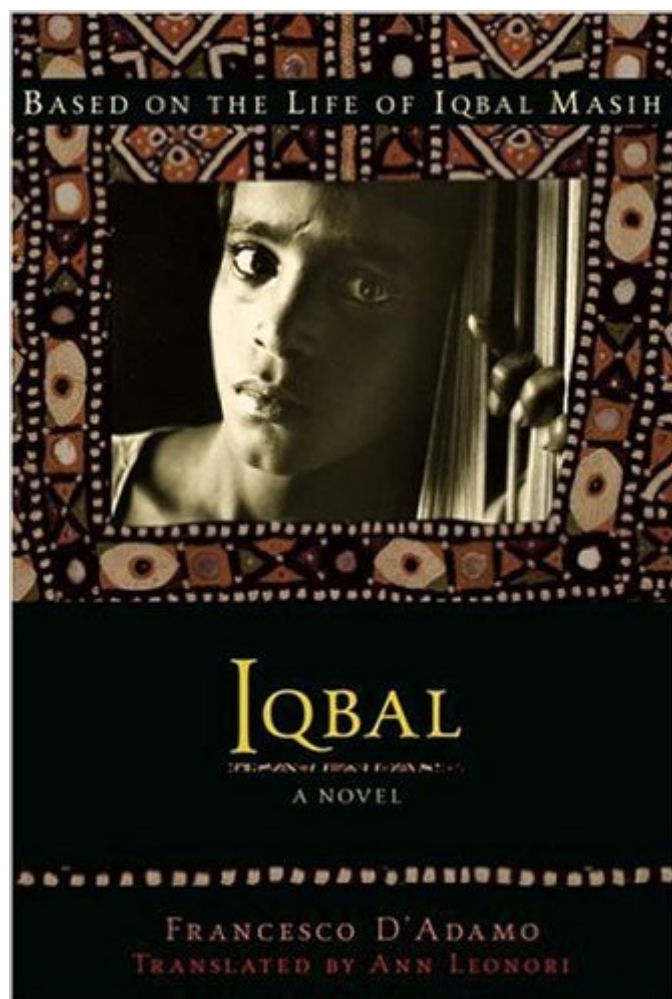


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# Iqbal



## Synopsis

When young Iqbal is sold into slavery at a carpet factory, his arrival changes everything for the other overworked and abused children there. It is Iqbal who explains to them that despite their master's promises, he plans on keeping them as his slaves indefinitely. But it is also Iqbal who inspires the other children to look to a future free from toil...and is brave enough to show them how to get there. This moving fictionalized account of the real Iqbal Masih is told through the voice of Fatima, a young Pakistani girl whose life is changed by Iqbal's courage.

## Book Information

Lexile Measure: 730 (What's this?)

Paperback: 128 pages

Publisher: Aladdin; Reprint edition (July 1, 2005)

Language: English

ISBN-10: 1416903291

ISBN-13: 978-1416903291

Product Dimensions: 5.1 x 0.5 x 7.6 inches

Shipping Weight: 3.2 ounces (View shipping rates and policies)

Average Customer Review: 4.5 out of 5 stars Â Â See all reviews Â (63 customer reviews)

Best Sellers Rank: #8,885 in Books (See Top 100 in Books) #4 in Â Books > Children's Books >

Geography & Cultures > Explore the World > Middle East #7 in Â Books > Children's Books >

Geography & Cultures > Explore the World > Asia #17 in Â Books > Children's Books > Growing

Up & Facts of Life > Difficult Discussions > Prejudice & Racism

Age Range: 8 - 12 years

Grade Level: 3 - 7

## Customer Reviews

Iqbal Masih was a 4 year boy who was sold into child bonded labor for under \$50 by his parents. He worked in a rug making factory in Pakistan under deplorable conditions. At the age of 10 he escaped and began crusading against illegal child bonded labor practices. His work won him the Reebok Human Rights Award and he came to the US to receive the award. Upon his return home Iqbal was murdered while riding his bike near his grandmother's home. While no one knows who murdered him, it is assumed that the "carpet mafia" wanted to silence him. Iqbal is a fictionalized account of Iqbal Masih's life. It is written at a fifth grade level but the content is better suited for middle school students. We are reading this book as a kick off to our study of child labor practices

around the world. The book is compelling and told from a adolescents point of view. It is advised that this book is read as a class and within context of classroom discussions and facts about child labor. A student reading this book without classroom support may have a difficult time with emotional and societal issues addressed in the novel.

Iqbal was a boy who had to work in a factory owned by a really mean ugly old guy who was really strict and didn't treat the kids well, more like slaves. Iqbal had to work there to pay off his parent's debt. He knew he would never get out of there, so he stood up for what he believed in. Iqbal inspired other kids to do the same as well. He got so famous that today it is illegal to have child laborers. It's really sad, but it's a really good book. :)

I used this as a read-aloud in my 6th grade class. The kids were riveted - such a moving and appropriate book to address the big issues of child labor and exploitation in a way that is accessible to elementary students. Wonderful book!

Iqbal, a great fictional novel, is written by Francesco D'Adamo. Francesco D'Adamo wrote the story told through a girl, Fatima. Iqbal's major award that it won was the Christopher Award in 2004. The Christopher award was established in 1949. These awards are given to directors of books, writers of books, producers, and television specials. These awards goals are to encourage people to use their talents and imagination to make the world more positive. This book is set in Pakistan, at Hussain Khan's factory near a dry countryside. Iqbal Masih, a young Pakistani boy, comes to the carpet factory and brings hope to all the other slave treated children. He tells the other children that their family's debt will never be canceled. He meets Fatima and promises her she will be free soon. He comes to the factory and is the bravest boy there. He knows he can escape and be free. He even has the courage to talk about the future. Fatima is a Pakistani girl who is at the factory because she has to pay her father's debts. She meets Iqbal and they become close. He promises her she will be free, and they will soon go kite flying together. Fatima is used to the harsh conditions and when Iqbal shows up her hopes are raised. This book is so intriguing it makes all the readers keep reading. You not only get to read a great novel, you get to learn some interesting facts about harsh working factories in Pakistan. The reader's response to this book is very meaningful. Iqbal has become a symbol to millions of children in the world, who have had hardship and violence in their life.

Iqbal was the essence of bravery for someone so young and unworldly. He had an adult sense of

right and wrong in an enslaved child's body. I'm glad his story has been told and was touched to have read it.

You would never think such things happen in the world, even today. You can understand why our parents used to say that everybody should finish the food. Even though, the story is not a 100% reality, you still can understand. I am thinking if I could do anything...the world is a big society where everybody should be free and happy.

This is an excellent book for children ages 10-12. I bought this book in hopes of reading it to my 4th grade English students, but the school at which I work in the Middle East has too many unfortunate restrictions on course materials. However, if I were teaching in the US, I would not hesitate to read this book to my students or to recommend it for their reading list. This well-written book provides children with an opportunity to consider childhood struggles and children's abilities not only to triumph over those struggles, but to also make the world a better place for other children.

clean book in good shape and quickly delivered. only problem was with website promotion that "included" itself in my order causing me to pay for two and receive two books when i only wanted or needed one. i'll add them to my classroom library. heartwarming story of perseverance and short lived triumph that lends credence to the saying that "silence is compliance" I cried.

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The Little Hero&#151;One Boy's Fight for Freedom: Iqbal Masih's Story

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