

#### Dear Friends,

How do you feel when you have to wait for something you really, really want and need? What if this was something you literally couldn't live without? How many of you have actually thought, heard or read about organ donation? Well, even I did not think about it, until I was diagnosed with cardiomyopathy and a heart transplant was the only option of survival. If it wasn't for my family, the competent team of doctors and the kind donor who agreed to donate his heart, I would be dead right now. I was lucky to find a donor but most people are not.

Organ donation is a selfless way to give back to others, and to be able to make a huge difference by giving another person a second chance at life. Unfortunately, the number of patients waiting for organs far exceeds the number of people who have registered to become organ donors. Patients are forced to wait months, even years for a match, and far too many die before they are provided with a suitable organ.

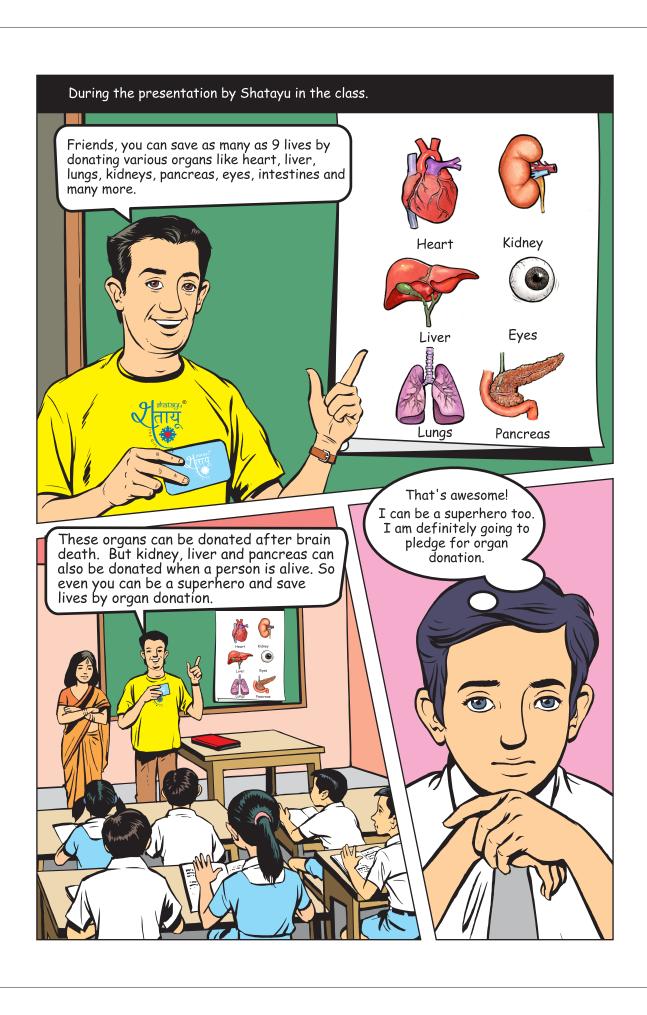
I believe that only heightened public awareness can raise the cadaver organ donations in the country and India could rid herself of the problem of organ shortage. And I realized that people need dramatic examples to shake them out of apathy, so in the year 2009, I founded SHATAYU - an organ donation awareness initiative, whose sole intent was to spread awareness about this lifesaving miracle. Shatayu is a nonprofit organization - a public service initiative by Govindbhai C. Patel Foundation, which is supported by Ganesh Housing Corporation Limited. It is derived from the age old blessing from Indian scriptures, "Shatayu Bhava", which means 'live until you are 100' and was evolved with the two fold objectives of increasing awareness about organ donation in India and broadening the mindset of people towards the gift of life. Today, with great pride I gift you this book and hope in my heart that you would decide to give the most amazing gift anybody can give – The gift of life.

I was gifted my life by a person who is now my SUPERHERO. I wish that each one of you, the young India should get inspired and be someone's SUPERHERO.

