



The
Zahra^(s)
Trust

ANNUAL REPORT

RAMADAN 2022 - RAMADAN 2023

OUR ACHIEVEMENTS THROUGH YOUR CONTRIBUTIONS

CHARITY REG NO: 1129501 | WWW.ZAHRATRUST.COM | 02084527565

**REGISTERED CHARITY IN
ENGLAND & WALES (1129501)**



OUR MISSION VISION & VALUES

OUR VISION

A world where everyone has access to the basic necessities in life, living self-sufficiently with spiritual development.

OUR VALUES

Inspired by the Holy Household (a.s), The Zahra Trust aims to assist people in the practices taught by them with the principles of our faith.

OUR MISSION

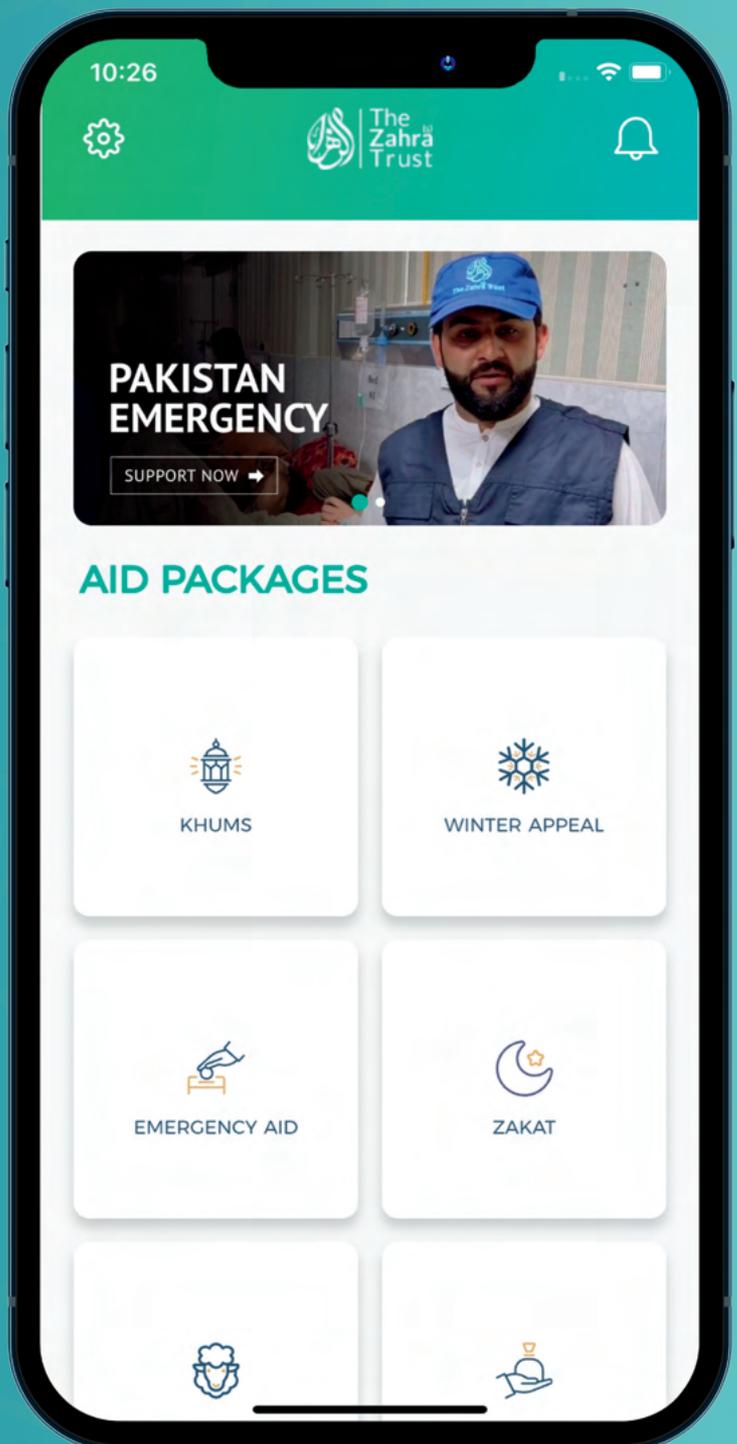
The Zahra Trust's mission is to aid those suffering from war, poverty and famine, by providing basic philanthropic needs, enabling them to survive and making them self-sustainable so that they will no longer require aid.

WHAT WE DO

- Provide emergency aid to those in need as a result of conflict and natural disasters
- Provide seasonal aid throughout key periods such as Shahr Ramadan, Eid ul-Adha and Muharram
- Provide food aid to families that experience a chronic lack of access to nutritional food items
- Empower communities through education and development programmes
- Facilitate access to quality healthcare and medication for those that are unable to afford it
- Support the institution of the family through the provision of welfare, easing the burden of breadwinners to provide
- Facilitate access to formal and spiritual education and training to enhance community development

DONATE VIA OUR APP

It's quick, easy and
secure!



A MESSAGE FROM THE TEAM

Over the last year, the need for our work has unfortunately continued to grow. The year was marred by various disasters and conflicts in addition to the existing chronic poverty across the world.

The Zahra Trust team grew and expanded in the UK while its capacity increased in the field to deliver your donations farther and wider, which we continued to see was necessary as the need for humanitarian aid for millions of people continued to increase.

Our UK and international teams constantly prioritised and adapted to emergency situations as they took place. We are proud that our teams across our areas of operation were almost always the first and sometimes the only NGO on the scene. From floods in Pakistan to conflict in Afghanistan to the earthquake in Turkey and Syria, emergency situations arose continuously throughout the year.

Emergency situations, whilst they cannot be controlled or anticipated, have a much greater impact than just the immediate aftermath. Although our rapid aid response is now expertly refined, the increase in emergency situations has meant that all aid organisations now find they must divert attention from ongoing sustainable development work to lift people out of poverty.

Despite the difficulties, we continue to deliver long-term support to assist people out of the cycle of chronic poverty.

The effects of the COVID-19 pandemic were felt globally as economies dipped, impacting those who were already vulnerable. In addition to families from developing nations, families in our own communities struggled with the cost-of-living crisis and had to make the difficult choice to either eat or heat their homes.

The year may have been one that saw suffering at record levels but the silver lining was the huge outpouring of support we received from people all over the world. The generosity of our donors, volunteers and supporters continues to amaze and astound us and we are truly grateful that you make our work possible every day.

At The Zahra Trust, we aim to see a world that is free of poverty and suffering. We focus our support on some of the most marginalised groups in society that are often forgotten or unreachable by aid groups. You were a lifeline of hope and support to the hopeless, destitute and forgotten, reminding them that they are valued and that they are cared about.

We express our heartfelt gratitude to you for your unwavering support towards our beneficiaries. Whether it's through your donations, spreading awareness about their struggles, or keeping them in your thoughts and prayers, your efforts have made a meaningful impact. Please know that you are constantly in our thoughts as well as in the thoughts of those we serve.



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EMERGENCY HUMANITARIAN AID

Over the last year, millions of people were impacted by humanitarian emergencies. Many of those affected will have already been affected by recent or ongoing crises and will have been brought to the brink of complete devastation.

Throughout its areas of operation, The Zahra Trust is poised to respond to emergency crises as they unfold. Be it as a result of conflict, natural disaster, famine, drought or a critically deteriorating humanitarian situation due to a combination of these causes, our expert teams are on the ground within hours, conducting rapid needs assessments and distributing urgent, tailored humanitarian relief in response. Our teams work tirelessly during these emergencies with little sleep or sustenance, to ensure that people in need receive vital, impactful care in a timely manner.





Conflict alone drives 80% of humanitarian needs.
WORLD BANK



A record of 37 million children worldwide were displaced by conflict alone last year. This figure has not been reached since the second world war and does not include displacement by other means such as natural disaster. *UNICEF 2022*



The United Nations' Global Humanitarian Overview 2021 reports that 235 million people worldwide require humanitarian assistance and protection



The Uppsala Conflict Data Program reports that in 2021, there were 46 active armed conflicts around the world, resulting in the displacement of over 50 million people. Yemen, Syria, and Afghanistan continue to be among the countries most affected by armed conflict, with ongoing violence and political instability exacerbating humanitarian needs.



The World Bank estimates that the number of people living in extreme poverty increased by 131 million in 2020 due to the COVID-19 pandemic, with the total number of people living in extreme poverty now standing at over 700 million globally.



