



ISLAMIC RELIEF MALAYSIA

3rd July 2020
For Immediate Release

PRESS RELEASE

ISLAMIC RELIEF URGES HUMANITARIAN ASSISTANCE FOR YEMEN

Bangi – Some 24.3 million people, representing 80 percent of Yemen’s 30.5 million population, is expected to continue to rely on humanitarian assistance if hostility in the war-ravaged country continues.

Yemen, one of the poorest countries in the Arab region is facing the worst humanitarian crisis since the armed conflict broke out in March 2015. The five-year-long crisis has destroyed Yemen’s infrastructures including healthcare systems and disrupted access to necessities such as food, health, nutrition, shelter, education, water & sanitation, and social security networks.

The protracted conflict has also resulted in more than 100,000 deaths, more than 3 million Yemenis internally displaced and 20.1 million people suffering from hunger while 3 million children, pregnant women, and lactating mothers are severely malnourished.

To make matters worse, the cholera epidemic is still tearing through Yemen, and the recent Covid-19 pandemic has also infected Yemen’s population and caused casualties.

In this regard, on June 23, 2020, Islamic Relief Malaysia launched Dariku Untukmu... Selamatkan Mereka! YEMEN campaign to raise RM300,000 to help the people in Yemen.

According to Chief Executive Officer of Islamic Relief Malaysia, Zairulshahfuddin Zainal Abidin, the assistance comprises three key sectors namely food, water, sanitation & hygiene, and non-food items (NFIs).

“At the moment, the entire Islamic Relief fundraising office is actively running a relief campaign for Yemen to raise public awareness on the current issues and situations in Yemen and raising funds to help those affected.

“The deteriorating situation in Yemen has made it difficult for civilians to get food and clean water. Hence, as concerned Malaysian citizens, let us together contribute to their survival,” he said.

Meanwhile, Chief Executive Officer of Islamic Relief Worldwide, Naser Haghamed, said that the Covid-19 exacerbated the already dire humanitarian situation when millions of people in Yemen have not been able to work to sustain a livelihood as a result of stringent preventive measures.

“Last year, when I travelled to Yemen, I met the people behind these numbers - children too weak from hunger to cry and mothers so malnourished they could not produce enough milk to breastfeed. I am still haunted by their faces.

“History will neither forget nor forgive us. We have all the power including finance, technology, and other resources to put an end to this conflict, however, we have not yet met the basic standards of humanity and human dignity. Only equitable and protracting solutions can bring about change and help to ensure that people in Yemen can finally end their suffering,” Naser said in a statement.

Islamic Relief Assistance in Yemen 2019

Islamic Relief has assisted over 3.4 million people in Yemen in 2019 with food, water, sanitation & hygiene, healthcare & nutrition, orphan sponsorship & children’s welfare, non-food items, and life support involving 69 projects.

| Sector | Total of Beneficiaries | Total of Projects |
|----------------------------------------------------|-------------------------------|--------------------------|
| Food Safety | 2,386,262 | 4 |
| Food & Livelihood | 419,913 | 32 |
| Health | 22,475 | 13 |
| Nutrition | 445,152 | 4 |
| Orphan Sponsorship & Children’s Welfare | 57,400 | 6 |
| Water, Sanitation & Hygiene | 76,662 | 10 |

Ahmed's Story

“When the airstrikes took place, we managed to escape from the village only with the clothing we had on our bodies. We had walked such a long distance before meeting someone willing to give us a ride to Al-Hudaidah.” - Ahmed, 55 years old.

Ahmed and his family were forced to flee their home in Mandhar village due to an airstrike that destroyed their home. To make matters worse, all of their possessions were stolen. Currently, Ahmed and his nine family members are living in a one-room rented house in the city.

Ahmed, who has been unemployed for 18 years, has problems with his left arm which he could not move and required surgery while his wife also has health issues. However, Ahmad could not afford to pay for treatment for both he and his wife.

Ahmed and his family are monthly food aid recipients of Islamic Relief in collaboration with the World Food Programme (WFP).

Any donations or assistance to the Yemen humanitarian project can be made via Islamic Relief Malaysia website, www.islamic-relief.org.my, or for more information, call toll-free, +603-8926 3434.

About Islamic Relief

Islamic Relief is an independent international humanitarian aid and development organization. Islamic Relief is headquartered in the United Kingdom and was founded in 1984. Islamic Relief serves in more than 45 countries, assisting more than 120 million people. The scope of Islamic Relief assistance covers emergency assistance, integrated sustainable development, disaster risk reduction, and advocacy.

About Islamic Relief Yemen

Islamic Relief has been operating in Yemen since 1998 and has a registered office in 2003. Assistance and programs began to increase significantly following the escalation of conflict in March 2015.

Islamic Relief operates in 19 out of 22 government territories, delivering aid to many hard-to-reach areas. Islamic Relief has headquarters in the capital, Sana'a, as well as eight sub-offices in Dhamar, Amran, Aden, Taiz, Hodeida, Saada, Maarib, and Rymah.

The emergency and development assistance by Islamic Relief in over 20 years including food, water and sanitation, healthcare, orphan sponsorship, and vocational training for youth has benefited millions of people over the last three years.

About Islamic Relief Malaysia

YABhg. Tun Dr. Mahathir Mohamad officiated the establishment of Islamic Relief Malaysia in 2005, which aspires to continue Islamic Relief humanitarian assistance in the Asia-Pacific region. Currently, Islamic Relief Malaysia serves as a fundraising and project implementer for international and local projects.

For more information on Islamic Relief Malaysia humanitarian programs, please visit our official website or contact 03-8926 3434.

Your donation can be channeled to the following bank accounts under the name of Islamic Relief Malaysia:

MAYBANK ISLAMIC | 5621 4270 8704

MBSB BANK | 1005 0251 0000 0166

CIMB ISLAMIC | 860 2073818

BANK ISLAM | 12 029 01 006564 3

AFFIN ISLAMIC | 10 671 000278 4

BANK RAKYAT | 11080 10000 35

or via:

CHARITY SHOPPE | CASH or CREDIT CARD

Zairulshahfuddin Zainal Abidin

Chief Executive Officer
Islamic Relief Malaysia

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