



Waqf  
Annual Report  
2013



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## Waqf Message

Assalamu 'alaikum/Peace be upon you all,

For over thirteen years, Islamic Relief has enabled our generous supporters to change lives and transform communities worldwide through our Waqf programme.

In 2013, with your support and by the grace of Allah, Waqf delivered four projects benefiting poor and vulnerable people in five countries. Determined to maximise the long-term impact of our work and achieve lasting change, this year we focused in particular on integrated development, with a large project transforming multiple communities in Sudan.

Our project in West Darfur gave over 60,000 local people sustainable access to vital services such as water and health. Enabling vulnerable families to earn a decent living through livelihoods support, the empowering project also supported vulnerable and orphaned children to access the life-changing opportunities that quality education offers.

Thousands of poor people in northern Bangladesh received sight-saving eye treatment, and over 200 Syrian families seeking safety in Jordan benefited from essential items to help them keep warm through the winter. Waqf-funding also provided poor households in Sri Lanka and Malawi with Qurbani meat this year.

As Islamic Relief continues to strengthen and develop its Waqf programme, we pray that we are able to unlock the potential of this great Islamic tradition to achieve real, meaningful change for some of the world's poorest communities.

Thank you for your generous support, and for helping us to make a real difference. May Allah reward you for your contribution, in this life and the next.

*The Waqf Team*

“**Verily, those men and women who give charity and lend Allah a beautiful loan it shall be increased many times and theirs shall be an honourable good reward**”

Qur'an 57: 18



# Waqf in 2013

During 2013, we received 310 new Waqf shares, worth £300,000 GBP. This swelled the total number of shares to 4,264.

Generous donors designated over half of the new income to the Waqf general fund – giving us the flexibility to provide support where it is most needed. 17 per cent of new income was given for water and sanitation projects and support for vulnerable children. In addition, donations totalling £79,000 GBP were made to the Sadaqah Jariyah.

## Lasting change for poor communities

In the 13 years of our Waqf programme, the return on investment has provided funding for 88 projects worldwide.

Last year, return on investment from 2012 funded four projects. With a particular focus on achieving lasting change through an integrated approach, tackling the root causes of poverty and suffering, the projects benefited poor communities in five countries







# Transforming communities in Darfur

**Project cost:** £176,000 GBP

**Beneficiaries:** 60,265 people

Sudan's long civil war drove thousands of families from their homes in West Darfur. Since the security situation improved in 2011, many are returning from the camps.

In El Geneina, Kernik and Forbranga, the influx is particularly acute. More than 60,000 people – including 500 orphaned children – now live in the area, placing a critical strain on the few basic services that were not destroyed during the conflict.

Thanks to Waqf funding, we delivered an integrated project to improve access to essential services and created opportunities for tens of thousands of people to earn a living. This holistic approach linked together support across five sectors – water and sanitation, health and nutrition, education, orphan and child welfare, and sustainable livelihoods – to secure maximum impact for local people. As well as responding to the immediate needs of the communities, the project also addresses the root causes of poverty and suffering.



## Water for life

Through the project, communities in Ameriya and Gokar, as well as residents of Kerinding 2 camp, benefited from improved access to clean water. We built a solar powered water yard and installed hand-pumps at key medical clinics.

We also trained local people to repair hand-pumps, and young people learned basic solar maintenance. Women were empowered as members of three committees that we established and trained to oversee the maintenance of the new water points. This ensures that after we leave, the community is able to keep the water systems working for years to come inshaAllah, fixing them if they break down.

Thousands of people living in rural communities were supported to build their own latrines, improving sanitation facilities. Good hygiene practices were promoted through community training sessions. In addition, we installed public latrines at a health centre in Murayat and a secondary school in Krenik.

“**The best form of charity is giving water [to drink]**  
Prophet Muhammad (PBUH)”

## Better health care services

We provided six clinics and two mobile clinics with essential drugs and medical equipment. So far, over 60,000 local people have already received medical consultations or treatment.

Over 3,600 women benefited from a range of community awareness sessions covering topics such as family planning, reproductive health, and breast-feeding. Mothers are the cornerstone of families, so when they are better informed, entire families' health improves inshaAllah.

In Mustagbal, we constructed a delivery room, giving more expectant mothers access to proper support throughout childbirth. In addition, over 7,500 mothers and thousands of children received immunisations to protect them from a number of preventable diseases.



## Routes out of poverty

In poor communities, women often face significant barriers to earning a decent living. In Ameriya, over 60 vulnerable women came together through several women-only groups, and we provided them with training and resources – including access to Islamic micro-finance – to set up their own enterprises.

The groups run a collective savings scheme, which allows women to work together to sustain small businesses, and helps new female entrepreneurs to flourish.

63 women, who are the main breadwinners for their families, were given several goats each. When the project is completed, 300 families and 90 young people will be able to supplement their diets and earn an income from raising livestock inshaAllah.

In addition, we distributed seeds to 400 poor farming families to help them improve their agricultural production and build a route out of poverty. We will also enrol hundreds of young people in vocational training courses, including construction, carpentry, car mechanics, welding and computing.

