



Newsletter

Spring 2008

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Hidaya Foundation

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A US based 501(C)(3)
Non-Profit Organization
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One Million Trees Project

Why Should I Plant Trees?

The Messenger of Allah (peace be upon him) said, "If any Muslim plants any plant and a human being or an animal eats from it, he will be rewarded as if he had given that much in charity."

[Sahih Bukhari Vol. 8, Number 41]

Importance of Planting Trees

The Prophet said: "If the Hour (end of the world) is about to be established and one of you was holding a palm shoot, let him take advantage of even one second before the Hour is established to plant it."

[Sahih Al- Jami' Al-Saghir, No.1424]

While the Prophet (pbuh) had emphasized the importance of caring for the land, the reality is that, due to carelessness and ignorance, the world's environment is being destroyed. The land has become polluted and the climate is changing due to lack of vegetation, among other reasons. Hidaya has initiated the One Million Trees project to combat these issues.

Goals of the Project are to:

- 1) Successfully plant and grow one million trees in ten years, worldwide
- 2) Help the new generation understand the importance and impact of trees on their lives as well as the ecosystem
- 3) Teach poor farmers how to plant appropriate trees so they may benefit from low quality farm lands facing issues such as salinity and lack of water

This Spring, over 70,000 seedlings have been arranged and are being distributed. In Pakistan, students from several schools are planting seedlings with the help of Hidaya's team. Also, several more schools in the USA have contacted Hidaya and seedlings are being distributed for students to plant throughout the country. Hidaya is providing seedlings, free of cost to students and deserving farmers along with brochures which explain the benefits of trees and how to successfully plant and grow them. **On an average, it costs just \$1 to plant each tree.**



Bangladesh Cyclone Relief

In November 2007, Cyclone Sidr devastated the south-western coast of Bangladesh. In response to this disaster, Hidaya Foundation delivered dry rations to the disaster affectees. A total of 2,240 food packages were dis-



Food Package Distribution to Bangladesh Cyclone Affectees

tributed to 2,240 families (11,900 individuals). Each food package contained 25 kg of Rice, 2 kg of Daal (Lentil), and 1 liter of Cooking Oil. Hidaya distributed food packages in several locations including Mirzaganj, Potuakhali, and the deep village areas where Subidkhali Degree College is located. Due to its role in the relief efforts, Hidaya Foundation received nationwide media coverage on television and in newspapers (please see our website for a sample video clip of the news coverage).

Hidaya Foundation is working towards the second-phase of its response to this disaster by focusing on long-term rehabilitation of farmers who have lost their crops. As such, Hidaya will support deserving farmers under its Farmer Assistance Project by distributing seed so they can restore their livelihood.

It costs approximately \$100 to help a farmer acquire seed for approximately 4 acres of land. ♦



Children Happily Receive Warm Clothes

Pakistan Flood Relief

Due to devastating floods, villagers in Kharan, Balochistan and Shahadad Kot, Sindh had lost their homes and were struggling to take care of their children as winter was approaching. In response to the crisis, Hidaya's team distributed food (hot meals and dry ration), seed to farmers for crop production, Qurbani meat, and tents. Additionally, from in-kind items collected via the Container Shipment Project in the US, approximately 11,000 family packs each containing seven jackets and/or sweaters were distributed to villagers. ♦

Container Shipment Project

In 2007 Hidaya Foundation shipped a total of 12 forty ft. containers. The total in-kind value of the items shipped in these containers was calculated to be \$205,071.

Items shipped in the containers included new and used clothing, blankets, shoes, household items, toys, school equipment, office equipment, medical equipment, computer equipment, educational books, tents, and more. ♦



Support a School Project

Project Background

For the last several years, Hidaya has been operating two of its own schools in remote villages of Pakistan, however as more and more government schools are shutting down and the population's need for education is increasing, Hidaya took a new course of action. It was decided, to open schools in villages which didn't have any and to adopt government schools which have been shut down due to various reasons. Hidaya is now operating 7 schools, 5 of which are government schools that had previously been shut-down.

Hidaya has signed a contract with one of the district governments in Pakistan for adopting 20 schools this year

At these 7 primary schools, currently 391 students are enrolled (117 girls & 274 boys). Currently, 14 teachers have been hired and trained to manage the schools and more are in the process of being hired. Parent Teacher Association concepts are also being introduced, to help make the project successful.



Jado Kalhoro School in Session

Our Commitment to Quality & Continuous Improvement

2007 Financial Audit

With the blessings of Allah (swt), on March 5, 2008 Hidaya Foundation successfully completed its 2007 financial audit, which was conducted by an independent auditor. A copy of the audited financial statements is available for your review at: www.hidaya.org/about-us/financials

Controlled Project Execution

Hidaya Foundation executes projects in a highly structured and controlled manner by following strict procedures. Each project is fully documented in the form of Standard Operating Procedure (SOP) to maintain project implementation quality, in turn minimizing overhead costs. These SOPs outline the full life cycle of every project that is undertaken by Hidaya including the Scope of Work, Project Proposals with Field Operation Details, Execution Milestones, Management Approvals, Monthly Reviews and Final Project Report. Beneficiaries are required to complete standardized application forms which are investigated, reviewed and approved by management before assistance is provided.



