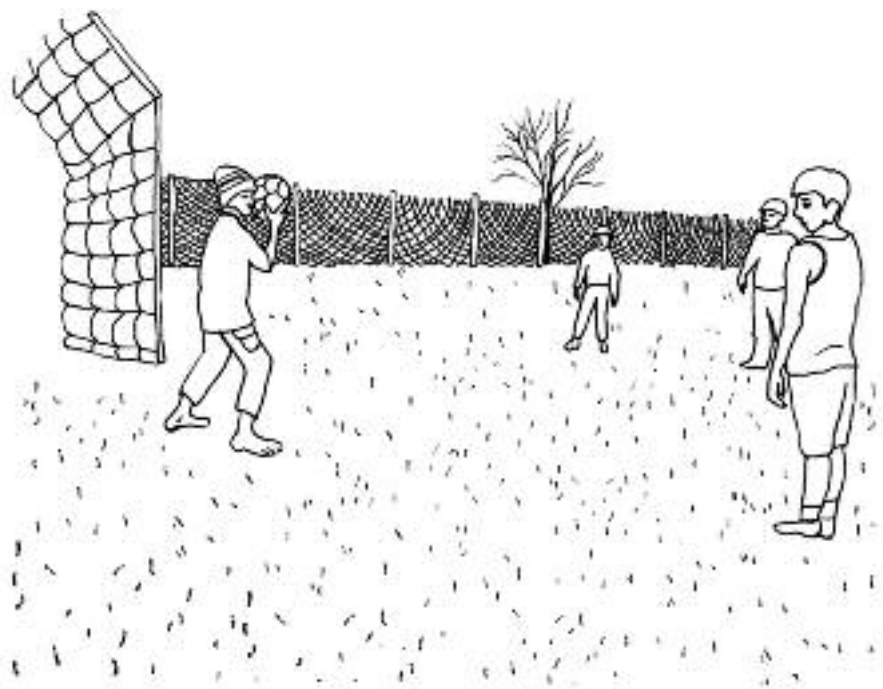
Bismilla left his country, Afghanistan, with his mother, his younger brother Rahman and his little sister Mursal. They arrived in Warsaw, Poland, in a center for refugees.*



In this center, there are 50 other families. There are many children who come from different countries: Georgia, Uzbekistan, Kyrgyzstan, Kazakhstan, Egypt and Ukraine.

*Refugees are people who had to leave their country because of war or very difficult conditions of living and who go to another country, hoping for a better life.

They all speak different languages that Bismilla doesn't understand.
But the children play together and speak by signs.
You don't need to speak the same language to play soccer or have fun together!



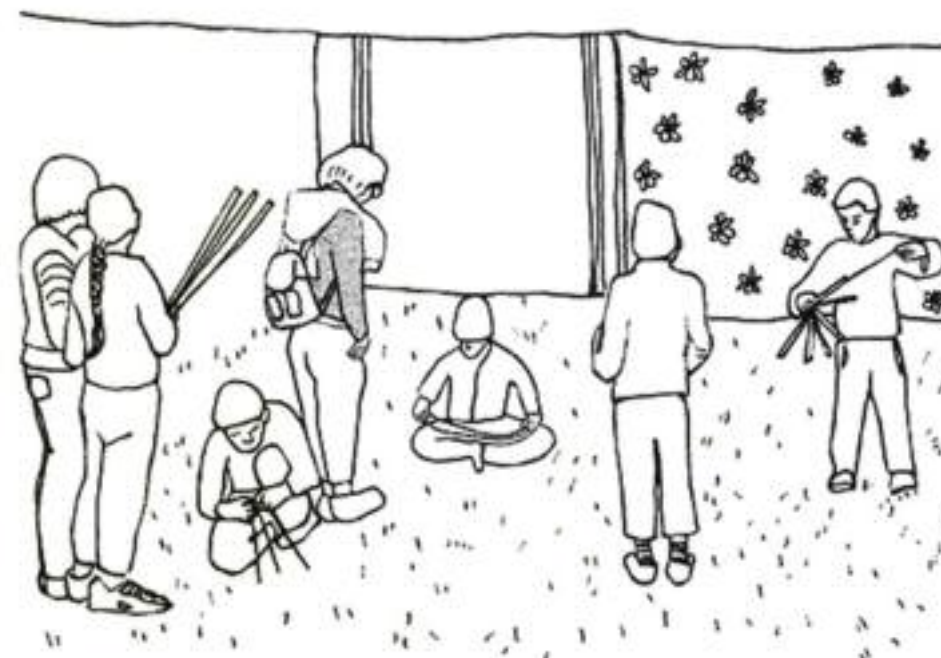
Bismilla goes to school. He likes to learn there and also at the street library where he goes once a week.



Bismilla often asks his mother: "Mom, why is it that my friends don't stay here long; they leave after a while."
His mom answers: "Because some of them go to other countries where some family members are waiting for them. And some of them go back home."
He also asks: "And why do we have to stay here?"
She answers: "Later on, when you are grown up and have your own money you can go to another country. But right now we have to stay here."



One day, Bismilla gets to know Madi who comes from Kazakhstan. Madi is always joyful and full of energy. The two boys play well together. They invent new games. If ever they argue, they get back together very fast. Bismilla learns the Polish language, but Madi has a harder time. So, Bismilla helps him.



One day, very early, as everyone is still asleep, the police come to the center and takes Madi's family away. There is a lot of noise and everybody wakes up. Nobody understands what's going on. They all ask: "Why are you taking them? They didn't do anything wrong."