



Inspire

Knowledge Inspires

Maryam graduated from her tailoring class at one of AIL's rural centers just before she was married. After her wedding ceremony, she moved to another village. Not knowing anyone, she began sewing for her husband's family. When the other village women saw her creations, they began asking her to sew dresses for them.

Soon she had a thriving business. Some of the village women asked Maryam to teach them to sew. Mariam thought of opening a center. When she asked her husband's family about this, they ignored her requests and let her know that she was causing trouble.

Then many of the village women, including relatives of her in laws, approached Maryam's family and asked if she couldn't please teach them to sew. Not wanting to offend them, Maryam's in laws gave her permission to open a center in one of the rooms of their house. Maryam collected a small fee from each of her students.

Maryam now has 40 students in her center and the fees she collects are helping to improve the economic situation of her family. She is respected in the community and her family is proud of her. Recently, when she returned to her own village, she came to the AIL center to visit and she told them her story and thanked AIL for giving her the opportunity to be such a useful person in her community.

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