



Newsletter

Spring 2007

In this Issue:

- Project Updates
- Message from Hidaya's President
- Upcoming Projects
- Recognition of Your Support
- Zakat Information & Calculator



A hut of a family that received Zakat assistance

Project Updates

Last Six Months

Ramadan 2006

This past Ramadan, Hidaya executed two projects successfully: Zakat Distribution and One Million Meals. Both projects benefited orphans, widows, handicapped people, poor elderly and other disadvantaged groups. Projects were carried out in several locations in Pakistan, India, Bangladesh, Indonesia, Sri Lanka and Cameroon. *68,123 individuals (14,625 families) benefited from these projects in Ramadan.* ♦

Sadaqat-ul-Fitr Distribution

Sadaqat-ul-Fitr (Zakat-ul-Fitr) was distributed in the form of flour to poor families. *25,200 individuals (3,600 families) benefited during Ramadan and just after Eid-ul-fitr.* ♦

Qurbani Project 2006/2007

A total of 2,595 qurbani requests were received and arranged at several locations in the U.S., Pakistan, India, Bangladesh, Indonesia, Sri Lanka, Mali, Guinea and Senegal. *116,744 individuals (25,872 families) benefited from this project.* ♦

Sponsor a Student

Hidaya supports hundreds of young students throughout the year. In addition, Hidaya supports over 40 college students with a \$50 monthly stipend to help them pay for their higher education. *In January 2007 alone, Hidaya paid examination fees for over 400 students.* ♦

Marriage Support for Girls

Because of poverty and financial hardships, countless families in South Asian countries are unable to get their young daughters or sisters married. Hidaya supports these families by providing them with essentials for the bride such as dresses, shoes, bedding, a sewing machine, a fan, and more. Cash is also given to the bride's family to help with wedding expenses. *In the last six months, Hidaya assisted 60 families through this project.* ♦

Container Shipment

Hidaya shipped six 40 feet ocean freight containers, bringing the total number of containers shipped during 2006 to 13. In preparation for winter, Hidaya distributed blankets, jackets and sweaters among orphans, widows, handicapped people, poor elderly and others. *In November and December, 1,294 individuals (617 families) each received blankets and jackets.* ♦

Information Technology Training

In order to help teachers improve their computer-related skills *Hidaya donated 20 computers to a Teacher's Training college in Sukkur, Pakistan.* ♦

Support a School

Hidaya continuously operates three schools in remote villages, *which benefit 120 children.* Additionally, Hidaya supported several other schools in Pakistan by *providing for the installation of 20 light fixtures, 12 ceiling fans in classrooms, and 2 drinking water fountains.* ♦



Hidaya Foundation

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Message from Hidaya's President

As Salaamu Alaikum Dear Elders, Brothers, Sisters and Youngsters:

First of all I would like to thank you for your continued support and confidence in Hidaya Foundation. I want to assure you that Hidaya's team is working very hard to improve the quality of life for thousands of unfortunate individuals and families all around the globe. We go to places riddled with extreme poverty - places where others avoid going. We operate only in countries and regions where we have firm control on the distribution of funds and goods.

Since I came to the US as a student almost 25 years ago, I have always looked back and compared my current state to the surroundings I was raised in. I consider myself fortunate to have graduated in Engineering, held responsible positions in defense and telecommunication industries, and settled down in California to raise my family.

Our Creator has given us a clear message in Sura Al-Asr of the Quran, "By the token of time. Verily, Man is in loss; except those who believe, and do righteous deeds, and recommend one another to truth and recommend one another to patience". Keeping this message in perspective, 9 years ago I decided to serve the Creator by serving His creation - I started Hidaya Foundation. Since its inception in 1998, we have constantly upgraded Hidaya's infrastructure, processes and capabilities. We place strong focus on documentation, traceability and transparency. Our top priority is to use the funds our donors have trusted us with - in the right places.

Those who understand the subtlety of life are helping Hidaya by volunteering their time or donating funds. Today I invite each one of you to join hands with Hidaya to serve the noble cause of helping those in need of food, shelter, education and medical assistance. Last but not least, I want to thank all Hidaya Foundation volunteers, employees, board of directors, and supporters for doing a marvelous job of bringing Hidaya to a new level each and every year. Thank you for your donations, support, ideas, prayers and best wishes.