TÜRKIYE & SYRIA EARTHQUAKE

The devastating earthquakes that struck the area between Türkiye and Syria in early February 2023 claimed the lives of over 55,700 people and impacted millions more with displacement and a lack of food and clean water. Without even basic necessities, people were left hungry and without shelter in very low temperatures. Millions of those affected by the earthquakes have already faced violence, displacement and ongoing trauma and will now face even more hardship as their lives have once again been torn asunder as they are now doubly displaced.

Those that have been impacted by the devastation will continue to face the aftermath for coming years as they attempt to recover emotionally and physically as well as rebuild their lives and livelihoods.

The Zahra Trust's local team along with 12 doctors risked their lives arriving within hours of the initial earthquake and through the subsequent aftershocks, providing thousands of families with one-month staple food parcels, drinking water, baby formula, diapers, walking aids, blankets, clothing and temporary shelters. Work is ongoing, however it is projected that over 60,000 people will benefit directly from The Zahra Trust's relief efforts.



It has been reported that at least **55,700 people** have died as a result of the earthquake, and at least **125,626 people** have suffered from injuries



The widespread destruction of homes and infrastructure has left over **2.4 million people** displaced and without a safe place to stay.



The earthquake that struck Syria and Turkey has impacted a total of **24 million people**, leaving behind a trail of destruction and displacement.



No less than **200,089 buildings** have been destroyed, highlighting the scale of the disaster and the long road to recovery ahead.

AFGHANISTAN & PAKISTAN EARTHQUAKE

One of the deadliest earthquakes to hit the region in twenty years at a magnitude of 6.2 struck Afghanistan and parts of Pakistan in June 2022, killing 1,163 people, injuring over 6,000 more and destroying at least 10,000 homes. The Zahra Trust provided support in the form of emergency necessities such as food, water and medical aid to those affected in Afghanistan and Pakistan in addition to shelter support and medical assistance to those injured or displaced, reaching an estimated 3,500 people.



We provided emergency relief to over **100,000** people

In the last year the aid we have provided include food, shelter, clean water, clothing, blankets, baby formula, diapers, hygiene kits, emergency medical assistance, medicines, first aid equipment, walking aids and security features like cameras.



PAKISTAN FLOODS

Unprecedented flooding in Pakistan led to the deaths of 1,739 people and billions of dollars in damage to homes and essential local infrastructure. The death toll is expected to continue to rise as stagnant water means the threat of illness and disease for over 4 million children and many more vulnerable adults in the aftermath. The Zahra Trust's local teams were on the ground during the floods to provide critical essentials to those displaced or otherwise affected by the floods. Our teams provided food to 1,359 families, shelter to over 120 families, repaired damaged homes, provided medical assistance and distributed clothing and clean water following a rapid needs assessment to support families that had lost their home and all their belongings in the flood. Our team continues to provide essential aid for 6,000 individuals as the effects of the floods continue to devastate communities left without homes and clean water sources.





AFGHANISTAN FLOODS

In August 2022, Logar Province in Afghanistan was hit by severe flooding, which left thousands of families displaced and struggling to access basic necessities like food, water, and shelter. The flooding was caused by heavy rainfall that triggered flash floods, which swept away homes, infrastructure and crops.

In response to this crisis, The Zahra Trust was dedicated to providing aid to vulnerable communities; with the support of donors, The Zahra Trust stepped in to provide much-needed support to those affected. The Trust quickly mobilised resources to provide general flood relief to 756 families in the region, which included emergency supplies like food, clean water, hygiene kits, and medical assistance.

The Zahra Trust's response to this emergency was crucial, as many of the affected families were left without access to basic necessities and were at risk of further displacement or illness. The timely intervention helped to alleviate some of the immediate suffering experienced by those impacted by the flooding in Logar Province. However, the long-term needs of the affected communities are likely to be significant, and ongoing support and resources will be necessary to support recovery efforts. The Zahra Trust remains committed to providing this support in coming years.

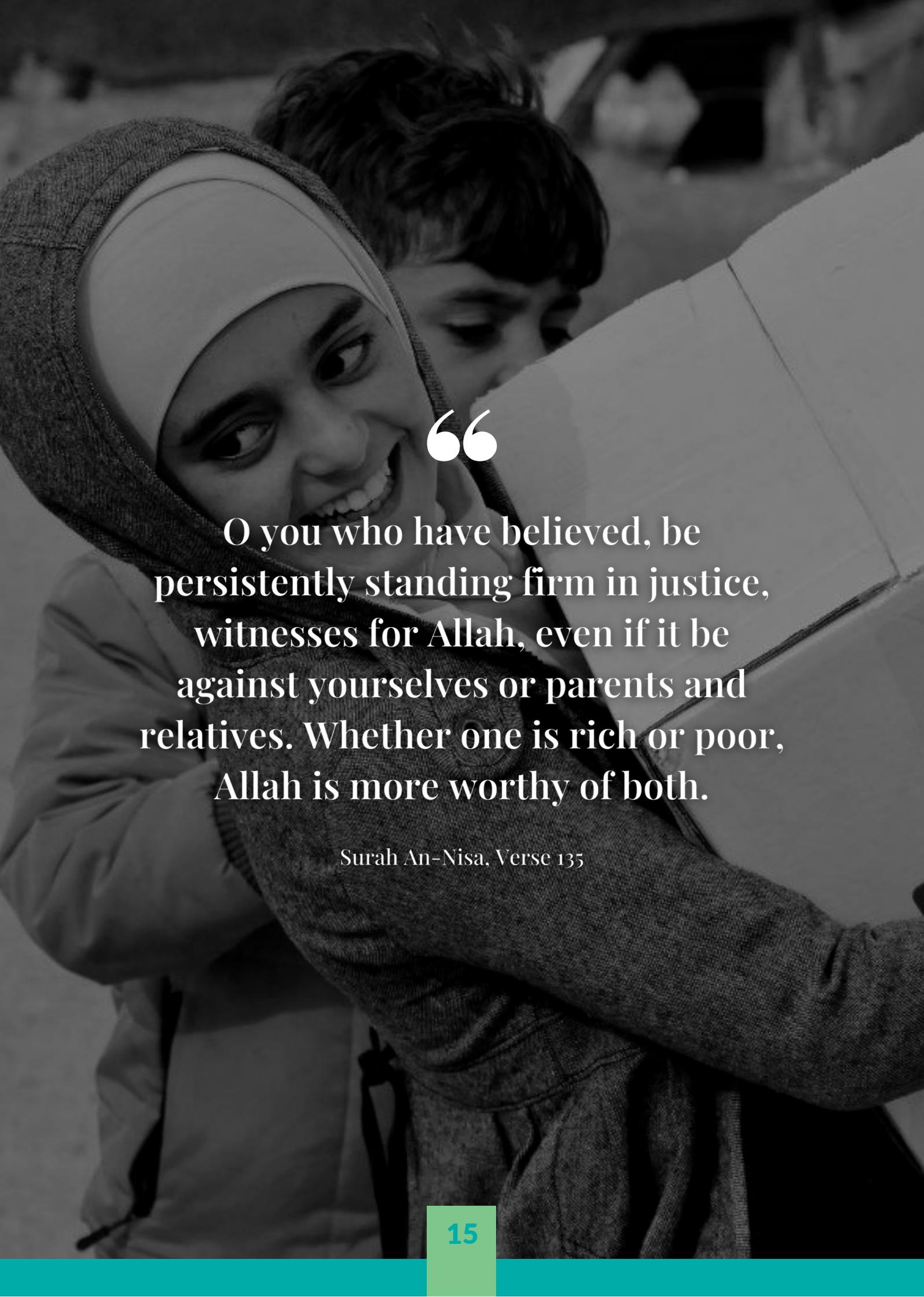
ATTACKS ON OUR COMMUNITIES

Internal conflicts and turmoil led to several attacks on communities in Afghanistan and Pakistan. In schools and religious centres, where people should feel safe and secure, deadly attacks were carried out on men, women and children trying to better themselves. Sadly, these attacks appear to take place very frequently and The Zahra Trust's local teams are called to attend these scenes to provide assistance. These are some of the attacks that we responded to:

- Pakistan mosque blast-March 2022: A mosque in Peshawar is attacked, killing 63 and injuring 196 worshippers
- Kabul, Afghanistan school blast in April 2022: Attacks on school kill 6 and injure at least 20
- Kabul, Afghanistan mosque attack in August 2022: 21 worshippers killed and 33 injured
- Kabul, Afghanistan School blast in September 2022: Kabul school attack targeting a girls' school took the lives of 52 people, most of whom were children.