Female Education Drop-out Prevention



Case Study: Jado Kalhoro Village Gets a School

Jado Kalhoro, a small village of about 300 people, is located approximately 600 km North of Karachi. Some elders of the village maintain that almost two generations of their people have remained ignorant and illiterate resulting in poverty, bad hygienic conditions and social disintegration through petty disputes. Their economic condition has gone from bad to worse, as they are not making use of modern technology and methods to get ahead in their ancestral profession of farming.



Students learning in the newly opened classroom

Understanding their problem, in 1991, after much appeal, the community finally received approval from the government to have a primary school built in their village. Because there were no educated people in the village, a teacher was hired from the nearest city - which is located 25km away! After 3 years, the teacher requested transfer, which resulted in the school shutting down. The school remained closed for the next 12 years (from 1995 to 2007).

In 2007, Hidaya expanded its Support a School Project to adopt 5 government primary schools in the Shikarpur District, including this school in Jado Kalhoro.

When Hidaya took over the school the building was damaged and one community member had taken the facility as a storage place for corn crops from his field. Hidaya's team faced two major challenges after adoption of this school:

- 1) Repairing the school building, which according to Hidaya's agreement with the district education department, is the responsibility of District Government Shikarpur.
- 2) Get the school building freed from the community member unlawfully using it

With the blessings of Allah, persistence of Hidaya's team, and help from influential members in the community, the building was freed, repaired and the school was restored to session on March 17, 2008.

A local member of the village was appointed and trained by Hidaya's education team to serve as a teacher in the school to avoid the same problems of the past.

Currently, 40 students (29 boys and 11 girls all in Grade 1) are enrolled in the school. The villagers are extremely happy with the re-opening of the school in their village. They are very cooperative and supportive of each and every activity related to school, because Insha'Allah (God-Willing) this time it will stay open and change the destiny of their community. Each school Hidaya is re-opening has a story of its own. ♦

Hidaya provides the school with all the materials for teachers and students

Literate Mothers Make Literate Nations

Help us Educate the Mothers of the Future

Hidaya strongly believes that females need to be properly educated as they are the future mothers and therefore the most important building blocks of society. Under the **Female Education Dropout Prevention Project**, Hidaya supports girls from poor families so they can attend or continue to attend school, rather than never see a classroom in their life, or drop-out due to poverty.

Just \$6 per month is enough to offer one student the opportunity to continue her education and bring a remarkable change to her life today, to her family's life tomorrow, and ultimately bring positive change to the society, Insha'Allah.

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)

To sign up for our **Automatic Monthly Withdrawal Program**, even for as low as \$6 per month, please contact us toll free at 866.244.3292 for assistance. It will Insha'Allah change the life of one family.



► JULY 2007 - Crops were devastated by flooding



► NOVEMBER 2007 - Wheat seed given to farmers in flood areas



► FEBRUARY 2008 - Planted seeds have grown into lush fields



► MARCH 2008 - Wheat is nearly ready for harvest



► APRIL 2008 - Crops ready to be harvested



► APRIL 2008 - A field after harvest

Farmer Assistance Project: From Devastation to Harvest

In July 2007, Cyclone Yemyin's destructive path devastated farmers in Pakistan, wiping out their crops, homes, and complete livelihood. On such occasions, migration to cities as well as crimes normally increase. To minimize stress on thousands of families, and put farmers back to work, Hidayah distributed 5,000 bags of wheat seed, weighing 250 metric tons (over 550,000 lbs) to 1,250 farmers. This was enough for planting a total of 5000 acres of land (4 acres per farmer). Seeds were distributed in Nov. 2007 throughout flood affected areas of Shahdad Kot, Sindh. Hidayah's team documented and photographed the fields each month up until crops began harvest in April. After the harvest, the 250 metric tons of seed Hidayah gave multiplied to about 7,500 metric tons (30 times more)! This is a prime example of how your zakat donations saved thousands of families from unbearable hardship. ♦

Sadaqah (Charity)

The Prophet (pbuh) said, "Give the Sadaqah without delay, for it stands in the way of calamity." (Tirmidhi #1887)

Hidayah distributes your Sadaqah among people in extreme poverty in the forms of: dry ration, meat, hand pumps for potable water, cash and clothing.

Sadaqah of sacrificed meat is arranged and distributed within approx. 72 hours of your donation.

It costs \$85 for a goat/sheep and \$300 for an ox/buffalo.

During 2007, 472 goats/sheep and 43 oxen/buffalos were sacrificed and distributed among the poor.

Qurbani 2007 Report

Last December, Hidayah distributed Qurbani meat in Pakistan, India, Bangladesh, Sri Lanka, Indonesia, Guinea, Mali, Senegal, and USA.

A total of 2476 shares were arranged (627 goats, 1849 ox/buffalo shares). Thousands of people benefited from this project, many of whom enjoyed a helping of meat which they don't normally get throughout the year.

Get Detailed Answers to Your Questions about Zakat (Alms)
www.hidayah.org/zakat

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 _____

Zakat / Alms
 Sadaqah / Charity

One Million Trees (\$1 per tree) _____
 Support a School _____
 Female Edu. Dropout Prev. (\$6 per month) _____
 Farmer Assistance _____
 Education Program _____
 Social Welfare Program _____
 Health Care Program _____
 Other : _____
 Total _____

Zakat \$ _____
 \$ _____
 \$ _____
 \$ _____
 \$ _____
 \$ _____
 \$ _____
 \$ _____
 \$ _____

Name on the card:

   

Card No:

Expiry Date: (mm/yy)

