

# THE MEMON

## RAMADAN APPEAL



# THE MEMON

# RAMADAN KAREEM

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EDITORIAL

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Dear Brothers and Sisters

## Assalam Alaikum and Ramadan Kareem

I would like to take this opportunity to personally thank our compassionate brothers and sisters for their magnanimous generosity and steadfast support towards the World Memon Organisation over the past two decades.

Helping those in need is one of the key aspects of this pious month of mercy. And **Zakat (that which purifies)** is a religious obligation for all Muslims who meet the necessary criteria of wealth. As one of the Five Pillars of Islam, Zakat can lead us to a more productive and successful existence, both as an individual and a community. Giving charity is not just crucial for the well being of the needy but could be the greatest boon bestowed upon the wealthy.

خُذْ مِنْ أَمْوَالِهِمْ صَدَقَةً تُطَهِّرُهُمْ وَتُزَكِّيهِمْ بِهَا وَصَلِّ عَلَيْهِمْ إِنَّ صَلَاتَكَ سَكَنٌ لَهُمْ وَاللَّهُ سَمِيعٌ عَلِيمٌ (١٠٣)

As Allah (swt) states in the Holy Quran (At-Tawbah 9:103):

***"Take from their wealth, alms so that you may cleanse them, thereby and cause them to grow in purity and supplicate for them"***

This verse clearly informs us that charity purifies a person in a number of ways:

1. It purifies one's property in a **SPIRITUAL** sense by making it more blessed and legitimate;
2. It purifies the heart of the **GIVER** from selfishness, greed, materialism and lack of concern for fellow human beings;
3. It purifies the heart of the **RECIPIENT** from jealousy and hatred for those who possess more than them;
4. And lastly, it purifies **SOCIETY** from social injustices and class struggles.

May Allah (Exalted be He) make us amongst those who give. May He enable us to understand and fulfil our obligation of Zakat, thereby incurring His mercy and pleasure.

On behalf of my wife Zohra, my family and myself - we wish each and everyone of you Ramadan Kareem and a very blessed Eid. May the rest of the year be a healthy, happy, peaceful and prosperous one.

Yours sincerely

**Suliman Noor Mahomed**

President, World Memon Organization



# HUMANITARIAN AID

WHO HAS ALWAYS ANSWERED THE CALL OF THE UNFORTUNATE VICTIMS OF A HUMAN TRAGEDY OR A NATURAL CALAMITY IN ANY PART OF THE WORLD. THE ORGANISATION HAS BEEN ON THE FOREFRONT AND HAS CONTRIBUTED IN EVERY POSSIBLE WAY TO ALLEVIATE THE PAIN AND MISERY OF THOSE WHO SEEK REFUGE UNDER THESE TRAGIC CIRCUMSTANCES.

## APPEAL - EMERGENCY RELIEF AID

Projects	Targeted No. of Beneficiaries	Projected Cost
Includes Natural Disaster / Refugees Aid	5000	\$500,000

Kevin Frayer/Getty Images



# Rohingya

The word Rohingya means “**Inhabitants of Rohang**”.

*Ironically the Rohingyas are an ethnic tribe without a land to call it's own. It is a people without a nation. It is a people without hope.*

Described by the United Nations as one of the most persecuted communities in the world, the Rohingya's predominantly Muslim population were denied citizenship under the archaic 1982 Burmese citizenship law.

UN officials have described Myanmar's persecution of the Rohingya as **ethnic cleansing** and the recent spate of violence and mass killings fuel fears of an unfolding **genocide**.

Extreme atrocities against women and children, wiping out of entire villages by Myanmar forces have triggered the **mass exodus** of villagers to **Bangladesh**. The surge of refugees, many wounded or ailing, has strained the resources of aid agencies and communities that are already helping hundreds of thousands displaced by previous waves of violence in Myanmar. Many have no shelter and aid agencies are racing against time to provide clean water, sanitation and food.

World Memon Organisation is mobilizing funds to assist the Rohingya Muslims who have fled to Bangladesh to survive the genocide in Myanmar. We seek your generosity towards our fellow Muslim brothers and sisters in their hour of need.

**WMO stands firm, shoulder to shoulder with the Rohingya community during these uncertain times. A time when these Citizens of the World have lost their basic human rights to live with freedom and dignity in a Country, they once called home.**



# THE CAMPS OF BALUKHALI

A GROUND REPORT BY MR. SHAHID SANGANI (WMO COO)

The smoke still billows above a burning village in **Myanmar's Rakhine state**, across the border. I sit in the Refugee Camp of Balukhali, a small Bangladeshi town on the Myanmar border and witness hell on both sides. The fires of the netherworld and the shades of purgatory, paint a grim canvas for "**the most persecuted minority in the World**" - the **Rohingya**.

UN officials have described Myanmar's persecution of the Rohingya as **ethnic cleansing** and the recent spate of violence and mass killings fuel fears of an unfolding **genocide**.

Extreme atrocities against women and children, wiping out of entire villages by Myanmar forces have triggered the **mass exodus of villagers to Bangladesh**. Over **half a million** have crossed the border in just a couple of months. The surge of refugees, many wounded or ailing, has strained the resources of aid agencies and communities that are already helping hundreds of thousands displaced by previous waves of violence in Myanmar. **Many have no shelter and aid agencies are racing against time to provide clean water, sanitation and food.**

**World Memon Organisation stands firm, shoulder to shoulder with the Rohingya community during these uncertain times.**



We are surrounded by slopes of hills covered with orange and grey tarpaulin sheets, for as far as the eye can see. Thousands of makeshift shelters have mushroomed over **2000 acres** of land, housing more than a **hundred thousand** migrants. Plastic sheets wrapped around bamboo sticks with tarpaulin roofs are the new homes of the Rohingya refugees. **At least 6 to 8 adults are stacked together in these shacks accompanied with their children ; all confined in an area of just 5 feet by 10 feet.** The rains continue to play havoc with frequent landslides, wiping out homes and creating large pools of mud, in and around the shanties. The afternoons bring the scorching heat and the only sight of relief is a rainbow that sometimes appears on the horizon when the wet spells follow the afternoon sun.

**There are hardly any toilets and the occasional breeze carries the stench of human faeces, unwashed skin, stale food and death.** Many refugees have succumbed to the hardships and their shrouds gather dust. There is an **impending epidemic looming** as the squalid conditions worsen due to lack of sanitation, as the rapid influx of refugees from Myanmar refuses to cede.



The **WMO Far East Chapter** team, are assessing the grim situation at the camps. Funds have been pouring in from across the globe for the Rohingya community and the organisation must ensure that they are utilised to make a tangible difference on the ground ; to alleviate the pain and ease the hardships endured by the refugees, dwelling in the subhuman conditions of the uninhabitable Balukhali camps.



**Food is scarce as is clean drinking water.** Malnourished kids with vacant eyes queue up for food in serpentine lines that stretch the length of two football fields. Many have horrific tales to tell of the persecution they faced in Myanmar and the arduous journey they embarked on to reach the camp. **Crossing mile wide, raging rivers in wobbly wooden containers that kept them afloat, walking days on end in knee deep mud, across paddy fields to escape rape, torture and slaughter. Every child has lost at least one or several members of their family.**

*I was soon surrounded by a group of children, baked in mud as they trudged through the scattered puddles to reach me. I was distributing a few goodies that I had carried in my pocket since Chittagong. The motley group were pleased as punch; they had just won a prize- a pot of cooked rice. The odd games that people invent in difficult situations to weather the storm. As the tiny tots offered to share their prized possession with me, a morsel of rice, my eyes brimmed with tears. I thought about my own children, as a father I wanted my kids to lead an accomplished life, have the best in education, fulfil their ambitions, pursue their passions in life, be it sports or a hobby. And here I was with children, possibly orphaned whose only aim was to survive the night. As they firmly held onto their prize, a fistful of rice that would enable them to achieve their tall ambition of staying alive, through yet another day of their eventful life.*

## Humanitarian Aid for Rohingya



### NAME

Project Aman

### LOCATION

Camp Aman is situated between **Balukhali** and Kutupalong Refugee Camps in the Ukhia Sub-district of **Cox's Bazar**, along the **Bangladesh – Myanmar** border.

### THE TEAM

**WMO Far East Chapter** team is helmed by it's former VP and WMO stalwart - **Mr. AC Saleem**. The team members include **Dr. Haroon Admani (VP - Far East Chapter)**, **Mr. Anjum Asmath (Regional Treasurer)** and **Mr. Shahid Sangani (COO - WMO)**

A couple of humanitarians from UK - **Mr. Amir Farooq** and **Mr. Adil Abbasi** are collaborating with WMO on the Aman project. They are the business partners of **Mr. Bashir Sattar** (Founding Trustee of WMO).

### PREPARATION

- Registration of **300 families**, almost **1200 members**, in a designated area of the camp will be catered to and taken care of, by WMO under the Aman project.
- **Formation of a supply chain** to receive and distribute relief aid on a regular basis to the earmarked families
- Engaging, Corresponding and establishing Communication links with community leaders of the Rohingya clan.

### FOOD DISTRIBUTION ON A WEEKLY BASIS



- **300 food packs.** Each pack contains 10 kg rice, 2kg lentils, 2kg onions, 1 litre cooking oil, 2kg potato, 1kg salt, 1 kg of sugar and spices. Each pack feeds a family of 4 for 7 to 10 days
- **150 packs** of baby milk for infants and children

### RELIEF GOODS DISTRIBUTION

- **500 Solar powered lamps** for Shelters
- **2,000 pairs of clothes** for men, women and children
- **500 sanitary sets.** Each set contains a body soap, towels, soap to wash clothes, nail clippers, comb and razors
- **500 metres of tarpaulin** to build shelters and overhead roofs.
- **Floor mats** to sleep on
- **Battery Flashlights** to navigate in the dark at night
- **Utensils**
- **Firewood** for Cooking



### SANITATION AND CONSTRUCTION PROJECTS



- **4 deep water tube wells** with depths ranging to over 150 feet to supply clean drinking water
- **4 separate bathing areas** for women and children





- **46 toilets**
- 2 bridges
- Brick Stairways

## MEDICAL CAMPS



- **Doctors** from across the globe are attending to the Refugees.
- Distribution of **Medicines** to treat the common ailments of diarrhoea, tapeworm and high fever.
- Diagnosis and Treatment of Tuberculosis.
- Vaccination given to **300** refugees in collaboration with the **UNICEF**

## FUTURE PROJECTS

- Establishment of a **School**
- **Masjid**
- **WMO to partner BRAC** : Medicines and medical consumables, provided by BRAC at their various medical camps will be funded by WMO. In the next 6 months, we intend to cover a dozen camps on a daily basis, treating on an average, **1500 - 1800** ailing refugees everyday.

Funds have been pouring in from around the World for this pertinent cause but much more is needed. As we distribute food packs to the gathered children, queuing up to collect their weekly food ration, some are rummaging through the relief goods containers filled with the usual – flashlights, soaps, candles, utensils, tarpal sheets, floor mats, brooms and clothes. The new arrivals are shoes, blankets for the oncoming winter, carpets for the Masjids and a few elementary picture books for kids. As the construction work is underway for the school and masjid in the distance, its heartening to see a few children pounce on the books, rather than the preferred colourful T-shirts.

Another day has passed and as the sun sets over the Balukhali camp, the faithfuls congregate to offer their Magribh prayers. We lay out the carpets and join the others to perform Salaah. The Imaam recites **Surah Al-Inshirah**. His melodious voice fills the air and I recall the translation of those insightful verses, which under the prevailing difficult conditions are most befitting –

Inna maAAa alAAusri yusran  
**Verily, with the hardship, there is relief**

Wa-ila rabbika fairghab  
**And to your Lord (Alone) turn (all your intentions and hopes and) your invocations.**

*My heart is at peace.*

*A wry smile escapes my lips. Who would have thought that we would find peace in this part of the World - filled with torment, sorrow and eternal suffering but the Lord works in mysterious ways. But then again, we did name our Project - 'Aman' which translates in the language of the Rohingya to 'Safety, Comfort and Peace'*

**We hope and pray that the Almighty bring an end to the violence, hatred and discord. Help us accomplish the goals, we set out to achieve. Grant us Peace which is True, Perfect and Everlasting.**

Ameen!