Our assistance reached around 6,500 people in the form of medical assistance, help with funeral costs and arrangements, food and financial aid. The Zahra Trust also installed security features within schools and mosques in high-risk areas.





“

O you who have believed, be persistently standing firm in justice, witnesses for Allah, even if it be against yourselves or parents and relatives. Whether one is rich or poor, Allah is more worthy of both.

Surah An-Nisa, Verse 135

YEMEN CRISIS

“

Yemen is one of the world's largest humanitarian crises – and children are being robbed of their futures.

UNICEF, 2023

The ongoing humanitarian crisis, although now featuring far less in the headlines, continues to increase in its severity. The humanitarian crisis in Yemen, often referenced as the worst humanitarian crisis in the world today, disproportionately impacts children who suffer stunting, malnourishment and chronic illness.

The Zahra Trust continued its ongoing response to the emergency humanitarian situation in Yemen by providing food, water, shelter and medical assistance to the people of Yemen, of whom it is estimated that a staggering 80% of the population rely on humanitarian assistance amid the crisis. In response to the long-term needs, The Zahra Trust is establishing sustainable development projects to provide for thousands in the long term.



A staggering 23.4 million people require some form of humanitarian assistance in 2023, as 80 per cent of the country's population struggles to access food, safe drinking water and adequate health services.

UNICEF, 2023



More than 17.8 million people, including 9.2 million children, lack access to safe water, sanitation and hygiene (WASH) services.

UNICEF, 2023



Yemen's health system is extremely fragile: only 50 per cent of health facilities are functional, leaving 21.9 million people without adequate access to health care. Immunization coverage has stagnated nationally, with 28 per cent of children under 1 year of age missing routine vaccinations.

UNICEF, 2023



WATER & SANITATION

Clean water is a human right for good reason; it is the difference between life and death. Sometimes, access to water that is not clean is almost as bad as having none at all, with contaminated water accounting for hundreds of thousands of deaths each year due to the transmission of diseases such as cholera, dysentery, typhoid and polio. This crisis disproportionately affects children and the elderly.



Throughout the year, The Zahra Trust facilitated access to clean water sources for over **1.32 million people**



2 billion people are impacted by water poverty, drinking from sources that are contaminated with faeces
WHO 2022

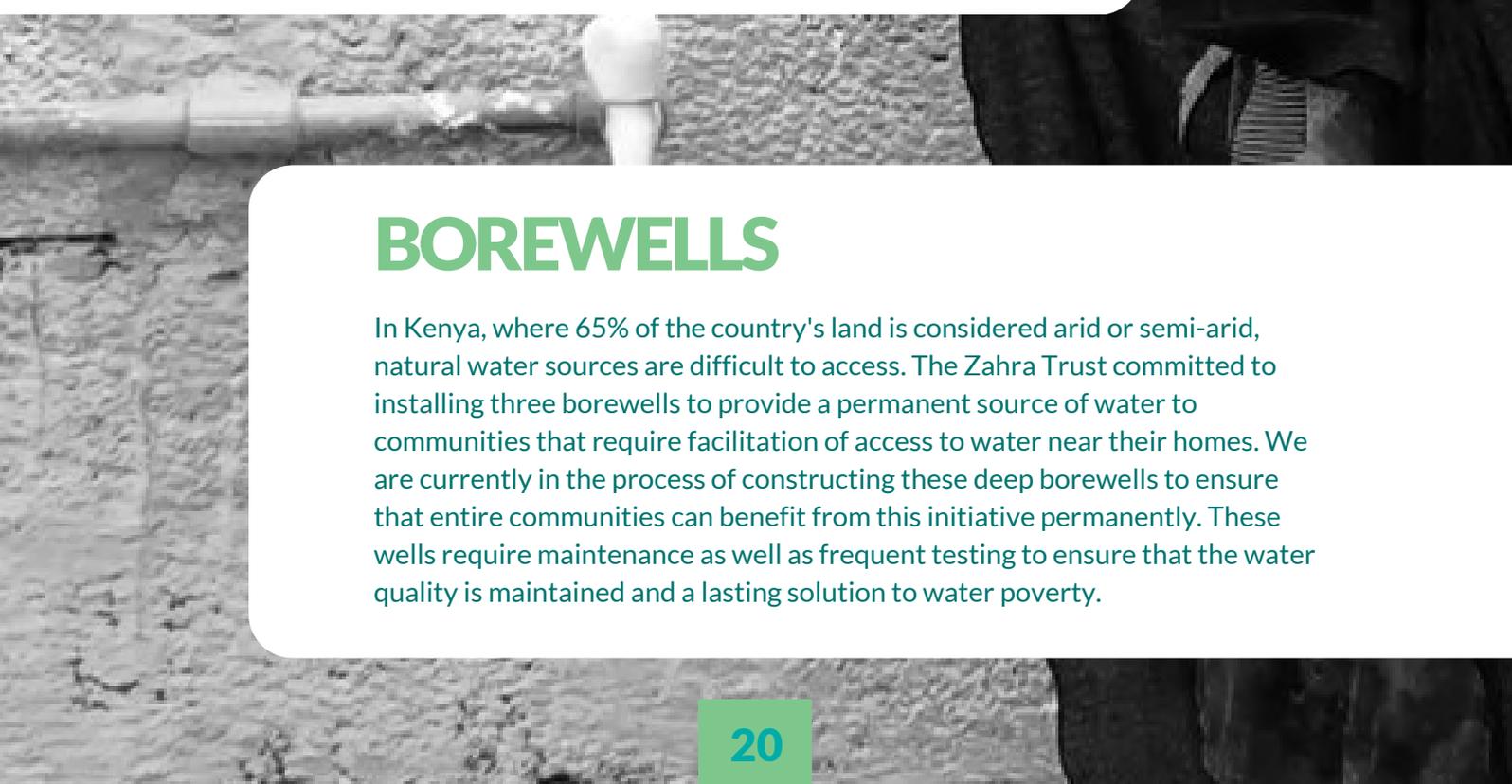


Some 829 000 people are estimated to die each year from diarrhoea as a result of unsafe drinking-water, sanitation and hand hygiene
WHO 2022



WATER FILTRATION PLANTS

With the correct care and specialist maintenance, water filtration plants can provide a permanent solution to water scarcity. The Zahra Trust has installed 7 water filtration plants across Yemen, Iraq and Pakistan, providing water for over 2,100 people per day, these continue to be regularly maintained.



BOREWELLS

In Kenya, where 65% of the country's land is considered arid or semi-arid, natural water sources are difficult to access. The Zahra Trust committed to installing three borewells to provide a permanent source of water to communities that require facilitation of access to water near their homes. We are currently in the process of constructing these deep borewells to ensure that entire communities can benefit from this initiative permanently. These wells require maintenance as well as frequent testing to ensure that the water quality is maintained and a lasting solution to water poverty.