# Deepak Patel Chairman Ganesh Housing Corporation Ltd. Govindbhai C. Patel Foundation



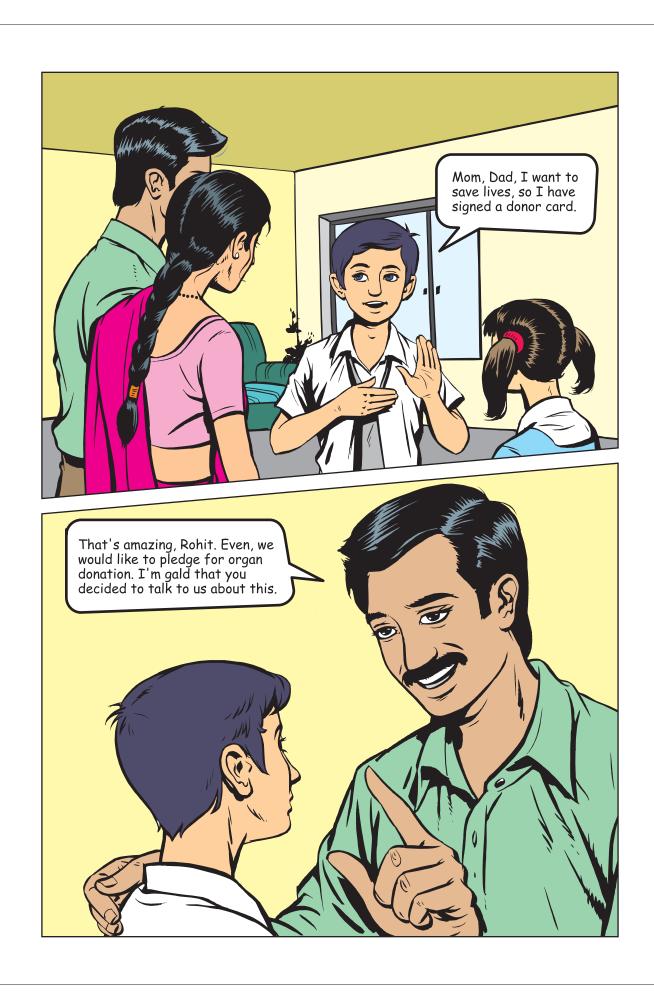




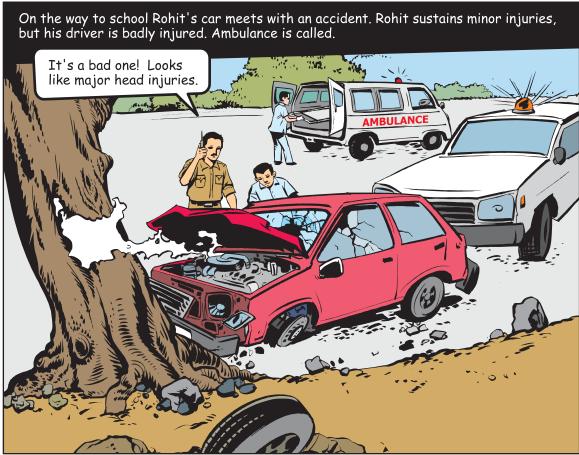




After brain death, if we donate our organs like heart, liver, lungs, kidneys, pancreas, intestines and various tissues like corneas (eyes), skin tendons, heart valves, bones, ligaments etc. we can save so many lives.