# HUMANITARIAN AID FOR ROHINGYA

# PROJECT AMAN

## WMO TO PARTNER BRAC



**Mr. Newsad Gani** (Deputy President - WMO) signed an MoU with Brac - UK in the presence of Mark Furlong (Programmes Officer, Asia) and Lewis Temple (Brac - UK CEO) at his London office.

The World Memon Organisation will contribute **two hundred thousand dollars (USD 200,000)** towards medicines and medical consumables, provided by BRAC to the Rohingya refugees at their various medical camps, along the Bangladesh - Myanmar border. In the next 6 months, we intend to cover a dozen camps on a daily basis, treating on an average, 1500 - 1800 ailing refugees everyday.

## HABITAT FOR HUMANITY

We seek your invaluable contributions towards the **rehabilitation** of the Rohingya community. WMO is **building homes** at the Refugee Camps in Bangladesh to provide shelter from the torrential rains as the dreaded monsoon season is upon them.

Most of the families live in flimsy tarpaulin huts which risk being washed away during heavy rains and flooding. WMO is building **sturdy bamboo homes** that will withstand the **monsoon fury**, thus providing a safe and secure environment for the women and children.

Your ZAKAT contributions will go a long way in bringing a smile on the faces of the children who will stay warm, dry and safe in the confines of their homes, you have so generously provided.







# THE INDOMITABLE SPIRIT OF KERALA

Since the onset of the South West Monsoons in India, torrential rains have been pummeling the southern state of **Kerala**, including the financial capital and port city of **Kochi**, heaping widespread damage across the region.

Floods ravaged the state with fields and streets lying submerged. In some areas, the incessant rains, combined with the opening of floodgates of the overflowing dams caused water levels to swell to an astounding **15 feet**, inundating houses and vehicles. The accompanying tropical storms triggered **landslides** that engulfed entire villages, buried families and homes.

The unrelenting monsoons have left in its wake, total devastation. The torrential rains affecting millions, displacing hundreds of thousands from the comfort of their homes and the death toll kept rising with every passing week.

As the monsoon fury subsided, a team led by **WMO North India Chapter VP - Mr. Ehsan Gadawala**, arrived in Kochi to monitor the situation, distribute relief aid to the flood victims, assess their needs

and understand their immediate requirements.

On the 11th of September, the WMO team comprising of Mr. Ehsan Gadawala, **Mr. Haseen Aghadi**, **Mr. Haji Lokhandwala**, **Mr. Mudassar Patel**, **Mrs. Razia Chashmawala** and **Mrs. Naseema Surty** landed at Kochi airport in the early hours



of the morning. They were greeted by the **Kochi Cutchi Memon Federation President - Mr. Anwar Hashmi** and his team who took them on a tour of the worst affected areas of the state, that had borne the brunt of the catastrophe.

The Kochi Cutchi Memon Federation have been serving Humanity in the

state of Kerala since **200 years**. They were at the forefront when the 'floods of the century' hit the state. From arranging rescue operations by helicopters and boats for residents stranded on the roofs of their homes, to distribution of food grains, relief aid and essential household items, the federation had done everything in their power to alleviate the pain and misery of the afflicted.

As the WMO team joined the federation members and visited several villages to witness the aftermath of the rains, the plight of the flood victims was heart wrenching. Most had lost their homes, their belongings and possessions, many had lost their livelihoods, some had even lost one or more members of their families. The dreaded monsoons had left them battered and bruised but their spirit remained unbroken.

The people of Kerala are self reliant, hardworking, skilled and well educated, with the state boasting of the highest literacy rate in the country. Nobody asked the WMO team for alms or charity, they just wanted to be empowered with enough tools to earn a livelihood,



in fact all that the ladies demanded, were sewing machines so that they would be back on their feet and provide for their families.

***"I salute the women of Kerala. Here was this middle-aged lady, standing in the corner of her broken down home. One of the walls had crumbled, the roof had collapsed,***

***the independent Indian woman, a liberated woman who had survived many a storms and had come out unscathed!"***

WMO members encountered many more unfortunate victims of this cataclysmic tragedy, each with their own shattering tale of loss and despair. Each one sitting in

unimaginable grief.

As the team continued its tour and witnessed the trail of death and destruction, left in the wake of the devastating rains, a decision was reached. WMO would contribute **50 thousand dollars** towards the welfare and rehabilitation of our brothers and sisters in Kerala. We will be adopting several families and catering to their every need, rebuilding homes, empowering the people with tools to earn their livelihood, providing essential household items, food grains and most importantly sewing machines to the self-sustaining, proud and independent women of Kerala.

**In keeping with the indomitable spirit of the men and women of this great state, we remain unwavering in our commitment, unyielding in our determination and undefeated in our resolve; WMO stands firm, shoulder to shoulder with our brothers and sisters in Kerala, often called "God's own Country". And although it is facing His wrath, it will never be Forsaken.**

A lot more needs to be done so we appeal to your hearts to donate generously towards this pertinent cause. Your timely contributions help us to Serve Humanity at the most vulnerable times. The people of Kerala have shown exceptional courage under duress, time for the Memon Community to reciprocate and display exceptional generosity in their hour of need.

***there wasn't a single household item on the empty floor, not even a paltry stove to make food as everything had been swept away in the floods, yet she requested for a sewing machine. She wanted to resume making clothes in a dimly-lit corner of her home so that she could earn enough to educate her children, rebuild her life and home."*** states Raziya Chashmawala (Deputy Chairman of the WMO North India Chapter Ladies Wing), one of the members of the visiting WMO team.

***"I wasn't in a corporate office of maximum city where many a women have broken the glass ceiling, scaled the greatest heights of success and are perched on the top rung of the corporate ladder but in a village in the backwaters of Kerala. Yet, here I was, standing next to this torch bearer, an exemplary crusader for***

their decrepit homes bludgeoned by the rains, without any worldly possessions; just their resilient spirit and stout hearts getting them through their journey of



***A hundred and seventy-five homes are being rebuilt courtesy a contribution of 4.3 million rupees by WMO North India Chapter towards the rehabilitation of the families, displaced by the Kerala floods.***



# WMO Africa Chapter STANDS WITH INDONESIA



Mohamed Ahmad, a resident of **Palu** recalls leaving his home to attend the late afternoon prayers on Friday when the earth shook violently below his feet. Before he could rush back and warn his family, his house crumbled before his eyes, burying his loved ones under the rubble of the collapsed building. There are many more horrific tales emerging from the ravaged city of Palu as survivors recount colossal waves rising from the ocean and tearing through the city, leaving behind a trail of death and destruction.

Indonesia is reeling yet again from another natural disaster. **A powerful 7.5-magnitude earthquake and resulting tsunamis** that struck the island of **Sulawesi** on the 28th of September have left more than **1,600** dead

and around **70,000** homeless. The devastating earthquake liquefied the soil, swallowing up homes and burying thousands of hapless victims. The shifts on the ocean floor

inundated homes and entombed hundreds of people.

Thousands are believed to be missing in the towns of **Palu**, **Baleroa** and **Petobo**, situated in the Central Sulawesi province of Indonesia. Rivers of mud swept away entire neighbourhoods in the aftermath of the devastating earthquake and ensuing tsunami. Apocalyptic scenes were witnessed in Petobo where dozens of villages disappeared into the ground, soil liquefied into quicksand, making it almost impossible for rescue teams to extract bodies. The government announced that after 11th October, these decimated areas would be designated as mass graves and left untouched, causing the death toll to rise to an astounding **5000**. With thousands entombed and hundreds



spawned tsunamis, creating 20 feet walls of water that lashed the shore,



critically injured, the stench of death fills the air in Sulawesi.

Nisrina, a resident of the Petobo village is living on the street opposite her home with her infant daughter. She is waiting for her husband and son to return from the mosque since they left for Friday prayers on that fateful day. Its been two days, her hollow eyes keep looking earnestly in the direction of the mosque and flicker with hope at any sign of resemblance from the emerging crowds. Nisrina is too terrified to enter her home as the walls shake under the effects of the aftershocks and could collapse at any moment. Several mosques were flattened under the dual impact of the earthquake and tsunami with many victims still trapped under the rubble. With the Government abandoning their search for survivors, Nisrina's hopes have turned to despair as the wait for her loved ones becomes endless.

WMO has always answered the call of the unfortunate victims of a human tragedy or a natural calamity in any part of the World. The organisation has been on the forefront and has contributed in every possible way to alleviate the pain and misery of those who seek refuge under these tragic circumstances.

**WMO Africa Chapter**, led by trustee **Gulaam Abdoola**, collected one million rands within a few hours towards the victims of this mammoth tragedy. The donation drive was fuelled by Mr. **Yunus Suleman** (Treasurer - WMO), supported ably by Mr. **Feizul Ayob** (VP - WMO Africa Chapter) and several members of WMO Africa who stepped up to the plate and

donated generously towards this pertinent cause.

Tens of thousands of Indonesia's earthquake and tsunami survivors are homeless, they will be living in makeshift tents and shelters for the next couple of months under the constant threat of an impending epidemic that unleashes in these squalid conditions. Much more needs to be done as our work is cut out to ensure that the survivors are met with their immediate needs of adequate shelter, food and water. Relief supplies, including hygiene kits for families, medicines and water sanitation to prevent the outbreak of disease are the need of the hour. Children have displayed signs of deep anguish and despair, they are especially vulnerable at this juncture as many have lost their parents, family members and homes hence child protection is a critical aspect of the on going rescue mission in Indonesia.

***Please donate towards this pertinent cause. Your timely contributions help us to Serve Humanity at their most vulnerable times.***

May Allah Swt reward members of the Africa Chapter for their generosity and ease the suffering of the people of Indonesia.



*WMO Africa Chapter handed over a cheque of 1.23 million Rands to the "Gift of the Givers" towards the victims of the recent earthquake and tsunami that struck the Island of Sulawesi in Indonesia.*



# EDUCATION



Education is the bedrock on which communities and nations rise and stand. It is the birth right of every child. And it is on this firm belief that Education is the most Powerful Weapon which you can use to change the World, that a record 11,000 deprived students received an education in the year 2018, courtesy the World Memon Organisation.

Since its inception, the World Memon Organisation has been striving to promote education within the Memon community.

WMO has been providing financial assistance to the underprivileged segment of the community for the edification of their children. Enabling them to stand up on their feet, support their families and live with dignity.

## PAKISTAN CHAPTER

Pakistan Chapter has been a very strong proponent of **"Education for All"**. The target set by the World Memon Organisation is that no Memon child should be deprived of an education by the year 2030.

Annually the budget for education works out to **USD. 2.5 million** globally. WMO Pakistan Chapter are awarding scholarships to more than **6000** students up to the Intermediate level, which itself is a record. And yet, the numbers keep rising each year.

Apart from the above, the chapter awards bursaries to Memon students for acquiring higher and professional education in the fields of Medicine, Engineering, Finance and Business Administration. Around **800** students are beneficiaries of this program.

## MITI

The Memon Industrial and Technical Institute (MITI) in Karachi was conferred as the **top ranking Vocational Training Institute in Pakistan** by the National Vocational & Technical Training Commission in 2016.

The 1st Place award is testament to the vast strides that MITI has made since its inception. On the **31st of May 2009**, MITI was established under the auspices of

the World Memon Organisation in the bustling city of Karachi.