WATER WELLS

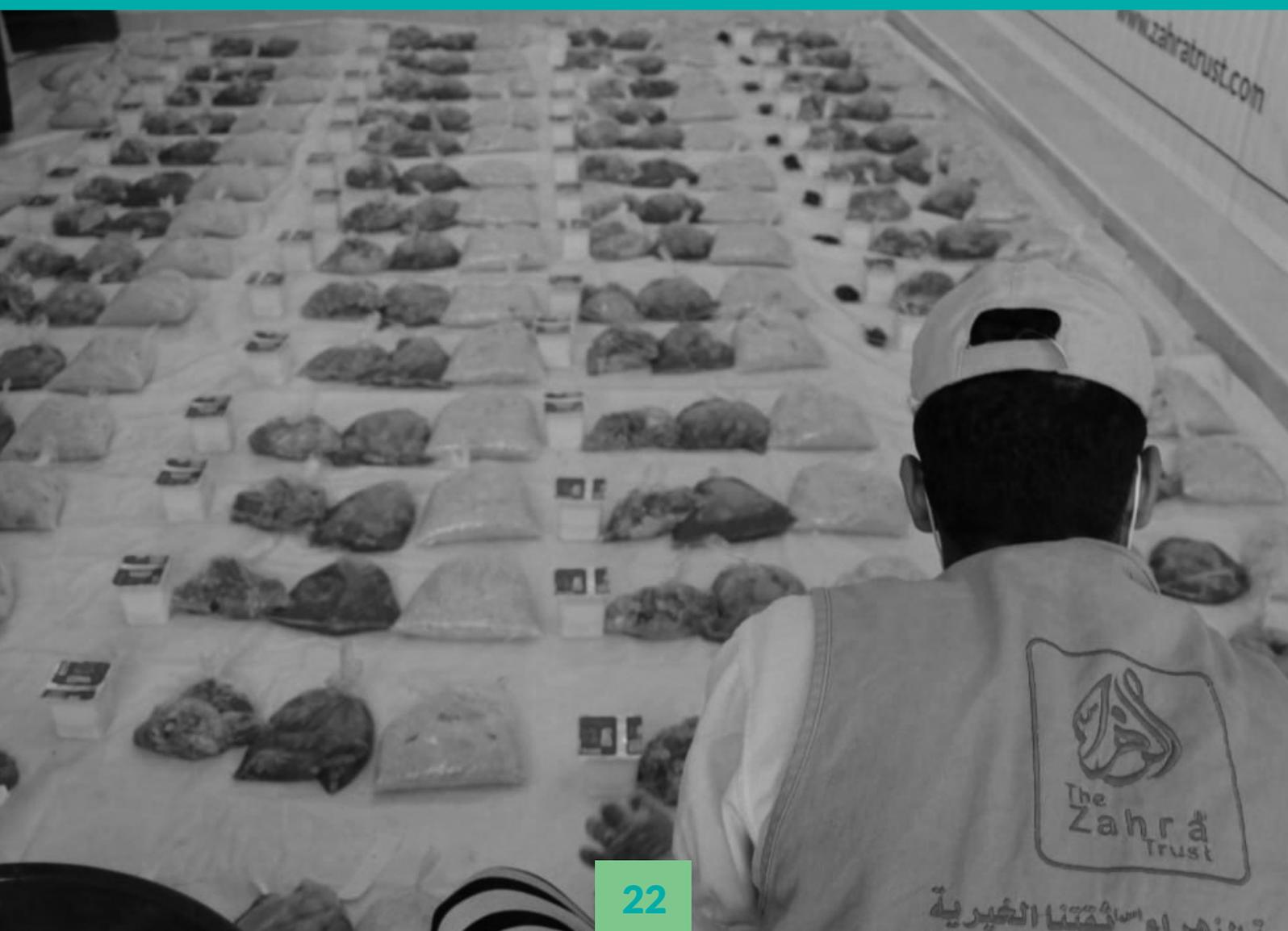
Water wells are a long-term source of clean water, providing residents of remote villages with a stable water source and protecting them from the spread of disease. Over the last year, The Zahra Trust has installed over 300 wells in Pakistan, facilitating water for thousands of people who otherwise would have struggled to access clean, safe water to drink and cook with.

FOOD AID

Food insecurity continues to be an issue that plagues millions of families across the world who do not know where their next meal will come from. A lack of access to a range of nutritious foods leads to many issues including malnutrition, malnourishment and stunting in young children, sometimes leading to lifelong conditions.

The Zahra Trust provides food sources to millions of people each year in a variety of ways. Our one-month family food parcels contain a range of staple food items that can feed a family of five for up to one month. Food packs contain large amounts of local food items which can include rice, pasta, flour, lentils, chickpeas, oil, tea, sugar, tomato paste and sesame paste.

All items for food packs are purchased locally, meaning that this type of aid is multidimensional as local suppliers and communities directly benefit from the distributions as well as the direct recipients of the aid. Over the last year, The Zahra Trust distributed 18,817 food parcels to families in need across our areas of operation.







RAMADAN

In the month of Ramadan, food distributions increase so that families that are struggling to purchase food for Iftar and Suhoor meals are cared for during the holy month. In addition to one month food parcels, we also arrange for the preparation and distribution of hot, nutritious meals for families at community Iftars. A staggering 135,156 hot meals were distributed across our areas of operation.

QURBANI

The diets of impoverished families is often incredibly limited and usually does not contain sources of protein such as meat which is crucial for development. The Zahra Trust provides fresh meat from local cattle across the areas in which it works, providing meat to families who would otherwise not have access to it. Over the last year, we distributed meat parcels to over 92,246 families in need through our Qurbani programme.

SCHOOL LUNCHES

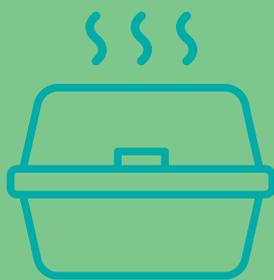
Children from disadvantaged backgrounds are doubly disadvantaged when they are unable to have nutritious meals to sustain them while they learn. The Zahra Trust provides around 1,000 lunches per day during term time to children in Iraq and Afghanistan to ensure that they receive the nutritional support for their educational needs as well as to alleviate the financial hardship of their families to provide them with meals.





As part of our food programmes and initiatives, in 2022 across our areas of operation:

We distributed over one-month staple food packs to **21,386** families in need feeding **99,180+** individuals



We distributed food to over **300,000** Zuwar during Arbaeen

We provided over **92,456**



meat parcels to over **461,230** people

We distributed **251,286** meals



We fed over **1.1 million** individuals



HOUSING & SHELTER

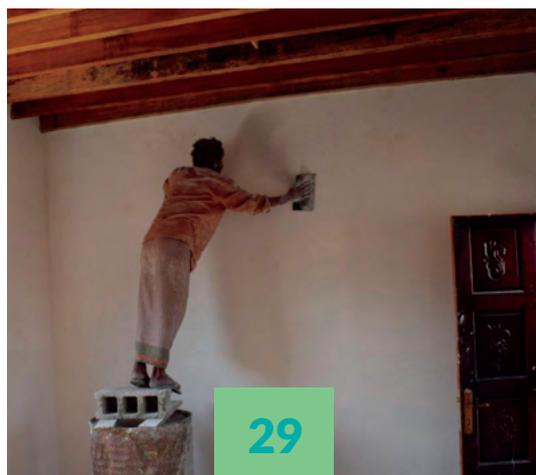
The stability and comfort that a safe, secure home or shelter can offer a family cannot be overstated. At The Zahra Trust, we implement housing and shelter projects both in emergency situations and as part of our long-term development initiatives. The foundation of our work is maintaining the dignity of our beneficiaries and in this instance, we provide each family with the deeds to the home we construct for them. Handing over the ownership rights to a family affords them the stability they lost when they were displaced and relieves at least one of their concerns to provide and survive.

During the, Turkey and Syria earthquake, Pakistan floods and Afghanistan earthquake, our team provided tents and temporary accommodation to more than 300 displaced families. In Pakistan, where natural disasters affected millions and destroyed thousands of family homes, The Zahra Trust began the process of helping affected families recover by constructing new homes. With plans to build 200 homes, we have already constructed five with work continuing to house even more families as soon as possible.



The Zahra Trust provided housing and shelter support for over **9,100 individuals.**

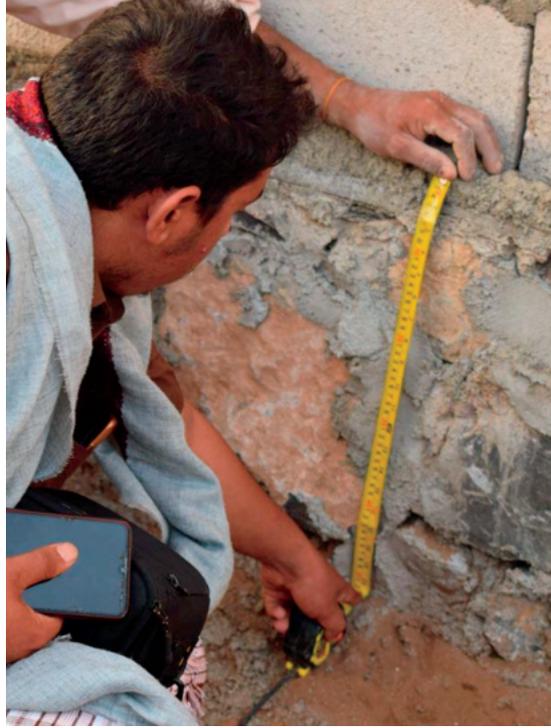




YEMEN HOUSING PROJECT

The Zahra Trust's Yemen team also began constructing homes to house 200 families. Following a successful pilot scheme which saw the construction of five homes last year, The Zahra Trust has now completed a total of 12 homes and is now actively fundraising for the remainder of the homes to reach the aim of homing 200 vulnerable families.





