

Paradise Lost

Earthquake in Pakistan:
A pictorial review



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Doing a little...

In an effort to let people see and realize plight of the earthquake affected people, Flare, country's leading telecom publication, has brought out this pictorial review of the colossal destruction and deaths country has never seen before. The money collected from the sale of this booklet would be contributed to the rehabilitation of families who were destined to survive the killer disaster and live thereafter. It would be unfair not to mention the cooperation of PIA Chief Tariq Saeed Kirmani, Warid CEO Hamid Farooq, Ericsson Pakistan CEO Zibber Mohiuddin, Ufone Vice President Mubashir Naqvi and Telenor Marketing Chief Azeem ul haq in accomplishing this task.

Zubair Ahmed Kasuri
Editor-in-Chief, **FLARE**

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Preface

One could sum up the aftermath of October 8 earthquake in two words - colossal destruction and deaths. The tremor, the strongest ever in last 100 years of South Asian history, wrecked havoc in Northern Pakistan by claiming hundreds of thousands of lives, flattening houses and wiping out businesses for good. With an almost entire generation lost and another handicapped, psychologically devastated and living on genuine fears of homelessness, insecurity and above all a haunting and unpredictable future, the people of this beautiful region are virtually deprived of their worldly paradise. However, looking as if mere portraits of helplessness and vulnerability in front of mighty nature, quake survivors are resilient to stand up to the disaster. They are fast picking up courage from the ruins and are resolute to recoup. Equally encouraging is to see the calamity getting united otherwise a split nation as they say. People share pain and the distress of their brethren and sisters in trouble and have joined hands to assuage their sufferings. People are incessantly offering relief and support to hapless victims. However, the crucial question of continuation of this support and spirit is looming large with the passage of time. With international community 'yet to do enough', local and foreign relief agencies deserve accolades for salving wounds of families who lost everything to earthquake. They have reached out to otherwise inaccessible areas and are offering food, medical relief and even shelters. It is hard to predict how many years the survivors would take to regain their lost paradise but given, their marvelous courage and due support by the nation, we can confidently say that the problems of the victims would lessen in the days to come. Almighty Allah does give forbearance to man to tackle such calamities. There are numerous lessons hidden for us in this killer quake. If we, as a nation, would learn something from this tragedy by rebuilding our infrastructure network, taking measures for adequate preparations to face such future crisis and working on making up deficiencies exposed by the tragedy, we would surely rise as a spirited nation in the near future.

Flare team



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Destruction all around

Initially, most of the Pakistanis could not realize the catastrophe befallen on the people of Northern Pakistan, despite the fact that powerful tremor jolted most of the areas in Punjab, NWFP and Balochistan. However, the collapse of Margalla Towers in Islamabad helped earthquake to be highlighted on electronic media. It was hours after when the nation came to know that certain areas of AJK and Hazara division in NWFP have been turned into graveyards.



No clemency

Many a minarets of mosques proved too feeble to survive 7.6-strong earthquake



Erstwhile school

A demolished building of a school in Bagn. Hundreds of students were killed when the school was flattened

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October 9, 2005

Turning upside down

A satellite image of Muzaffarabad before and after earthquake

Neelum River



CSN Scanned with CamScanner September 15, 2002



Rescue on their own

People trying to pull survivors and dead bodies from under the rubble of a destroyed house

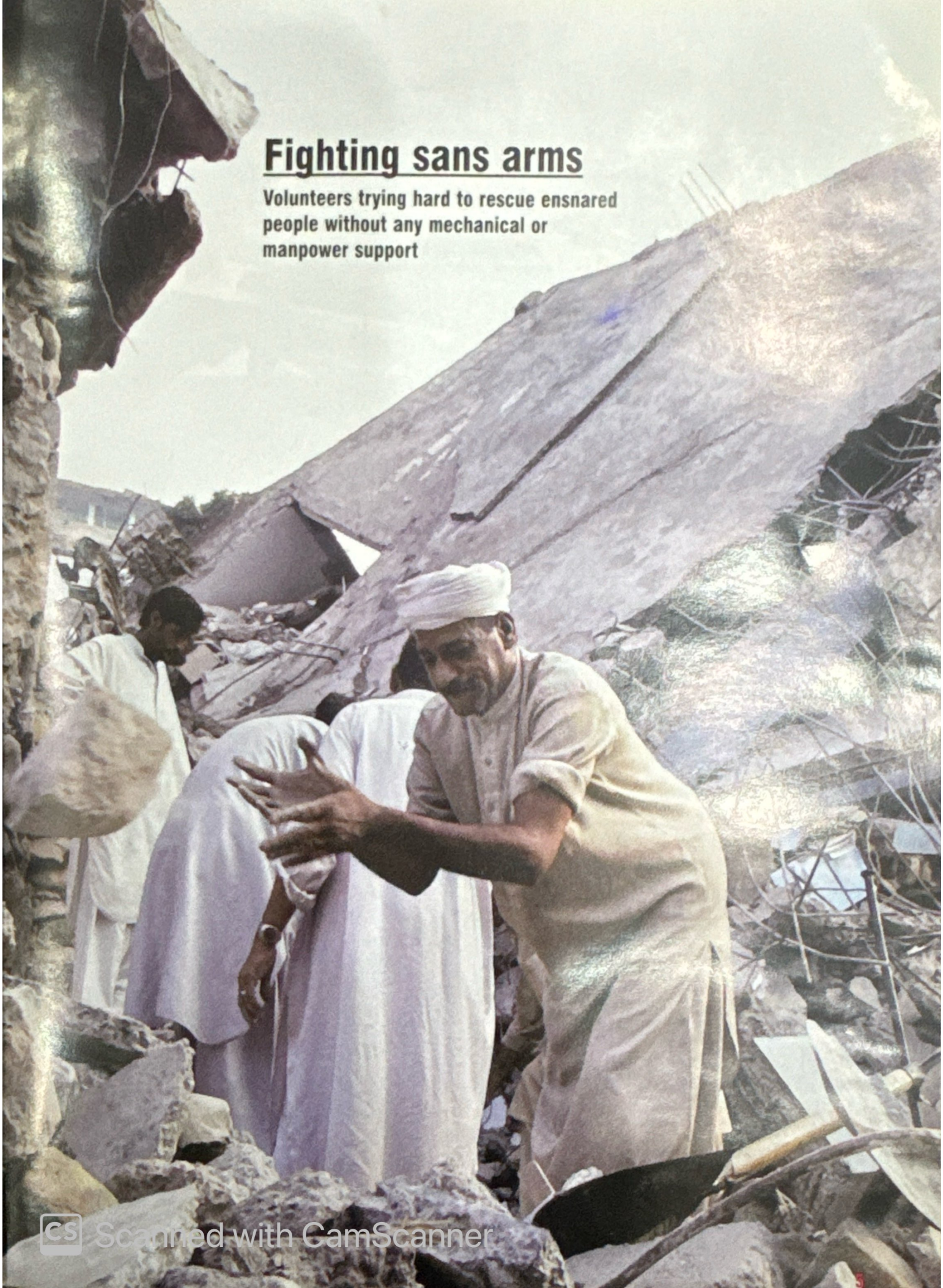


Hope still alive

Still the old man is busy in rescue work to save his family members

Fighting sans arms

Volunteers trying hard to rescue ensnared people without any mechanical or manpower support



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Shattered graves


The powerful earthquake dismembered the graves

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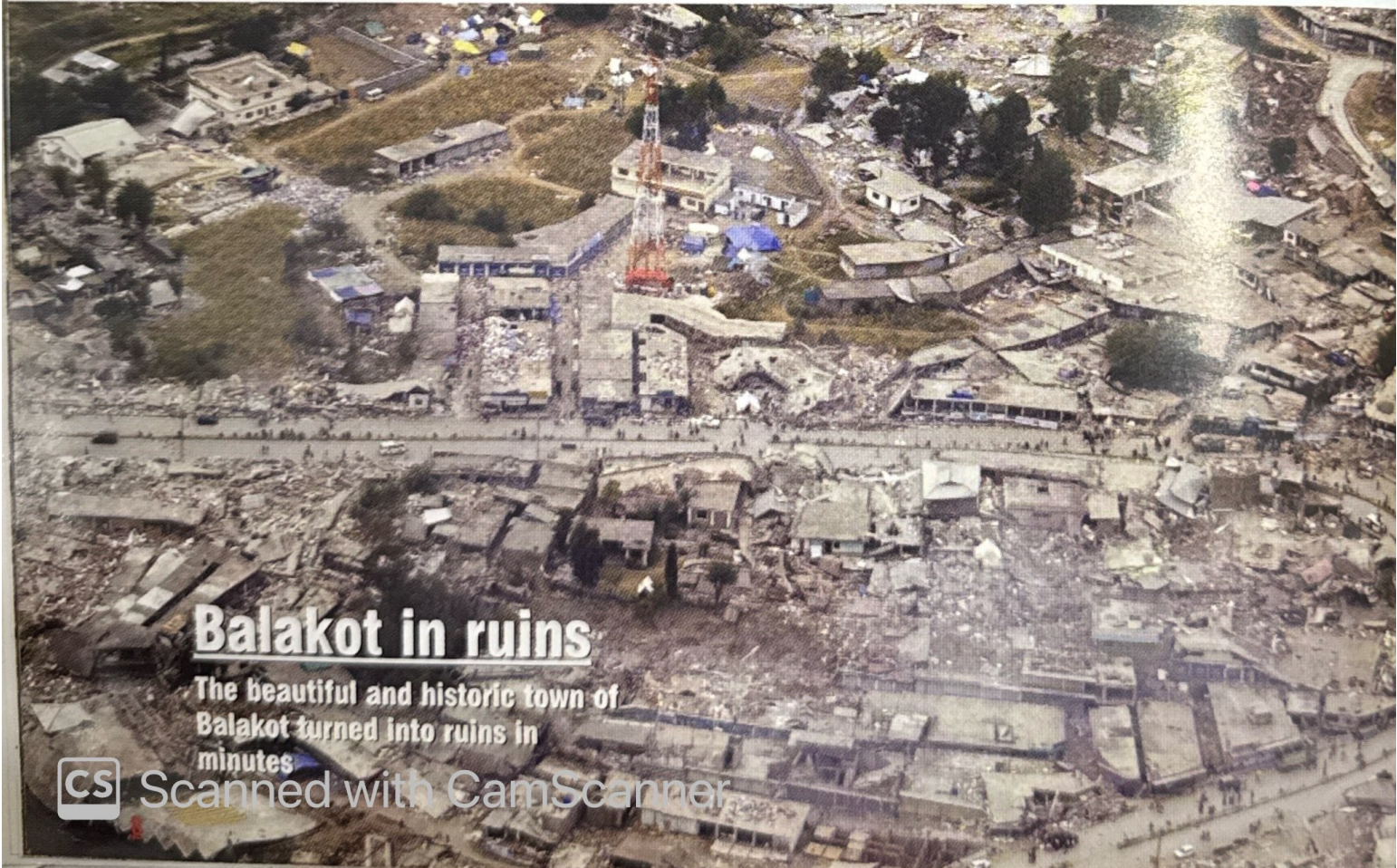
Beauty eclipsed



The communication infrastructure was the first casualty in the fatal Oct 8 quake, which cut off the affected areas from the rest of the world. With road and telephone links no more available, the survivors were left with no option but to start rescue operations on their own since the world was only able to learn about the devastation, they witnessed, after an entire day. The infrastructure was destroyed to such an extent that months are required to restore it completely.

