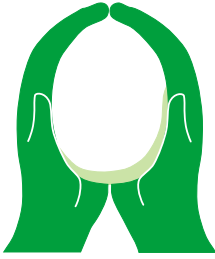




The Lady Fâtemah (a.s.) Charitable Trust



www.ladyfatemastrust.org



The Lady Fatemah (a.s.) Charitable Trust

Who we are



On behalf of the Board of Trustees, I would like to welcome you to **The Lady Fatemah (a.s) Charitable Trust**.

The mission of the Trust is to eradicate poverty and suffering; this we believe is not a distant dream, but a goal which together we can realistically achieve. Everyone has a right to a life of dignity, and the Trust adheres to the philosophy of empowerment. It is only then that a lasting solution to poverty can be found.

The Lady Fatemah Trust was formed in 1997 in response to appeals that were persistently received by the trustees from around the world. Since then, the Trust has created the framework to respond effectively to these requests, and through long-term programmes such as provision of clean water, healthcare, education and income generation, the Trust seeks to tackle the root causes of poverty.

The generosity of our donors has enabled us to assist thousands of impoverished people worldwide. The following pages provide details of the scope and nature of our various activities, and we look forward to working with you.

With warm appreciation,

Chairman of the Board of Trustees

Basic Food Provision



Healthcare



Introduction

The comprehensive mission of the Trust has resulted in ambitious and often pioneering activity in a variety of projects, ranging from emergency relief to sustainable development programmes. The projects we support span across the globe from the Indian subcontinent and Pakistan, to Iraq, Iran, Lebanon, East Africa, Somalia and Indonesia. From an operational point of view, one of the founding principles is to operate on the basis of no commission or administrative costs thereby ensuring every penny donated goes directly to those in need. This doctrine of transparency is translated to all aspects of the Trust's work, from verification of appeals, to providing full receipts to benefactors for every donation.

The Trust combines a global perspective with local insight. As such, our partner organisations on the ground closely scrutinize each of the appeals that arise and are available to provide on-going support and guidance. They are directly in touch with the communities where the need is greatest, thus ensuring the assistance reaches there. Wherever possible, the Trust endeavours to work closely with other international charities, so as to leverage the full benefit of the collective goodwill of donors and local expertise. We have found that joining hands with other organisations, in terms of resources and insight, often results in achievements beyond the scope of any one charitable institution.



Afghani children studying in school in Iran



Iraqi orphans receiving monthly assistance



Borewell at Avulkunda village India



Clean Water Provision

Shelter and Housing



Projects & Case Studies



Birre Sakina Water Well, India



Water Tank Project, Iraq



Milking Buffalo Project, Iraq

Orphan Care

The application of our philosophy of attending to any person in need has led to a strategy of project diversification. Whilst the scope is extensive, the guiding principle of project selection is based on the objective of enabling target communities to develop self-sufficiency, and thereby become self-reliant. We seek to provide the funding, resources and training so as to achieve lasting change, and an end to poverty.

A Selection of Our Programmes Include:

Orphan Care: In countries where war, famine or poverty are part of everyday life, millions of children are orphaned and left to struggle for survival. The Trust has established fostering programmes to care for children in India, Iraq, Iran and Lebanon. The cost of this provision is just £15 a month, and gives the children a chance for a better future.

Provision of Clean Water: Access to clean water is a challenge faced by many people around the world.

1. India: One of the first projects undertaken by the Trust was the construction of bore-holes in remote Indian villages. These wells have been named 'Birre Sakina', and to date nearly 50 have been completed allowing a consistent supply of clean water, 24 hours a day. For a modest sum of £1000, the quality of life for several hundred people can dramatically be improved, whilst also limiting the spread of water borne diseases and infection. In keeping with the principle of joint partnership with target communities, the responsibility of maintaining the pumps is shouldered by the local community.

2. Iraq: The Trust has recently implemented the 'water tank project' in Basra, whereby tanks and hosing are installed and an initial fill up of fresh water (2000 litres) is provided. Families can therefore not only access clean water, but also sell the water to the inhabitants of their neighbourhood thereby earning an income as well as providing an invaluable service.

Socio-Economic Regeneration and Micro-Finance: Income generation projects aim to help individuals develop their own skills and resources to earn livelihoods and become economically independent.