MITI is a Vocational and Technical centre for the youth (both boys and girls) offering a wide variety of technical, mechanical, IT, multimedia and home economic courses. MITI opened its doors for students in 2009 with 7 Trades for men. Today, it boasts of 31 courses for men and 25 for women.



Courses range from self grooming, stitching and cooking classes to CCNA (Cisco Certified Network Associate) Diploma in Information Technology, HD Media Production and Web Development.

Youngsters have benefitted immensely from these courses and are now, not only placed in renowned organization but most have become entrepreneurs and are themselves offering jobs to other graduates of MITI from the same discipline.

MITI has always been the Flag Bearer of the Humanitarian Work done by WMO and offers scholarships to hundreds of deserving students each year. Over **140,000** graduates of MITI have secured employment or are self employed.

We can only stand up and applaud Mr. H M Shehzad (Former VP - WMO Pakistan Chapter) for his untiring endeavours to create a brighter future for the youth of Pakistan.

## A Memon University in Karachi

Establishment of a Memon University in Karachi was amongst the first **legacy projects** announced by **Mr. Solly Noor** (President – WMO) at the 15th WMO AGM in Ras Al Khaimah in 2017.

**"The goal isn't to live forever, it is to create something that will. What we do for us, dies with us. What we do for others and the world, remains and is immortal."** states Mr. Solly Noor.

**"It is on this firm belief that we have envisioned and announced the World Memon Organisation Legacy Projects. It is our endeavour to lay down the cornerstone of an everlasting legacy in Pakistan. This noteworthy educational project will firmly establish our legacy of an educated heart and mind. As WMO**



***continues its journey of touching and changing lives of thousands across the globe, the Memon University in Karachi marks a significant milestone in that all important journey to change the World,"*** concludes an emphatic WMO President.

The Governor of Sindh has already endorsed the Memon University in Pakistan.

## MIDDLE EAST CHAPTER

### The Legacy of an Educated Heart and Mind

When **Mahmood Abu Baker Shaikhani** (Deputy Secretary of the World Memon Organisation and Member of the Board of Directors, Pakistan Business Council) adorned the cover of The Memon magazine, he spoke about the legacy he wants to leave behind.

***"Our Legacy should be an educated heart and mind. We must provide our children with an education. It's imperative that they stand on their feet, make their own distinctive mark in the world and give back to society. Rather than inheriting wealth, they must inherit our values."***



A recent report in a leading publication of the UAE - The Gulf News, featuring Mahmood Shaikhani stated.

"Dozens of Pakistani expatriate students who were in danger of losing out on an academic year will be able to continue with their studies, thanks to the generosity of a group of philanthropists.

At least 89 students of Pakistan Education Academy (PEA) were facing the prospect of being barred from taking their annual exams due to non-payment of tuition fees which amounted to Dh370,000 in total, which has now been cleared jointly by World Memon Organisation (WMO) and Pakistan Business Council (PBC).

The students mostly belonged to struggling families where the parents had either lost their jobs or were facing unfortunate circumstances, making them

unable to pay the fees.

*"There are a lot of families who are struggling to make ends meet, there are others who have lost their jobs or are facing a crisis in the Middle East due to which the students are suffering. When this grim situation came to our attention, we came together and decided that something had to be done to help the children continue with their studies, without losing an important academic year. Thankfully a lot of people stepped up to the plate and the required amount was raised in no time"* beams Mr. Mahmoud Shaikhani.

Mahmood Abu Baker Shaikhani has thus taken another big step towards fulfilling that enduring legacy during the Holy month of Ramadan.

## FAR EAST CHAPTER

### Dharussalaam Maha Vidyalaya

The World Memon Organisation firmly believes that your Alma Mater plays a vital role in shaping you into the Person you become in Life. Your teachers impart the important lessons for life, you are introduced to your life long friends, you get a taste of your favourite sporting activity, you realise if you are inclined towards theatre and can become the next George Clooney or you are enticed by technology to become the next Bill Gates.

In a nutshell your school is your breeding ground and the world is your stage. You build a foundation in your early years to shape the future and chart your destiny. That is the reason why WMO pays a lot of attention towards the development of this important institution of learning during the formative years of life.



The story of this school began a 100 years ago in the city of Colombo.

The year was 1916 when Mr. M.A.C.Mohamed inaugurated the school. It was named and based on the Denham English School with just three teachers and 8 children.



As the years passed by and the number of students increased, the school was conducted over 2 sessions. The institution grew in prominence as the students excelled in education, sports and other extra-curricular activities.

Unfortunately by 1933 there was no one to look after or maintain the school. The government stepped in, renamed it Dharussalaam Maha Vidyalaya and changed the medium of instruction from English to Sinhalese and Tamil.

However with time and a multitude of reasons, including the parents' lack of interest, local issues and bad administration, the standard of education and discipline dropped. The government was unable to provide a new building and classes were conducted in a temporary shed.

In 2012 the Past-Pupils Association was formed and they collaborated with the Serendib Schools Development Foundation (SSDF) to improve the precipitously deteriorating condition of the school. A blue print was designed for the development of education and infra-structure for the school

On the initiative of Mr Majid Ali Mohamed of Eurochairty, the World Memon Organization arrived on the scene in 2013. Together, they organised extra-classes in core-subjects, sports activities and even conducted a breakfast programme for 140 needy children. They also provided the bulk of the funds for the construction of a new three-storey building to house class rooms.

26th January 2014 marked the beginning of the construction of the three-storey building comprising of 9 classrooms. It was completed in quick time and classes commenced on the 5th of September in the same year.

A computer lab with 35 computers was added in June 2015.

On the 100th anniversary, a new wing comprising of classrooms with modern amenities and an auditorium will be built with the support of the WMO and SSDF. **The project will cost over Forty Million Sri Lankan Rupees.**

On the 25th of January 2016, the foundation stone laying ceremony of the new wing was graced by his Excellency, the **President of Sri Lanka, Mr. Maithripala Sirisena**. Accompanying him were WMO trustees Mr M.H. Omar, Mr Elias Kareem and all prominent members of the WMO Far East Chapter.

In the future there are plans for a library and a science laboratory. With the Grace of Allah we hope to provide an excellent education balanced with appropriate extra-curricular activities to make the students, responsible citizens of the motherland.

Fittingly the theme for the centennial year is "**Uplifting Lives through Education**". Working on this firm belief,

the World Memon Organisation has contributed millions of dollars for over a decade towards educating thousands of students across the globe.

**The Dharussalaam Maha Vidyalay is yet another example of WMO's endeavours to spread the light of education to the far corners of the earth.**

The Endeavours of the World Memon Organisation towards Dharussalaam Maha Vidyalaya over the past few years:

1. During the year 2014, a 4 storied building was constructed at the cost of **US\$ 100,000** accommodating 9 class rooms, a principal's office, staff room etc.
2. WMO Far East Chapter has continued to assist in:
  - Providing daily breakfast to deserving children.
  - Providing extra coaching for students during examination time including additional classes after school hours
  - Supporting extracurricular activities, mainly Sports. Providing sporting equipment, conducting practice sessions, appointing an effective coach and providing meals to the players.

Estimated cost for all the above works out to **USD 40,000** per annum.

3. WMO FC has also undertaken steps to develop the Infra structure of the school at an estimated cost of USD 1.6 million which includes providing 39 class rooms, an auditorium, a fully equipped science laboratory, library and several other amenities such as wash rooms and a dining area.

## INDIA CHAPTER

### The Ummeed Foundation

**Ummeed means Hope.** The name is quite appropriate for a foundation that supports differently abled children, as circumstances often demand infinite hope in moments of perennial despair.





Ummeed foundation is located in the bustling suburb of Mumbra, around 40 kms from Mumbai, India. Mumbra is densely populated with members of the Muslim community, most of whom live in abject poverty. Although the foundation consists of a small apartment with tiny classrooms, it remains the only beacon of hope for hundreds of underprivileged Muslim families, as it serves as a school and sanctuary for their children with special needs.

"Special needs" is an umbrella underneath which a staggering array of diagnoses can be placed. Children with special needs may have mild learning disabilities or profound cognitive impairment; food allergies or terminal illness; developmental delays that catch up quickly or remain entrenched; occasional panic attacks or serious psychiatric problems.

In spite of it's limited resources and a space crunch, the Ummeed foundation boasts of a team of highly qualified teachers and professionals that are well equipped to impart lessons and cultivate skills that help the children to overcome their challenges. In many instances, the foundation even provides free medical and health care to the children, along with counselling for their parents.

Mr Parvez Farid, founder of Ummeed says,

*"When I established the foundation in 2011, the biggest roadblock we faced, were the parents. As the families were already reeling under debt and hardships, the burden of a handicapped child was too much to bear for the agonising parents. The children were often meted out with ill treatment, some were even tied up and locked away.*

*It took a great deal of convincing on our part and many hours of counselling to make the parents understand that the children needed their constant love, support and encouragement. It is my firm belief that most of these children can become an active part of society and reach their full potential, if given a chance."*

A delegation of the World Memon Organisation from the Far East Chapter, personally visited Ummeed and witnessed the brilliant work being done under its banner. They were saddened by the cramped spaces that packed the children like tinsardines, within the confined walls of the school and pledged **one hundred thousand dollars** towards the foundation. The contribution will enable them to buy a much larger piece of land in the same neighbourhood, for the purpose of building a bigger premise to create an environment more conducive to the children's mental, emotional, psychological and physical needs.

The World Memon Organisation stands firm with Ummeed in their resolute efforts to support the children with special needs. If we can bring a smile on the faces of these little angels, if we can play a small role in making their lives a bit better, if we can

provide them with a brighter future, if we can care for them, enough to help them learn, grow and live their lives to the fullest.

The Ummeed foundation has given us that hope and hope springs eternal!

## AYESHA

Ayesha Imran Khan, now a 10 year old with a sweet disposition and radiant smile, enjoys being the centre of attraction.



Around 5 years ago, a reticent and glum Ayesha hobbled into the Ummeed foundation for the first time, accompanied by her distraught father. She had difficulty walking as her left side was afflicted, restricting and limiting her movements. She sat quietly in a corner, alone, unable to match steps with her siblings and friends.

Her father was a poor street vendor who could hardly make ends meet and with his limited resources was unable to provide Ayesha with the special training or education which she sorely needed in her early years. Her mother was too busy taking care of the other 3 children. Ayesha was completely neglected.

At the age of five, when the parents realised that Ayesha could barely walk, they approached the Ummeed Foundation. When she enrolled into the school, Ayesha had not yet developed her social and communication skills, she couldn't even indicate her toilet needs, add to that a short attention span. All these symptoms pointed towards her deteriorating physical and mental state.

Ummeed prepared an Individual Education Plan



(IEP) for Ayesha. The plan included developing her left motor coordination, working on her personal hygiene and increasing her attention span. Parental counselling also helped her parents understand Ayesha's psychological needs and now they deal with her patiently and with utmost care. Ayesha has since shown steady improvement, she now reciprocates and attentively participates in class activities.

As WMO have adopted Ummeed and are on the verge of building a bigger and better school for Children with Special Needs like Ayesha, we were very touched when her teacher sent us a poem. It was her way of thanking us on behalf of Ayesha and all the other children.

**My name is Ayesha  
I sat in a corner  
I couldn't play with my friends  
I was alone and a mourner**

**My left leg is always asleep  
It never wakes up  
I plead with it everyday  
Wake up! Wake up!**

**One day I went to Fairyland  
They call it Ummeed  
They cured me with a magic wand  
It is a miracle, indeed!**

**I run with my friends  
I draw ice cream cones  
The magic is working  
I have stronger bones**

**The Fairyland is growing bigger  
We have a new friend called WMO  
I am going to run even further  
Nobody has to sit in a corner, anymore**

**My name is Ayesha  
I run and I fly  
I play with my friends  
I am aiming for the skies!**

Etch those couplets in your memory, remember her face, remember Ayesha in your thoughts and prayers.