Rescue operation

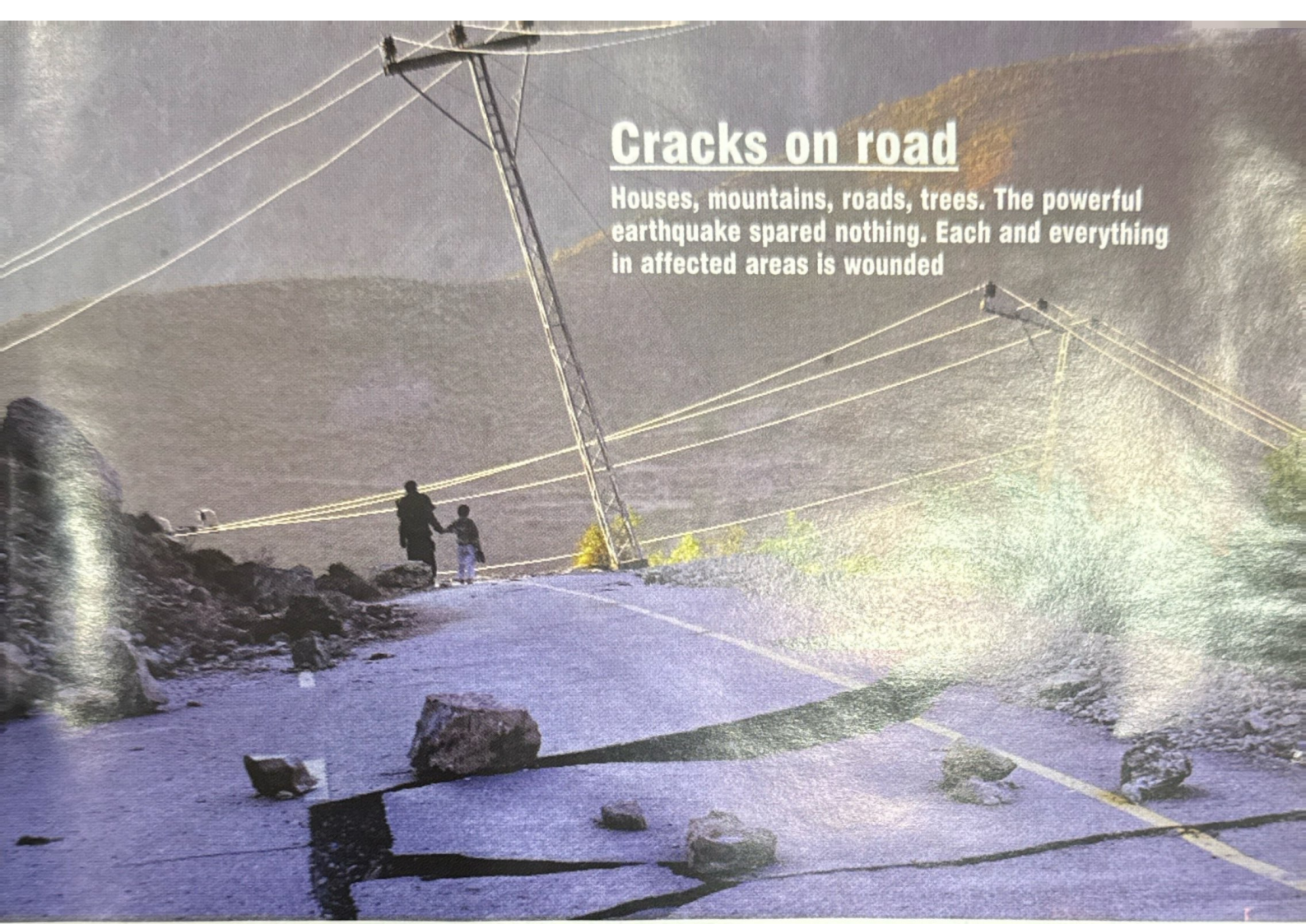
Pak Army jawans taking part in rubble removal operation



Balakot in ruins

The beautiful and historic town of Balakot turned into ruins in minutes

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Cracks on road

Houses, mountains, roads, trees. The powerful earthquake spared nothing. Each and everything in affected areas is wounded



Mountains rendered balled

The quake shocks caused heavy landslides in mountains, which messed roads and rivers in Northern Pakistan



Demolished house

An elderly woman survivor narrating the tale of tragedy while standing in front of her demolished house



Margalla Tower rescue

Army men removing the rubble of multi-storey of Margalla Tower in Ghatkot area of Islamabad, which collapsed due to Oct 8 earthquake





Helping hands

Stunned by the devastation occurred in Margalla Towers only, the government and people of Pakistan were literally bewildered after listening to unconfirmed reports about the catastrophe, the people of Azad Kashmir and Hazara underwent in Oct 8 earthquake. After a slow initial response, the masses and government functionaries devoted themselves to help the people trapped under the debris. Massive rescue operations started in affected areas and the citizens of other parts of the country set new precedents of sacrifice by donating generously for the relief and rehabilitation of victims.



In search of life

Rescue operations started with the help of volunteers, who came to the affected areas from every nook and corner of the country

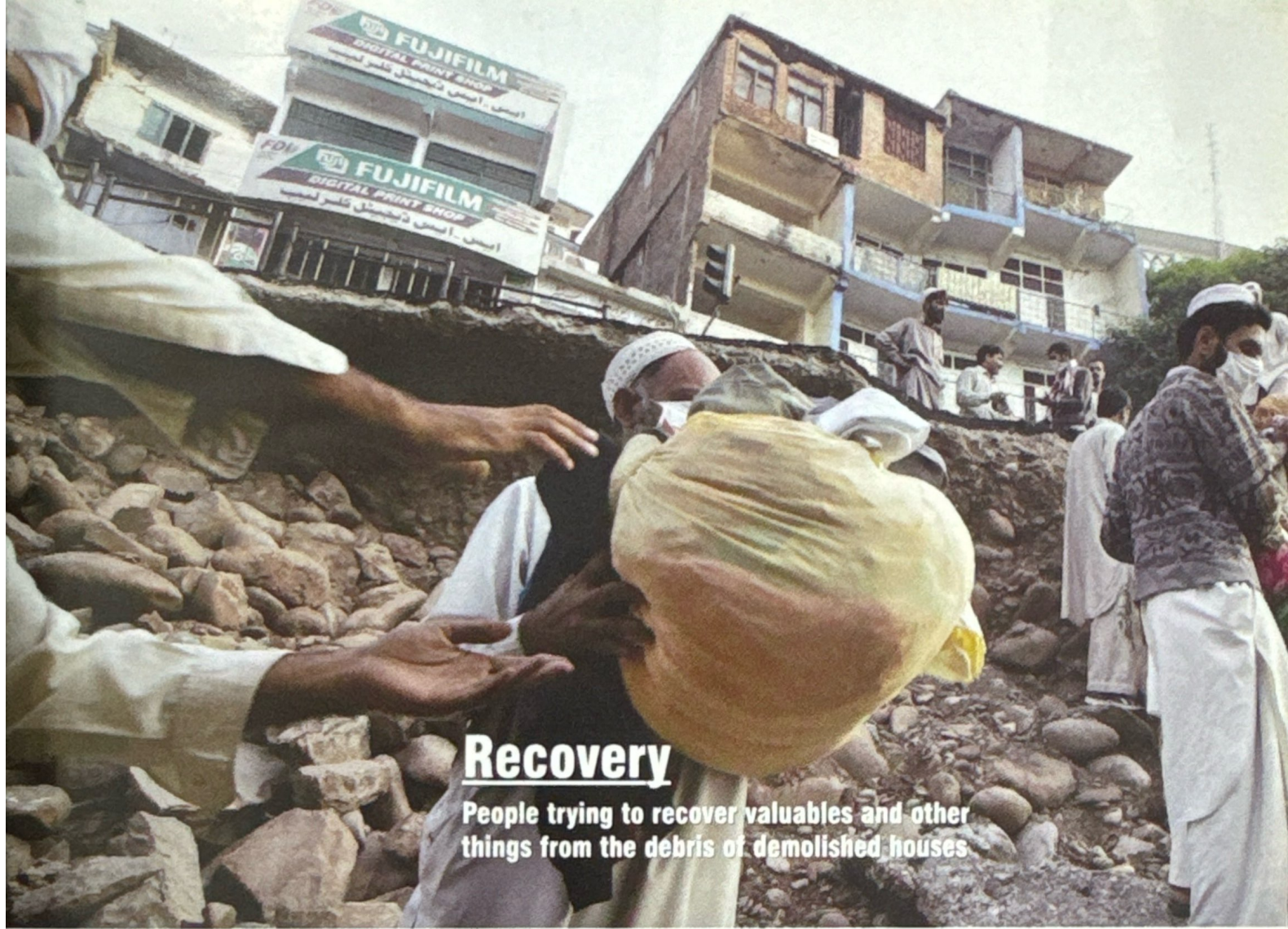


Breaking the trap

A volunteer trying to talk to a trapped person



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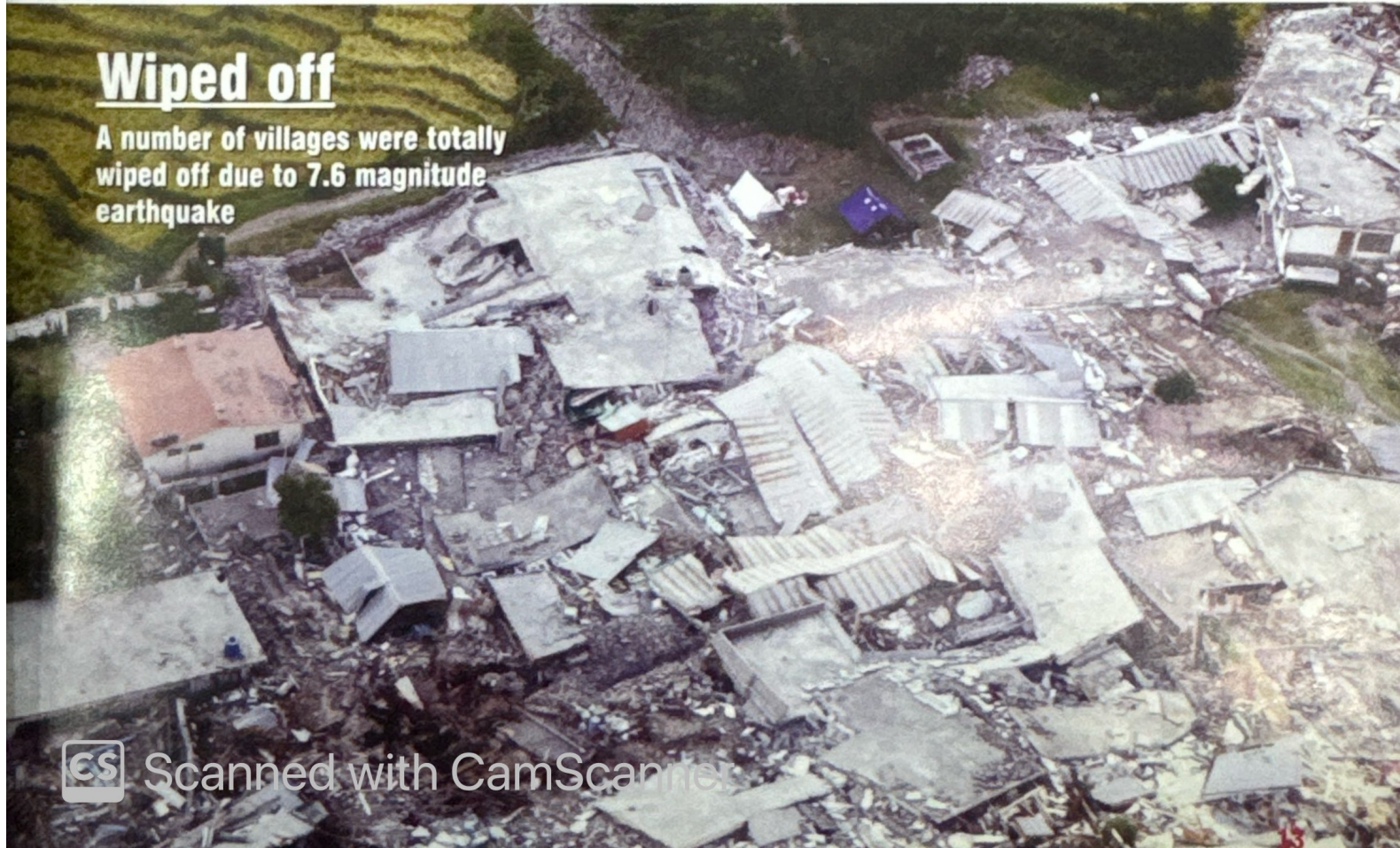


Recovery

People trying to recover valuables and other things from the debris of demolished houses

Wiped off

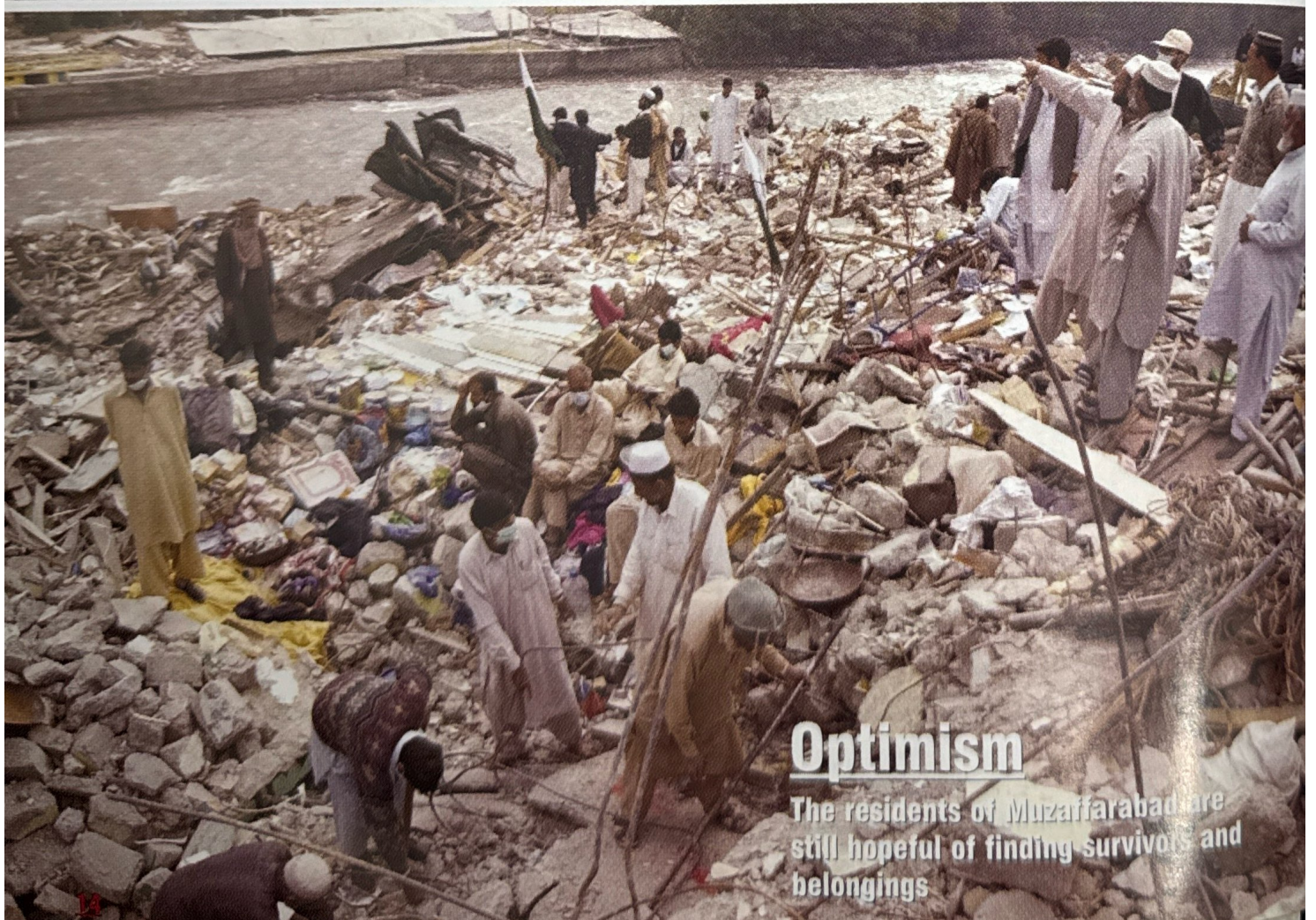
A number of villages were totally wiped off due to 7.6 magnitude earthquake





Give me a ride!