ORPHAN & WIDOW VILLAGE

Iraq is home to The Zahra Trust's Orphans and Widows village, which currently houses 20 female-headed households within a secure compound. This community is thriving and plans are ongoing to continue to expand the village, constructing even more homes and to provide holistic support to the widows and orphans.

In some instances, families have access to a safe home for their families but struggle or are unable to afford rent and therefore they are forced to limit food and water consumption or are prevented from seeking medical treatment.

The Zahra Trust provides financial assistance to families in this instance to help ease the burden and prevent them from having to make such difficult choices. Over the last year, The Zahra Trust's teams across the Middle East disbursed financial aid to over 1,500 families in order to help cover their rent as well as to refurbish their homes where there is significant damage, helping them to achieve a better quality of life.





The
Zahra^(s)
Trust

مؤسسة زيننا الخيرية

www.zahra-trust.com

PAKISTAN HOMES

In response to the devastating floods that hit Pakistan last year, The Zahra Trust took action to provide essential housing for those impacted by the disaster. The monsoon rains triggered the most severe flooding in Pakistan's history, which left hundreds of thousands of homes damaged or destroyed and left around 3.4 million children in need of assistance.

The Zahra Trust recognised the urgent need for shelter and resources for those affected by the disaster and set to work building new housing units. These units have provided much-needed protection and security for vulnerable families who had lost their homes and possessions to the floods.

Additionally, the new housing units provided access to clean water, sanitation facilities, and other vital resources necessary for families to rebuild their lives. The Zahra Trust's efforts to build housing in the wake of the floods in Pakistan demonstrates the commitment to providing sustainable solutions to humanitarian crises, and the work carried out has undoubtedly helped to alleviate some of the suffering experienced by those impacted by the disaster.





WHERE WE WORKED

Iraq:

- 2.4 million people in acute need of food and livelihood assistance. *WFP 2022*
- Nearly 3 million people (1.3 million children) affected by the protracted conflict continue to need humanitarian assistance. This includes 1 million people (463,760 children) with acute humanitarian needs and 990,500 children and women at risk of gender-based violence. *UNICEF 2022*
- 1.4 million children in Iraq live in poverty and 2.4 million Iraqis are internally displaced. *UNICEF 2022*
- 3 million children do not have access to regular education. *UNICEF 2022*

Yemen

- With 80% of the population in need of humanitarian aid and protection in Yemen, it is now the largest humanitarian crisis in the world. *UN Yemen 2023*
- More than 14 million people are in acute need and more than three million people have been displaced from their homes since 2015. *UN Yemen 2023*
- Currently, 3.2 million children are internally displaced. *UNICEF 2023*
- 400,000 severely malnourished children are at a risk of death in Yemen. *UNICEF 2023*

Tanzania:

- Providing universal access to water supply, sanitation, and hygiene (WASH) could reduce Tanzania's economic losses by \$1.9 billion per year by 2030. Only 61 percent of households have access to basic water supply, 32 percent to basic sanitation, and 48 percent to basic hygiene (per the Sustainable Development Goals' definitions). *World Bank 2023*
- Over 50% of children currently experience either monetary poverty, non-monetary poverty or a combination of both. *UNICEF 2022*
- Chronic malnutrition rates are above the African average, with 32 percent of children under 5 being stunted, and 34% of children under 5 are stunted. *WFP 2023*

Lebanon:

- Lebanon is almost three years into an economic and financial crisis that is among the worst the world has seen. *World Bank 2022*
- 46% of Lebanese households are food insecure. *WFP 2022*
- 88% of Syrian refugees in Lebanon are extremely poor. *WFP 2022*
- Between October 2019 and April 2022, the national currency lost more than 90 percent of its value, and the price of the basic food basket monitored by WFP recorded an eleven-fold increase. *WFP 2022*

Kenya:

- 35.6% of people live on less than US\$ 1.90 a day *WFP 2022*
- 29% of children in rural areas are stunted *WFP 2022*
- Malnutrition remains high with 29 percent of children in rural areas and 20 percent of those living in cities stunted *WFP 2022*

Afghanistan:

- 24.4 million people in Afghanistan are projected to be in humanitarian need. Almost 23 million people are projected to face acute food insecurity. *UN Afghanistan 2022*
- Over one million children risk dying from severe acute malnutrition. *UN Afghanistan 2022*
- 15.2 million children are in need of humanitarian assistance. *HNO 2023*
- 17.6 million people will need humanitarian health assistance. *HNO 2023*

Pakistan:

- An additional nine million people risk being pushed into poverty on top of the 33 million affected by last summer's devastating floods in Pakistan. *UNDP 2023*
- By mid-January 2023, as many as 4 million children were still living near contaminated and stagnant flood waters, risking their survival and wellbeing. *UNICEF 2023*
- Approximately 54.6 percent of the rural population is multidimensionally poor. *WFP 2022*
- 16.4 percent of Pakistanis (38 million people) are moderately or severely food insecure and 1.8 percent severely food insecure. *WFP 2022*
- Currently, Pakistan has the world's second-highest number of out-of-school children (OOSC) with an estimated 22.8 million children aged 5-16 not attending school. *UNICEF 2023*

India:

- 664 million people are in need of humanitarian assistance, including 286 million children. *UNICEF 2022*
- 1.3 billion people suffer from food- and nutrition-related challenges. *WFP 2022*
- The 2022 Global Hunger Index ranks India at 107 out of 121 nations, six places lower than its previous ranking. *Global Hunger Index 2022*
- The country has 18 percent of the world's population, but only 4 percent of its water resources, making it among the most water-stressed in the world. *World Bank 2023*

Syria:

- At least 7,259 people were killed, including 2,153 children and 1,524 women as a result of the earthquake. *RELIEF WEB 2023*
- An estimated 5.37 million people across Syria may have been made homeless, while 10.9 million people, nearly half of Syria's population, were affected. *RELIEF WEB 2023*
- More than 123 residential areas, villages, towns and cities were badly damaged. Many power plants, water facilities, hospitals and public infrastructure also sustained damage. At least 453 schools were damaged. *RELIEF WEB 2023*

Turkey:

- More than 48,400 lives have been claimed as a result of the earthquake and 115,000 injured across the 11 provinces of Turkey. *RELIEFWEB 2023*
- By 23 February 2023, the Ministry of Environment, Urbanization and Climate Change conducted damage inspections for 1.25 million buildings; revealing 164,000 buildings were either destroyed or severely damaged.
- The International Organization for Migration estimated about 2.7 million people were made homeless.

HEALTH & MEDICAL AID

A huge disparity in access to quality medical care, medicines and equipment exists across the world, with some of our areas of operation impacted more so than others.

Often the cost of life-saving treatments and medications for acute or chronic illnesses are beyond the means of people who are already struggling to afford basic necessities, yet those who are already impoverished or vulnerable are most likely to become ill and hence a vicious cycle exists, entrenching vulnerable people into a persistent state of sickness and poverty.

Everybody deserves access to what they need to prevent and treat their ailments, and at The Zahra Trust, we aim to bridge the gap so that more people can access quality healthcare in emergency situations as well as to treat ongoing conditions.

The Zahra Trust funds the cost of cancer treatment for children in Karbala, Iraq within a cancer hospital's children's ward. Up to 15 children at a time can receive lifesaving and care at this ward and the fees are largely covered by The Zahra Trust so that the children and their families can focus on recovery.





In Yemen, we replicated our cataract operation clinic that was held last year. This year, we held another specialist clinic to restore the sight of 250 people and we plan to expand the scope of this clinic for years to come so that more can regain their quality of life with their sight intact.

The Zahra Trust also facilitated access to medical check-ups and screenings for hundreds of patients in its areas of operation across the Middle East. The Zahra Trust held mobile health clinics to provide services including general health, dentistry and optometry. The clinics are staffed with fully accredited medical professionals and are fully equipped and stocked to conduct treatments for hundreds of patients at a time.