This is the World Memon Organisation **CHANGING LIVES** across the Globe.

Join Us.  
**TOGETHER WE CAN MAKE A DIFFERENCE**

### Farishtay Project

The WMO North India Chapter provides funds towards the education and well being of hundreds of children with special needs. Contributions include conveyance and medical aid. The Chapter also acts as a catalyst for admissions in educational establishments that provide an environment that is conducive for the physical, mental and emotional well-being of the children.

The name Farishtay translates to angels in the Urdu language and is quite apt for the project as members of North India Chapter are truly the guardian angels of these little angels.

## APPEAL

**PLEASE DONATE GENEROUSLY TOWARDS THE RIGHTEOUS CAUSE OF EDUCATION. YOUR ZAKAT CONTRIBUTIONS ENSURE THAT THE CHILDREN RECEIVE A PROPER EDUCATION. YOUR DONATIONS HELP IN SHAPING THEIR LIVES AND CREATING BRIGHTER FUTURES.**

Projects		Targeted No. of Beneficiaries	Cost per Beneficiary	Projected Cost
Pakistan Chapter	Primary & Secondary	6000	\$170	\$1,020,000
	Higher Education / Professional	500	\$1,500	\$750,000
Middle East Chapter	Education Assistance	1000	\$200	\$200,000
Far East Chapter	Higher / Professional Education	200	\$2,000	\$400,000
North India Chapter	Project Farishtey	750	\$70	\$50,000
	Higher / Professional Education	200	\$2,000	\$400,000
South India Chapter	Higher / Professional Education	200	\$1,500	\$300,000
Southern Africa Chapter	Bursary	100	\$500	\$50,000
	Basic Education Help	100	\$250	\$25,000



# HOUSING AND REHABILITATION





## A SIMPLE DECENT SHELTER IS A BASIC HUMAN RIGHT AND A PRIMARY NEED FOR ALL.

For over a decade the World Memon Organisation has carried out rehabilitation projects, primarily housing which constitutes the corner stone in the well-being of a community.

The organisation works towards the alleviation of poverty in the Memon community by providing homes to our less fortunate brothers and sisters.

### HABITAT FOR HUMANITY

Housing Projects in India, Pakistan and Sri Lanka stand completed in the cities of **Hyderabad, Bangalore, Surat, Ahmedabad, Mehkar, Colombo, Sindh and Karachi**

More than a thousand deserving recipients are appreciative home owners under the WMO banner. Around **2.5 million dollars** are spent each year towards housing.

## INDIA

### Aashiyaana Housing Projects

#### Akola

The first week of January 2018, marked the foundation stone laying ceremony of WMO Ashiyaana in Akola, a housing project which will be home to **31** marginalised families of the Indian Memon Community. Akola is a city located in the state of Maharashtra in India, around 600 kms east of Mumbai.



WMO Ashiyaana marks the first of the **Legacy Projects** envisioned by WMO President, Mr. Solly Noor. *"The goal isn't to live forever, it is to create something that will, hence we continue our endeavours to build a habitat for humanity. We firmly believe that a simple, decent shelter is a basic human right and a primary need for all,"* asserts the WMO President.

We are pleased to report that the housing project will be completed within the next few months. As the interior work on the apartments has commenced

since the exterior structure stands completed; Ashiyaana is ready to welcome the 31 families into her fold.

We are indebted to **Mr. Majid Ranani, Mr. Bilal Thekiya**, the **Akola Memon Jamaat** and the **Regional Management Committee of WMO North India Chapter** who are the driving force behind the Ashiyaana project in Akola for completing the project in record time.

#### Malegaon

The second legacy and housing project consisting of **18** homes was initiated in Malegaon on the 15th of January 2018. It shares the same name - WMO Ashiyaana. The project is fast nearing completion.



#### Kodinar

Kodinar is a city situated on the South coast of Gujarat with a sizeable Memon population. On the 30th of March 2019, WMO North India Chapter handed over the keys of 18 homes to less fortunate families of the Memon community in a simple ceremony.

This WMO Aashiyaana housing project is the first legacy project to be completed during the tenure of WMO President Mr. Solly Noor. The project was initiated by **Mr. Ehsan Gadawala** (VP - WMO North India Chapter) and singlehandedly funded by members of WMO North India Chapter which is an accomplishment in itself.

**The word 'Ashiyaana' means a nest in the urdu language. A fitting name to a most enduring legacy - a roof over the heads of the underprivileged families of the Memon Community - a nest for all to come home to.**





## Upcoming Project

The town of **Savarkundla** lies on the south of the Saurashtra plateau in Gujarat. Mr. Sameer Hingora (Patron member of WMO NIC) has constructed a building which houses **15** apartments and **18** shops which he intends to generously donate to the less fortunate of the region. The apartments will provide a roof over the heads of 15 underprivileged families whereas the stores will assist them to earn a livelihood, stand on their feet and live with dignity.

## The Grave Truth of Mumbai City

*"When I laid my grandfather to rest in a dug out, not bigger than 6 feet long and 2 feet wide, I was happy that my Dada (grand dad) finally had a place, he could call his own in Mumbai!! Something he dreamt, longed and wished for 88 years of his existence but was accomplished only by his death."*



As we sat stunned by this statement from one of the housing applicants from Mumbai, Mr. Hamid Nathani (former VP of WMO India Chapter) made a firm resolve to accept the challenging prospect of providing homes to the underprivileged in Mumbai.

You have to understand the dynamics of real estate in Mumbai to gauge the gravity of the situation. One square feet in proper Mumbai can cost anywhere between USD 100 to USD 1000. A minimum area of a 300 square feet home costing the basic USD 100 works out to a whopping **USD 30,000**. A poor man in Mumbai can spend an eternity, only hoping to accumulate a fraction of that amount to buy an area which is smaller than the living room of a normal sized home.

Even the houses available at the outskirts of Mumbai, in the far



flung suburbs, a good 40 to 60 kms away, cost a minimum of USD 50 a square feet hence a newly constructed unit of a basic area of 300 square feet costs **USD 15,000**

After completing a housing project of **20** units in Mehkar, Maharashtra in 2014 followed by delivering **60** housing units to the underprivileged Memons of Ahmedabad, Gujarat in the year 2015, the next ambitious project undertaken by WMO India Chapter and Nathani Charitable Trust will provide **200** homes, over the next couple of years to deserving Memons in Mumbai. A mega budget of USD **5 million** will be allocated towards the endeavour with sizeable contributions coming from WMO, Nathani Charitable Trust, Mr Hamid Nathani himself, as well as several local philanthropists and humanitarians. All of whom, share the firm belief that there is an urgent and utmost need to provide homes to the less fortunate Memons of Mumbai. Most Memon Jamaats spread across the city, along with numerous other benefactors have promised to join hands with WMO to fulfill the dreams of hundreds of Memon families who do not have a roof over their head and a home to call their own in "maximum" city.

**Ironically the Kabrastan (graveyard) for Muslims in Mumbai is situated in the tony area of Marine Lines, overlooking the famous landmark of the Queens Necklace that adorns the coastline. One of the most expensive real estates in the world. Until the Mumbai housing project becomes a reality, our desolate**

brothers and sisters can only seek solace in the fact that they will eventually occupy the most coveted spaces in the landscape of Mumbai, unfortunately six feet under.

Your Zakat contributions can change this emphatic reality. Donate generously towards the worthy cause of Rehabilitation of Memons in the upcoming month of Ramadan.

### I live in a Garbage Dump

*"My name is Mohammed Rijwan Abdul Kadar Bombewala and I live in a garbage dump. Surrounded*



*by dirt, dust, the stench of disease and death, my 3 young sons, a daughter and my wife huddle together in a shanty which is about 10 feet wide and 12 feet long. Yes, there are bathrooms much bigger than that! To add to this, my humble home is illegal. We live in the constant fear that the authorities will demolish it and the four walls that keep the roof above our head will come crumbling down."*

Rijwan is a 36 year old Memon from Surat, Gujarat who drives an auto rickshaw for a living. Burdened under a mountain of debt, he could barely make ends meet or bring food to the table for his family. The authorities demolished his illegal shanty on numerous occasions and he was left to the mercy of the heavens above. The community came to his rescue and the Surat Memon Jamaat enrolled his 4 children into school. Nathani Charitable Trust, along with WMO have provided the family with a home in Makka Apt, Bhagatalav, Surat. A proper one bedroom, with a living room and a kitchen.



**"My children are going to school and there is a place I can call my own. I will never forget the 21st of November 2016, the day we entered our new home. Because that was the first night, in many a decades, when I slept peacefully. For I knew when I woke up the next morning, there would still be a roof over my head and clean air for my family to breathe!"**

## APPEAL

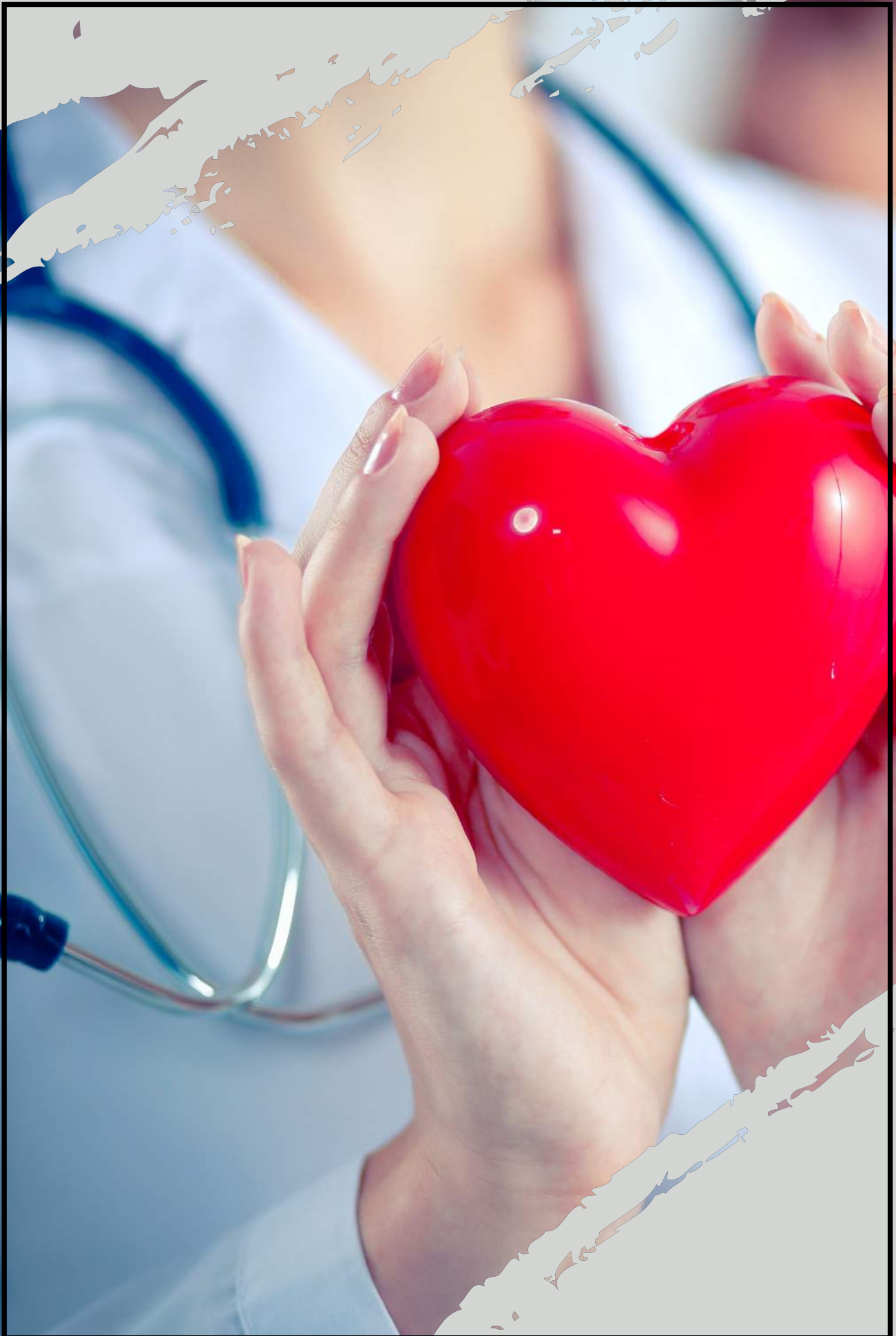
**YOUR ZAKAT CONTRIBUTIONS GO A LONG WAY IN BRINGING A SMILE ON THE FACES OF THE CHILDREN WHO STAY WARM AND SAFE IN THE CONFINES OF THEIR HOMES, YOU HAVE SO GENEROUSLY PROVIDED.**