An injured Kashmiri woman wants to reach hospital as early as possible



Optimism

The residents of Muzaffarabad are still hopeful of finding survivors and belongings



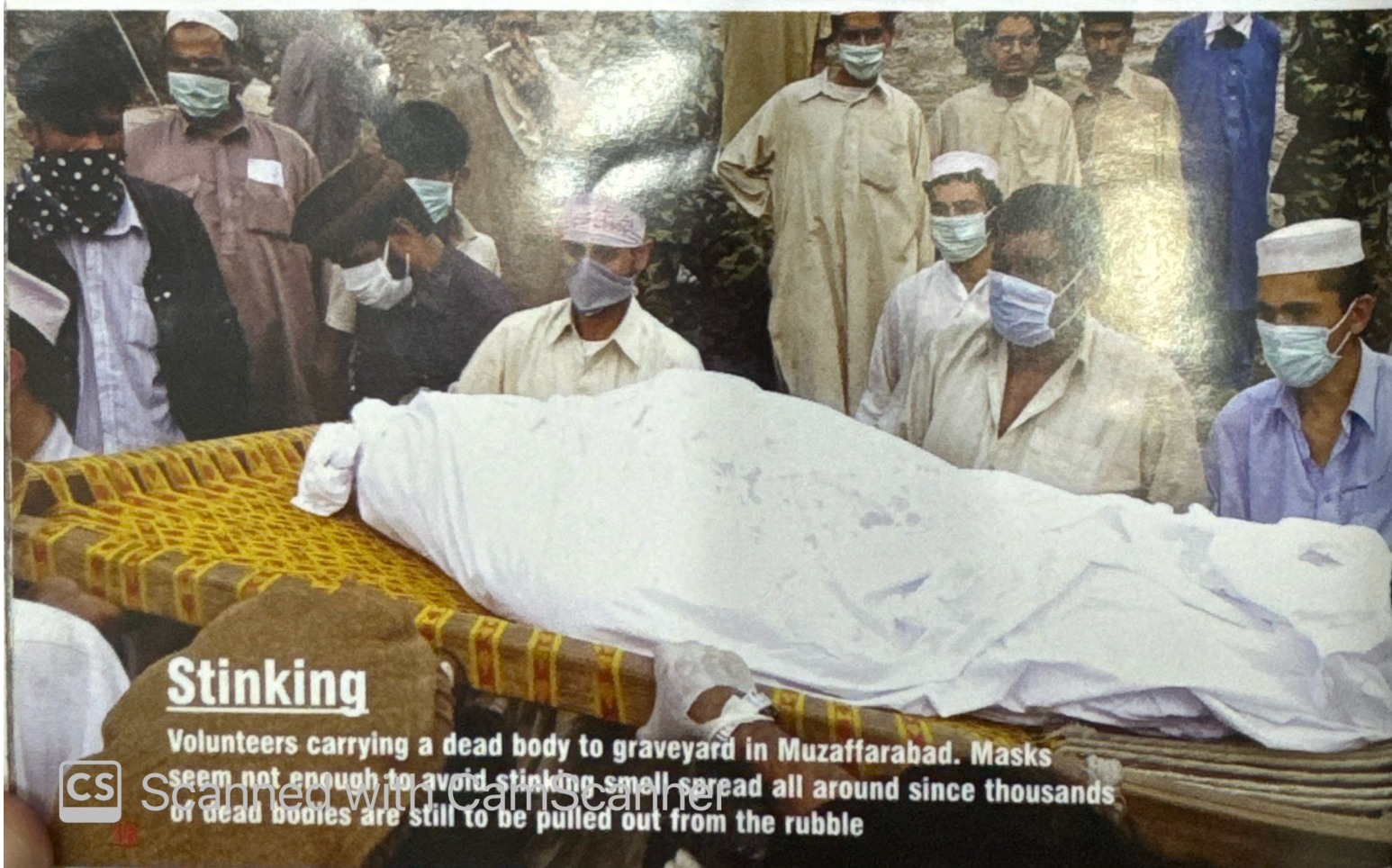
Frailty exposed

The earthquake destruction can be gauged through many mass graves dug up in Muzaffarabad, Balakot and Bagh. Thousands of dead bodies are still buried under the rubble. Mass graves, rubble graves and individual graves tell the story of what happened to the residents of this picturesque region on the sunny morning of Oct 8, 2005.



Remembering dead

Children are seen sitting by fresh graveyard in a cemetery

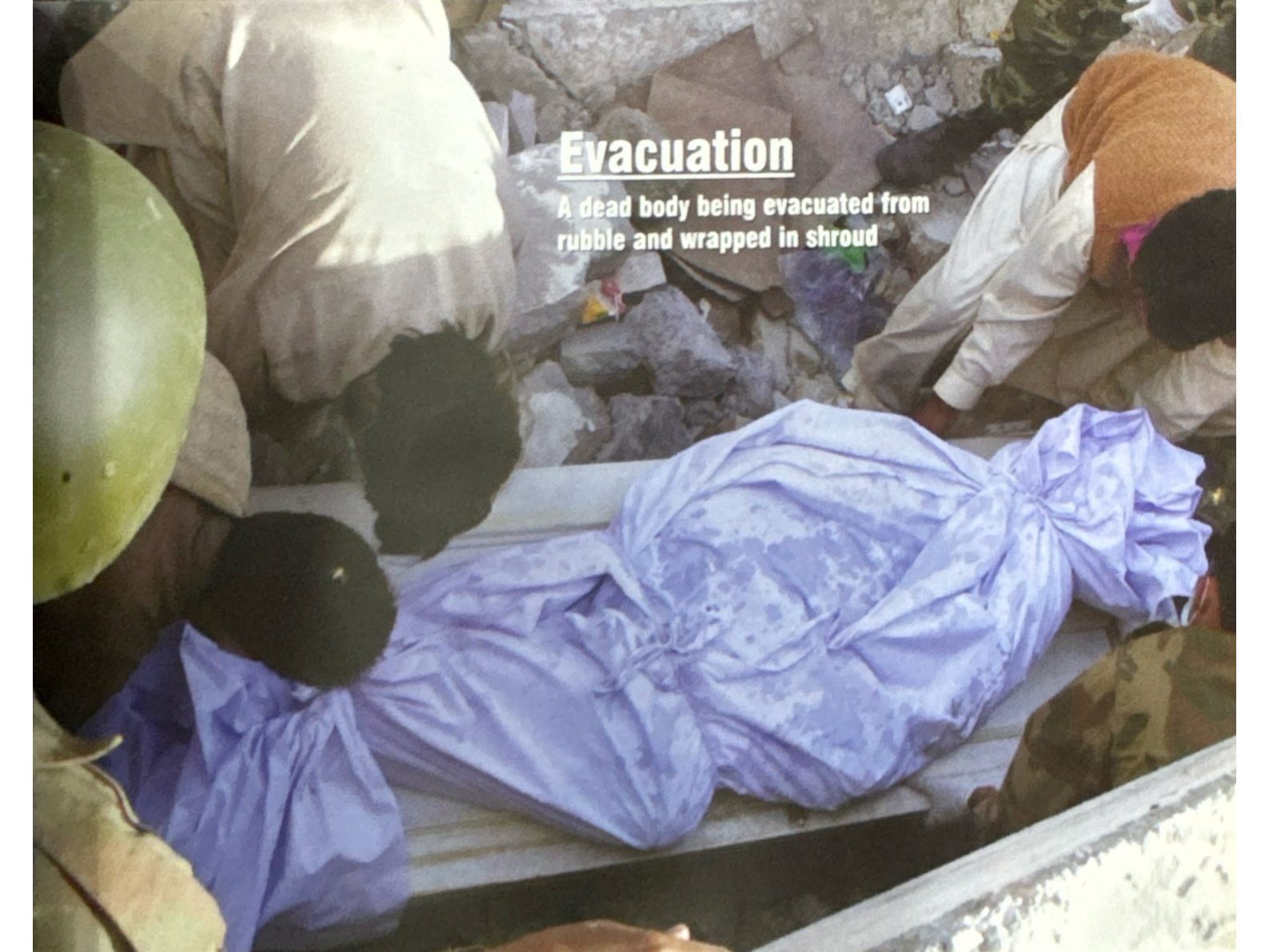


Stinking

Volunteers carrying a dead body to graveyard in Muzaffarabad. Masks seem not enough to avoid stinking smell spread all around since thousands of dead bodies are still to be pulled out from the rubble

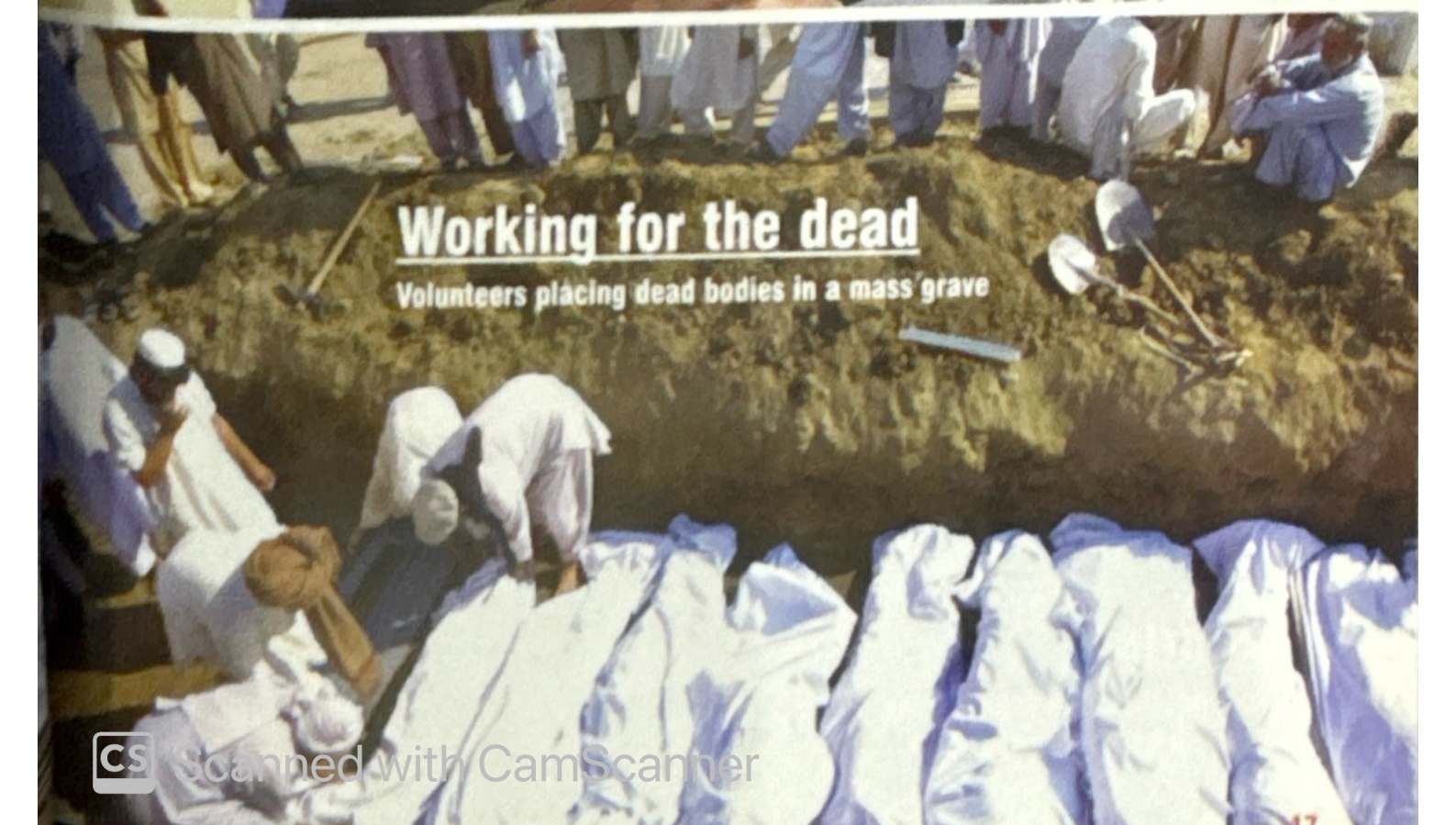


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A photograph showing a dead body wrapped in a blue shroud, lying on a wooden plank. The body is being moved through a pile of rubble and debris. Several people are visible around the body, some wearing white clothing. The scene is outdoors and appears to be a site of destruction.