**Excluding emergency medical assistance,
The Zahra Trust facilitated medical services
for an estimated **2,000 individuals.****

EDUCATION & SKILLS TRAINING

The primary route out of poverty is through education and training to obtain marketable skills. Education has the power to benefit the individual learning directly but also entire families, communities and nations. Due to poverty and adverse circumstances, millions of children are forced to seek low paid labour jobs and therefore do not attend school, severely curtailing their future prospects.

The Zahra Trust supports education for children and adults in an array of ways, from the construction and refurbishment of schools to the provision of vital learning equipment and items. With a focus on widows and orphaned or otherwise vulnerable children, we assist by facilitating the route out of poverty for those who would otherwise struggle to access it.

In Kabul, Afghanistan, The Zahra Trust runs a school that caters to 300 children of primary school age, providing them with quality schooling and equipment as well as two free meals per day throughout each term. We ensure that they are provided with a safe and secure environment to learn, fully trained faculty staff and that their families are cared for. We are in the process of developing the school further to equip it with the latest facilities such as smart boards and provide school uniforms for the children.





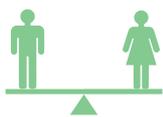
In Iraq, The Zahra Trust provides education for the orphans, widows and vulnerable children in its care in addition to supporting four schools in Karbala, connecting adults and children in need with access to vital education. In addition to supporting the education of over 1,000 children, we have refurbished two schools in Karbala which combined provide over 920 children access to learning which they otherwise would not be able to afford.

School fees:

The cost of school fees and school equipment is often the barrier to education that prevents children from learning during their formative years. For this reason, The Zahra Trust provides education fees to around 3,000 children each year to ensure that financial hardship and poverty does not prevent education.



Learning poverty has increased by a third in low- and middle-income countries, with an estimated 70% of 10-year-olds unable to understand a simple written text-this rate was 57% before the pandemic. *World Bank 2022*



This generation of students now risks losing \$21 trillion in potential lifetime earnings in present value, or the equivalent of 17% of today's global GDP, up from the \$17 trillion estimated in 2021. *World Bank 2022*



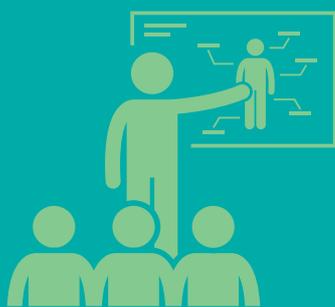
617 million children and adolescents are unable to reach minimum proficiency levels in reading and math – even though two thirds of them are in school. *UNICEF 2023*



By 2030, it is estimated that another 825 million children will not acquire the basic secondary-level skills – like transferable, digital and job-specific skills – needed to support lifelong learning and employment. *UNICEF 2023*

Spiritual education for young people and adults alike is essential to support wellbeing, which is why The Zahra Trust holds Majalis for thousands of people across its areas of operation each year, with a focus on the months of Ramadan, Muharram and during religious occasions. In Iraq, we also facilitate regular visits to the holy shrines so that the children can remain connected to their faith and bond with the other children.





Learning losses from missed in-person schooling amount to **2 trillion hours** of lost learning.

UNICEF, 2022

The Zahra Trust provided assistance in the form of education programmes to over 19,000 people in 2022 alone across its areas of operation and has plans to extend this to thousands more in the coming years.



ORPHANS, WIDOWS & VULNERABLE FAMILIES

Among the most at risk in societies across our areas of operation are members of female-headed households. Widows often face the challenge of securing a sustainable income to provide for their children, whilst orphans are vulnerable to abuse and forced labour without the chance to enjoy a childhood. Children from disadvantaged backgrounds are much less likely to attend formal education which limits their opportunity to succeed, potentially preventing them from breaking the cycle of poverty within their generation. Often, vulnerable families are affected even more greatly than female-headed households as a result of their unique set of circumstances and The Zahra Trust takes care to ensure that these families are identified and cared for.

Across all of its projects, The Zahra Trust prioritises orphans, widows and vulnerable families, ensuring that they receive the support they need wherever we can provide it.



In total, The Zahra Trust supported over 9,919 orphans and widows over the last year with welfare support, clothing, Eid gifts and financial assistance.



ORPHANS & WIDOWS VILLAGE

The Zahra Trust's ongoing Project 470 is considered its flagship project in Iraq and accommodates female-headed households providing them with holistic support within its orphans and widows village. Each family has a safe and fully functioning home, whilst the widows receive skills training for employment and orphans receive quality education and attend spiritual trips and classes. The village is equipped with sustainable clean water facilities, safe spaces for play and classrooms. The widows and orphans within the village have also formed a close-knit community and depend upon one another for advice and support. Currently, we house 20 families and are in the process of expanding and constructing more homes to accommodate even more households.

The Zahra Trust is also conducting a pilot scheme, offering donors the opportunity to sponsor an orphan or vulnerable child to help cover expenses relating to their wellbeing, including education, offering one-to-one sponsorships that connect donors and their support directly to beneficiaries on the ground.

FINANCIAL SUPPORT

One of the biggest burdens for struggling families is to provide for their households with critically limited means. This often means that they are forced to prioritise their limited finances on basic necessities, choosing between shelter, food, medical care and medicines, clothing, shoes and clean drinking water.

Providing financial relief to struggling families helps to relieve the burden of breadwinners to provide for their children and themselves and is one of the most dignified forms of aid, giving families the choice to make their own decisions about what they need the most and not feeling confined to accepting items they may not require over other necessities. The Zahra Trust provides financial aid to families in dire need to help relieve the stress of providing and giving them short-term support and financial freedom to purchase the items they need the most.

WINTER AID

The bitterly cold winter months are made bearable only for those with adequate resources to shelter and sustain themselves with warmth and food. For millions of people globally, poverty makes the winter months a battle between life and death.

The Zahra Trust's areas of operation include regions in which winter means below zero temperatures with vulnerable families exposed to the freezing cold without shelter or resources for heating. Snow and rainfall also are often devastating, leading to flooding, landslides and damage to shelters and homes. For this reason, The Zahra Trust provides solutions for heating and shelter ahead of the winter season, providing heating fuel, heaters, blankets, warm clothes and shoes, winter coats for children and food for families.

Throughout the year, we've provided:

- Heaters
- Heating and cooking fuel
- Blankets
- Warm clothing
- Winter coats
- Shoes
- Shelter support
- Energy costs
- Food supplies and hot meals



In the UK, where the cost of living has soared and families are faced with the 'heat or eat' dilemma that is affecting a projected 4 million households. It is estimated that this scale of poverty has not been experienced in the UK since World War II and families are increasingly reliant on local support to make ends meet.

The Zahra Trust, in partnership with Sufra, identified and supported vulnerable families in the UK for winter support. Through this campaign, together we supported up to 800 people per week in the winter period. Throughout the year, The Zahra Trust also supported local food banks to help alleviate the hardship of families as well as to relieve the strain that the food banks are experiencing due to lack of capacity.



We supported over 2,900 people across our areas of operation with winter aid



Due to the global fuel crisis, 78–141 million people worldwide could be pushed into extreme poverty.

NATURE ENERGY 2023



Families who are poor are four to five times more likely to live in cold homes and more than 30% of houses that are lower-income cannot keep their houses warm globally.

WHO 2022



Five million people die a year simply from the inability to adjust to temperature changes.

LANCET PLANETARY HEALTH 2021

CASE STUDY 1: YOUNG BURN VICTIM

At the tender age of 2, the life of a young boy was forever changed when he suffered severe burn injuries after being trapped in a bedroom with a heating stove that caught fire. The incident left him with visible scars all over his body, which caused him to be shunned and ostracised by society. Despite his young age, he was told by teachers that he shouldn't attend school as other children were frightened by his appearance. However, his life took a positive turn when The Zahra Trust stepped in to fund his surgeries.

Thanks to the generosity of our donors, the boy has undergone five surgeries so far, with more planned for the future. With each procedure, he has regained more mobility and confidence, and he is now able to live a life that is more fulfilling and meaningful. No longer shunned by society, the boy has been given a new lease on life and is able to interact with others without fear of rejection or ridicule. The support and assistance provided by The Zahra Trust has given this young boy the hope and courage to face the world and achieve his dreams. Unwavering commitment to helping those in need has not only improved the life of this young boy but serves as an example of the positive impact that can be achieved through compassion and generosity.