Projects		Targeted No. of Beneficiaries	Cost per Unit	Projected Cost
Pakistan Chapter	Housing - Purchase Assistance	100 Houses	\$10,000	\$1,000,000
	Rent Assistance	100 Families	\$1,000	\$100,000
Far East Chapter	Housing - Construction/Purchase Assist	20 Houses	\$12,000	\$240,000
North India Chapter	Housing - Construction/Purchase Assist	60 Houses	\$12,000	\$720,000

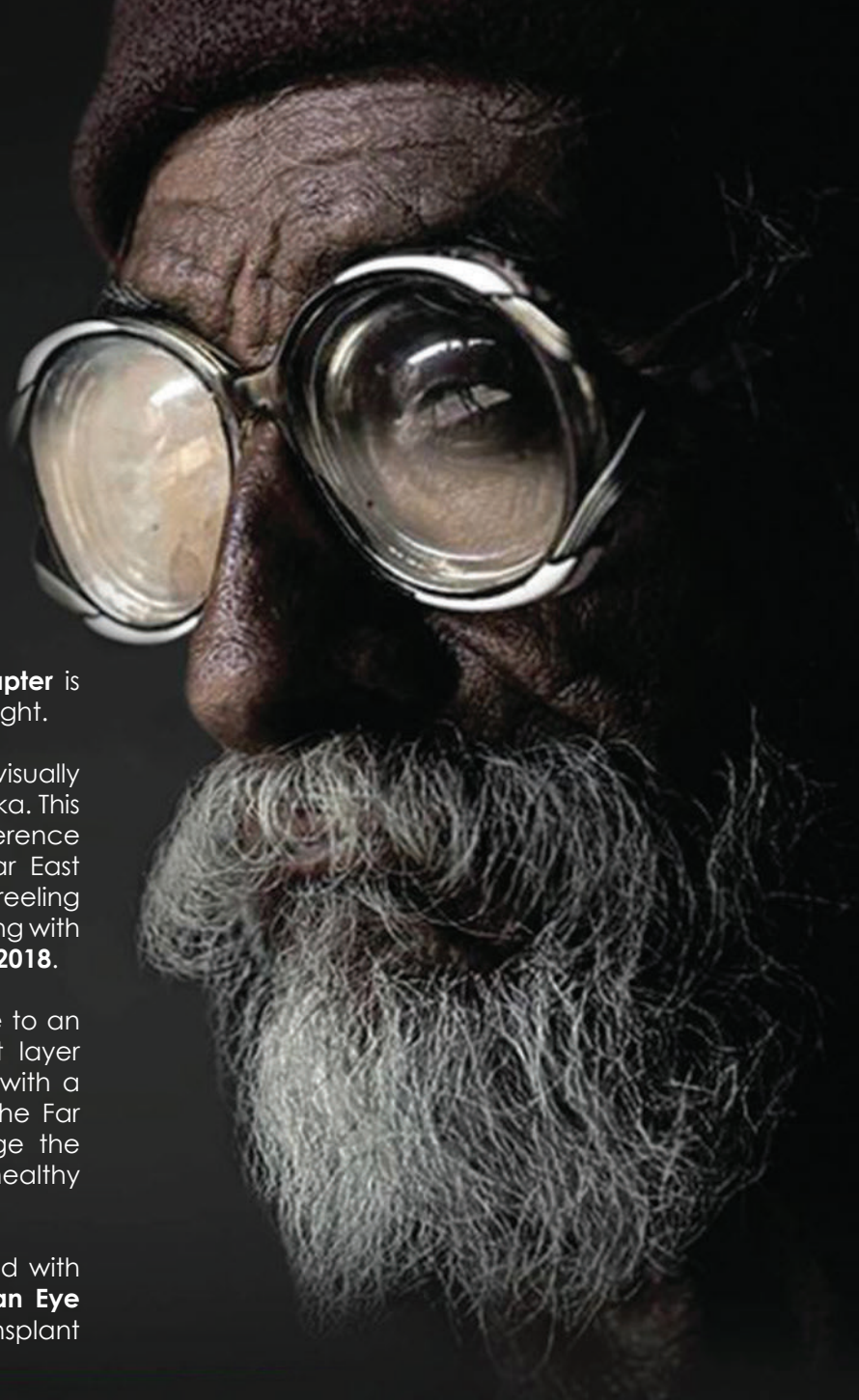




# HEALTH CARE



# The Gift *of* Sight



The **World Memon Organisation Far East Chapter** is spreading the light with the invaluable gift of sight.

Healthy corneas are being delivered to the visually impaired in all corners of the World from Sri Lanka. This worthy project will soon make a tangible difference to hundreds across the globe. The WMO Far East Chapter will donate eyes to countries that are reeling under the onslaught of curable blindness, starting with **delivering 200 corneas to Pakistan in the year 2018.**

In a majority of these cases, the sight lost due to an opaque cornea (the outermost, transparent layer of the eye) can be restored by replacing it with a clear one. This remarkable endeavour that the Far East Chapter has embarked upon will bridge the gap between availability and requirement of healthy corneas.

The World Memon Organisation has partnered with the **Hashmanis Foundation** and the **Sri Lankan Eye Bank Society** to provide free Corneal Transplant services to the Memons of Pakistan.

Under the agreement, the Sri Lankan Eye Bank Society will provide the donated healthy corneas to the World Memon Organisation Far East Chapter at cost which will be sent to WMO Pakistan Chapter. The surgeries will be performed at Hashmanis Hospital and the surgical expenses will be borne by the World Memon Organisation and the Hashmanis Foundation.

An agreement to transplant 200 corneas has been signed. Each surgery costs north of Rs.150,000 but through this thoughtful initiative, underprivileged patients can have their vision restored at zero expense. They have been provided with the perfect opportunity to lead a normal life by replacing their damaged corneas with healthy ones.



For further details, contact us at:

**UAN: 111-142-273**

or visit

[www.hashmanis.com.pk](http://www.hashmanis.com.pk) | [f /Hashmanis](https://www.facebook.com/Hashmanis)



When it comes to medical aid, the World Memon Organisation have established themselves as Caretakers of Humanity, “We support Life. We strongly believe that every human being has the right to quality medical care. Our vision is a World without suffering,” asserts Mr. Newsad Gani (Deputy President of WMO)

## Khidmat

**Khidmat Charitable Trust** is located in a serene park, one of the few remaining green lungs of Mumbai city. It is a non-profit organisation which was set up in 2001 to provide effective medical and health care to the underprivileged across India.



From free medicines to diagnostic tests, from providing kidney dialysis to a sizeable number of afflicted brothers and sisters on a daily basis at zero costs to making life saving surgeries possible for the less fortunate. Everything is being taken care of, under one roof and in record time.

The Trust's head office consists of a waiting area which has a constant stream of visitors suffering from various ailments. There is a dedicated department for dialysis treatment, 2 large rooms housing eight beds each with separate sections for men and women. A few committed doctors and nurses are always on hand to monitor the treatment. The soulful rendition of Surah's from the Holy Quran plays in the backdrop, reinforcing that this work is purely for the sake of pleasing Allah S.W.T.

**Hamid Nathani**, former VP of WMO India Chapter is a lofty pillar of strength of the Khidmat Trust. Other stalwarts including his brother **Rashid Nathani**, **Mr. Shabbir Patca** (Regional Secretary General of WMO North India Chapter) and several other prominent philanthropists of Mumbai city, make up the core team of the Trust.

The Khidmat Trust also provides tuition fees, scholarships and bursaries to deserving students.

Khidmat means “To Serve” and the World Memon Organisation has firmly underlined “**Serving Mankind**” on their logo. With both organisations sharing the same ideology, it was only inevitable for their paths to align in their endeavours to uplift Humanity.

**WMO will continue to collaborate with organisations such as Khidmat Charitable Trust in various countries across the globe to achieve their vision for the year 2030, whereby no child will be deprived of an education, all families will have a roof over their heads and effective medical & health care will remain firmly within the frail grasp of penury.**

## PAKISTAN

A hospital is being built in **Karachi**, thanks to a **2 million** dollar donation from one of our very generous benefactors. The philanthropic family has played a prominent role in WMO since its inception.

We all pray that their wish for creating another milestone is fulfilled and the Almighty eternally bless the family.

The hospital will mark the first of the Legacy Projects in Pakistan.

## INDIA

### Teli Hospital

**Dhoraji** is a town in Gujarat which is home to a considerable Memon population. Teli hospital is a boon for the inhabitants of Dhoraji and the neighbouring towns and villages as it provides effective medical treatment at subsidised costs. A dedicated team of doctors attend to the patients, nursing them back to health.

Teli hospital lacks a radiology department which serves as an impediment in carrying out diagnostic procedures to ascertain medical conditions thus delaying treatments which could prove fatal in critical cases. Dhoraji residents have to travel considerable distances to get these tests done.

WMO North India Chapter recently donated a **3D ECHO COLOR DOPPLER** machine and a **sonography** machine to initiate a radiology department in Teli hospital. They are equipped with the latest 3D imaging technology, offering high image quality with pinpoint accuracy to enhance diagnostic confidence.

The management of Teli hospital was extremely grateful to **WMO North India Chapter** for their generosity and profusely thanked the donors.

## Radiology Department

The Teli hospital in Dhoraji needs many more state-of-the-art equipments including a **CT scan** machine, another **Ultrasound** unit and a **CR system of X ray tables** at a cost of **USD 280,000** to complete their Radiology wing.



## Medical Projects - Palghar Hospital

A **135 bed** multi-speciality hospital is being built at Palghar, a city 90 kms north of Mumbai, enroute to Gujarat. The noteworthy **USD 3.5 million** dollar project is a collaboration between WMO North India Chapter and **Palghar Memon Welfare Trust**.

The first phase of the hospital stands on the verge of completion with an estimated **USD 1.5 million** already spent towards building the infrastructure.



## APPEAL

**KINDLY CONTRIBUTE YOUR ZAKAT AND LILLAH FUNDS TOWARDS THE WORTHY CAUSE OF HEALTH CARE. YOUR CONTRIBUTIONS MAKE THE DIFFERENCE BETWEEN LIFE AND DEATH.**

Projects		Targeted No. of Beneficiaries	Cost per Beneficiary	Projected Cost
Pakistan Chapter	Cornea Transplant	250	\$400	\$100,000
Far East Chapter	Emergency Treatment / Surgeries	30	\$1,700	\$50,000
North India Chapter	Dialysis Treatment (Khidmat Trust)	Adoption of 18 dialysis machines		\$400,000
Southern Africa Chapter	Emergency Medical Help	25	\$400	\$10,000
	Feeding Care	100	\$50	\$5,000
	Frail Care	200	\$125	\$25,000
	Wheel Chair Campaign	200	\$100	\$20,000





# UPLIFTING AFRICA







# A Ramadan in Africa

**“Charity never decreases wealth.  
Rather, it increases it...  
it increases it... it increases it”**

*Messenger of Allah*

**WMO [Africa Chapter]** has carried out umpteen humanitarian endeavors to uplift humanity during the holy month of Ramadan. We would like to thank all our benefactors who have generously donated Lillah & Zakaat funds, enabling us to fulfil the Amaanat [Trust] of distributing it to several underprivileged families of South Africa.