Evacuation

A dead body being evacuated from rubble and wrapped in shroud

A photograph showing a large group of people, mostly men in white clothing, working in a mass grave. They are placing dead bodies wrapped in blue shrouds into the ground. The scene is outdoors and appears to be a site of mass graves.

Working for the dead

Volunteers placing dead bodies in a mass grave



I love you, papa!

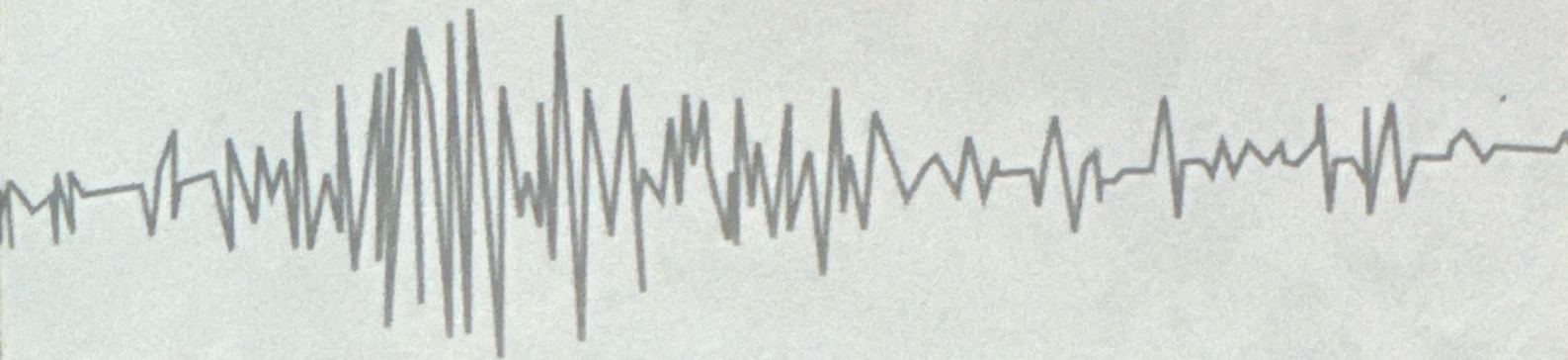
A young girl putting leaves on the grave of her father



Tears dried

The women relatives of a young quake victim have perhaps run out of tears

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Withered flowers

The children were the worst hit by October 8 earthquake.

Thousands of children were buried alive under the debris of schools and houses, pulled down by 7.6-strong tremor in the villages and towns of Azad Kashmir and Hazara Division in NWFP. The surviving children, according to UNICEF reports, are extremely vulnerable to epidemics and wintry weather.



Innocence

**Kashmiri children playing outside their
make shift shelter in Muzaffarabad**



Looking distantly

**A baby child looks distantly outside
a tent village set up for survivors**

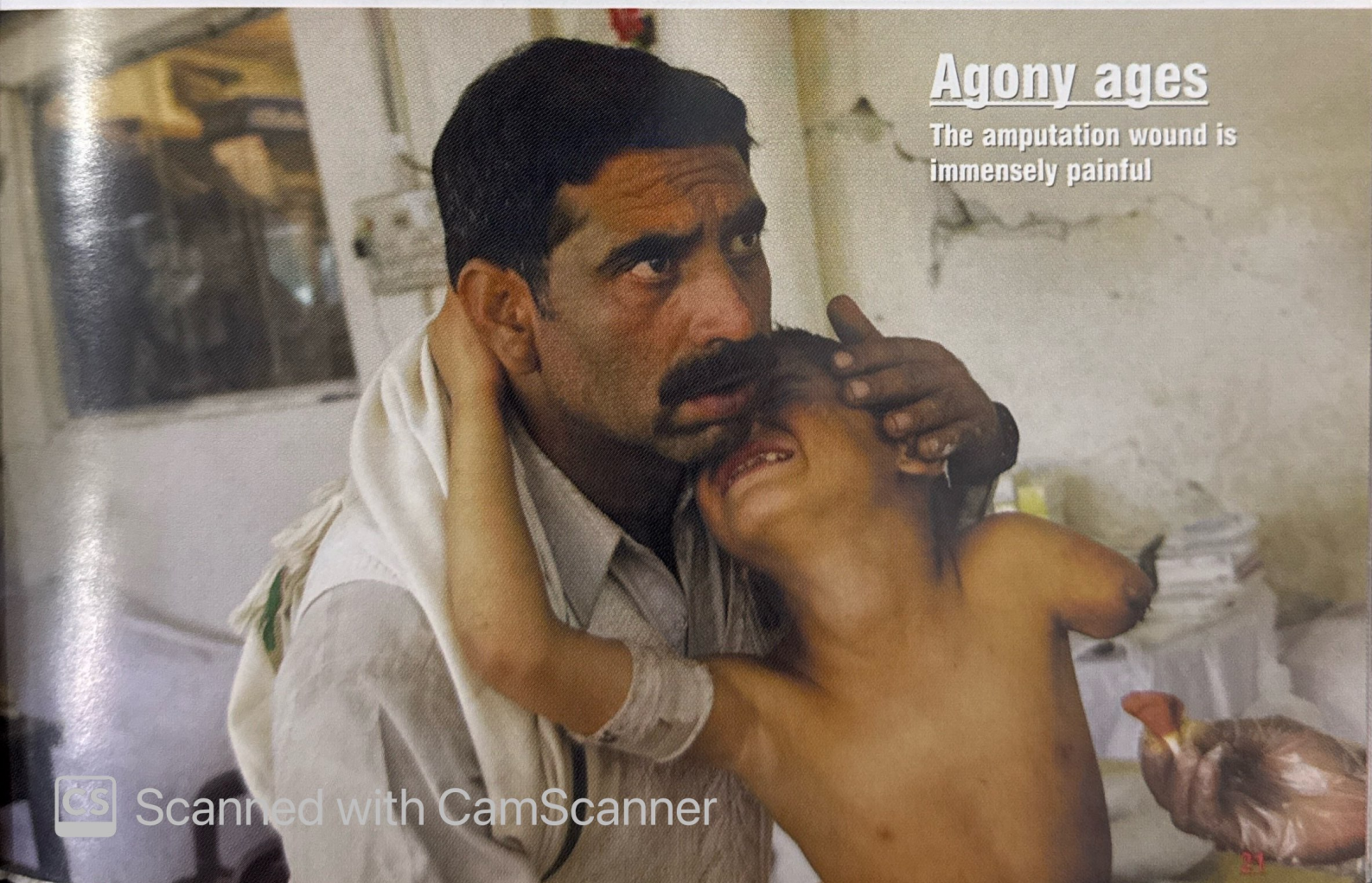


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Haunting future

A gloomy mother looking after her injured son



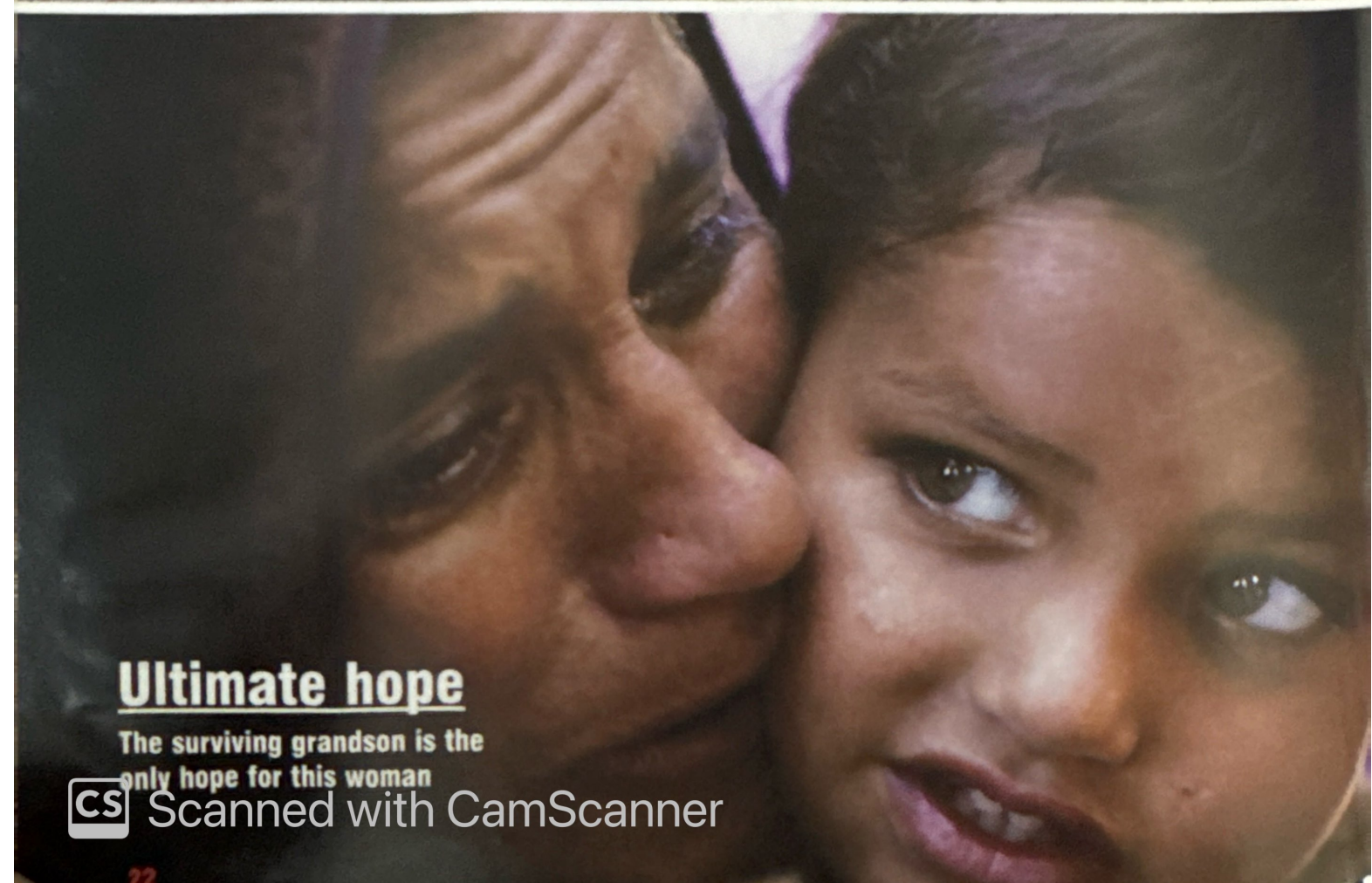
Agony ages

The amputation wound is immensely painful




Sacrifice

Nourishing her kids appears to be the only priority of this mother



Ultimate hope

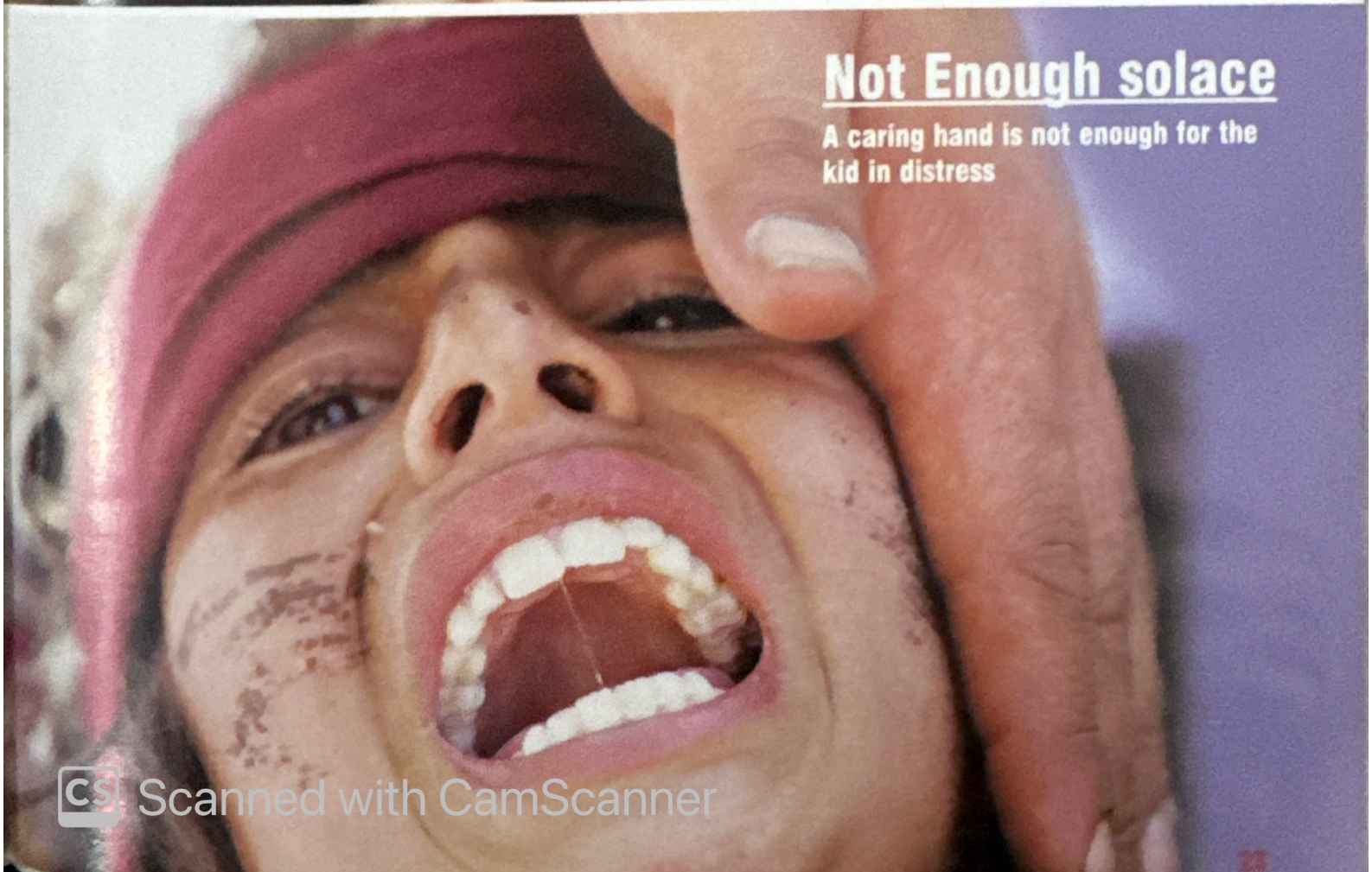
The surviving grandson is the only hope for this woman