1. Milking Buffalo Project: Elderly people in Southern India, widowed families in the Marshlands of Iraq, and Iraqi refugees in Iran have been enrolled in an effective project, which involves the provision of a milking cow or buffalo and a grant for one month's fodder. The objective is for the animal to yield enough milk to meet the benefiting family's income requirements for food, and fodder for the following month. This project has been extremely successful, and has attracted the support of Christian Aid in Iraq, where over the last 12 months 870 family members have benefited from the provision of 80 buffalos.





Socio-economic Regeneration and Micro-Finance

2. Sewing Machine Project: Sewing co-operatives have been set up in India and Iran, where women headed families are provided with a sewing machine following a tailoring course. The income generated from their sewing practice is used to support their families. In this way, not only is their self sufficiency and dignity restored, but the multiplied benefits in terms of community regeneration are phenomenal. LFT commissioned a sewing cooperative owned by female heads-of-family in the Iranian city of Bam to provide uniforms for Iraqi refugee students at the Imam Mehdi School, thus indirectly assisting the women in addition to providing clothing for the students. In India, 100 sewing machines have been purchased thus far.

3. Rickshaw Project: In keeping with the ethos of the Trust which is to provide the tools to allow families to earn their own livelihoods, another project has been to provide rickshaws, or assist in paying the hefty monthly instalments levied by finance companies. One particular family in India subsequently wrote back saying 'Thank you for making my dream come true by owning my own auto for earning bread'.

Healthcare: Since it began its activities, the Trust has received a wide range of appeals for medical assistance, which owing to the conflicts around the world are increasing almost exponentially. It is the innocent people who sadly fall victim to this violence. At the Trust, we believe everyone has the right to be safe, healthy, skilled and equal, and we are committed to achieving this

1. Medical Referral Programme, Iran: The Trust has been working with its local partner in Tehran to provide medical care for Afghani and Iraqi refugees, and Iraqi patients arriving in Iran for treatment. One of the reasons that refugees do not repatriate is lack of medical facilities in their respective countries, and so they remain in Iran hoping somehow to raise the money for treatment. This programme needs regular monthly funding due to the increasing number of patients requiring care. Treatments range from routine medical care, to life saving procedures. Over 1400 patients have been treated through this programme since it began in October 2005, to March 2007

2. Cluster Bomb Victims, Lebanon: In association with its Lebanese partner organization based in Nabatieh, LFT is assisting patients who have sustained horrific injuries as a result of the war. Preservation of limbs and other treatments have been undertaken.

3. Karbala / Basra Eye Clinics, Iraq: In Iraq, specialised eye care facilities are few and the cost of treatment prohibitively high. In cooperation with a local partner organization, the Trust has set up two charitable eye clinics in Karbala (2004) and Basra (2005), for those who cannot afford to pay for treatment in commercial facilities. Something as simple as providing reading glasses, or removing a cataract from an elderly person can enable them to continue to work and provide care for the family. In 2006, over 8,100 patients were treated at the Karbala Eye Clinic.

4. Eye Camps, Africa: The Trust has funded eye camps in Tanzania and Madagascar, where cataract surgery and other ophthalmic procedures were undertaken for over 650 patients. Due to the lack of facilities and extreme poverty, these patients would almost certainly have lost their sight without the eye camp.



Rickshaw purchased by the Trust



This 12 year old Afghani boy lost his leg in rocket fire, and was fitted with a prosthetic limb on the MRP.



Eye Camp, Zanzibar



Burns Victim, Mt. Meru Hospital

5. Burns Ward, Mt. Meru Hospital, Arusha: The children on the burns ward at Mt. Meru Hospital are the victims of the most horrific injuries, usually as a result of falling into open fires at home. Their wounds can take many months to heal, and without specialist care can be fatal. The Trust has helped fund treatment on the ward, closely supporting the children through their ordeal.

6. Medical Treatments, India: The appeals received from India are usually life saver cases, and have included coronary artery disease patients, heart valve replacements, transplant patients and cancer treatment. Our partner organisations closely verify and substantiate each appeal.