“**We thank Allah and the donors for all these opportunities**  
Fatmah Mohamed, El Geneina, West Darfur”





# Brighter futures for vulnerable and orphaned children

In Ameriya, Waqf supported the construction of a brand new school, including two classrooms and an office for the teachers. To further improve the learning environment for conflict-affected children, we also provided school furniture and essential teaching materials.

In six schools around Geneina, we gave 700 orphaned children new school uniforms, bags and essential stationery, enabling them to attend school. We also helped to improve the management of schools by delivering specialist training to several Parent Teacher Associations.

# Thuriya's story

Mother-of-seven Thuriya Adoom Abdelrahman, 35, lives with her family in Ameriya. With her husband too sick to work, she shoulders the responsibility of providing for the family.

"I am supporting my family," said Thuriya, who collects firewood and grass to sell and earns what she can as a daily labourer. "My husband doesn't have an income since he is no longer able to work. Most of the time he is sick and needs hospital care."

Life is difficult for the family, who have recently arrived in the area, Thuriya told us.

"We were displaced from our village, Umsiyagha, two years ago because of the war. Before the conflict, we were breeding a lot of animals. We were growing crops. We had a big house, we were secure," she said, adding that the violence destroyed the family's livelihood.

"Now, I work and I buy food for my family, but it is not enough. My family and I will stay in this village until the security situation becomes better, and then we will return home. We hope that the situation will improve with the support of international community."

Through the Waqf-funded project, Thuriya received three goats from Islamic Relief. As well as providing nourishment for the family, the animals provide a vital source of income. Thuriya is breeding her livestock, and through the scheme she will help another poor family by giving them one of the new goats.

"Islamic Relief has helped to save our lives. Really, I don't know what would have happened to us if Islamic Relief was not here."

Thuriya's family is one of hundreds we have supported to increase their income, Alhamdulillah.



Thuriya with her children in Ameriya, West Darfur



The family received three goats through which they now earn an income



# Restoring sight in Bangladesh

**Project cost:** £38,000 GBP

**Beneficiaries:** 11,700 people

Around 600,000 Bangladeshis have cataracts – an eye condition that causes blindness. Though cataracts are easily treated through a simple and low-cost procedure, the poorest people are often unable to access basic healthcare services which could save or restore their sight.

In 2013, Waqf funded a project that changed the lives of thousands of people with cataracts in rural Rangpur, one of the poorest areas in northern Bangladesh.

Working in two districts - Rangpur and Gaibandha – we delivered an intensive campaign to raise awareness of general eye health, hygiene and eye-care. Around 6,600 people took part in awareness sessions.

Focusing on the poorest and most vulnerable people, we provided transport to a specialist eye hospital in the region. There, patients received free screening and treatment – as well as post-operative medicine and medical support.

The 1,100 people who regained their sight through cataract operations also benefited from counselling sessions designed to prepare them for their new lives. In addition, about 4,000 people benefitted from general eye-care services, with 300 of these referred for specialist treatment.



“Before the operation, I couldn’t move anywhere without the help of others. I can see the colours of the world again. Islamic Relief has given me a new life”

Md Nur Islam, Rangpur, Bangladesh







**Project cost:**  
£10,000 GBP

**Beneficiaries:**  
209 families



## Winter relief for Syrian refugees in Jordan

As Syria endured a third year of brutal conflict, increasing numbers of vulnerable people fled the war-torn country. At least 541,000 refugees are seeking safety in nearby Jordan, with the vast majority living outside of organised camps – largely in already poor areas in the north.

80 per cent of Syrian refugees are women and children, and as Snowstorm Alexa battered the region, many faced the winter in tents, makeshift shelters or unheated rental accommodation.

Waqf funding contributed towards the life-saving winterisation programme, targeting the most vulnerable refugee families, as well as some poor Jordanian families. We provided gas heaters and cylinders to 209 families living in Irbid, as well as rugs to help them keep warm.





# Feeding vulnerable families in Sri Lanka and Malawi



Rizana received Qurbani meat

“ We pray to almighty God to give a healthy life to the people who helped us through Islamic Relief. It is a great help for us to celebrate Eid with pleasure and happiness ”

Rizana Sahul Hameed, Trincomalee , Sri Lanka

## Project cost: £7,000 GBP Beneficiaries: 200 families

Since 1986, we have been helping to meet the needs of the world's poorest by implementing Qurbani on behalf of our generous donors. In 2013, Waqf funds secured 200 Qurbanis in Sri Lanka and Malawi.

Qurbani meat packages made Eid extra-special and provided a welcome source of protein for vulnerable people - particularly orphaned children, widowed women and older people.

In Sri Lanka, we provided 121 poor families in Vavuniya, Trincomalee and Batticaloa with a two kilogram pack of beef. In Malawi, we distributed five kilogram meat packages to 79 families in Balaka, Machinga, Blantyre and Chiradzulu.



Rizana and her children drying Qurbani meat to save



# وقف Waqf

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