Sincerely,

Waseem Baloch, Founder & President, Hidaya Foundation



Students at a school that received assistance

Self Employment & Vocational Training

Under this pilot project, individuals are trained in vocational skills to help them stand on their own feet. People are trained in specific skills such as tailoring, masonry, etc., and/or given interest-free loans (Qard-e-Hasna), which must be returned once they are able. *Currently 10 individuals are taking advantage of this pilot program.* ◆

One Million Books

Hidaya has launched the One Million Books pilot project in Northern California. Educational books are collected and shipped for establishing

libraries in rural locations. Additionally, we are working towards donating books to colleges and universities in exchange for admitting poor students at subsidized or no-cost basis. *Over 8,000 books have already been received.* ◆

Career Development

Today's job market requires skills which are typically not taught by the educational institutions in economically depressed areas. Hidaya prepares underprivileged graduates for the job market by offering services such as language competency training to boost communication skills and CV/Resume writing tips and techniques. Seminars on essential job skills such



Orphans given items in preparation for winter

as project management, PC skills, time management, and total quality management are also offered to better prepare new graduates for the competitive job market. *26 students are currently benefiting from English courses.* ◆

Hospital Support

Poor people who are admitted into emergency rooms often die because they cannot afford life-saving drugs or procedures. In this context, Hidaya supports a large medical center in Karachi, Pakistan with funds for their emergency room services.

During the last six months, Hidaya has donated \$10,000 for this cause. Additionally, 26 wheelchairs were donated to two hospitals to be used for poor and underprivileged patients. ◆

Sadaqah

The Prophet (pbuh) told us "Sadaqah protects us from calamities". Year round, Hidaya arranges distribution of sadaqah in the form of cash, as well as animal meat (\$75), to be distributed on a short notice. Sadaqah is distributed among the poor in any of the countries listed on Hidaya's website. ◆

Aqiqah

Upon the birth of a child, Muslims should perform Aqiqah for the newborn (sacrifice animal and feed family and friends within seven days of child's birth). Hidaya can arrange Aqiqah and distribute the meat to poor and deserving people in any of the countries listed on Hidaya's website. ◆

Disaster Preparedness Team

By coordinating with local fire and emergency departments, Hidaya arranges disaster preparedness training



DPT members in a training exercise

for individuals and communities. This training will help Disaster Preparedness Team (DPT) members to serve their local community in the event of a disaster. This training would also make them eligible to be a part of Hidaya's Rapid Response Team which offers assistance during natural disasters around the world. *Under its pilot project, Hidaya has helped 17 individuals in Northern California receive training.* ◆

Upcoming Projects

Next Six Months

Preventive Health Education

An ounce of prevention is better than a pound of cure

Since its inception, Hidaya has actively supported thousands of patients suffering from various illnesses and diseases in areas where there are high levels of poverty and illiteracy. Most people from these areas do not understand how to protect themselves from Tuberculosis, Hepatitis, and other life-threatening diseases. Starting in 2007, Hidaya has embarked on a two-pronged approach to help promote **Preventive Health Programs:**

1) Hidaya will publish and distribute brochures in local languages to educate the masses in rural areas on health issues. These brochures will include comprehensive information on



Patient using a wheelchair given by Hidaya

alternative ways of preventing diseases such as allopathy, homeopathy, Prophetic medicine and other alternative preventive methods. Please visit our website to view brochures and updates regarding this project.

2) Hidaya is in the early stages of planning an important program, "No Child without Vaccination" under which Hidaya will help parents monitor vaccinations for their growing children. The objective is to ensure that every child gets the required vaccination to prevent him/her from deadly diseases such as Polio, Hepatitis A and B, MMR, Chicken Pox, etc. Watch for more details on this program in the upcoming issues of this newsletter. ♦

No Orphan without Education

Our orphans, the weakest among us

During Ramadan 2006, Hidaya discovered that 60% of a sample of 677 orphans in a rural area in Pakistan were not able to attend school because their widowed mothers needed them to work and support their family. To help these children get proper education, yet ensure that the families do not suffer undue hardships, Hidaya has launched

a major initiative to support orphans and their widowed mothers in these situations. It costs \$30 per month to support an orphan or a widow. Hidaya intends to expand this project and support a minimum of 500 orphan children.

If you would like to assist an orphan in need of education (and his/her widowed mother), please visit www.hidaya.org. ♦

It costs \$30 per month to support an orphan or a widow



A young orphan in class sponsored by Hidaya

Girls Education Dropout Prevention

Illiterate mothers, illiterate nations

Hidaya has chosen one of the most remote districts in Pakistan as a laboratory to improve the educational standards of girls. Through government published statistics, Hidaya has learned that only 2-3% of the girls complete the 12th grade in that district. The stats also indicate that the majority of girls never see a classroom. Of the ones who do, the majority of them dropout after 5th, 8th, or 10th grade. To find out the cause for this alarming trend, Hidaya's team arranged discussions with teachers and students of 11th and 12th grades in the only local girls' college in that district. These discussions pointed to 16 reasons - POVERTY was cited as the number one cause for girls dropping out from schools. Parents facing financial constraints almost always chose

2-3% of the girls complete their 12th grade

to continue the education of boys, while taking their girls out of the school systems.