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Drying wounds

An injured minor with untreated drying wounds



Not Enough solace

A caring hand is not enough for the kid in distress

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Food for thought

A young Kashmiri carrying his injured younger brother after treatment and finding little fruits for the family, walks along a ruined bazaar



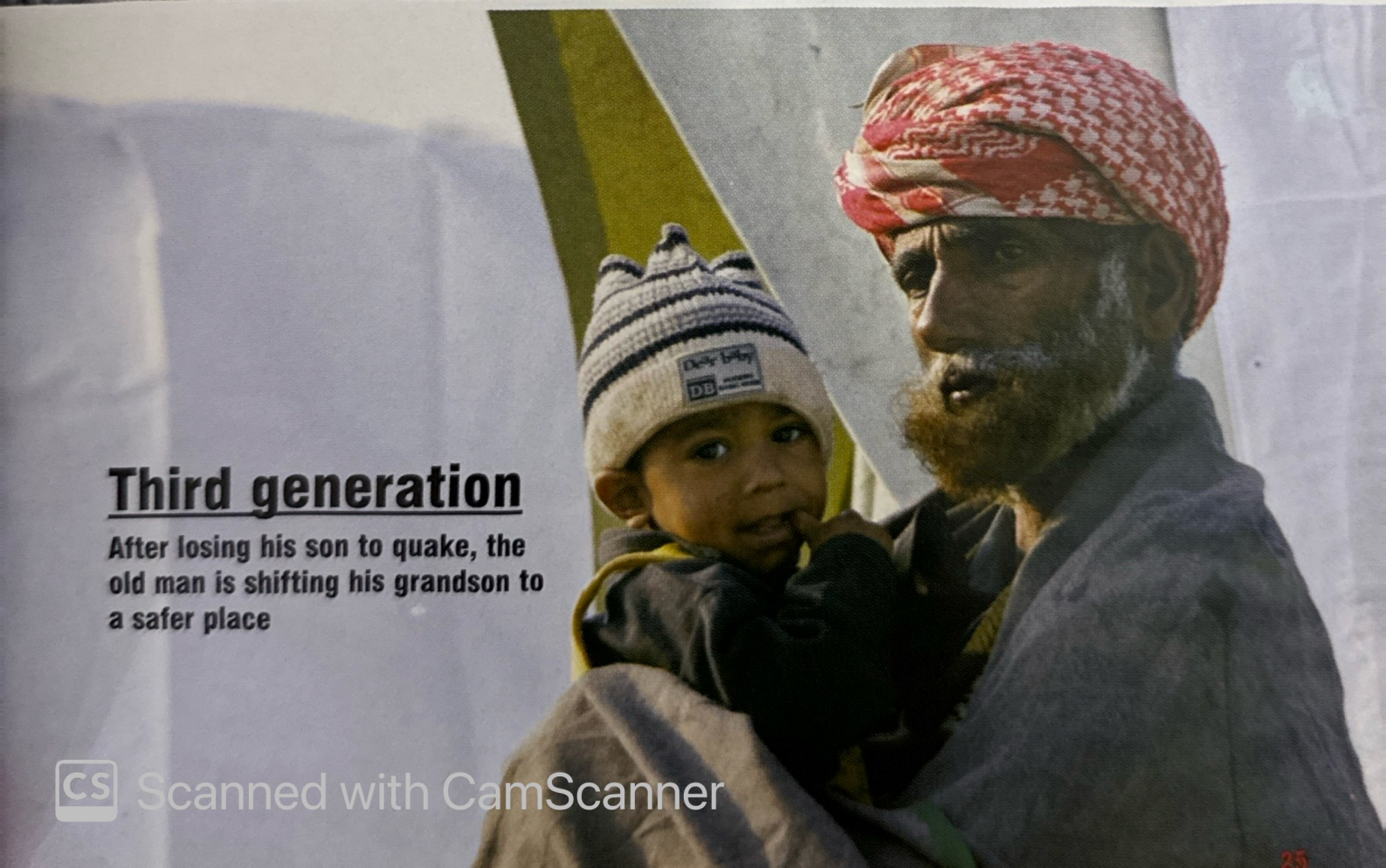
Blossoming flower

An injured minor, under treatment at an
Talash Hospital, will be recovering



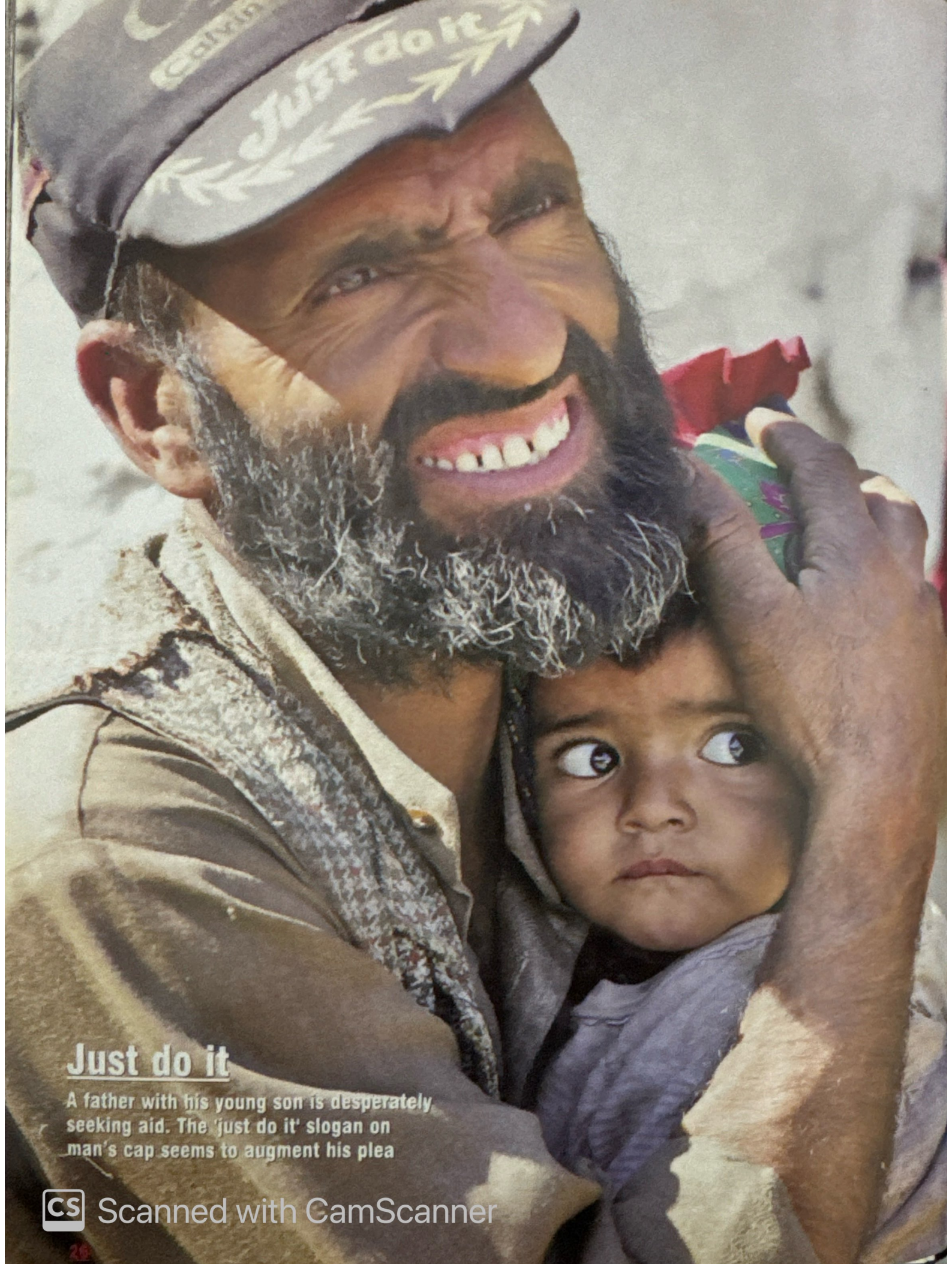
Lost home

A young boy trying to trace his home in the heap of rubble




Third generation

After losing his son to quake, the old man is shifting his grandson to a safer place



Just do it

A father with his young son is desperately seeking aid. The 'just do it' slogan on man's cap seems to augment his plea

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Feeble support

This boy carries his younger sister on his fragile shoulders from a remote village of Balakot to city after their parents lost their lives



Ibn-e-Maryam huwa karay koi

Two surviving girls carrying a placard inscribed with an emotional appeal

دو اکرے کوئی





How to play the right tune?

An injured child playing piano at a hospital
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Kill the chill

A Kashmiri boy trying to kill the chill with inadequate warm clothing. Chilling chill is the second deadliest threat to earthquake survivors

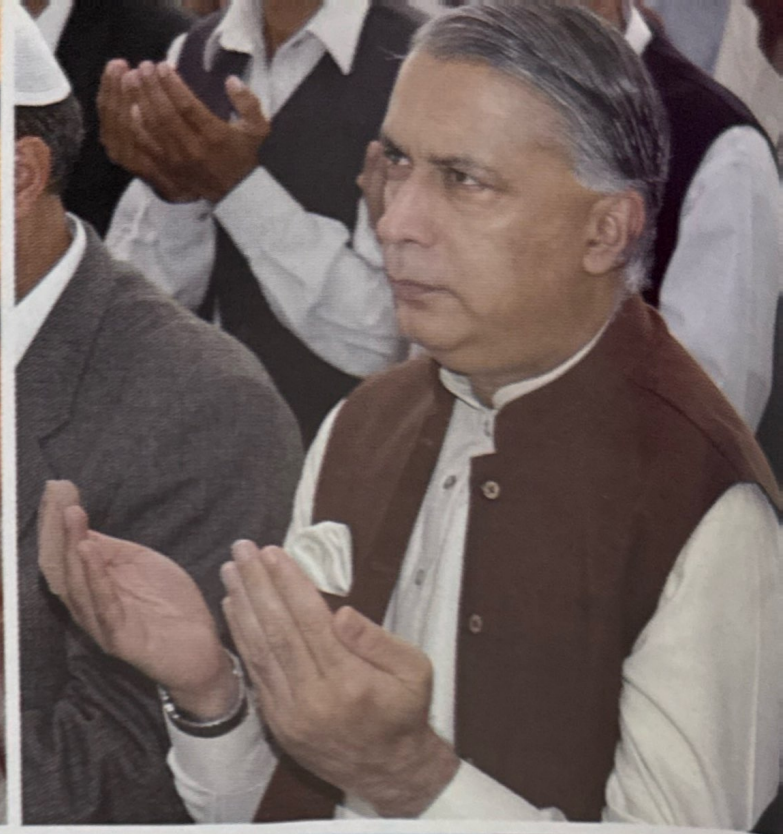


Sweet sleep?

Flies appear too helpless to wake up a child enjoying deep slumber




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President of Pakistan Pervaiz Musharraf and Prime Minister Shaukat Aziz spending Eid Day with the affected children



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A ray of hope can brighten the darkest of hours.

To facilitate the earthquake relief efforts and rebuilding process, Telenor has made its network operational in the following earthquake affected areas.

Muzafarabad, Abbottabad, Gari Habibullah, Shinkiari, Balakot, Mansehra, Abbottabad-Hasan Abdal Road, Haripur, Mardan, Nowshera, GT Road (Islamabad to Peshawar).

Telenor now in 110 destinations.
The fastest growing cellular network in Pakistan.

