

The Atlantic

World Day Against Child Labor

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Ten years ago, the International Labor Organization (ILO) established June 12 as World Day Against Child Labor. The ILO, an agency of the United Nations, says on its website: "Hundreds of millions of girls and boys throughout the world are engaged in work that deprives them of adequate education, health, leisure and basic freedoms, violating their rights." The World Day Against Child Labor was launched as a way to highlight the plight of these children and support governments and social organizations in their campaigns against child labor.



The rough hands of an Afghan child, at the Sadat Ltd. Brick factory, where some children work from 8am to 5 pm daily, seen on May 14, 2010 in Kabul, Afghanistan. Child labor is common at the brick factories where the parents work as laborers, desperate to make more money enlisting their children to help doing the easy jobs. (Majid Saeedi/Getty Images)



Czoton, 7, works at a balloon factory on the outskirts of Dhaka, Bangladesh, on November 23, 2009. About 20 children are employed by the factory and most of them work for 12 hours a day. (Reuters/Andrew Biraj)



An Indian migrant boy works in a sari factory in Katmandu, Nepal, on June 12, 2012. (AP Photo/Niranjana Shrestha)

(Paula Bronstein/Getty Images)



A Burmese girl carries cement on her head as she works at a construction site for a new hotel December 6, 2011 in NayPyiTaw, Burma. NayPyiTaw is the capitol city of Myanmar, formally in Yangon until the Burmese government created a new secluded capitol closed off from much of the world until recently. (Paula Bronstein/Getty Images)



Four-year-old Jacques Monkotan pounds stones in a excavation in Dassa-Zoume, some 200km north of Cotonou, Benin, on February 25, 2007. The children are taken away from school by their parents to work in those excavations and pound stones to be sold by their employers or parents for 30 dollars the barrow. (Fiacre Vidjingninou/AFP/Getty Images)



A Bangladeshi boy works at an aluminium pot making factory in Dhaka, on April 19, 2012. A September 2003 United Nation Childrens Fund (UNICEF) report found that more than 6.3 million children under the age of 14 are working in Bangladesh. (Munir Uz Zaman/AFP/Getty Images)



A young boy cleans parts of a truck in New Delhi, India, on June 12, 2012. (AP Photo/Saurabh Das)



A boy from the Darfur region makes mud blocks in Khartoum, Sudan, on September 17, 2011. Many people in Darfur live in slums outside Khartoum and try to make a living by selling mud bricks or performing other small jobs. (Reuters/Mohamed Nureldin Abdallah)



A child harvests coffee beans in the department of El Paraiso, 120 km east of Tegucigalpa, Honduras, on December 20, 2010. Honduras, a country that hopes to become the the first coffee exporter in Central America, does not regulate child labor. (Orlando Sierra/AFP/Getty Images)



A child worker shovels freshly harvested coffee beans at a plantation in El Paraiso, Honduras, on February 4, 2011. On the hilly slopes of southeastern Honduras, thousands of new coffee plants are sprouting, as growers here hope to cash in on sky-high coffee prices caused in part by a trend of declining production in other parts of Latin America. (Reuters/Edgard Garrido)



Cambodian girl prepares bricks to dry under the sunlight at a brick factory in Chheuteal village, Kandal province, Cambodia, on May 2, 2011. (AP Photo/Heng Sinith)



The boy works at a coal depot on April 16, 2011 near Lad Rymbai, in the district of Jaintia Hills, India. Local schools in the area, providing free tuition, find it difficult to convince parents of the benefits of education, as children are seen as sources of income. The lure of the mines is stronger than that of the classroom. The Jaintia hills, located in India's far North East state of Meghalaya, miners descend to great depths on slippery, rickety wooden ladders. Children and adults squeeze into rat hole like tunnels in thousands of privately owned and unregulated mines, extracting coal with their hands or primitive tools and no safety equipment. (Daniel Berehulak/Getty Images)



A child laborer tries to hide behind a loom as activists of Bachpan Bachao Andolan, or Save the Childhood Movement, along with police, raid a factory in New Delhi, India, on October 23, 2008. 34 child laborers were rescued from the embroidery factory. (AP Photo/Manish Swarup)



A young Indian bonded child laborer gives details to a police officer at the district magistrates office after being rescued during a raid by workers from Bachpan Bachao Andolan or Save the Childhood Movement, at a garment factory in New Delhi, India, on June 12, 2012. Police raids on factories in the Indian capital revealed dozens of migrant kids hard at work, despite laws against child labor. Police rounded up 26 children from three textiles factories and a metal processing plant, but dozens more are believed to have escaped. Those captured had all come to New Delhi from the states of Bihar and Uttar Pradesh. (AP Photo/Kevin Frayer)



An Afghan boy drives a horse cart to pick up bricks ready for firing in the brick oven on November 6, 2009 in Kabul, Afghanistan. (Paula Bronstein/Getty Images)



A boy cuts roses in a greenhouse in Cruz Blanca, San Juan Sacatepequez, 50 km (31 miles) from Guatemala City, on May 7, 2012. The cultivation and trade of roses is the highest economic activity in San Juan Sacatepequez. (Reuters/Jorge Dan Lopez)



Sixteen-year-old prostitute Maya waits for a customer inside her small room at Kandapara brothel in Tangail, a northeastern city of Bangladesh, on March 5, 2012. She earns about 300-500 Taka per day (\$3.66- \$6.11) serving around 15-20 customers every day. Maya's son Halim, a four-year-old child lives with her parents in another Barisal. She cannot save money for her child as she has debt and barely afford daily expenses. Maya is one of hundreds of mostly teenage sex workers living in a painful life of exploitation in Kandapara slum's brothel who take Oradexon , a steroid used by farmers to fatten their cattle, in order to gain weight and appear "healthier" and more attractive to clients. (Reuters/Andrew Biraj)