Working with impoverished parents, Hidaya has launched a major initiative to solve this problem by offering financial support to school-going girls. This will allow them to continue their **education**. These girls come from families belonging to the bottom 20% of society. It costs only \$6 per student per month to offer them the opportunity to continue their education and bring a change in their lives. *In 2007, Hidaya*

Sadaqah in the form of Sacrifice



The Prophet (pbuh) said, "Sacrifice for the sake of Allah in any month whatever; obey Allah, Most High, and feed (the people). (Abu-Dawood #2824)

The Prophet (pbuh) said, "The most excellent sadaqah consists in your satisfying a hungry stomach." (Tirmidhi #1946)

Hidaya Foundation arranges for Sadaqah in the forms of cash, dry ration, clean drinking water, and animal sacrifice. **Sadaqah in the form of Sacrifice** is performed year round in economically depressed areas of the world. Sacrifice is performed within 72 hours of request, and meat is distributed to the needy.

Giving Sadaqah Regularly

Aisha narrated that "The most beloved action to Allah's Messenger (pbuh) was that whose doer did it continuously and regularly." (Bukhari #8.76.469)

By signing up for the **Automatic Monthly Withdrawal Program**, Hidaya Foundation can arrange for sadaqah to be performed on your behalf each month for as long as you would like.

To sign up for Automatic Monthly Withdrawal: Download the "Auto Withdrawal" form from our website in the "Donate" section and mail it to us, or call us at 866.244.3292 for assistance.

- \$75.00 for a Goat/Lamb
- \$280.00 for an Ox/Buffalo

Donation Tips

Did you know that you can donate online using your checking account? Hidayah Foundation's website (www.hidaya.org) has been upgraded to accept online donations by using information from your check. This is the most cost-saving method of sending your donations.

Donate a set amount towards the project of your choice each month by signing up for our **Automatic Monthly Withdrawal Program**. For more information, visit www.hidaya.org.

Get Detailed Answers to Your Questions about Zakat (Alms)

www.hidaya.org/zakat

Zakat Calculator

Item	Value
Total Gold value without jewels	
Total Silver value without jewels	
Cash on hand	
Checking Account	
Savings Account	
Business Bank Account(s)	
Stocks & Mutual Funds	
Business Merchandise Inventory	
Retirement Plans (401k/IRA/etc.)	
Real Estate (excluding personal residence)	
Accounts Receivable	
Other funds (profit, trust accounts, partnerships, etc.)	
Sub Total	
Less deductible liabilities only	
TOTAL	
TOTAL x 0.025 (Zakat you have to pay)	



A young student that is sponsored by Hidayah

aims to support 750 such cases, which translates into \$4,500 per month or a little over \$50,000 for one year. This is a small price to pay considering what is at stake for 750 girls, future mothers and teachers of the next generation! ♦

Financials

Financial statements for year-ending, December 31, 2006

In 2006, Hidayah Foundation raised over \$2.6 million and is currently in a process of initiating a third-party financial audit. Upon completion it will be posted at: www.hidaya.org/financials. You can also view our previous year's audited statements on our website.

Recognition of Your Support

Hidayah Foundation awarded for earthquake relief efforts

The Government of Pakistan awarded Hidayah Foundation with the Sitara-e-Eisaar (Star of Sacrifice) for its emergency relief work after the October 2005 earthquake that killed 79,000 people in Northern Pakistan. The



award recognized Hidayah's "sacrifice and dedicated service to humanity" and was presented at a ceremony in Washington D.C. on September 21, 2006. Other organizations that received the award included United States Agency for International Development (USAID), Chinooks (helicopters that earned the name of "Angels of Mercy"), SEABEES (US Navy combat troops and construction workers), MASH - the 212th Mobile Army Surgical Hospital, American Red Cross and Islamic Relief. ♦

Donation Form

Hidayah Foundation is a non-profit 501(C)(3) charitable organization with US Tax ID # 77-0502583.

Name _____
 Email _____
 Address _____
 City _____
 State _____ ZIP _____
 Phone _____
 Signature _____ Date _____

Pakistan Bangladesh Sri Lanka West Africa
 India Indonesia U.S.A. Where needed

Zakat / Alms _____
 Sadqaq / Charity _____
 General Donation _____

One Million Meals (\$50 gets 200 meals)
 Education Program (\$250 gets 1000 meals)
 Social Welfare Program _____
 Healthcare Program _____
 Other : _____

Zakat _____ Non-Zakat _____
 Total \$ _____

Name on the card:



Card No: (16 digits)

Expiry Date: (mm/yy)

____ / ____