SMS to Help

Send a blank SMS to "733" and donate Rs. 5 to the President's Relief Fund.
Your account will be charged Rs. 5 + 15 paise tax.
SMS more - donate more



Dil dil Pakistan


A child with broken arm wearing a green shirt

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Seeking help

A woman is seeking medical treatment for his injured son



Injured future

An injured girl after getting
medical treatment



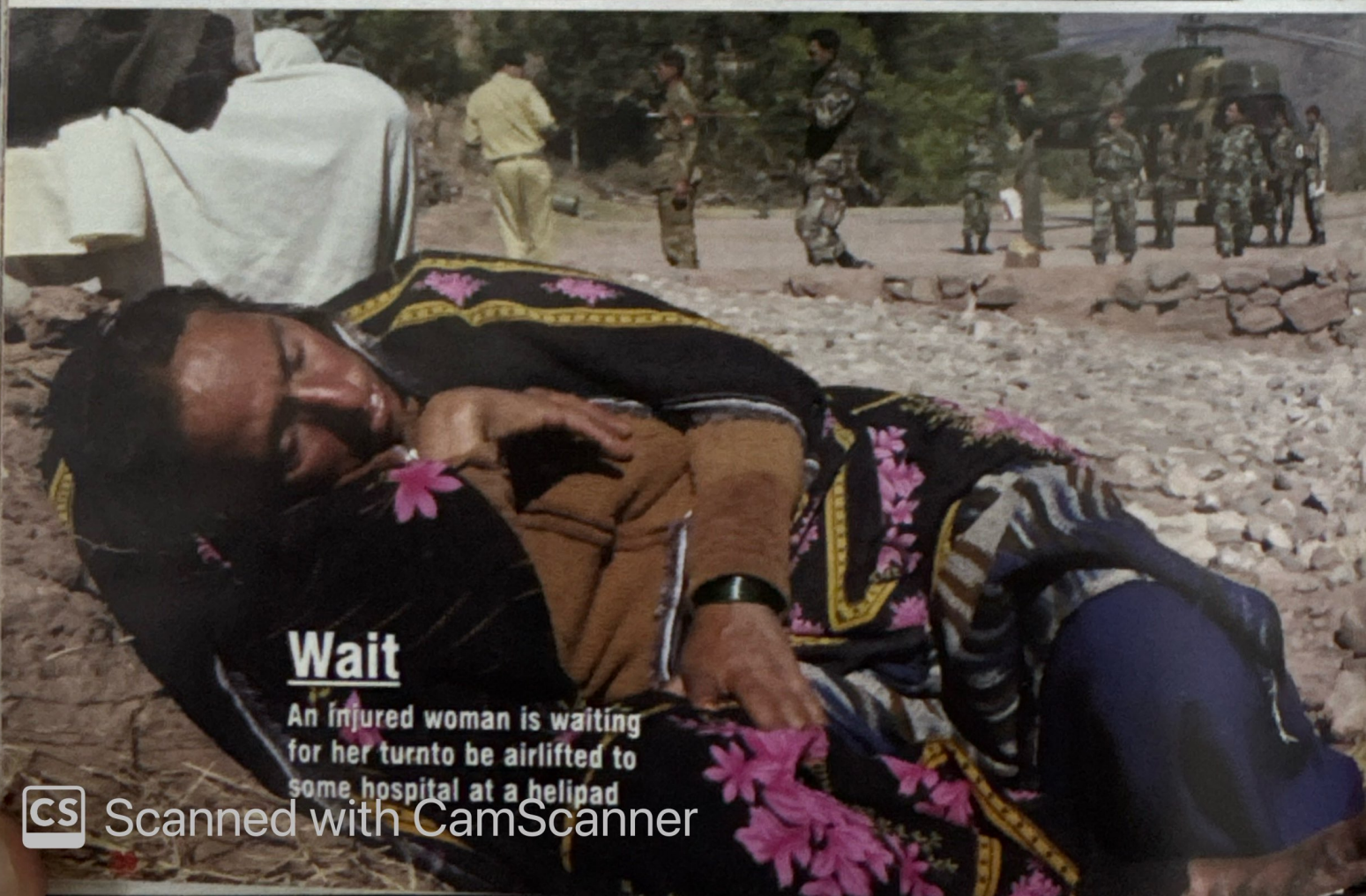
Suffering the most

The imminent wintry season is haunting especially women and elderly persons who survived killer earthquake of October 8 in mountainous regions of Northern Pakistan. Though finding their frailty big a factor to brave frostiness that is a few weeks away now, they have relatives, rescuers and volunteers with them to assuage their sufferings. Some elderly persons actively partook in the relief operations, however.



Mute mourning

Tears rolling down the cheeks of a woman survivor



Wait

An injured woman is waiting for her turn to be airlifted to some hospital at a helipad



Wounds cover

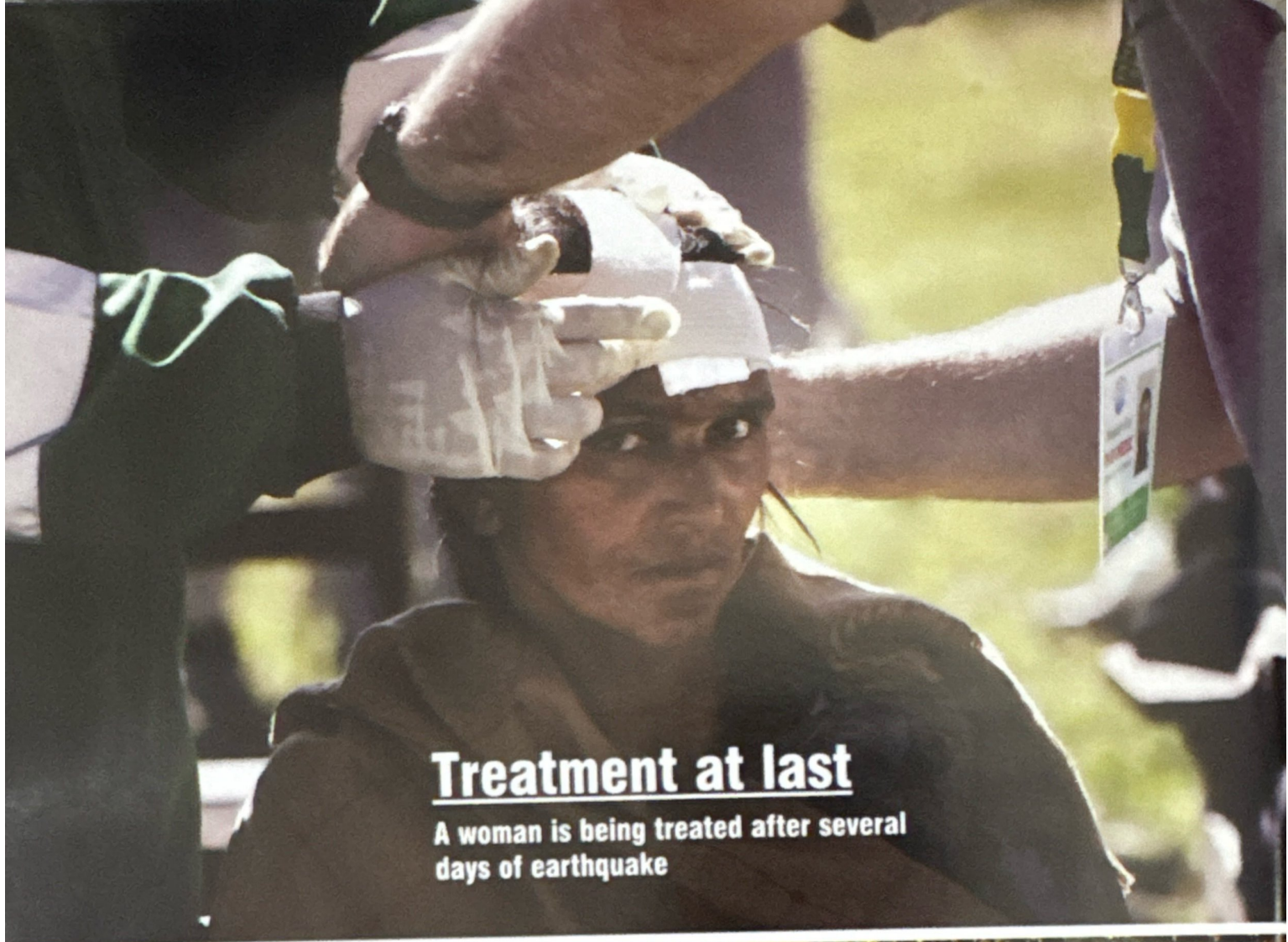
A severely injured girl waiting for medical treatment



Wrinkles deepen

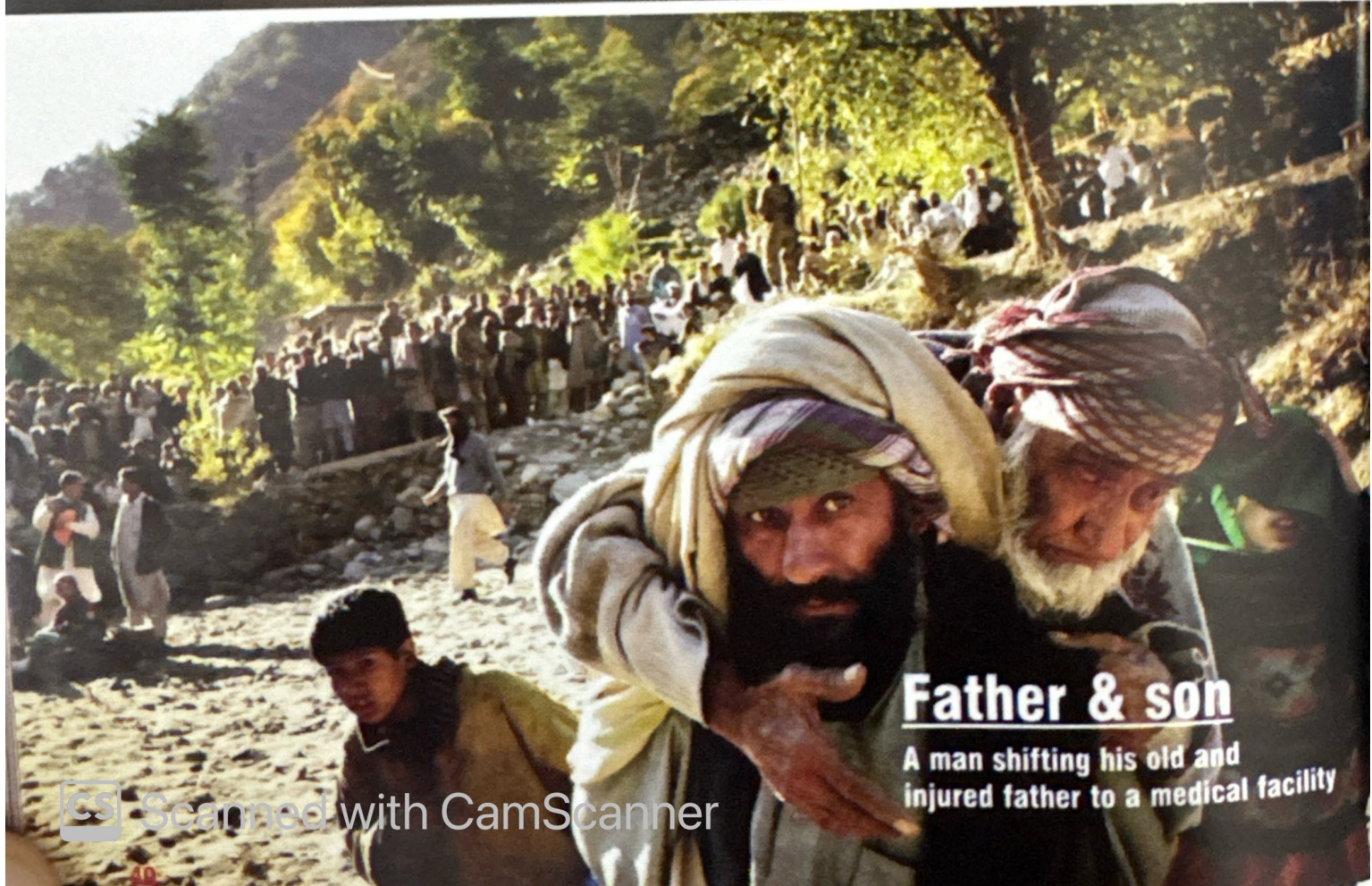
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An old woman survivor thinking deeply



Treatment at last

A woman is being treated after several days of earthquake



Father & son

A man shifting his old and injured father to a medical facility



Lessening grief with relief

Though late, the world learnt about the vast scale disaster that seemingly hurt everyone. Armed forces, government, political parties, religious groups, NGOs and individual volunteers rushed to the quake-stricken areas to the rescue and relief of locals. The relief operations started across the affected areas and medical aid started to reach victims.

Foreign aid

US doctors attending an injured victim in a makeshift hospital established by US Military in Muzaffarabad



Timely help

A girl in her mother's lap after getting her fractured leg plastered at a makeshift US hospital in Muzaffarabad



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Journey ends or starts?