Blind child at Kha'zali school with a tape-recorder provided by LFT

Education: The value of education can never be underestimated for it tackles the root causes of poverty, opening up vast opportunities for economic improvement. The Trust strives to advance impoverished communities through education, and has been involved in funding grants for basic and higher education since its inception in 1997. Undergraduates have been supported for degrees in medicine and engineering, and full sets of reports for the younger children are regularly sent to sponsoring donors.

1. Lebanon: The Trust is currently assisting special needs children from war torn Lebanon to develop their abilities, and become as self-reliant as possible. Many of these children have learning disabilities, are motor or speech impaired, or are deaf. With special care and therapy, they will have a future to look forward to. Also, the Trust has supported bright students attending university by helping with tuition fees.

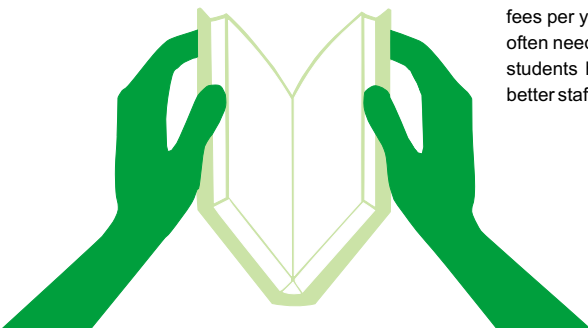


Afghani School assisted by the Trust

2. Iran: The Kha'zali School for the Blind is the first school for blind children established in Iran, and is situated in downtown Tehran. All the 101 blind students come from poor families, and the school seeks to provide them with a cane, talking books to assist them with independent study and a special typewriter to enable them to write. Without the opportunity to study, these children may well be condemned to a life of dependency and isolation.

Two informal schools for refugee children received extensive support from LFT. One school in Alborz village near Qum teaches 22 Afghani children who otherwise would not be able to study. This school was completely refurbished with a heater, benches, bathrooms and other facilities. The Imam Mehdi School for Iraqi refugee children is located in the Jamkaran region. Last year the Trust paid for a computer and water purifying system so the children could drink clean, pure water. The school charges £20 fees per year and even this is a sizeable sum for the families who often need to take a loan to pay this. In spite of this, the number of students has doubled to 722 in 2007 due to the recruitment of better staff and LFT's assistance in paying their salaries.

Education



Food Provision and Humanitarian Relief: Working across India, Iraq, Iran, Lebanon, Tanzania and Kenya, the Trust strives to help the poor overcome the suffering they endure due to natural disasters and lack of life's basic necessities.

1. Ramadhan Iftaar Appeal: One of the most widely supported projects is the Ramadhan Iftaar appeal, where as little as £15 can provide food for a family for an entire month. The Trust also distributes Zakaat funds to the poorest families on Eid, as well as gifts for the children whose lives have been devastated by war.

2. Food and Humanitarian Assistance: The Trust has assisted elderly women in India, who are too old or infirm to work, and have no family to look after them. Similarly elderly, vulnerable Iraqis residing in the Sultaniyah camp in Iran, were provided with a kitchen enabling them to cook healthy nutritious meals, and basic necessities like soap, blankets and clothes. Wheelchairs were provided for 50 Iraqi men and women, giving them independence, freedom and the opportunity to earn a living.

3. Blanket Assistance Project: Over 1000 blankets were purchased in India, and 3,500 blankets in Iraq to protect families from the harsh, unforgiving conditions of winter. Sadly in many instances, the vulnerable and elderly often perish from hypothermia as they have nothing to protect them from these bleak conditions.

4. Lebanon War Relief: In the wake of the bombings in Lebanon during July 2006, the Trust launched an appeal to provide relief aid.

Thanks to your support, The Lady Fatemah Trust has helped save and improve the lives of thousands of people in many of the poorest countries, worldwide. Mr Gareth Thomas, MP Parliamentary Under-Secretary of State for International Development from the Department of International Development (DFID), commented in his letter to the Trust, "I was interested to hear about the work the Trust has done, often in very difficult and dangerous environments". Although the amount of relief work required is colossal, collectively we can make a difference.



Feeding Orphans in Tanzania



Iftaar Relief, Lebanon



Blanket Project, Iraq



Wheelchair Project, Iraq

Thank you for taking the time to read our brochure, and for your support. For a detailed account of all our work, please visit our website: www.ladyfatemahtrust.org



Eye Clinics



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