



Buibere the Hero

Asika, a young determined girl, learns about a Timorese hero. What do you think it takes to be a hero?



Buibere the Hero
Paulina de Carvalho



Let's Read



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One day, Asika's grandma told her a story about the role of women in the past.



She said, "Many years ago, very few women had the opportunity to access education and engage in politics."



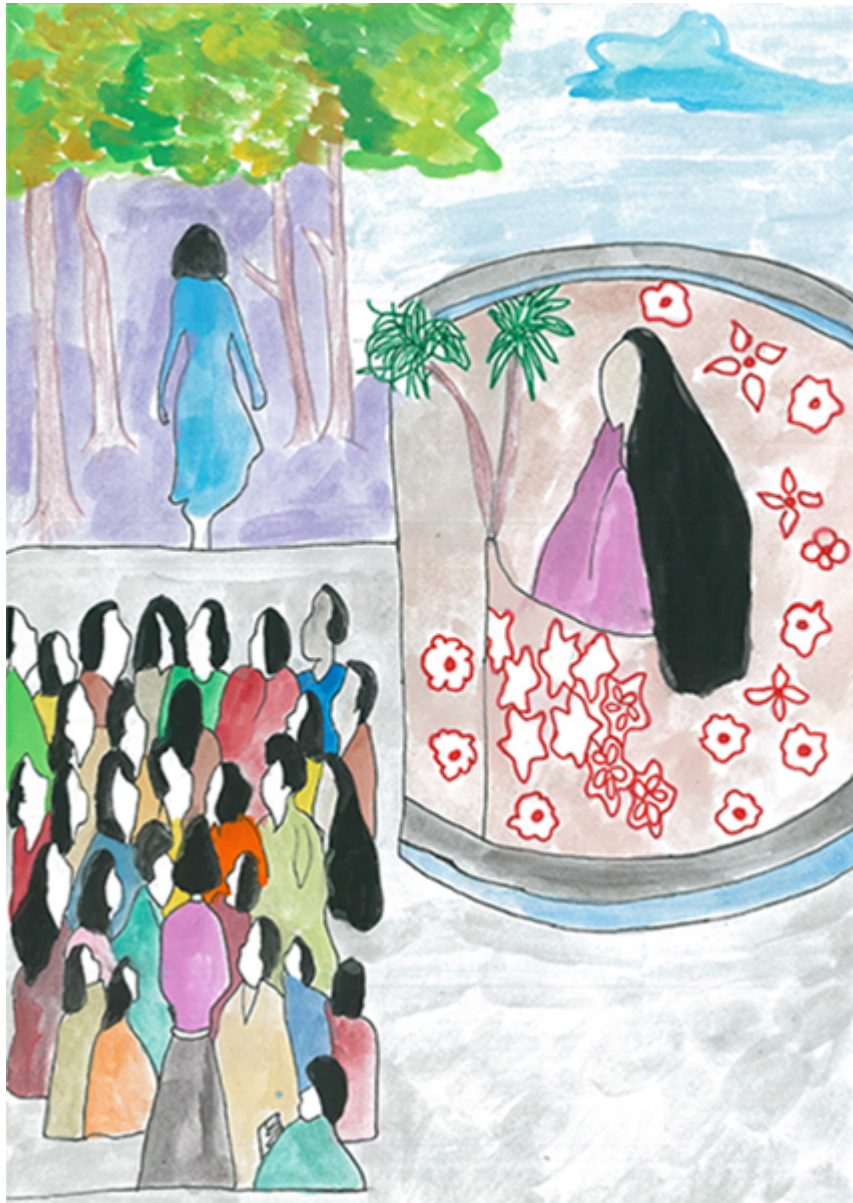
"In the past, people thought that women could not do many things because they were women, and if they did access education, they would still end up in the kitchen." After hearing this, Asika felt sad.



At night, Asika thought more about the role of women. Women today are able to get an education and be a part of politics, but many people still believe that housework is their primary responsibility.



In the morning, Asika went to school. She read a book about Timorese history and she found a story about a Timorese hero named Rosa Bonaparte Soares 'Muki'.



Muki contributed to Timorese independence, freed women from ignorance and fought for gender equality.



Together with her friends, they established the Popular Timorese Women's Organization that aimed to increase women's conscience about their rights.



Muki's story inspired Asika. She decided to try to be like Muki. Asika started to talk to her friends about Muki and how she fought for women's rights.



Asika and her friends wanted to put an end to the narrow ideas that limited the potential of girls. They believed that as girls, they could do anything.



Before sleeping, Asika told her Grandma, "A hero is one who liberates people from ignorance. Grandma, change starts with us. I am going to be like Muki, so that all girls can enjoy their rights and achieve their dreams." Her Grandma smiled. Her granddaughter was on her way to becoming a hero.



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