

REPORT OF THE WORLD MEMON ORGANISATION AND SHAIKHANI FOUNDATION FLOOD RELIEF



The 2010 Pakistan floods began in July 2010 following heavy monsoon rains in the Khyber Pakhtunkhwa, Sindh, Punjab and Balochistan regions of Pakistan. Present estimates indicate that over two thousand people have died and over a million homes have been destroyed since the flooding began. The United Nations estimates that more than 21 million people are affected and became homeless as a result of the flooding, exceeding the combined total of individuals affected by the 2004 Indian Ocean Tsunami, the 2005 Pakistan Earthquake and the 2010 Haiti Earthquake. At one point, approximately one-fifth of Pakistan's total land area was underwater due to the flooding.



The Government of Pakistan is struggling to cope with the scale of the disaster and has made a desperate appeal to the international community and the local/international NGOs to help by donating tens of millions of dollars and lend a hand in the Rescue & Relief Operations and arrange for supplies of food and medicine.



During the time of the Pakistan Earthquake in 2005, the World Memon Organisation (WMO) had setup relief camps in the remote mountains and provided medical aid, medicines, food, clothes,

blankets, tents and other relief goods to the earthquake victims. Later on, WMO was able to build more than 300 houses and rehabilitate the victims from the generous donations received from the Memon Community.



Now, after the floods have wreaked havoc in Pakistan, the Memon Community has again stepped forward to alleviate the plight of millions of displaced and desperate flood victims through WMO. The World Memon Organisation (WMO) has setup the WMO's Pakistan Flood Relief Fund to play its part in the flood relief and rehabilitation work.



The Shaikhani Foundation which is managed by the heirs of Late Mr. Abu Bakar Shaikhani, Trustee of WMO, has joined hands with WMO to jointly work for the relief and rehabilitation of the flood victims.



Mr. H.M. Shahzad, Chairman, Flood Relief Committee and Assistant Secretary General of WMO and Mr. Mehmood Shaikhani, Convener, Shaikhani Foundation, are working day and night since day one and are completely involved in the Flood Relief Activities. They have to shuttle between Karachi and various Flood Relief Camps located in interior Sindh on daily basis. Besides, these

two gentlemen also travelled across Sindh and visit other locations where relief goods are required on emergency basis and distribute goods on behalf of WMO and Shaikhani Foundation.



A base-camp has been setup at Karachi where money and relief goods are arriving. Till date, relief goods worth more than US \$400,000 has been received at base-camp at Karachi and has been transported to various flood relief camps.



Initially, the Flood Relief Camp was based in Sukkur, Sindh when the upper Sindh was inundated by floods. When the waters flowed downstream into lower Sindh, the Flood Relief Camp was moved to Kotri, Sindh.



The Pakistan Rangers (Army) also worked with the World Memon Organisation and Shaikhani Foundation at this stage and provided logistic support.



At this juncture, the Saudi Ambassador to Pakistan Mr. Abdul Aziz Bin Ibrahim-ul-Ghadeer paid a visit to the Flood Relief Camp and distributed gifts to the flood victims. Presently, the Flood Relief Camp is based at Gharo, Sindh.



The Office Bearers and Members of the Board of Management of World Memon Organisation (Pakistan Chapter), along with some important local and foreign delegates, paid a special visit to the Flood Relief Camp at Gharo, Sindh, on Sunday, 19th September 2010. The Convener of Shaikhani Foundation was also present.



The Chairperson of WMO Ladies Wing, Madam Hawa Abdullah along with few other members of the Ladies Wing, who were putting a lot of efforts on their own for the above Flood Relief Work, also participated.



The Flood Relief Camp located at Gharo, Sindh, is about 76 kms from Karachi and takes about an hour and half's drive. The team left WMO House, Karachi at 11.15 am and reached the camp just after midday.



This Flood Relief Camp is a mini tent village consisting of 220 tents and where about 220 families (1400 people) are being given shelter, food, clothing, medicines, medical care and all other day-to-day necessities. The Flood Relief Camp also provided shelter and complete care to about 40 non-Muslim families for whom a special fund has been created.



At the Gharo Flood Relief Camp, food packets consisting of rice, dal, wheat flour, cooking oil, salt, masala, milk, pure drinking water and other items are distributed on weekly basis.



The families have been provided with stoves and cooking gas so that each family can prepare their own meals according to their taste and convenience. Clothes have been distributed to the poor and needy flood victims since these families had to abandon all their belongings and run during the time of the floods.



Special gifts like clothes, footwear, Mehndi (Henna), bangles and Eidi (cash) was distributed to the people, especially children, during the auspicious time of Eid-ul-Fitr



Medical doctors and nurses are available 24 hours to cater to any emergency cases. It is pleasing to note that two babies have been delivered at the Flood Relief Camp. Any patients requiring further medical treatment are transported to Karachi.



A permanent Masjid has been built at the Flood Relief Camp. Even after the camps are closed and the relief work is over, the Masjid named Masjid-e-Abu Bakar will remain to serve the people of that locality.



After the initial phase of relief work, World Memon Organisation and Shaikhani Foundation will work on rehabilitating each family and restoring their livelihood. The two organizations will visit their hometown/villages of each flood affected family and assess the damage of their houses and losses incurred and rehabilitate the families on case to case basis.



The visit was covered by ARY News TV and the delegates were interviewed by the ARY News Team and the Office Bearers of WMO, Members of Board Management, Members Ladies Wing and Office Bearers of Shaikhani Foundation presented their views



Service to humanity is service to Allah. Whatever little we can do for our suffering brethren will go a long way in restoring the lives of these desperate and homeless people.



May Almighty Allah guide us all to put in our best efforts and contribute more and more for this noble cause.

Aamin