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**From this side,  
it is all  
too clear**

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**Your donation could help a  
Noma victim to smile again.  
Please donate generously**

**ETHIOPIAID**

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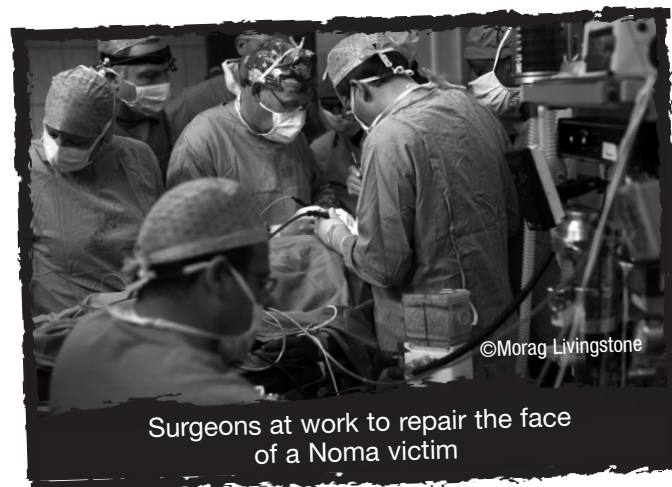
**From this side  
it's hard to see  
the devastating  
effect of Noma**

# Fatima's story



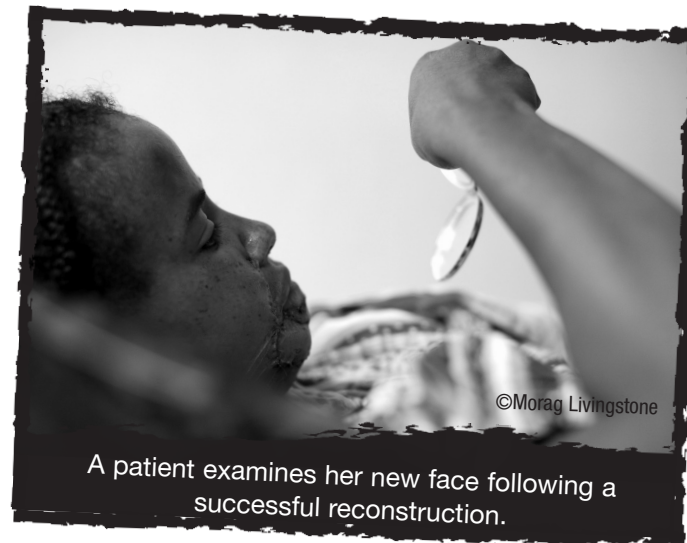
Fatima prepared for surgery

Fatima was found after hut-to-hut searches for Noma victims were conducted. She has been living with this awful disfigurement since early childhood. After careful negotiations with local chiefs, Fatima was brought to Addis Ababa for facial reconstructive surgery.



Surgeons at work to repair the face of a Noma victim

Fatima had never left her village before her visit to Addis Ababa for treatment. She was daunted by the technical equipment she encountered. To put her mind at ease, the international team of surgeons explained the reconstructive procedure before commencing the difficult operation.



A patient examines her new face following a successful reconstruction.

Following her successful operation, Fatima is now looking forward to receiving a photographic identity card she can be proud of.

## What is Noma?

Noma is an ancient disease. It takes its name from a Greek word meaning 'to devour'.

Noma is no longer seen in the developed world but still exists elsewhere, including Ethiopia.

The World Health Organisation estimates that 100,000 – 150,000 children aged 2-6 contract Noma each year. 90% of Noma victims do not survive.

Those who do survive face severe physical difficulties. They are also ostracised by their communities, often finding themselves excluded and mocked by those they love and need the most.

**The need for funding more operations like Fatima's is as great as ever. It costs approximately £800 to treat each patient.**

The costs include:

- Travel expenses, basic meals and accommodation for the medical professionals
- Costs to locate the Noma victims and transport them from remote villages to Addis Ababa
- Basic accommodation and meals for patients for the duration of their stay
- Surgical equipment, dressings and medication
- Local medical staff overtime

We want to see life-changing visits like these continue, but to do this we desperately need our donors' help. **Please assist us in treating more victims of this awful disease by giving what you can today.**