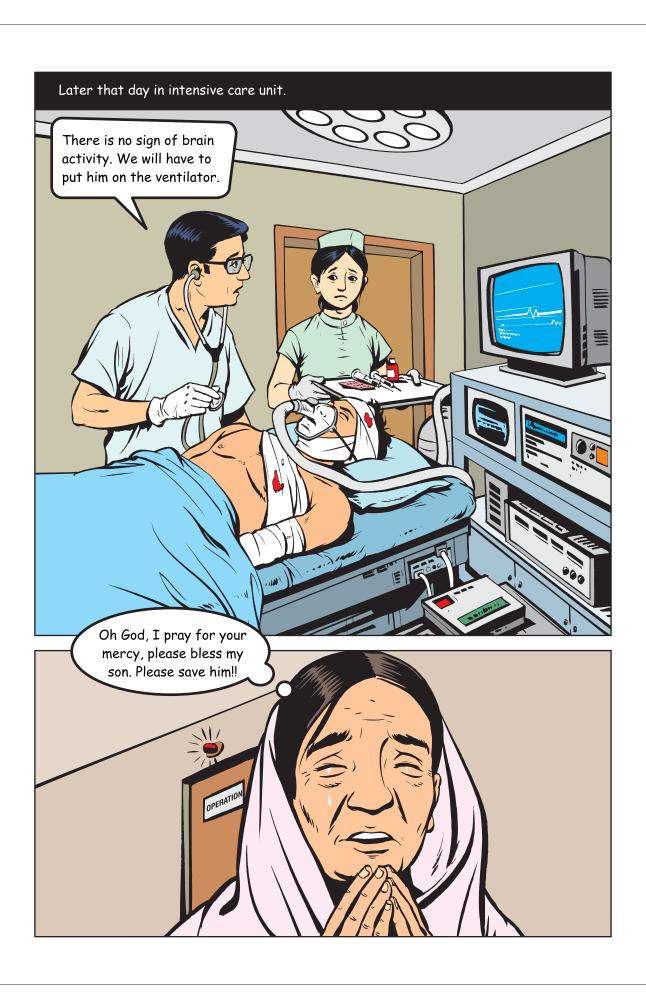




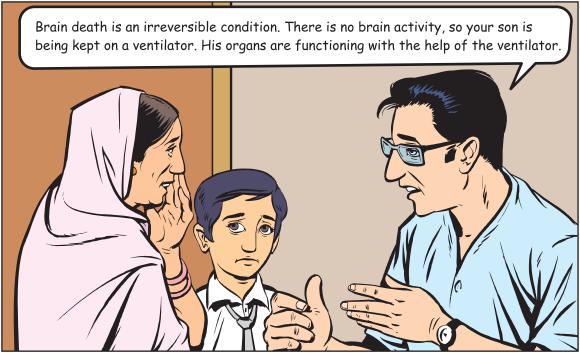


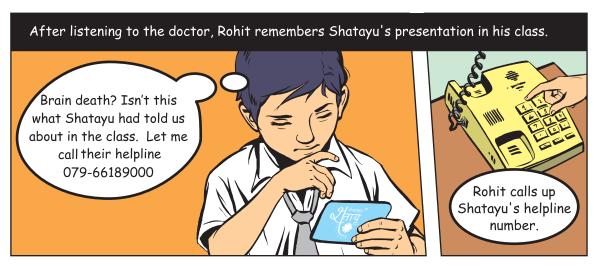
Rohit and the driver's family arrive at the hospital. The driver is being rushed to the operation theatre.