Eleven-year-old Shefali, a prostitute, has her eyebrow threaded in front of her small room at Kandapara brothel in Tangail, Bangladesh, on March 5, 2012. Shefali was born in Kandapara brothel as her mother was also a prostitute. She has to serve around 20-25 customers per day. Shefali doesn't know how much she earns as her Madam takes away all of her income. In exchange she gets food three times in a day and some gifts occasionally. (Reuters/Andrew Biraj)



An Iraqi boy works in an ice factory in Baghdad's Sadr City on May 4, 2008. (Sabah Arar/AFP/Getty Images)



Brothers Pablo (right) and Jose Gonzales, 15 and 14 years old respectively, work in a shaft in a mine at Cerro Rico hill in Potosi, Bolivia, on September 15, 2010. (AIZAR RALDES/AFP/Getty Images)



A crane lifts miners in a basket out of a 300ft deep mine shaft, as they head out for their lunch break, near the village of Latyrke near Lad Rymbai, India, on April 13, 2011. The Jaintia hills, located in India's far North East state of Meghalaya, miners descend to great depths on slippery, rickety wooden ladders. Children and adults squeeze into rat hole like tunnels in thousands of privately owned and unregulated mines, extracting coal with their hands or primitive tools and no safety equipment. Some of the labor is forced, and an Indian NGO group, Impulse, estimates that 5,000 privately-owned coal mines in Jaintia Hills employed some 70,000 child miners. (Daniel Berehulak/Getty Images)



An Indian boy hangs clothes after dyeing them at a dye factory in Mumbai, India, on June 12, 2012. (AP Photo/Rajanish Kakade)



Pakistani Naginah Sadiq, 5, carries clay while working in a brick factory on the outskirts of Islamabad, Pakistan, on June 12, 2012. Naginah earns 250 Rupees (\$2.77 US) per day according to her father. (AP Photo/Muhammed Muheisen)



Masud, 6, shows scraps which he collected near a vehicle spare parts store in Dholaikhal, Dhaka, Bangladesh, on February 29, 2012. According to locals, about 10,000 people, one third of them children, work in the city's Dholaikhal area, known as the place to find vehicle spare parts. Workers work about 17 hours a day and earn about 70-100 takas per day (\$0.85 - \$1.22). (Reuters/Andrew Biraj)



A child laborer dries raw leather at the Hajaribagh tannery in Dhaka, Bangladesh, Friday, February 3, 2012. (AP Photo/Pavel Rahman)



Girls react as they are rescued from a factory in Dongguan, in China's southern Guangdong province, on April 28, 2008. China was investigating whether hundreds of children, most aged between 9 and 16, were sold to factories in the southern province of Guangdong over the past five years to work as virtual slave laborers, state media said. (AP Photo/Color China Photo)



A Congolese boy pans for gold on a riverside at Iga Barriere, 25 km (15 mi) from Bunia, in the resource-rich Ituri region of eastern Congo, on February 16, 2009. (Reuters/Finbarr O'Reilly)



Children from a shanty area study at a roadside school in Hyderabad, India, on July 16, 2008. These street schools were organized to educate underprivileged children in an effort to prevent them from being engaged in child labor. (AP Photo/Mahesh Kumar A.)



An Iraqi girl rides a donkey pulling a load of bricks at a brick factory in southern Iraq, on May 20, 2010.
(AP Photo/Alaa al-Marjani)



Indian children work near their parents at a construction project in front of the Jawaharlal Nehru Stadium in New Delhi, India, on January 30, 2010. The children accompanied their parents to the work site, where if they are prepared to work, they will receive money for bread and milk and be provided with dinner by the contractor. (Daniel Berehulak/Getty Images)



Shaheen, 10, works in an aluminum factory in Dhaka, Bangladesh, on November 16, 2009.
(Reuters/Andrew Biraj)



Mithun, 11, poses for a photo at a laterite brick mine in Ratnagiri district, about 360km (224 mi) south of Mumbai, India, on April 14, 2011. He is paid two Indian rupees (\$0.04) per brick and carries an average of 100 bricks out of the mine per day. Each brick costs between 10-14 rupees (\$0.22-\$0.31), and weighs around 40 kg. (Reuters/Danish Siddiqui)



Boys working at a shop selling coal take a break in Yangon, Burma, on May 27, 2012. (Reuters/Damir Sagolj)



A young miner holds on tight to a rope as he descends into a deep narrow hole in the ground in a field in Anzanakaro near the south-western Madagascan town of Ilakaka on September 14, 2008. Local miners in the region work deep narrow holes where they scrape gravel and sand in the search for sapphires and fortune. According to an official Madagascan study, of the 21,000 thousand children living in the region, 19,000 belong to working families. (Roberto Schmidt/AFP/Getty Images)



Habib, 8, works at a metal workshop which makes propellers for ships at a shipbuilding yard next to Buriganga River in Dhaka, Bangladesh, on January 10, 2012. (Reuters/Andrew Biraj)



Ali Jan, 13, sells biscuits and sweets at Karachi's Clifton beach in Pakistan, on July 10, 2011.
(Reuters/Athar Hussain)



An Indian child reacts to the camera as she collects recyclable spare parts at an automobile yard on the outskirts of Jammu, India, on December 10, 2011. India remains home to the greatest number of child laborers in the world despite efforts by successive governments to address the problem through compulsory education and anti-poverty programs. (AP Photo/Channi Anand)