The designated **Welfare Committee** appointed by the Chapter strives to ensure that all requests for financial assistance are independently assessed to establish Zakaat eligibility before contributions are made towards the respective projects and applicants. While we are able to touch lives during the merciful month of Ramadan, it is important to note that the conditions of these families continue to remain in a pitiful state throughout the year.

*We at WMO Africa chapter ensure that funding of projects are not just confined to the month of Ramadan but continue throughout the year as well.*

## Monthly projects

### FINANCIAL AID PROVIDED TO WIDOWS, ORPHANS AND LESS FORTUNATE FAMILIES

WMO Africa Chapter has identified certain orphanages and underprivileged Muslim families within the community, courtesy the welfare application process, along with assistance from several Regional Management Committee Members.



We aim to assist the orphans, whereby we provide them with their daily needs (hygiene packs, clothing, groceries etc). This includes financial assistance towards their annual stationery requirements, madressah fees etc

Several widows and needy Muslim families who need financial aid to cover daily expenses (groceries, electricity payments etc) and monthly expenses (water bills, rentals etc) have become recipients, up until they become self reliant and are able to stand on their feet again.

### FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE TOWARDS EDUCATION

WMO Africa Chapter has realised that many students lack funds to purchase the necessary text books to further their studies and has since offered financial assistance towards this specific need. Even though the costs of text books are a priority, we have many students seeking assistance with conveyance as well. Since the initiation of this project, we have been able to assist several students, lightening their financial burden and allowing them to continue their studies without these additional worries.



WMO also provides scholarships, bursaries and university registration fees to deserving students.



## MEDICAL CARE

In 2013, 2014 & 2015, WMO Africa Chapter partnered with the Islamic Medical Association of SA and embarked on a very worthy project of offering financial assistance and medical treatment to Muslim patients in need of Renal Dialysis. This was offered to those afflicted by kidney ailments from various regions such as Gauteng, KZN & the Western Cape. They were financially assisted over a period of 2 years until their medical aid came into effect and IMASA thereafter took over their management of medical and health care as per agreement.

In 2016 WMO explored the possibility of extending the same to patients who required Renal Dialysis treatments in the nascent stages as well as those who required medical treatment for various other ailments. Alhamdulillah, this project has allowed us to assist the afflicted and involves all costs including doctor's fees, hospital expenses and treatment.



Besides the assistance of our RMC, WMO Africa Chapter is fortunate to have three well respected Health Care Professionals on our RMC, who selflessly assist us with the medical assessments of those afflicted and go the extra mile to offer their medical skills and expertise when needed. Our heartfelt gratitude to Dr Haroon Gutta [Patron], Dr Ridwan Mia [Patron] & Dr Taheera Hassim [Patron]

## IMAM DEVELOPMENT PROGRAMME [IDP]

The Imam Development Programme [IDP] was formed to assist and empower Imams and religious leaders, help them develop and refine their skills. With the poor state of the Imams in South Africa, IDP has appealed to various organizations to partner with them to remedy the current situation. This includes medical assistance, educational training, daily needs and counselling. WMO has agreed to raise funds from individual members to help finance the Imam Projects.

## OLD AGE HOMES

The Garden Old Age Home based in Laudium, Pretoria, South Africa takes care of aged Muslims, a majority of whom are Memons abandoned by their families. WMO Africa Chapter's contributions assist with their daily needs and the maintenance of this institute.

## UPLIFTING THE MEMON COMMUNITY

WMO Africa Chapter has always made our Memon brothers & sisters a priority when assisting and fulfilling needs.

The needs of the Memons are vast and varied, however the daily and monthly needs such as purchasing groceries, payment of rentals, water bills & electricity [short-term goals] are first met through WMO and thereafter we set up Empowerment Projects, enabling them to seek their own independence for their future needs [long-term goals].

## NEIGHBOURLY NEEDS COMMUNITY PROJECT

WMO Africa Chapter has been actively involved in spearheading this project within the Itereleng / Brazzaville community and has remained a steadfast supporter during the month of Ramadan, as well as throughout the year. The aim is to empower them, whereby we meet their daily / monthly needs and offer them opportunities to explore the potential of becoming entrepreneurial within society. In the long run, this will enable them to become economically independent by developing various skill sets thus ensuring that they, as a community are self-sustaining.

## PRETORIA AND PURPOSEFUL GIVING



Over the past four years the Itereleng community and have been supported and assisted with various development projects that aim to uplift and develop the communities to become self-sustaining. Itereleng is an informal settlement on the doorstep of Laudium – through the support of our Memon families a masjid and other housing structures have been constructed for the community.



## MORE CLASSROOMS NEEDED IN BRAZZAVILLE

On the 3rd of June, members from WMO Africa chapter, Purposeful Giving and Planet Mercy visited the Brazzaville West Islamic Centre.

A Madressah was initiated by members of the WMO Africa Chapter in 2004 with just 12 children. 3 years later, a Masjid was built adjacent to it and today Alhamdulillah, there are close to 200 students who are imparted with Islamic education on a daily basis.



An additional piece of land has been bought to put up the extra classrooms needed to accommodate the ever growing list of children.

## SHOEBOXES

Purposeful Giving sponsored and distributed personalized Ramadan Shoeboxes as Eid gifts and gift bags, stationery packs, fruits and Chicken Licken meals to the children at Brazzaville Islamic Centre.



List of Items in each Shoebox:

Double pack toothbrush & toothpaste	Face Cloth
Body Lotion	Pair of socks
Bar of soap	Stationery pack including colouring pencils, crayons, marker, eraser, ruler etc
Soap Holder	Age appropriate toys or a special gift
Vaseline	Sanitary pads for girl, aged over 12 years

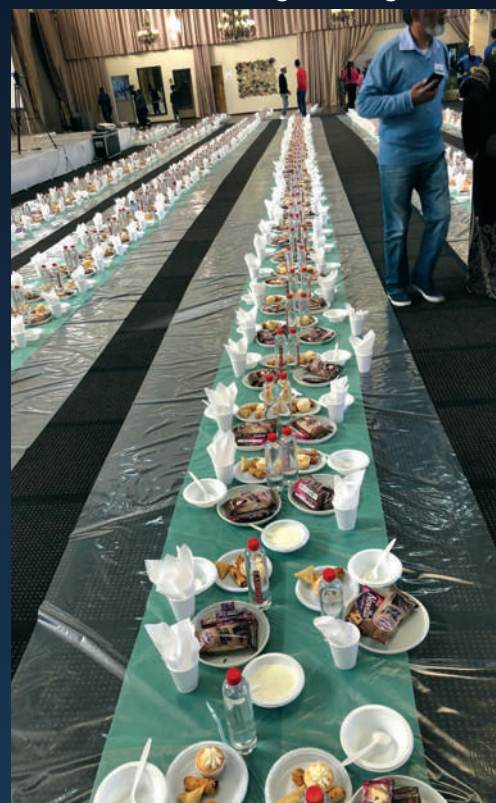
## MASS IFTAR

WMO Africa Chapter co hosted a mass iftar for a capacity crowd of 1500 in the city of Johannesburg, South Africa on the 2nd of June. The gathering consisted of families struggling to make ends meet, widows, orphans, the aged, the infirm and our less fortunate brothers and sisters who religiously fast for the entire month of Ramadan but are not sure where their next meal would come from.

**And they offer food to the needy, the orphan and the captive.**

**(Saying): "We feed you for the sake of Allah alone; we wish for neither reward nor gratitude from you."**

The Quran 76:8-9 (Surah al-Insan)



May Allah Swt accept our humble endeavours.

## WHEELCHAIR CAMPAIGN

Jona Vaughan Home is a project of Durban and Coastal Mental Health. The home caters to 84 children and adults with profound cognitive and physical disabilities. Residents receive round the clock care in a safe and secure environment. As part of their daily care, residents receive nutritional meals, medical management and participate in stimulation programmes.

Several wheelchairs have been donated during the month of Ramadaan, with the aim of alleviating the daily challenges faced by the caregivers by ensuring that the elderly are mobile. This year wheelchairs have also been handed over to the aged and infirm in Newclare, Gauteng.





## ANNUAL RAMADAN ENDEAVOURS

- Dego's of Haleem are fully sponsored and distributed every Sunday.
- Savouries for Iftaar meals are prepared and sent to various Masajids in **KZN**.
- Complete Iftaar meals are prepared and distributed.
- Food hampers are distributed and cash offered to purchase Eid clothing for children.
- Vouchers to purchase groceries as per each families' personal requirements are handed over to needy recipients throughout the month of Ramadan.
- Eid gifts and goody bags are personally packed by our team of volunteers and delivered to the following Institutes:

1. Baitul Hifazat - Home for the elderly
2. Baitul Firdaus - Home for the elderly
3. Baitul Aman - Orphanage
4. Izizwe Islamic Centre - Orphanage
5. Islamic Guidance centre
6. Kenilworth Respite Centre - Home for abused women



## MADRESSA AN NOOR

For the past five years WMO has taken a personal interest in specific underprivileged areas and concentrated on uplifting our Muslim brothers and sisters. Aapa Latiffa of Madressa An - Noor, a well-known and respected woman in the Klipspruit West area of Gauteng has dedicated her life towards assisting those in need.

After obtaining a vacant plot from the government, she has aspired to assist the needy, the homeless, the orphans and the elderly. Her efforts have not gone unnoticed and WMO reached out to her and offered her unflinching support to continue the extensive humanitarian work that she has been doing for the community.

The magnanimous generosity of the Moosa Carrim family enabled WMO to purchase a mobile housing unit comprising of 8 rooms, which included a dining room, lounge, kitchen, bathroom & toilet, furnished

with an in-built geyser to provide warm water. The unit serves as a clinic and shelter for the elderly and orphans.

## FRAIL CARE CENTRE

Over the years, we have assisted Abida's Frail care Centre in Mayfair Gauteng with the maintenance and furnishing of their facility. The home provides medical aid and health care to elderly and infirm Muslims. We have also donated several wheelchairs to the residents of this Centre.



## MUSLIM AIDS PROGRAMME

WMO Africa Chapter has sponsored the complete renovation of the premises of the Muslim Aids Programme (MAP). This home is based in Mayfair Gauteng and provides shelter to young Muslims who are afflicted with HIV. Separate facilities are provided for both boys and girls.

## FOOD HAMPERS



WMO has once again participated and contributed towards 3000 food hampers that were distributed to the marginalised in Newclare, Gauteng. Hadjie Ludfie partners with WMO to annually distribute food hampers to our less fortunate brothers and sisters who struggle to bring food on their table in the holy month of Ramadan.

We are humbled to be a part of these humanitarian projects and will continue to extend our steadfast support towards uplifting the downtrodden.

## A THANK YOU NOTE

On behalf of WMO Africa Chapter, we would like to take this opportunity to express our gratitude towards our donors, collaborators, sister organisations and volunteers. Your contributions have made a huge difference in the lives of our Muslim brothers and sisters. May the Almighty reward you for your generosity.

**AAMEEN.**



## AN ABODE OF CARING AND HEALING FOR OUR AGEING UMMAH

It is indeed a historical day as two humanitarian organisations of note, collaborate for a very worthy cause in South Africa.