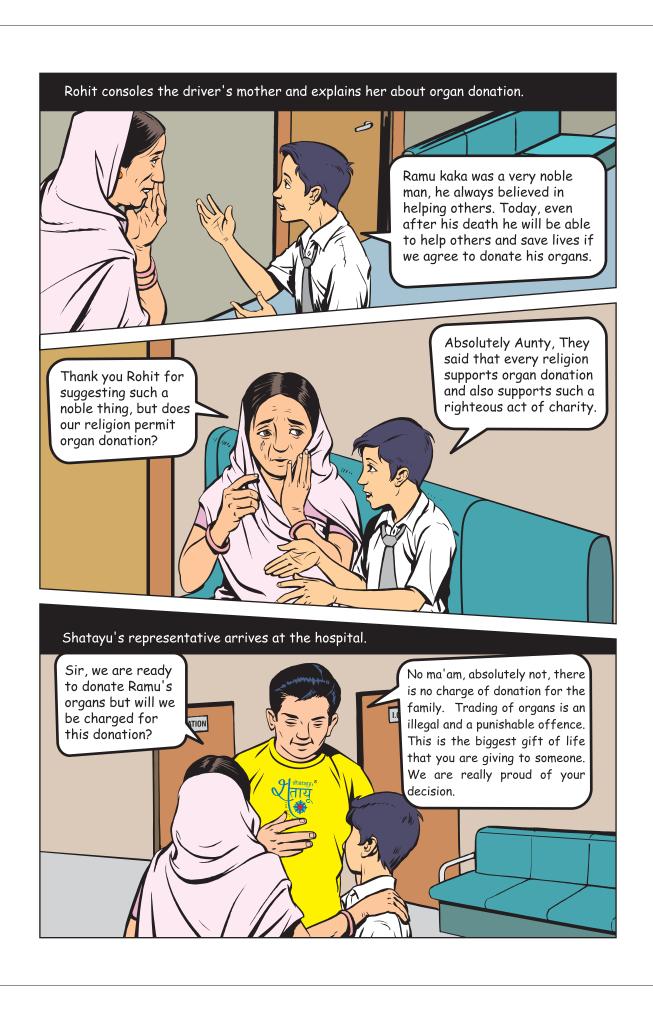








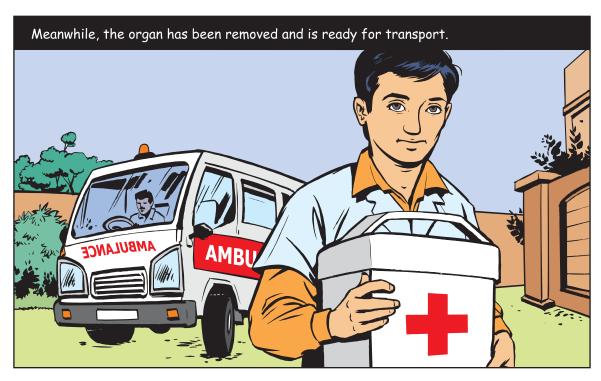




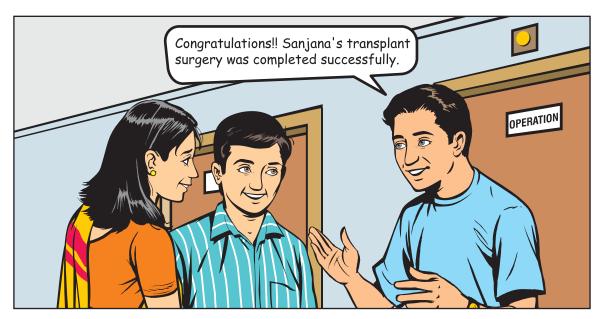






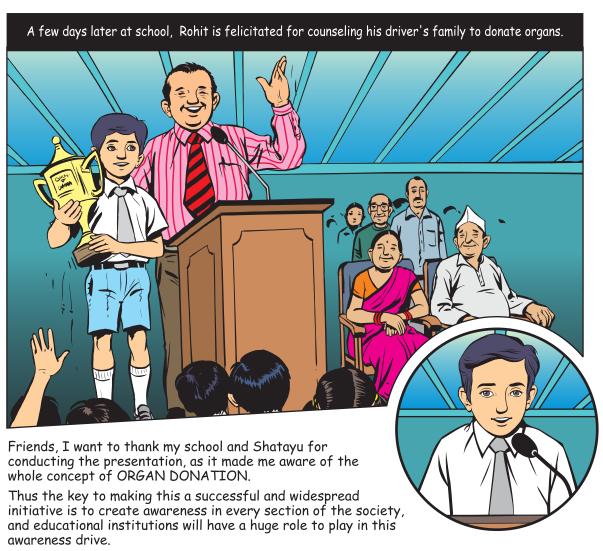








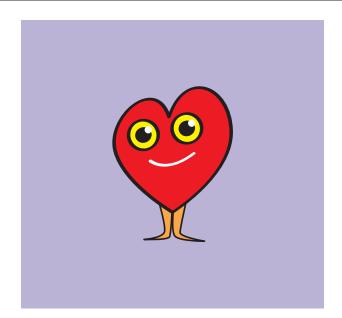




I therefore urge you, to encourage organ donation and give the GIFT OF LIFE to all.