This Kashmiri couple has to travel long to reach Muzaffarabad for medical treatment of its injured daughter



Army operation

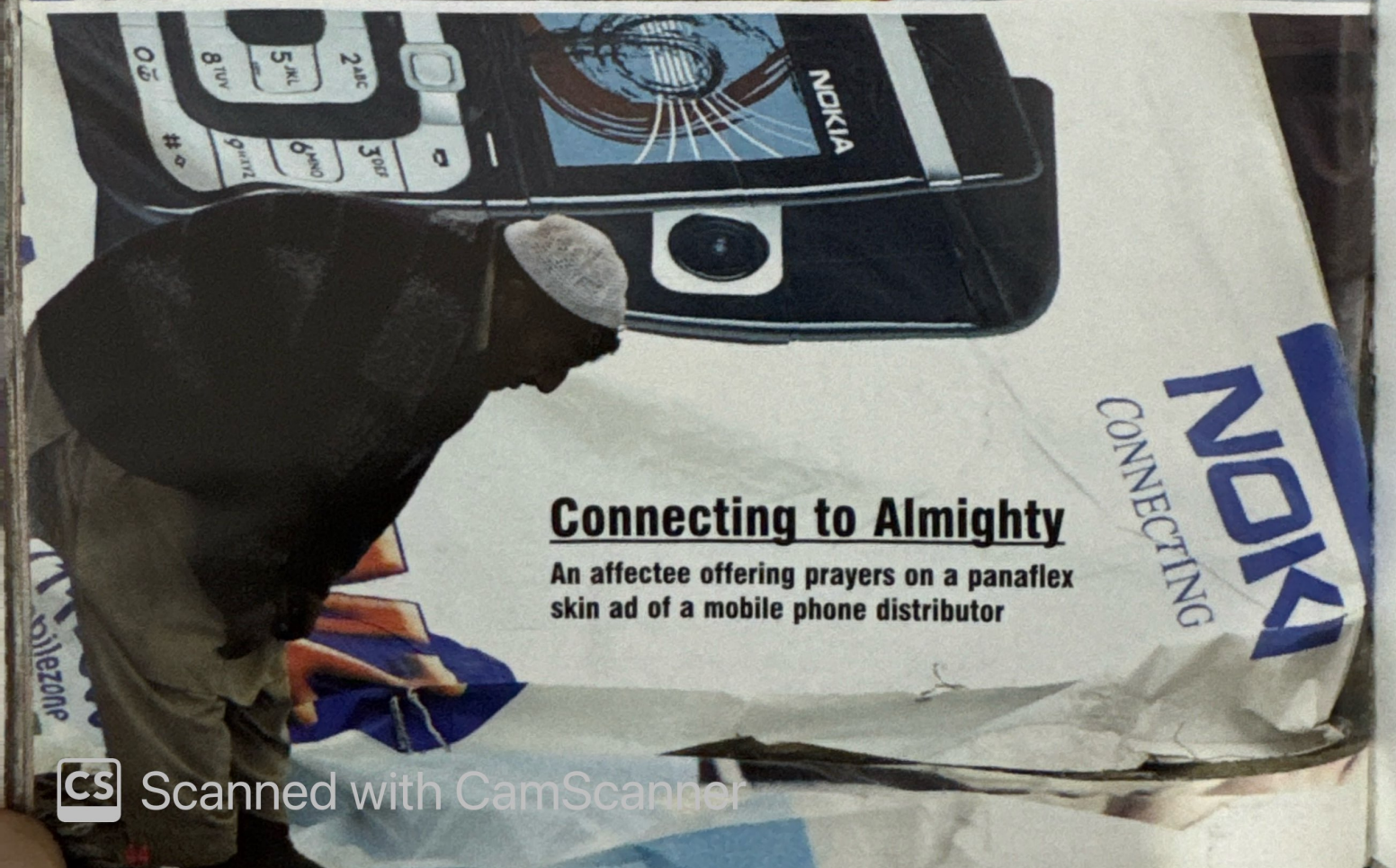
Pak Army jawans contributed the most in evacuating badly injured people from remote areas





Dil to aik hai

Panaflex skins were demanded when country ran out of tents. The skins having mobile companies' ads were donated for making tents by a telecom publication



Connecting to Almighty

An affectee offering prayers on a panaflex skin ad of a mobile phone distributor

Lets heal their lives...



Warid Telecom has directly donated Rs. 120 million to President's Relief Fund. We thank our customers for their wholehearted support and contribution for this cause and encourage them to further donate by sending an SMS with the text 'HELP' to code '1100'.

0321



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be heard

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Napping on donation

A fatigued girl survivor is sleeping on the heap of donated clothes in Muzaffarabad



Laden with quilts

An old man rushing to his family with quilts



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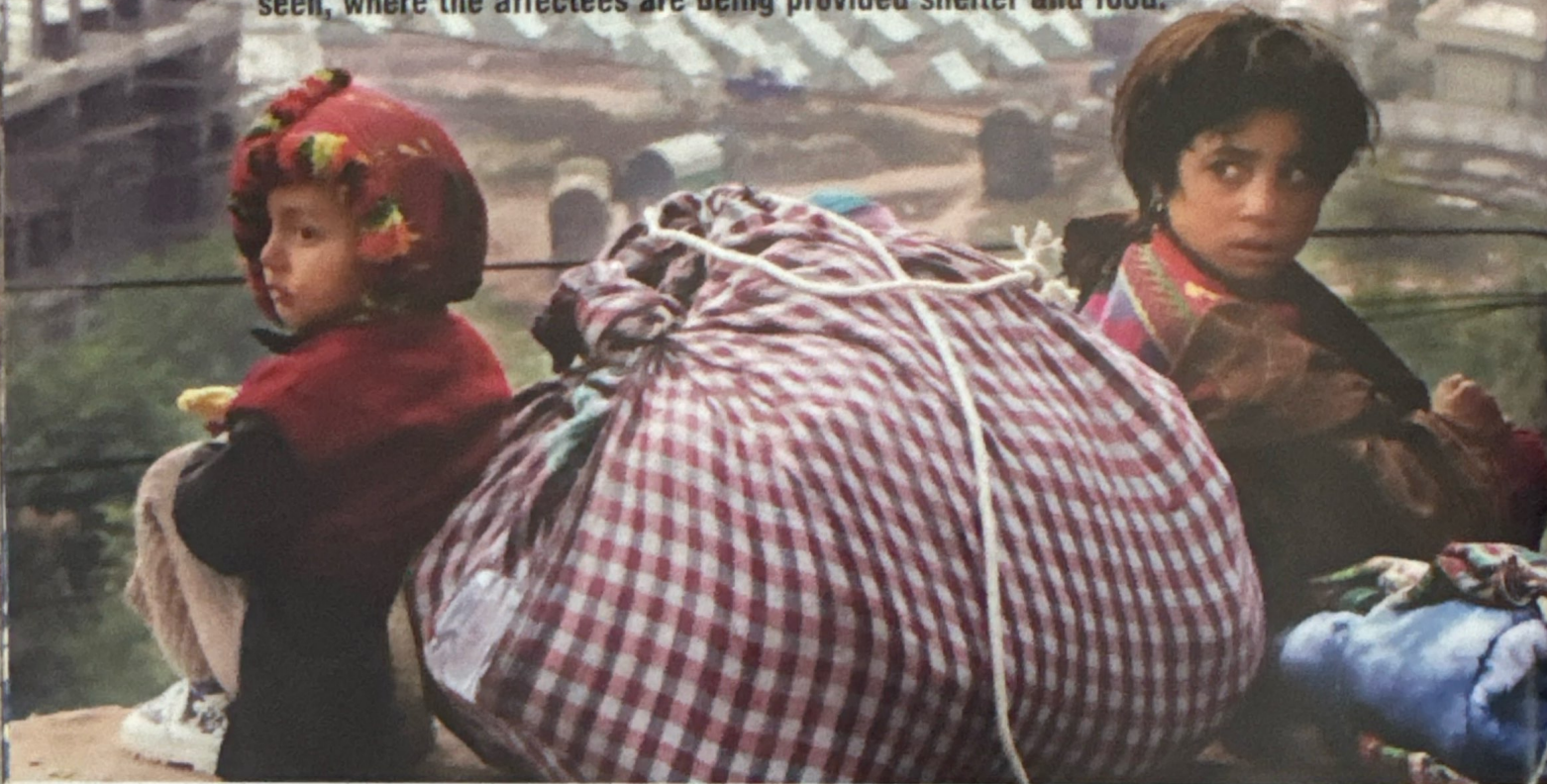


Displacement

The relief activities, keeping aside medical aid, are mostly concentrated on providing shelter to the surviving victims. Since most of the houses in affected areas have been demolished, the only way-out is tent. Despite immense scarcity of tents, numerous tent cities have been established in affected areas and in other cities like Islamabad and Rawalpindi. The tent towns are also established by relief organizations in various quake-hit areas.

Future in tents

Two displaced Kashmiri children could not help themselves in taking out of October 8 tremor. In the backdrop, a big tent city is seen, where the affectees are being provided shelter and food.



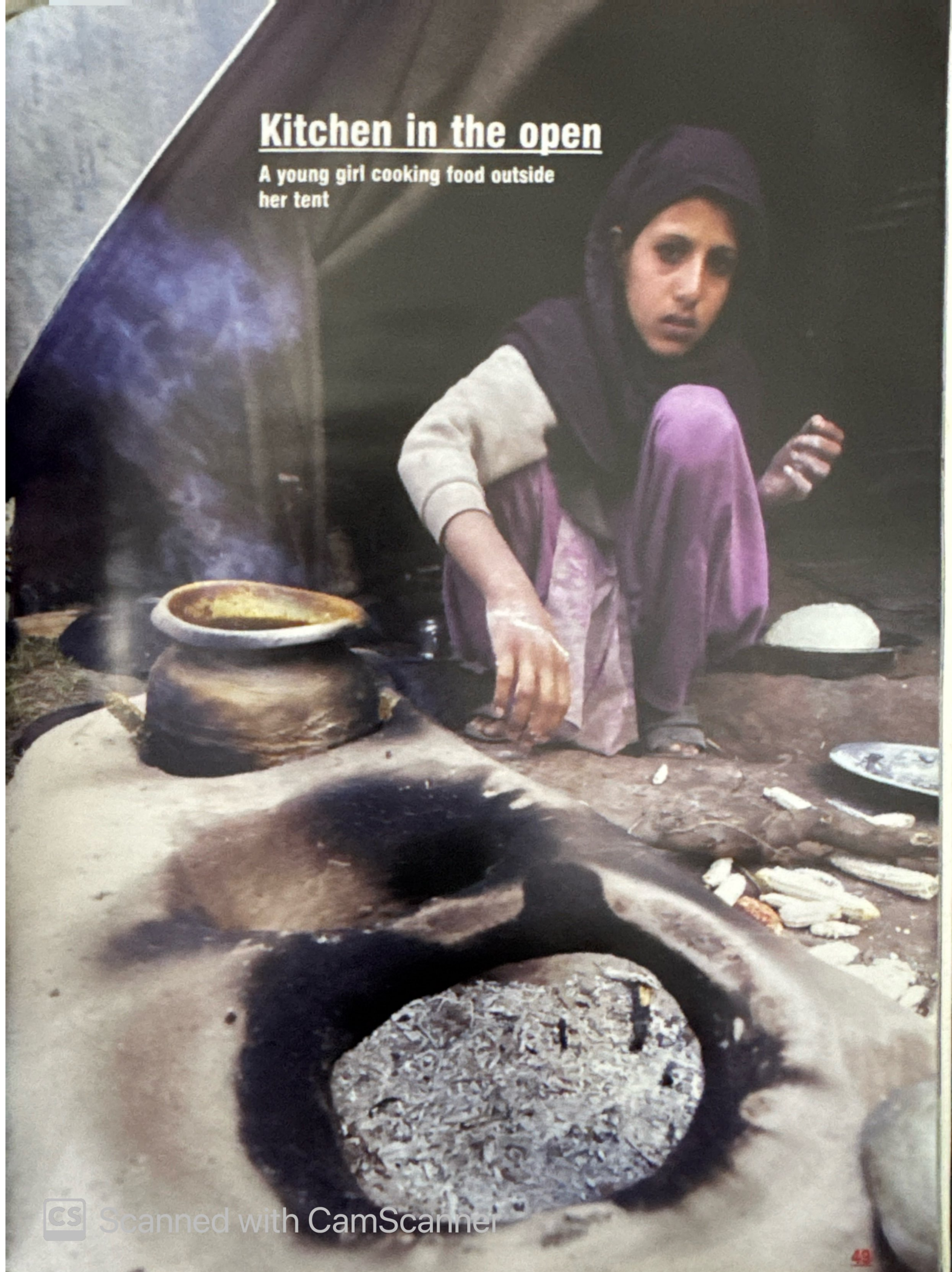
Needing comfort

Can a mattress in a tent provide comfort to this injured old woman?