CASE STUDY 2: BOMB BLAST SURVIVOR

The Zahra Trust aims to alleviate the suffering of those in need, particularly in areas affected by war, conflict, or natural disasters. One of the many beneficiaries of the Trust was a bomb blast victim in Afghanistan who suffered from burns all over his body following an attack. The survivor was left with no means to support himself.

The Trust stepped in to provide him with medical treatment, including surgeries and medication, to help him recover from his injuries. The Trust also provided him with financial assistance to help him rebuild his life, including funds for housing, food, and other basic necessities. Additionally, the trust provided the survivor with emotional support, counselling, and guidance to help him cope with the trauma of his experience. Through their dedicated efforts and support, The Zahra Trust was able to assist the bomb blast victim in regaining his health and rebuilding his life, giving him hope.





“

Charitable men and charitable women,
who have loaned Allah a good loan—it
will be multiplied for them, and for
them is a generous reward.

Surah al-Hadid, Verse 18

A PERMANENT BASE

The Zahra Trust has been part of the local community in London, England for some time, paving paths for people to reach vulnerable communities worldwide with a lifeline of support.

Now in the final stages of construction, The Zahra Trust team is proud to announce that it is establishing a permanent base in Bunt Oak, London, in order to serve local communities as well as provide a base for its UK operational work to serve people in need across its areas of operation, particularly the young and those with disabilities. As the cost-of-living crisis continues to affect an increasing number of families in the UK, we also turn our attention to serving the disadvantaged in our society who are increasingly in need of help to survive.

With facilities including a community safe space and prayer hall for men and women, we will also hold religious education activities, community events and provide third party essential health and wellbeing services, facilitating access to those in need across London communities.





“

Those who in charity spend of their goods by night and by day, in secret and in public, have their reward with their Lord: on them shall be no fear, nor shall they grieve.

Surah Al-Baqarah, Verse 274

2022



APRIL 2022:
Money raised to
build house in
Yemen

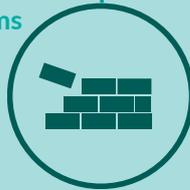


JUNE 2022:
Emergency
assistance to
Afghanistan
earthquake victims



AUGUST 2022:
Responded to the
flooding in
Afghanistan &
Pakistan

MARCH 2022:
Emergency relief
provided to
Pakistan
earthquake victims

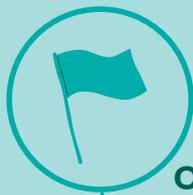


MAY 2022:
Emergency medical
assistance to blast
victims in
Afghanistan



JULY 2022:
Annual Qurbani
campaign launched
to build a school in
Kabul





OCTOBER 2022:
Launched annual winter appeal to support families in need



JANUARY 2023:
Held a gala dinner in honour of the Wiladah of Fatima Al-Zahra (as) and to mark 15 years of service



MARCH 2023:
Held a football tournament to raise funds for the Syria Turkey earthquake appeal

SEPTEMBER 2022:
Served thousands of Zuwar at Mowkeb 470 during Arbaeen



DECEMBER 2022:
Held a dinner to honour volunteers on international volunteers day



FEBRUARY 2023:
Responded to earthquake in Turkey and Syria.



PROJECT 470: A MOWKEB & MORE

Throughout the Arbaeen period, millions of Zuwar flock to Iraq to take part in the walk from Najaf to Karbala. The stops or Mowkebs along the way form part of the sincere generosity that people show to the Zuwar of Imam Hussain (as), providing food and services to them as they undertake the long journey, often on foot.

The Zahra Trust's building, at pole 470 along the route, becomes a Mowkeb at this time, serving hundreds of thousands of Zuwar along the way, with a team of hundreds of volunteers that work night and day providing:



Food



Water



Shelter



Snacks



First aid



Massage chairs



Free books



Western toilets





DURING THE ARBAEEN PERIOD WE:

- Prepared and distributed over 166,820 hot meals to Zuwar
- Provided food items, water and services to over 325,246 people in total

This building is not only a Mowkeb, but also a site for The Zahra Trust to provide aid all year round and is home to its Orphans and Widows village.

To find out more, visit: <https://zahratrust.com/project470/>

THE ZAHRA TRUST IN THE COMMUNITY

Throughout the year, The Zahra Trust team was present across communities, taking part in events, fairs and visiting centres. This enabled the team to strengthen bonds with local and national communities and meet with donors to answer their questions about our work. Our trustees, volunteers and staff thoroughly enjoyed meeting each and every one of the people they spoke with and were humbled by the kindness, support and generosity they each experienced whilst representing The Zahra Trust.

CENTRES

During the Holy month of Muharram, our team raised funds for Yemen and the Pakistan flood emergency campaign. From centres ranging from London to Leicester, we were able to join communities commemorating the tragedies of Karbala and highlight the plight of millions of people in need. We are truly grateful to the leadership teams of every centre that hosted The Zahra Trust and to the communities who so generously embraced us and helped make our work possible.

ARBAEEN PROCESSION

Each year, The Zahra Trust attends the annual Arbaeen Procession in central London. With a team of trustees, staff and volunteers, The Zahra Trust's stall was an opportunity to meet people from all walks of life, serve chai and present our shop range.

ABSOCs

The news of the Turkey and Syria Earthquake touched so many and left many asking what could be done to provide much needed relief. We were humbled by the diligence of the Ahlulbayt Societies across the UK universities who sprang into action as soon as the news of the earthquake hit to arrange fundraisers to collect funds for The Zahra Trust's appeal. The team was left in awe of the exemplary efforts of the societies to take the initiative to rally support within their university campuses and beyond.





TO DONATE SCAN HERE



OR VISIT:
ZAHRATRUST.COM/DONATE

FOOTBALL TOURNAMENT

It was truly inspiring to see our youth take the initiative to organise a football tournament to raise funds for the Syria Turkey Earthquake appeal. It was an event that brought together 20 teams from diverse backgrounds, all with the same goal of contributing to the relief efforts of those affected by the natural disaster. The tournament was a great success, with generous donations pouring in from the participants. The funds raised will go towards providing critical aid and support to those affected by the earthquake, helping to rebuild shattered lives and communities.

FOOD DRIVE

The cost-of-living crisis led to record levels of poverty in the UK and meant that struggling families were pushed to breaking point. During the month of Ramadan, our UK team rallied local communities to donate tonnes of essential food and hygiene items for distribution to families at a local food bank distribution in London. We are so grateful to all who gave so generously in the spirit of community as well as the volunteers who spent the day sorting, packing, and transporting the goods to the food bank.

IMAM MEHDI'S LITTLE HELPERS

A fantastic collective of vibrant and enthusiastic volunteers form Imam Mehdi's Little Helpers. Their initiatives, aimed at engaging and educating children, range from creative re-enactments of Hajj and the Arbaeen walk to Eid celebrations and bake sales. Through these events, Imam Mehdi's Little Helpers have included an element of charitable giving, instilling the spirit of giving in the next generation and raising much-needed funds for aid projects worldwide.



HARROW-ON-THE-HILL



TUBE STATION COLLECTIONS

Our staff and volunteers mobilised to collect for The Zahra Trust's winter and emergency appeals across London tube stations. From Harrow-on-the-Hill to Paddington, our team was able to greet commuters and raise much needed funds for The Zahra Trust's projects.

VOLUNTEERING

Volunteers are the backbone of the entire charity sector and at The Zahra Trust, this could not be more true.

We are proud and honoured to work with so many talented, skilled and committed volunteers from all backgrounds across the country who choose to make The Zahra Trust their charity of choice for giving the most valuable thing; their time. We owe our sincerest gratitude to each and every one of them for their hard work and dedication.

Some of the voluntary opportunities we have had this year included:

- ✓ Centre collections
- ✓ Merchandise sales
- ✓ Tube station collections
- ✓ In-office support and work experience

If you would like to volunteer with The Zahra Trust, please visit:
www.zahratrust.com/volunteer

Our creative volunteer-led initiatives also included:



Sponsored hikes



Sponsored runs



Bake sales



Charity iftars



Fundraising pages

In honour of International Volunteers Day 2022, we held a small dinner to honour and thank our volunteers for their hard work and support.



RELIGIOUS DUES & SERVICES

The Zahra Trust is expertly placed to help you fulfil your religious dues and provide access to religious services.

We have written permission (Ijazah) from the majority of the leading Maraje'; may Allah SWT grant them a long life.

We ensure that religious dues are taken and distributed to those most in need in accordance with Islamic jurisprudence.