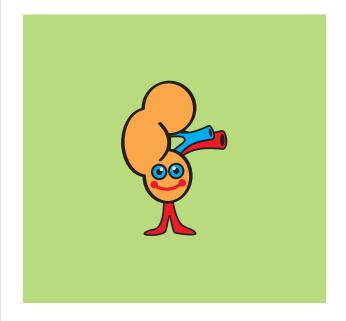
Hurray!!! Rohit you are a true hero. We promise that we all would pledge for organ donation today and encourage others to do so too.



Did you know the human heart can create enough pressure that it could squirt blood at a distance of thirty feet. It is like a miniature pump, pumping blood through more than 60,000 miles of blood vessels. That's enough to circle the equator twice and then some. The average human heart beating at 72 beats per minute will beat approximately 2.5 billion times during a lifetime spanning 66 years.

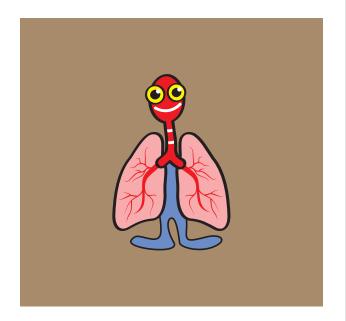
Did you know eyes are the most complex organs you possess, except for your brain. They are composed of more than two million working parts and can process 36,000 bits of information every hour. The eye is the only part of human body that can function at 100% ability at any moment, day or night without rest. Your eyelids need rest, the external muscles of your eyes need rest, the lubrication of your eyes requires replenishment, but your eyes themselves never need rest.

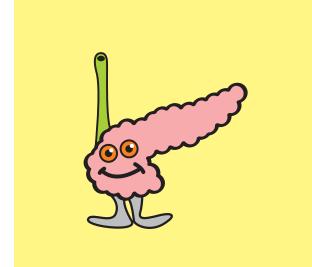




Did you know our kidneys have a higher blood flow than our brain, liver or heart. Each kidney contains 1 million individual filters. They filter an average of around 1.3 liters of blood per minute and expel upto 1.4 liters a day of urine. Every person has two kidneys, so they can donate one of their kidneys while alive.

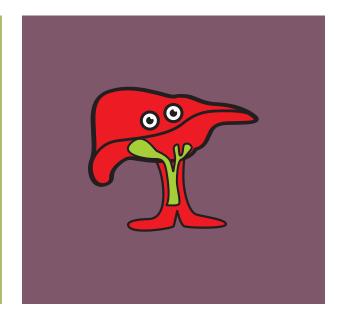
Did you know humans have two lungs, with the left being divided into two lobes and the right into three lobes. The lung is the essential respiration organ whose principal function is to breathe in air, then extract oxygen and pass it into the bloodstream, where it's rushed off to the tissues and organs that require it to function. Single or double-lung transplants can be performed.





Did you know pancreas is a gland organ near the stomach that produces enzymes that are used for digestion and insulin, which is essential for life because it regulates the use of blood sugar throughout the body. Because the pancreas is a storage depot for digestive enzymes, injury to the pancreas is potentially dangerous. It's possible to make a living donation of a portion of the pancreas and still retain it's functionality.

Did you know liver is the largest gland in the human body. It is necessary for vitamin storage, removing waste from blood and digestion. The liver is the only organ that can grow cells in order to regenerate itself. A liver can actually be split into two and transplanted in two different individuals. The liver also generates most heat in the body.





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### **DONATE ORGANS, SAVE LIVES**

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This book is intended for awareness purpose only.