Kitchen in the open

A young girl cooking food outside
her tent



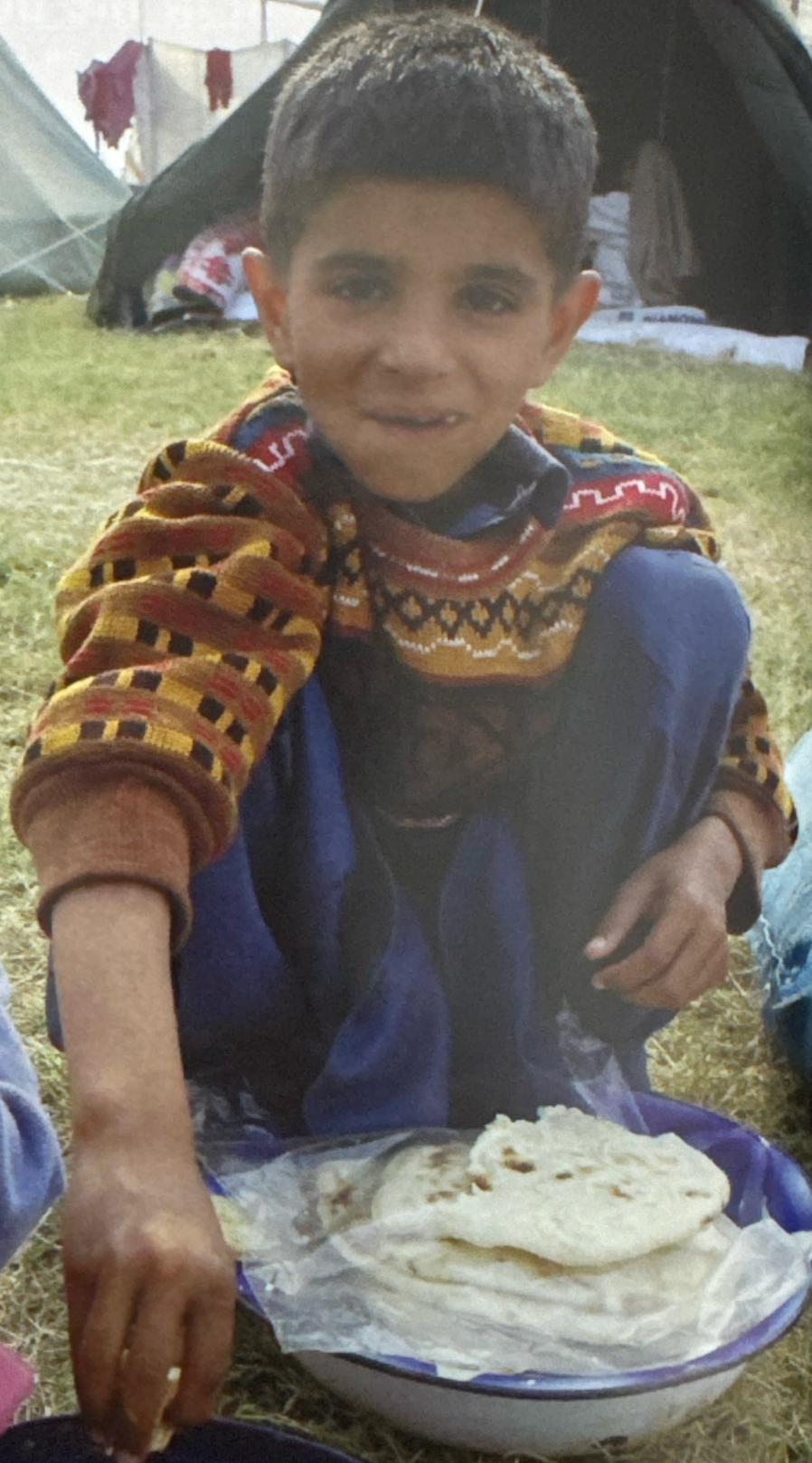
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Enjoying the food

Two displaced children are enjoying food in a tent city





Tragedy well responded

The response of affected people to this tragedy was moving. They were very prompt in recollecting them and starting rescue work. Armed forces started relief operations immediately after quake. And so did the NGOs and other relief organizations. The survivors and the people, who came to their help, demonstrated that the earthquake could not kill the will of people to live.



Mule service

Relief goods are shifted to far-flung areas through mules. Mules proved to be very beneficial in getting in delivering the relief goods to the affected people in remote village of hilly region



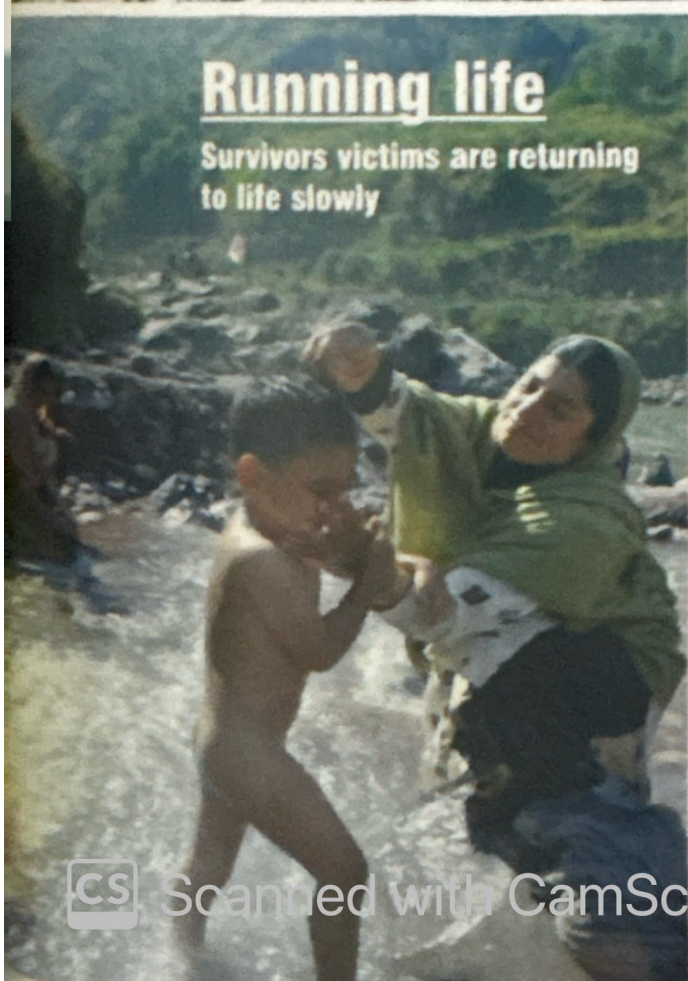
Resilience

Young girl students look resolute to restart their life



Scanning the ruins

People searching for still useable belongings in the debris of their demolished homes



Running life

Survivors victims are returning to life slowly



Waiting patiently

The dignity of humanity is still there in the affected areas. Woman with a child is waiting for relief supplies with patience

Returning to normalcy

The families have started returning to normalcy as stoves are seen alight in tent villages

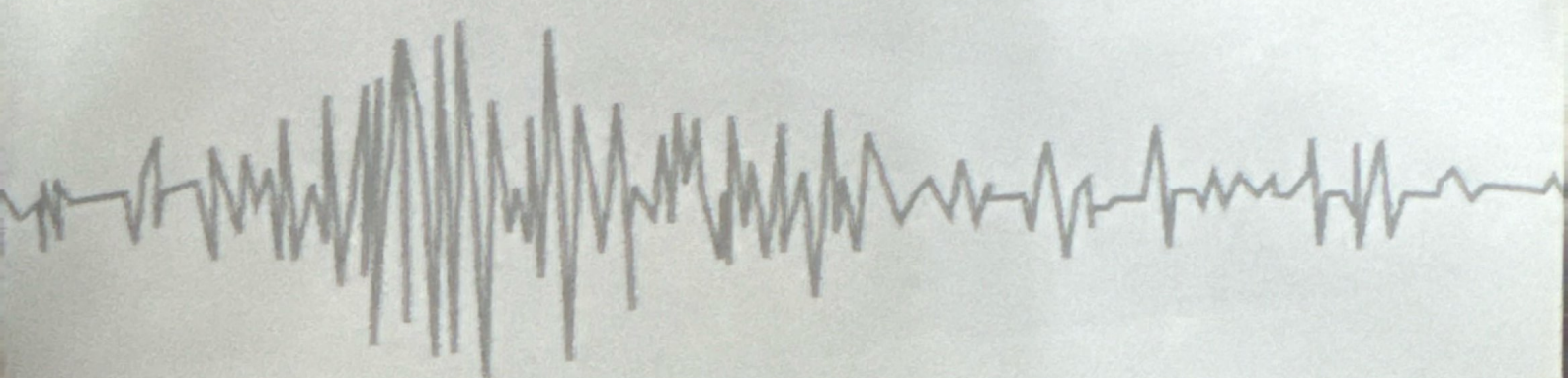


Tiding up child

A couple bathing its son in a tent village

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Undeterred determination

It is a fact that 7.6 magnitude earthquake of Oct 8 played havoc across AJK and Hazara Division. The cities of Bagh, Muzaffarabad, Balakot and Garhi Habibullah were reduced to rubble. The hundreds of villages were wiped off. The infrastructure was destroyed. The earthquake killed hundreds of thousands of people. However, it could not kill the will of the survivors to continue living. They are enduring this tragedy with matchless forbearance and gratitude. They are very quick to return to life.



Continuing education

The child victims attending a class in a tent school



Praying for...

The young survivors praying before Iftar



Wounded education

With the education infrastructure in the quake-hit region destroyed completely, the young survivors are still keen to continue their education in tent villages



Angles smile

Surviving children have not lost the determination to continue life

Undying passion

These surviving girls lost their school but not their passion for education



Carrying the burden

The old woman is shifting her recorded belongings to an unknown destination



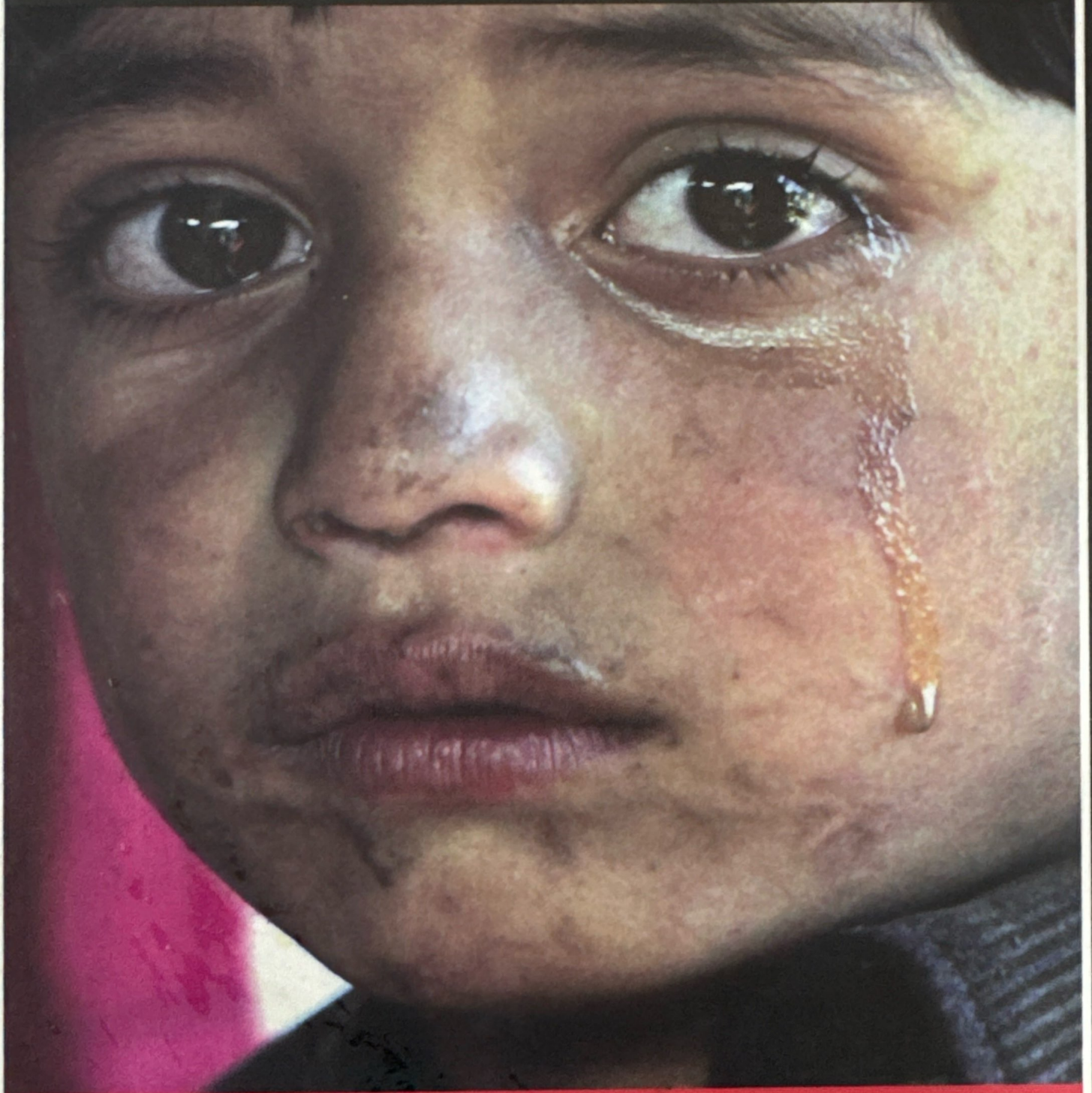
Ultimate Hope!



Though lost everything to October 8 Earthquake, this hapless Kashmiri woman looks resolute to face daringly the devastating calamity with her grand mother, her only hope. But they look towards you for salving wounds of families in distress.



Doing a little for crying humanity



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