**AWQAF SA and WMO Africa Chapter have come together to build a Retirement Village and Old Age Home in Raslouw, Centurian.**

AWQAF have generously donated the sprawling plot of land measuring **1.2 hectares** in Raslouw to WMO Africa chapter. A Memorandum of Understanding was signed by both organisations whereby WMO shall build the home. The Regional Management Committee of WMO Africa Chapter is grateful to **Dr. Haroun Gutta** for successfully entering into negotiations with AWQAF and being the catalyst of this merger. We are thankful to **Mr. Haroun Kalla & Zainul Cajee from AWQAF SA and stalwarts of WMO - Mr. Feizul Ayob, Mr. Haroun Joosub & Mr. Shiraz Gani** for being present at the offices of Mr Kalla in Pretoria when this momentous accord was signed.

**The Raslouw retirement village marks the first of the Legacy Projects in Africa, envisioned by its VP - Mr. Feizul Ayob**, *"The goal isn't to live forever, it is to create something that will,"* asserts the Vice President.

"There are several Hadith which underline that caring for one's parents in the later stages of their lives, especially when they attain old age, opens the gates of paradise. In the cycle of life, youth and old age are only a matter of time ; for one who is young must surely grow old." concludes Mr. Ayob reminding the youth of this eternal truth through a narration of the Prophet (PBUH), *"If a young man honours an elderly on account of his age, Allah Swt appoints someone to honour him in his old age."*

**WMO intends to build an abode for caring and healing on the donated land in the next few years. May Allah Swt reward all those who have come together to help our ageing Ummah by creating a sanctuary for the elderly and infirm.**





## End Period Poverty

March 8th is celebrated as **International Women's Day**. WMO takes great pride in our prolific ladies wings from across the globe who are committed to women development through economic empowerment in their corner of the world. They also work relentlessly towards ensuring the safety of women and providing sustainable solutions for their rights and well-being.

**Dr. Taheera Hassim** is a champion of women's causes from South Africa. She has been a part of many noteworthy humanitarian endeavours including travelling to the refugee camps on the Myanmar - Bangladesh border to attend to the **Rohingya** community and the more recent gruelling **Mozambique cyclone Idai disaster mission**. She has now taken up the worthy cause to eliminate period poverty in South Africa.

On the occasion of Women's day, Dr. Hassim travelled to **Mahlane High school** situated in the rural village of Tzaneen in the Limpopo province. She spent a considerable amount of time with a hundred girl students from the school, educating them about the menstrual cycle. Most of the young girls couldn't afford sanitary pads and had difficulties in disposing them as they continue to use pit latrines in their villages. Together with Cara, entrepreneur and manufacturer of the innovative '**My Own Cup**' and facilitator **Makome**, Taheera distributed the menstrual cups and taught the young girls how to use them.

*"I wrapped a piece of newspaper around my underwear just to stop the bleeding, because I didn't want to have a leak at school. And I wrapped a whole toilet roll around my underwear, just to keep my underwear dry until I got home. I had to wash, and reuse my pad, I didn't know what else to do. We have one pit toilet and that's all we have to use, we have to throw our pads into it."*

*"These are some of the quotes from the schoolgirls that stunned me into realising that young women in South Africa were experiencing the trauma of period poverty. This reality of every day of every period was profoundly upsetting; and demoralizing. I began donating period products ever since I qualified but I didn't realize what a crisis we have in my very own country. I was deeply bothered during my travel to Bangladesh when the Rohingya refugee crisis sparked my thoughts, stuck in the camp without a toilet having an unexpected period in the middle of the crisis with just a single sanitary towel to last the whole day. I wondered how these women coped in these circumstances. It then became my aim to ensure that no young woman must go without access to menstrual protection," concludes Taheera Hassim.*

We are grateful to members of WMO Africa Chapter for supporting the cause and contributing towards the 'Menstrual Cup' project.

**Dr. Taheera Hassim is the Regional Secretary General of WMO Africa Chapter. And what better day than the 8th of March to celebrate this crusader for women's rights in our midst.**



# ZAKAT APPEAL

## AFRICA CHAPTER

### BURSARY

100 BENEFICIARIES @ \$500

**USD 50,000**

### BASIC EDUCATION HELP

100 BENEFICIARIES @ \$250

**USD 25,000**

### GENERAL WELFARE

1000 BENEFICIARIES @ \$30

**USD 30,000**

### RELIEF AID

1000 BENEFICIARIES @ \$20

**USD 20,000**

### PROJECT WIDOWS & ORPHANS

500 BENEFICIARIES @ \$200

**USD 100,000**

### EMERGENCY MEDICAL HELP

25 BENEFICIARIES @ \$400

**USD 10,000**

### FEEDING CARE

100 BENEFICIARIES @ \$50

**USD 5,000**

### FRAIL CARE

200 BENEFICIARIES @ \$125

**USD 25,000**

### WHEEL CHAIR CAMPAIGN

200 BENEFICIARIES @ \$100

**USD 20,000**

### IFTHAR & RATION DISTRIBUTION

1000 BENEFICIARIES @ \$25

**USD 25,000**



# FEED THE FASTING





# GENEROSITY PERSONIFIED

*“The likeness of those who spend their wealth in the Way of Allah, is as the likeness of a grain (of corn); it grows seven ears, and each ear has a hundred grains. Allah gives manifold increase to whom He pleases. And Allah is All-Sufficient for His creatures’ needs, All-Knowing.”*

(2:261) Holy Qur'an

THE blessed month of Ramadan is a month of faith, fasting and generosity. In keeping with the bountiful spirit of giving in Ramadan, there were extensive, admirable campaigns undertaken by various chapters of WMO to provide food, shelter and clothing to our less fortunate brothers and sisters across the globe.

## MIDDLE EAST

WMO Middle East Chapter epitomises the value of Giving – the same values to which the United Arab Emirates have dedicated the Year 2017 – the Year of Giving.

In the Ramadan of **2015**, the World Memon Organisation, Middle East Chapter served Iftar meals for the entire duration of the holy month. An Iftar camp was set up in Dubai and **37,500** Muslim brothers were provided meals for 30 days as they gathered together, under one roof to break their fast.

These brothers were mostly poor migrant workers employed in the bustling Middle

East construction industry. They toil laboriously throughout the day, without food and water, building skyscrapers that will soon adorn the Dubai skyline whilst religiously fasting under the hot desert sun.

Since then the Ramadan Iftar Camp has become an annual feature on the WMO Middle East Chapter Calendar. In the year **2016** two camps were set up at Sonapur and Dubai Investment Park. **60,000** meals were distributed during the 30 day tenure.

**PepsiCo International** joined hands with the World Memon Organisation for the admirable cause of the Ramadan Iftar Camp, in yet another example of a prestigious multinational, endorsing and offering steadfast support to the Global Humanitarian Endeavours of WMO.

**Mr Mahmood Shaikhani**, stalwart of WMO Middle East Chapter has pioneered the project, along with other distinguished members of WMO





who have provided unflinching support to this commendable campaign. Mr. Shaikhani has firmly cemented the bond with PepsiCo International, taking this wonderful collaboration, one step further by setting up another camp - the third in Ajmaan in 2017. **Over 75 thousand** meals were served in 2017. Alhamdulillah.

In **2018**, the same feat was repeated and in **2019** we intend to cross the **100,000** mark at the 3 camps. We expect record crowds with a daily consumption of more than 3500 meals at each camp.

**"We implore you to delve deep into the bountiful spirit of giving and brotherhood during the blessed month, contribute towards the admirable cause of the Ramadan Iftar Camp and join us on the Arabian coast as we unite to break bread with our brethren in Dubai."**

**Mr Mahmood Abu Baker Shaikhani**  
*Deputy Secretary General WMO*

## RAMADAN CAMP

**SPARE A THOUGHT,  
SHARE A MEAL AND FEED  
THE FASTING**

**EACH MEAL COST**

**USD 3**

## FOOD PACK DISTRIBUTION

On the 17th of November, WMO Middle East Chapter distributed over a hundred ration bags to the marginalised sections of the community in the cities of **Dubai, Sharjah and Ajman**.

The bags contained essential food items including **rice, wheat, dal, oil, milk powder, sugar, salt, tea, spices along with ghee, dates and sweets** amongst others.

The Middle East Chapter has distributed 1500 ration kits to the underprivileged in the year 2018 and intends to increase the number to 2000 in the year 2019.

**As a wise man once said, "If you want to eliminate hunger, everybody has to be involved." WMO Middle East Chapter dearly seeks your involvement for a very worthy cause.**

**PLEASE JOIN US IN THIS  
BENEVOLENT CAUSE AND DONATE  
GENEROUSLY TOWARDS  
THE FOOD PACKS**

**EACH PACK COSTS (APPROX.)**

**USD 15**

## RAMADAN RATION BAGS

In keeping with the bountiful spirit of giving during the Holy month of Ramadan, several WMO Chapters across the globe deliver hundreds of food packs to the underprivileged families that dwell in their corner of the World.

Each pack consists of several kgs of essential food items such as **rice, wheat, dal, sugar, salt, tea, spices along with ghee, oil, milk powder, dates and sweets**. During the Month of Fasting we would like to ease the burden on our Muslim brothers and sisters hence we are doing our bit to bring food on their table.

**PLEASE JOIN US IN THIS  
BENEVOLENT CAUSE AND DONATE  
GENEROUSLY TOWARDS THE  
RAMADAN RATION BAGS.**

**EACH BAG COSTS (APPROX.)**

**USD 15**



## THE BOND OF BROTHERHOOD



WMO Middle East Chapter consists of a majority of Memons from the country of **Pakistan**. The chapter provides extensive humanitarian services in the region encompassing bursaries for education, food pack distribution on a regular basis to underprivileged families and medical aid to the less fortunate. The members of the Chapter also provide legal recourse and bail out individuals who do not have the requisite funds to pay their legal obligations to obtain their freedom.

A gentleman of **Indian** origin was languishing in a UAE prison for a stretch of time due to lack of funds. Once the matter was brought to the attention of

the predominantly Pakistani members of the WMO Middle East Chapter, they immediately paid the needful to help the detainee obtain his travel documents to fly back home. The Chapter further spent **AED 100,000** towards his legal settlement and to procure tickets for the flight home to reunite with his family.

**The past few weeks have been tumultuous for India and Pakistan with the two nuclear powers on the verge of war.**

To ease tensions and as a gesture of peace, the honourable **Prime Minister of Pakistan - Mr. Imran Khan** had allowed the release of a captured Indian Air Force pilot, granting him a safe passage to return home.

**Whether it be the Premier of Pakistan or the common man on the ground, the people on both sides of the border are extremely warm and cordial to each other. They stand united in their moment of crisis and share a deep bond of humanity that helps them overcome all adversities.**

**We congratulate the Prime Minister of Pakistan for providing a beacon of hope and giving peace a chance during these uncertain times. We are thankful to the Middle East Chapter for their gesture of kindness which helps bring people closer together and strengthens our bonds of brotherhood.**

May Allah Swt grant us the patience and understanding to work together for unity, peace and harmony.

Ameen.

## REUNITING FAMILIES

The Middle East contributes on a regular basis towards the air travel of detainees languishing in prison as they do not have the requisite funds to buy their air tickets to travel back home.

WMO firmly believe that you can't put a price on freedom and alleviates the pain of the family members by reuniting them with their loved ones through this noble endeavour.

## DEBT REPAYMENTS

PT Barnum famously quoted, "There is scarcely anything that drags a person down like debt."

Due to the financial crisis engulfing the Middle East, many less fortunate brothers and sisters are reeling under a mountain of debt. The Middle East Chapter helps to free individuals from the debt trap by paying off their dues.

WMO calls it paying our debts to Humanity.