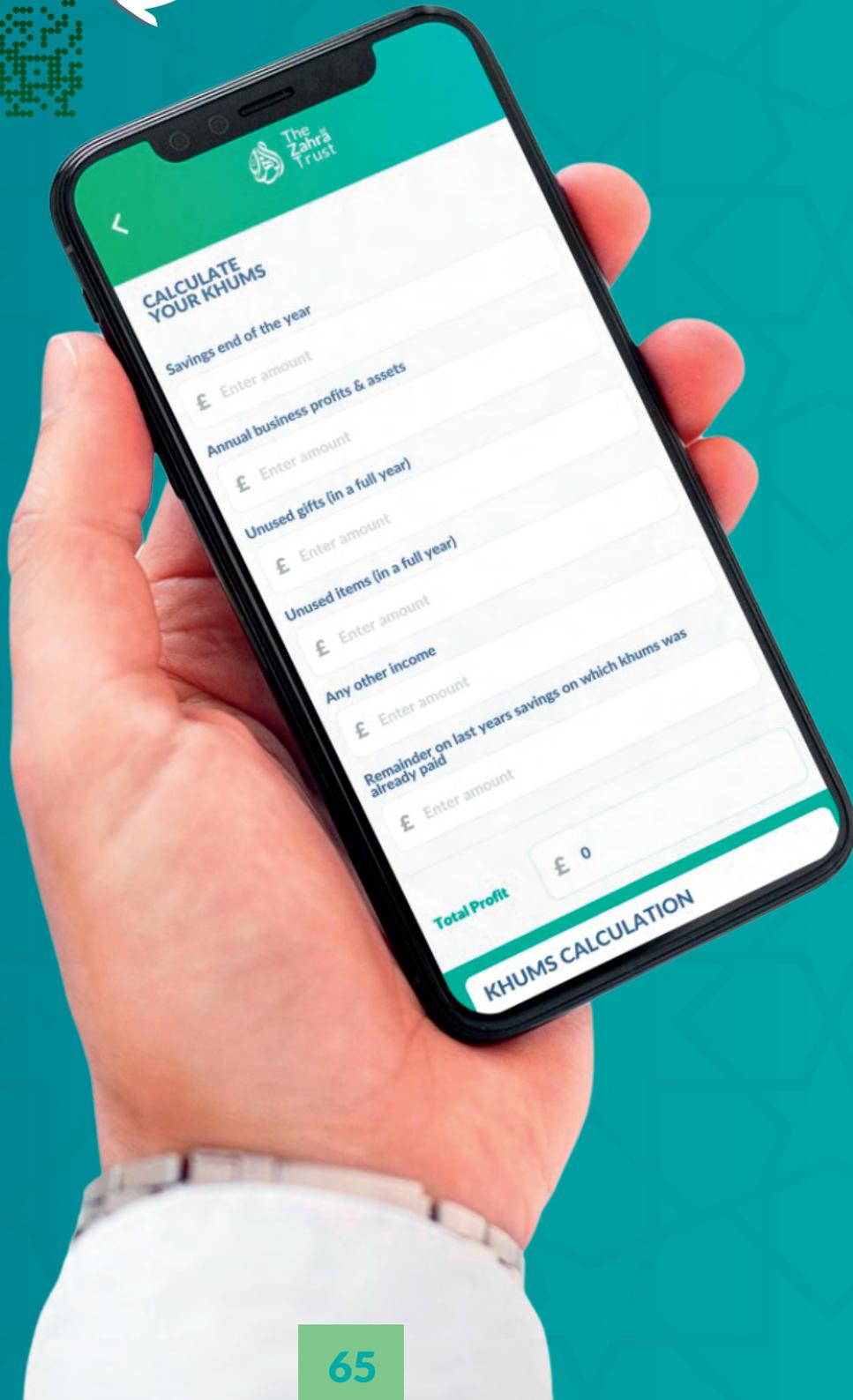
Some of our services include:

- ✓ Zakat
- ✓ Khums
- ✓ Fidyah & Kaffarah
- ✓ Fitriya
- ✓ Islamic Will Writing

For more information about our religious dues and services, please contact us at: info@zahratrust.com or visit www.zahratrust.com



USE OUR KHUMS CALCULATOR



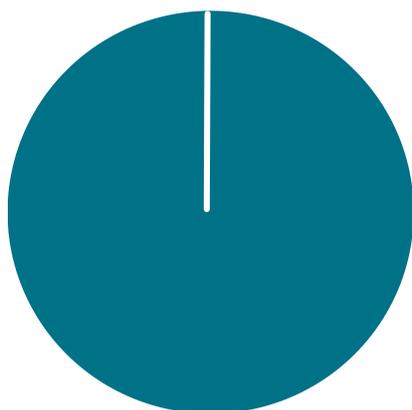
WHY MAKE THE ZAHRA TRUST YOUR CHARITY OF CHOICE?

- With over a decade of experience, and with consistent exponential growth of our operations on the ground each year, we are expertly placed to deliver aid internationally on your behalf, facilitating a variety of innovative solutions to poverty and services to those most in need
- We employ our own dedicated teams of experts in the field of humanitarian aid across our areas of operation with specialist local knowledge
- Through our local teams, we are poised to respond to crises as they unfold
- 0% admin is taken from your donation
- The Zahra Trust is often the only NGO operating in remote and hard to reach areas which means we are able to benefit underserved, isolated and marginalised communities
- We fed more people than ever between 2021-2022 and we continue to expand our food programme each year to reach more, addressing the issues of food insecurity and malnutrition
- We employ sustainable and holistic solutions to chronic poverty in order to prevent the need for ongoing or emergency aid
- We are highly adaptable to the constantly changing environments of our areas of operation and the world, which is why we are able to swiftly respond to changing needs
- We empower communities through the direct consultation and participation of community leaders and members
- Our programmes are developed and applied with the context of each area and culture in mind
- We are able to identify where aid is most needed as well as beneficiaries that are most in need through the application of effective needs assessment processes
- The Zahra Trust is an NGO in special consultative status with the Economic and Social Council of the United Nations (ECOSOC) since 2017

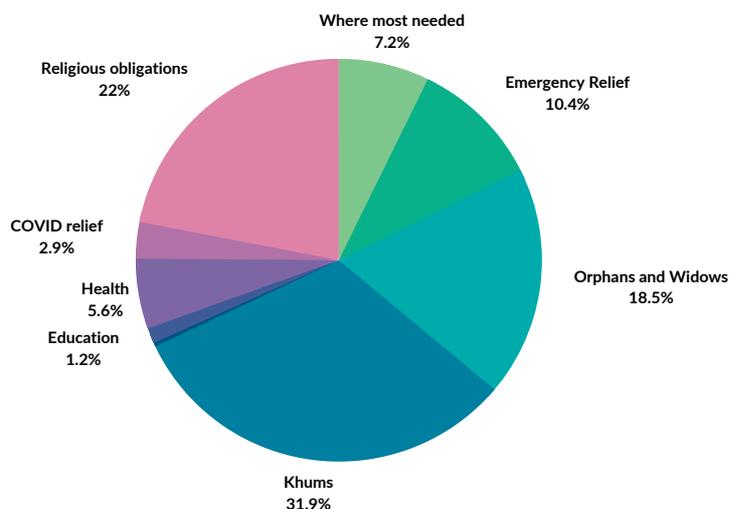
FINANCE

INCOME & EXPENDITURE

Data for financial year ending 31 March 2022:



- Donations & Legacies - £3.66m
- Charitable activities - £0
- Other trading activities - £799
- Investments - £104
- Other - £444



- General Donations
- COVID relief
- Health
- Education
- Religious Obligations
- Water & sanitation
- Khums
- Orphans & Widows
- Emergency Relief



Income generation & governance

Retained for future use

Charitable expenditure

CONTACT US



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@thezahratrust

WAYS TO DONATE



www.zahratrust.com/donate



Download via the 'App Store' or get it on 'Google Play'



Text 'ZAHRA' to 70085 to donate £10



Bank Transfer:

Account name: The Zahra Trust
Bank name: Barclays Bank
Sort code: 20-44-91
Account No: 53681130
Swift code: BUKBGB22
IBAN: GB62 BUKB 2044 9153 6811 30



“

My Lord if only You would delay me
for a brief term so I would give charity
and be among the righteous.

Surah Al-Munāfiqūn, Verse 10