## RELEASE OF PRISONERS

200 BENEFICIARIES @ \$200

**USD 40,000**

## RENTAL, VISA & COURT CASES

100 BENEFICIARIES @ \$1,000

**USD 100,000**



# Wedding

## Season in Bengaluru

**WMO South India Chapter**, under the able leadership of its VP - **Mr. H.E. Abdul Azeez** and **Mr. Adil Azeez** (Regional Secretary General) organised a **mass marriage ceremony** for **eight** underprivileged Muslim couples at the plush Adam's Heritage in Benson Town of Bengaluru on a scale and grandeur that were yet unheard of.

On the 26th of September, the World Memon Organisation, under the banner of Imdad E Nisa invited **800** guests to attend the solemn nikaah ceremony which was followed by a scrumptious lunch. Eight beaming couples tied the knot in the presence of their families, friends and loved ones. The Nikaah ceremony was conducted by **Moulana Maqsood Imran**, the revered Imam of **Jamia Masjid**. Political heavyweights, the Honourable **N A Haris**, Member of the Legislative Assembly and **Mr. Tanveer Ahmed**, spokesperson for the ruling Janata Dal (S) were amongst the prominent invitees who gave their blessings to the joyous couples.

House hold items including steel cupboards, wooden beds, crockery, pillows, sheets, utensils, buckets, clothes, watches and jewellery were provided by members of the **Azeez** family. The entire cost of the ceremony, including the ornate decorations and sumptuous lunch were borne by these distinguished

members of the WMO South India Chapter.

*"When a marriage is fixed in a poor household, the pertinent question that arises for both families is how to raise funds for the upcoming wedding ceremony. In many cases, the expenditure of a daughter's wedding translates into the father's eternal debts. **The time has come to put an end to extravagant marriage ceremonies, rather the funds should be invested in creating a brighter future for the soon to be wedded couple.** Mass Marriages are the answer, they ease the financial burden on the families and are a step in the right direction."* asserts **Mr. Azeez Muhammad Sait**, stalwart of WMO South India Chapter and the driving force behind the event.





His wife **Mrs Fareeda Azeez**, Chairperson of WMO Ladies Wing South India Chapter and Imdad E Nissa Trust adds, "The evil of the dowry system has crept into our society and weighs down heavily on the parents of the girl child, causing many parents to fall into the debt trap. It is unfortunate that many girls of marriageable age are left sitting at home, twiddling their thumbs as parents cannot afford the unreasonable dowry demands or pay for the exorbitant marriage feasts. It is our humble endeavour to assist such girls hence we have organised the mass marriage ceremony. ***We also intend to send out a loud and clear message that it is time for others to come forward and donate towards this pertinent cause. Help the weak and downtrodden, help the girl child, make it easy for children from the marginalised segments to be united in matrimony and provide the cure to the many ills plaguing society.***"

WMO South India Chapter has set the benchmark for others to follow. We hope it leads to many more happy, memorable and eternal unions. We pray that it roots out the archaic social evil of lavish spending on garish wedding ceremonies and paves the path to abolish the demonic dowry system that devours thousands of impoverished families, each year in India.



**SOUTH INDIA CHAPTER**  
**COMMUNITY WELFARE**

200 BENEFICIARIES @ \$500

**USD 100,000**



# Empowerment

## Rozgar Scheme

**Mohammed Farooq Samana** is a very vocal advocate for the cause of education and is one of the most generous benefactors of the World Memon Organisation, having donated diligently over the years towards the **Empowerment of the Memon Community**.

Over the years, hundreds of **auto rickshaws** and thousands of **sewing machines** have been distributed to deserving families, under the Rozgar Scheme initiated by **WMO Pakistan Chapter** and Mr. Farooq Samana.

When Mr Farooq graced the cover of "The Memon" Magazine, he had elaborated on his benevolent intentions, ***"When I help an underprivileged mother with a sewing machine or present a less fortunate family with an auto rickshaw, the objective remains the same. I enable them to earn a livelihood, to provide their child with an education and live with dignity."***

May Allah Swt reward Mohammed Farooq Samana for his magnanimous generosity.

**AUTORICKSHAW /  
SEWING MACHINES**

100 BENEFICIARIES @ \$1000

**USD 100,000**

## Micro Finance

The World Memon Organisation firmly believes that if you give a man a fish, you feed him for a day ; teach a man to fish and you feed him for a lifetime.

Empowerment of men and women belonging to the marginalised sections of society has been one of the most essential humanitarian services provided by WMO over the years. Hundreds of auto rickshaws and thousands of sewing machines have been distributed to enable families to earn a livelihood, provide their children with an education and ensure that they live with dignity.

The Micro Finance Program wherein interest free loans are sanctioned to enable the deserving to stand on their feet was initiated in 2013 by the **World Memon Organisation Far East Chapter** to support small businesses and upcoming entrepreneurs. The program has since been emulated by other WMO Chapters across the globe. A sizeable number of Memons have benefitted immensely through Micro Financing since its inception.



Dr. Haroon Admani (VP - WMO Far East Chapter) handing over cheques to the deserving under the micro finance program.



# A Charity Mela

**The generosity of the Memon Community is legendary. So is their spirit...**

The **Charity Mela** hosted by the ladies wing of **WMO North India Chapter** was testament to the magnanimity and benevolence of the Memon tribe.

The purpose of the event was to provide sustenance to our less fortunate brothers and sisters during the upcoming month of Ramadan. "We wanted to combat poverty and support families during the holy month. Afford them the rare luxury in Ramadan to rest, fast and pray rather than worry about getting food on their table or save money to buy Eid clothes for their children" states **Mrs. Raziya Chashmawala** who is the driving force behind the thoughtful initiative.



A plea to donate towards the cause was made a couple of months prior to the event and the response was overwhelming. Not only did the local Memon Community step up to the plate but contributions came in from **Pakistan, Sri Lanka, Japan, Africa, Middle East, UK, North America and Canada. Clothes, utensils, stationeries, toys, home furnishings, appliances and groceries** poured in from all corners of the globe until an entire apartment floor was packed to the rafters.

On the **31st of March, Maa Hoor Bai Community Hall** in **Central Mumbai** opened its doors to welcome members of the marginalised section of society. All the contributions were neatly placed on more than 50 stalls and marked to assist the needy in picking up their requisite requirements.



The crowds grew in number as the day progressed with more than a thousand recipients walking away with a smile on their face and a few items in their hands. All goods were whisked away from the stalls in record time but nobody returned empty handed.

We are eternally grateful to our donors for their immense support towards the cause. May Allah Swt always bless you with abundance. We are indebted to our volunteers for managing the crowds and meticulously organising the mega event. It was a collaborative effort of **WMO, AIMJF, Sewa, Giants and Robinhood Army** with many reputed dailies covering the event and the Commissioner of Police gracing the occasion.

Hats off to the three ladies - **Mrs. Raziya Chashmawala, Mrs. Fabiha Shadaab Patel** and **Nazia Yusuf Mistry** who are always on the forefront and must be applauded for their relentless humanitarian endeavours to Serve Mankind. **May your tribe grow. May they find the strength to stand up and walk tall. And like you...may they never cease to amaze us.**





## WMO LADIES WING FAR EAST CHAPTER

presents

# Memon Mela Family Fun Day

Platinum Sponsor

**Amāna Bank**

It's Your Bank

Gold Sponsor

**Meadowlea**  
A moment of goodness



### A Mela in Sri Lanka

**"Life is like a carnival (Mela). The cotton candy are all the sweet things in your life"....goes the adage.**

The **WMO Far East Chapter Ladies Wing** certainly brought the carnival to the city and everyone was invited to join in on the festivities of the most fun-filled event on the **Colombo Memon** calendar.

The Mela was an elaborate celebration bringing together people of all ages. The community members mingled freely and spent a leisurely evening, basking in each other's company.

On the 2nd of March, a sizeable crowd gathered at the sprawling **Women's International Club** on 16th Guildford Crescent in Colombo. Several tents were pitched up across the manicured lawns, there was a bouncy castle for the kids, the food stalls had a large spread including Memoni food, traditional akhni, chana batata, paani puri, sinful deserts and several mouth-watering delicacies. The children were entertained with games, rides, balloons, popcorn and face painting while the ladies bonded over the appetizing food.

The Mela served another important purpose. **Empowerment of women** belonging to the marginalised sections of society has been one of the most essential humanitarian services provided by WMO over the years. Thousands of women in India, Pakistan and Sri Lanka have been nurtured and trained to cultivate special skill sets that enable them to earn a livelihood, provide for their families, afford an education for their children and ensure a life of dignity.

The Mela was another significant endeavour by the Far East Chapter Ladies Wing to empower women by organising an exhibition cum fun-fair wherein enterprising ladies belonging to all segments of society could display their wares. From clothes, jewellery, food items, cosmetics to purses, perfumes, toiletries and hairpins; all items were neatly displayed on around 50 stalls at the venue.

Being a Saturday and a holiday, families arrived in full-strength and the stalls emptied in a couple of hours

with all items being whisked away by the jostling crowd of eager women and children. The exhibition was a roaring success with the women entrepreneurs receiving a platform to not only sell their items but connect with suppliers and stockists who invoked interest in their goods and placed much larger orders.

**"Feeling entitled to make your own decisions creates a sense of empowerment,"** states **Mrs. Shazia Sangani** (Chairperson WMO Far East Chapter Ladies Wing), **"this exhibition has encouraged the ladies, it's commercial success has boosted their confidence and endorsed their decision making abilities."**

**"There is no greater force than a woman determined to rise. As we all rise by lifting others through these entrepreneurial initiatives,"** concludes **Mrs. Gulshan Ashraf**, the radiant wife of **Mr. Ashraf Sattar** (Deputy Chairman WMO Board of Trustees) who was the driving force behind the thoughtful initiative. Mrs Ashraf, along with the entire ladies wing of the Far East Chapter truly epitomize the adage of strong women empowering other women

As the sun set over the Sri Lankan coast, old friends connected over a cup of hot tea, new friendships blossomed and the genial camaraderie brought cheer to a picturesque evening in Colombo.

**"Life is sweet but friends make it sweeter,"** quipped a child, as she took another eager bite off her friend's candy floss.



**That sums up a very memorable evening in Colombo as the organisation has yet again achieved its objective of fostering friendships, building brotherhood, strengthening relationships and bringing the community closer together.**

**IN 2018, THANKS TO YOUR  
GENEROSITY, ALL OF THIS WAS  
POSSIBLE.**

**YOU CREATED A BRIGHTER FUTURE**

You shaped the lives of thousands of children by providing them free education in Pakistan.

**YOU MADE DREAMS COME TRUE**

A Hundred underprivileged families in India got a roof over their heads.

**YOU MADE A DIFFERENCE**

You provided meals, shoes, clothing, medicines to a sea of humanity migrating from Myanmar into Bangladesh

**YOU GAVE HOPE**

You promptly delivered humanitarian aid to the tsunami victims in Indonesia.

**YOU CHANGED LIVES**

You Empowered Women across the Globe.

**YOU SHOWED YOU CARED**

You fed the fasting for the entire month of Ramadan in the Middle East.

**THANK YOU!**



**“CHARITY NEVER DECREASES WEALTH.  
RATHER, IT INCREASES IT...  
IT INCREASES IT... IT INCREASES IT.”**

~ Messenger of Allah

**WMO AFRICA**

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62370260962

Branch & Code:  
Cresta Centre – 254905

Bank Name  
First National Bank

**Mr Feizul Ayub**  
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**WMO FAR EAST**

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**WMO PAKISTAN**

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1-2-39-20311-714-108833

Swift Code:  
SUMBPKKA

Branch:  
Jamshed Quarter Branch

Bank:  
Summit Bank Limited

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**WMO AMERICA &  
CANADA**

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US Bank

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**WMO EUROPE**

WMOCF Zakat Acc No:  
19112730

Sort code  
60 95 49

Bank:  
Habib Bank Zurich PLC

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